



# Der Kurier

Volume 30, Number 4, December 2012

## Articles urge researchers to take different slants at records

Genealogists are by nature curious people and so it's no real surprise then that one of the ways *Der Kurier* serves its readers best is when it opens a new galaxy in the "universe of possibilities" as far as different record groups to search – or different ways to search them.

Two articles in this issue are attempts to fulfill this idea of service.

MAGS Treasurer Bob Greiner has been contributing diverse articles and this issue his "Interesting statistics gathered from church marriage records" is both a great piece of writing along with a new slant on using a traditional record.

Marriage records are great sources of information but Bob's article urges researchers to use them not just for what information might appear in an entry about your particular ancestor – but also to use the context of other records to give you additional useful information about the people who worshiped with your ancestor.

He focuses on occupations and ages at

marriage (as well as the frequency of widowhood in this era); for other record groups, the types of "context information" would vary but hopefully this opens up your eyes as researchers about how to use such records most effectively.

Fritz Juengling follows with an in-depth look at the the German family history books known as *Ortssippenbuch* or *Ortsfamilienbuch*.

*Der Kurier* has published extracts from such books in previous issues but it's great to have an article from someone with Fritz's expertise with these volumes.

As his biography that accompanies the article notes, he works at the "Big House" – the Family History Library in Salt Lake – where some 800 of these books can be found.

His article has some interesting facts and quirks about such volumes – suffice to say that you should always read a book's preface!

– James M. Beidler

### In this issue

|                              |       |                          |       |                    |    |
|------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------|----|
| Church record statistics ... | 75-76 | From the President ..... | 81    | Der Kalendar ..... | 88 |
| All about OSBs .....         | 77-79 | Fraktur Forum .....      | 82-84 | New members .....  | 89 |
| Translators .....            | 80    | Family Registers .....   | 84-88 | MAGS Store .....   | 91 |



## 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**
- **Ahnentafels** published in *Der Kurier*
- **Queries**

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

### Officers

**President:** Diane M. Kuster  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Gunter Schanzenbacher  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Carol Carman  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Susannah E. Brooks  
**Recording Secretary:** Debra A. Hoffman  
  
**Treasurer:** Robert Greiner  
**At-Large Board Member:** Dr. Kenneth Heger  
**At-Large Board Member:** Roy Shiflet

### Special Services

***Der Kurier* Editor:** James M. Beidler  
**Historian:** Beverly Repass Hoch  
**Membership:** Gunter Schanzenbacher  
**Membership Assistant:** Vacant  
**Programs:** Carol Carman  
**Publications:** Corinne P. Earnest  
**Publicity:** Roy Shiflet  
**Publicity Asst.:** Debra Hoffman, Amy McGraw, George Martel  
**Queries:** Edythe H. Millar  
**Registrar:** Diane M. Kuster  
**Rep Assn German-Am Soc:** Merl Arp  
**Sales Manager:** Judy Dohner  
**Webmaster:** Diane Giannini

***Der Kurier*** is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. It is indexed in the Periodical Source Index by the Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, IN, and the Genealogical Periodical Annual Index by Heritage Books Inc., Bowie, MD.

**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)

Table 1 – Summary of Groom Occupations (1830 – 1852)

| Groom occupation |       |        |       |
|------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Occupation       | Count | %      | Sum   |
| grocer           | 253   | 11.0%  |       |
| shoemaker        | 219   | 9.5%   |       |
| taylor           | 183   | 8.0%   |       |
| cabinet maker    | 154   | 6.7%   |       |
| baker            | 150   | 6.5%   |       |
| carpenter        | 107   | 4.7%   |       |
| farmer           | 102   | 4.4%   | 50.8% |
| butcher          | 79    | 3.4%   |       |
| labourer         | 51    | 2.2%   |       |
| gardner          | 47    | 2.0%   |       |
| smith            | 43    | 1.9%   | 60.4% |
| sugar baker      | 35    | 1.5%   |       |
| mason            | 32    | 1.4%   |       |
| seaman           | 32    | 1.4%   |       |
| blacksmith       | 30    | 1.3%   |       |
| merchant         | 30    | 1.3%   |       |
| chair maker      | 23    | 1.0%   |       |
| cooper           | 23    | 1.0%   | 69.4% |
| barber           | 20    | 0.9%   |       |
| painter          | 19    | 0.8%   |       |
| stone cutter     | 19    | 0.8%   |       |
| weaver           | 17    | 0.7%   |       |
| machinist        | 16    | 0.7%   |       |
| brewer           | 16    | 0.7%   |       |
| furrier          | 14    | 0.6%   |       |
| piano maker      | 14    | 0.6%   |       |
| segar maker      | 14    | 0.6%   |       |
| turner           | 14    | 0.6%   |       |
| car man          | 13    | 0.6%   |       |
| clerk            | 12    | 0.5%   |       |
| milkman          | 12    | 0.5%   |       |
| musician         | 12    | 0.5%   |       |
| hatter           | 12    | 0.5%   |       |
| porter           | 12    | 0.5%   |       |
| saddler          | 12    | 0.5%   |       |
| button maker     | 11    | 0.5%   |       |
| confectioner     | 11    | 0.5%   |       |
| tinsmith         | 11    | 0.5%   |       |
| locksmith        | 10    | 0.4%   |       |
| waggoner         | 10    | 0.4%   | 82.5% |
| Total above      | 1894  | 82.5%  |       |
| Not included     | 403   | 17.5%  |       |
| Total population | 2297  | 100.0% |       |

## Interesting statistics gathered from church marriage records

By Bob Greiner

The pastoral records of Rev. Frederick Geissenhainer Jr. located at the New-York Historical Society continue to yield a bounty of genealogical information about German immigrants in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As we continue to transcribe this unique source, the searchable databases are being posted to the MAGS website.

The typical church book entries – marriage, baptism, and confirmation – provide the proof we need to connect people into families and to link between generations. The records began in 1827 when Rev. Geissenhainer was called to serve the English congregation of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in New York City. They continue with his call to the German congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church until his death in 1879.

The Geissenhainer records reveal a bit more about these immigrant ancestors. Beginning in 1830 the pastor began recording the age of the bride and groom in marriage entries. He also noted the groom's occupation. While that information alone might not prove the identity of a person you are seeking, it can give you better insight into the life of a family.

The age information increases the probability that a person named in the church records is identical to one whose birth or baptism date is known. Taken as a group and viewed statistically, the list of occupations gives us an overview of the predominantly German community in the mid-1800s. When assembled into age groups, we get a better idea of the marriage ages for this population.

Look at the list of occupations in Table 1. As I transcribed these marriage records, I noticed a surprising number of grooms who were grocers or shoemakers. There were also many tailors (taylors as Rev. Geissenhainer spelled it) and cabinet makers. Notice that the top seven occupations represent about 50 percent of the total entries.

The majority of the occupations listed are not unusual or surprising to us. They are typical of those in which our city dwelling immigrant ancestors might be

employed. However, I was somewhat taken aback by the number of farmers found in New York City. There were even a few shepherds.

But we must remember that in the mid-1800s the city had not grown above 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. See the following link for several interesting views of how Manhattan grew. In particular, look at the map of 1836 and overlay it with the current street map. <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/03/21/nyregion/map-of-how-manhattan-grid-grew.html>

Let's look at a few other occupations in the list. Notice the distinction between a baker (bread, rolls) and a sugar baker (cakes, pies). A confectioner dealt more specifically in sweets and candies. Is there a similar difference between a blacksmith and a smith? I don't know. A turner might not be familiar to you. A quick search on the Web tells us that it was one who operated a lathe, probably making items such as chair and table legs, banisters, and similar wooden objects used in those days. I believe a car man probably operated public transportation, such as a horse-drawn trolley.

This is not the complete list of occupations from the church records. Only those with 10 or more entries are included. There are some other rather unusual ones. There was a boot crimper, who tailored the leather to fashion shoes and boots. Some men manufactured fringe and gimp. If this brings back images of making name tag lanyards at summer camp, you don't have the right image for the mid-1800s. Gimp was an ornamental thread woven into fringe that was used to decorate furniture and carriages of the day. Several men were occupied in coach making or trimming.

A quill manufacturer appeared on the list. There was also a paper marbler – for inside book covers. I also found an ivory carver, lace weaver, watch maker, and candle maker. Certainly every possible occupation did not appear in this list. There were few professionals included. It more likely represents the daily labors of immigrants working at the only jobs available, or using those skills for which they were trained.

*Table 2 – Summary of Marriage Ages (1830 – 1852)*

| Age at marriage  |             |         |             |         |
|------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| Age group        | Groom count | Groom % | Bride count | Bride % |
| 10-19            | 11          | 0.5%    | 396         | 16.6%   |
| 20-29            | 1686        | 69.5%   | 1671        | 69.9%   |
| 30-39            | 606         | 25.0%   | 268         | 11.2%   |
| 40-49            | 98          | 4.0%    | 45          | 1.9%    |
| 50-59            | 20          | 0.8%    | 8           | 0.3%    |
| 60-69            | 3           | 0.1%    | 1           | 0.0%    |
| 70-79            | 1           | 0.0%    | 0           | 0.0%    |
| Total population | 2425        |         | 2389        |         |

Now let's take a look at the ages at which this group of people married. I summarized the information from the records in Table 2. You can easily see that the majority of both grooms and brides married in their twenties. That is probably exactly what we would expect.

Quite a significant number of brides married before age 20. Very few grooms were that young. Many more men than women married in their 30s. What this table does not convey is the number of people who married for the second

time. Of the total number of marriages (roughly 2,400), the groom was listed as a widower about 200 times (8 percent). In the same group 240 brides (10 percent) were described as widows. So for 10 to 20 percent of the marriages between 1830 and 1852, it was the second marriage for the bride, groom, or both. It might be a valid assumption that many of those married in their 30s or later were second marriages.

Church records are generally very useful to verify the existence of ancestors in a specific place and time. They can also be used to tie people together into families. Depending on the amount of additional detail recorded by a pastor, the records can further illuminate the lives of those people.

In the Geissenhainer records for New York City in the mid-1800s, we get a glimpse at the working lives of the immigrants. This alternate view of church book entries shows us the value of observing all elements of a record and comparing information among a larger group of records.

# *Ortssippenbücher* and *Ortsfamilienbücher*: Valuable resources in genealogical research

By Fritz Juengling, Ph.D.

## What is an OSB?

An Ortssippenbuch or Ortsfamilienbuch (hereafter OSB) includes birth, marriage, and death information for persons found in a specific locality during a specified time period. Sources are varied and usually include local parish registers, but will often rely on other records, such as civil registration records, court and land records. If other information, such as occupation, is given in the source record, it might also be included in the OSB.

## Time period

OSBs usually end at the time very near to publication, which means that they can run all the way up to the near-present. They will go back in time to the earliest records of that locality. So, the starting dates vary considerably. In general, the dates begin in the 16th or 17th century, but some go back as far as the 15th century.

## How is an OSB organized and what will you find there?

An OSB is usually arranged alphabetically by surname and then chronologically by marriage date. A number of symbols for events are used to save space, such as \* for birth, ∞ for marriage, and † for death. Abbreviations will also be used. To the novice, all these special symbols and abbreviations look very imposing and make the books difficult to use. But once these are mastered, the books become easy to use and are a great resource. You will find vital information on persons and possibly be able to link family lines for several generations. The following example is a typical entry from OSB. This one is from Göbrichen, Baden:

1665 Wilhelm Friedrich HOFSAß III. (aus 1623), \* Göb.  
6.2.1880, ev., "Langer", Landwirt (Bauer), † Göb.  
28.3.1949,  
∞ Göb. 21.5.1904 Luise HOFSAß (aus 1590), \* Göb.  
30.10.1878, ev., † Göb. 20.7.1954,  
8 Kdr. in Göb. \* u. ev. ~ :  
1. Wilhelm \* 9.2.1903, † Göb. 30.10.1918, Grippe  
(span. Krankheit) -  
2. Luise \* 31.12.1904 (∞ 228) -  
3. Emilie \* 18.10.1906 (∞ 2408) -  
4. August \* 14.12.1908, † Göb. 23.12.1908 -  
5. Hermann \* 30.1.1910, † Göb. 31.1.1910 -  
6. Karl August \* 29.1.1913 (∞ 1717) -  
7. Wilhelm \* 11.10.1919 (∞ 1723) -  
8. Emil \* 28.5.1921 (∞ 1720).

The first number, 1665, is the number of the family in this book. Wilhelm Friedrich HOFSAß is the head of household. (aus 1623) means that Wilhelm is listed as a child in family number 1623. \* Göb. 6.2.1880 means Wilhelm was born in Göbrichen on 6 February, 1880. ev. means his religion was 'evangelisch,' i.e. Protestant. "Langer" is a personal description, i.e. that he was tall; Landwirt is his occupation, farmer. † Göb. 28.3.1949 means he died in Göbrichen on 28 March, 1949.

∞ Göb. 21. 5. 1904 Luise HOFSAß (aus 1590), \* Göb. 30.10.1878, ev., † Göb. 20. 7. 1954 means that he married Luise HOFSAß, in Göbrichen on 21 May, 1904 (from family number 1590) who was born in Göbrichen on 30 October, 1878, Protestant, and who died in Göbrichen on 20 July, 1954.

8 Kdr. in Göb \* u. ev. means the couple had eight children in Göbrichen, born and baptised evangelical.

We will look at child number 7, Wilhelm, who was born on 11 October 1919. We can follow his life events by going to family number 1723. Note that the number in parentheses is not a year! There we will see a similar entry to the one we just looked at. In the following entry, we see Wilhelm HOFSAß as a head of household with information on his family:

1723 Wilhelm HOFSAß (aus 1665), \* Göb. 11.10.1919, ev.,  
 Blechner u. Installateur, 1944 z. Zt. Unteroffizier,  
 1969 Arbeiter, † Göb. 21.3.1969, nach dem Krieg einige  
 Jahre Gemeinderechner,  
 ∞ Göb. 30.12.1944 Emma Lisette PFEIFFER (aus 2704),  
 \* Göb. 7.5.1919, ev.,  
 Sohn in Bauschlott \* u. ev. ~ :  
 1. Willy Gerhard \* 8.10.1945, Buchdrucker, ∞ Göb.  
 19.3.1966 Beate Renate BÜCKLE (T.d. Ludwig B.,  
 Blechner in Rinklingen, u.d. Elsa KURFIS), \* Vaihingen  
 a.d. Enz 25.8.1945, Verkäuferin in Rinklingen bei  
 Bretten, Wohnsitz Göb.

In our examples, we have come closer to the present. But, by working backward, it is possible to link several generations as well. In the case of the HOFSAß family, it is possible to link 14 generations, going back to about 1500! What a treasure this book is for the family history researcher! Although an OSB is a secondary source and the original records should be consulted whenever possible, they are a good place to start with one's research. An added value is that the OSB might be the only source in existence for some information if the original records have been lost or destroyed.

### Where to find OSBs

The Family History Library has more than 800 OSBs and similar works. Go Familysearch.org; click on 'Catalog'; under 'Place-names,' type the name of the town you are searching; when the list of types of records for that locality appears, click on 'genealogy.' It should be noted that OSBs have been done for many localities outside Germany, such as Slovakia, Switzerland, Italy, Serbia, Romania, Hungary and even the United States! Wherever Germans settled, there is a possibility that an OSB was created for that locality.

### Online Resources for OSBs

Genealogy.net lists approximately 340 OSBs under the title 'Ortsfamilienbücher.' The books on this website are searchable by surname or place. An important and interesting feature of searching in this database is that there is a list of 'similar persons' who appear in other OSBs. For example, if one is searching for Anna Catharina Appel in Gnarrenburg, people with the same or similar names are given in the books for Lesum, Teufelsmoor, and Grasberg. It so happens that all the people of the same name are the same person. So, she shows up in four different OSBs! Also, the birth place of non-natives and death place of those who moved out can also be searched. Links to other pages, such as higher jurisdictions, maps, genealogical literature of the area, town homepages, and Wikipedia pages add to the value of this website as a resource.

The Evangelische Landeskirche in Baden lists nearly 300 places in approximately 150 books. Follow this path: Evangelische Landeskirche in Baden > Service > Bibliotheken & Archiv > Landeskirchliches Archiv > Familienforschung > Ortssippenbücher im Landeskirchlichen Archiv. These OSBs are not searchable; it is only a list. There are also quite a number of Familienbücher listed as well. As with the OSBs, these are not searchable; some information, including the film number as assigned by the archive, is also given.

Other OSBs can be found in various archives. If you want to find whether a locality has an OSB and you cannot find it in the FS catalog or on genealogy.net, find an archive where records from that locality might be housed. There are far too many archives to give a detailed description in this article of how to find OSBs in each one. So, a general guide will have to suffice. Once you have identified an archive and found its website, search under Bestände, 'holdings.' Many sites will then allow the user to type a word to search for. Type the following in succession until there are returns: 'Ortssippenbuch,' 'Ortssippenbücher,' 'Familienbuch,' and 'Familienbücher.' In most cases, those OSBs found on archive sites, as opposed to Genealogy.net, will only be a listings and descriptions of the OSBs and not the books themselves. For an extensive list of archives in Germany, go to the Family Search wiki at

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page)

and type "Germany Archives and Libraries" in the search box. Click on the top return in list of articles, "Germany Archives and Libraries." On the next page, a number of archives is listed as well as links to the pages of specific German states that list archives.

### **Quirks in Some OSBs**

Although the basic pattern of entries is as illustrated above, there are sometimes differences that the researcher should be aware of. First, some OSBs list each village in a parish separately, rather than as one unit. Second, in some OSBs not all inhabitants are listed. For example, when the compilers of the OSB for Weingarten, Baden, put together the book, they discovered that it would be too large and eliminated all people who did not have a parent or child in the area (as it stands, the book is nearly a thousand pages!). This resulted in 40 percent of the population being eliminated. The only way the researcher could know that is by reading the introductory material. This should always be done so that the researcher knows exactly how the book was compiled. In the case of Weingarten, the introduction is rather long, but not doing so would result in a false impression of the book and lead the researcher to believe that his ancestors were not in that locality. Third, some books include historical information on persons and/or the locality. A bibliography of historical information may be provided as well. Finally, for some printed books, supplemental material, such as additional indexes, may be available online.

The value of an OSB is clear. It is unfortunate that many people searching for their ancestors do not know of this valuable resource. The main obstacle is finding a book. Of course, not every locality has an OSB, but when one is found, the researcher can gain a tremendous amount of information.

#### References:

- Diefenbacher, Karl. Ortssippenbuch Weingarten Landkreis Karlsruhe in Baden. Deutsche Ortssippenbücher Reihe A Band 87. Band 45 der Badischen Ortssippenbücher. Frankfurt am Main: Albert Köbele. Grafenhausen bei der Lahr, Baden: Selbstverlag des Herausgebers. 1980.
- Hahner, Ernst. Orts-Sippen-Buch Göbrichen Enzkreis (Baden). Ortsteil der Gemeinde 7531 Neulingen 1561-1945. Deutsche Ortssippenbücher Reihe A Band 121. Band 53 der Badischen Ortssippenbücher. Evangelischen Kirchengemeinde Göbrichen Pfarrer Gerhard Baust. 1985.

I thank Bärbel Johnson AG for comments on an earlier draft of this paper.

*Doctor Juengling did his undergraduate studies at Western Oregon University, where he received his Bachelor's degrees in International Studies with a German emphasis, and Secondary Education, both with Honors. He received his Master's degree and Doctorate in Germanic Philology (The study of Germanic historical linguistics) with minors in both English and Linguistics at the University of Minnesota. He has taught German, Old English, English, and Latin at the high school and/or college levels. He presently works as a German Research Consultant at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.*

## 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 – 255<sup>th</sup> St., Donnellson, IA 51625-

Phone: (319) 835-3960

E-Mail: [ajwitter@iowatelecom.net](mailto:ajwitter@iowatelecom.net)

2. Gen Collins

Phone: (301) 770-0683

E-Mail: [glcipc@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:globlakcnt@aol.com)

Web site (being redesigned): [www.Globalaccents.com](http://www.Globalaccents.com)

4. Ann C. Sherwin

1918 Medfield Road, Raleigh, NC 27606-4732

Phone: (919) 859-5846

E-Mail: [asherwin@aol.com](mailto:asherwin@aol.com)

Web site: [www.asherwin.com](http://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, Sute 590, Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (703) 683-6100

Web site: [www.atanet.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:uwejacobsen@gmx.de)

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Diane Kuster

# 31<sup>st</sup> year for MAGS closes quietly

Our 31<sup>st</sup> year as a society is coming to a close and this past year has brought some cheer and some tears. A major accomplishment was that we more than doubled the number of new members joining MAGS in 2012 over 2011. We had 20 new members in the previous year and this year we had, at the time that I'm writing this, 52 new members! That is remarkable and it is, I feel, largely due to our efforts to make our society made known to other genealogical and historical societies in the Mid-Atlantic region. Not only did we gain individual and family memberships but other societies became members as well!

The volunteers who are helping gather the lists of societies in other states are the reason for this success and we would not be at this level if not for their help. I personally wish to thank George Martel, Marjorie Leyh, Debra Hoffman, Carol Carman, Bernard Graf, Richard Buss, Gary Frick and Cheyenne Cashin (a new MAGS member) for their assistance in compiling lists in different states. We still have a ways to go but I know in 2013 we will have all 50 states covered! The effort to make MAGS the premier Germanic genealogy society continues!

Our fall meeting, held at the Best Western Conference Center in Westminster, Maryland, was a partial success. Overall, based on the evaluations returned to us at the meeting, we received excellent and good ratings on the overall meeting, topics and program. We received fair and poor ratings on the meeting room facilities, setup, vendor tables and vendors, and lunch and lunch service. Two of our three speakers received excellent and good ratings.

The main issues with the vendor location were my fault. I tried squeezing us into the bar area and it proved to be way too small and the lighting was very dim. Next time I'll stay in the bar and put everyone else outside the meeting room!

While the location of the hotel was relatively easy to get to and in a very scenic area we did experience a lot of issues with the conference center. In the morning we had to run back over to the hotel to get assistance. In the afternoon one of the managers came to me to tell me that they needed

to remove a table from the room while a speaker was at the podium because they needed it for a wedding. I had no choice but to let them take the table. Going forward we will work hard to ensure that we never have a repeat incident like this again.

I want to thank our membership and board for coming together to ensure our meeting went on after the death of John Humphrey who was on the fall program. A special thank you to board member Dr. Kenneth Heger for stepping in and filling John's shoes! Thankfully Ken had several topics ready and easily and expertly filled John's slots on the program. Ken and Susannah did a great job with the last session where they answered questions from our attendees on genealogy, brick walls and more!

All members who attended the fall meeting received our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift of a USB thumb drive with our logo on it and our *Der Kuriers* from 1982 thru 2011. I will be mailing these to the rest of our membership this month. I apologize for the delay but truthfully I dread going to the post office with these! Seriously though, I need to stop and talk with USPS to see if I can pre-purchase the postage but I will get these mailed very soon.

In this issue you will find a membership renewal form. It's that time again so if you have not yet renewed please consider doing so and saving Gunter some time! Remember you may renew for more than one year at a time if you would like to.

Also in this issue is our spring meeting flyer. Ken has put together what I feel will be another great program. In addition to Ken we will have two other speakers from our National Archives. Our meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Laurel, Maryland and our fall meeting is set for York, Pennsylvania. I hope to see many of you!

In closing I want to thank Jim Beidler who upon learning of John's death managed on very short notice to hold the September issue of *Der Kurier* and revise it quickly to include tributes in John's memory. An editor's job is not easy and I know for Jim in this case it was especially difficult.

Have a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Holiday and a safe and prosperous New Year!

**FRAKTUR FORUM**

By Corinne Earnest

# Schweitzer samples shown From Virginia, Pennsylvania

Sharon Peery asked about fraktur with the name SWISSER, SWITZER, SCHWEITZER, and other spellings. The names appear here as they are spelled on the fraktur. Sharon is especially interested in examples from Virginia.

A Virginia Taufschein (birth and baptism certificate) at the Free Library of Philadelphia has the name SCHWEITZER. It was made for Margretha BENSS [BENTZ], daughter of Johannes and Anna Maria (SCHWEITZER) BENSS. Margretha was born May 6, 1814 in Rockingham County, Virginia. She was baptized, but no data concerning her baptism was given other than mentioning her only sponsor, Margretha BENTZ [sic].

The current location of a related Taufschein for the BENTZ family of Rockingham County is unknown. It was made for Anna Maria PENSS, daughter of Johann and Anna Maria (SCHWEITZER) PENSS. The daughter, Anna Maria, was born February 7, 1804.

Sharon Peery also mentioned Berks County, Pennsylvania, in her inquiry. As many readers recognize, most fraktur came from southeastern Pennsylvania, and many examples having the name SCHWEITZER show locations in Pennsylvania. Unless otherwise noted, all locations listed below are in Pennsylvania.

Numerous fraktur that mention SCHWEITZERS were made for family members living in Brecknock Township, Berks County. A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Christiana SCHWEITZER, daughter of Jesaias and Louise (STEFFI) SCHWEITZER. Christiana was born November 28, 1869 in Brecknock Township. She was baptized by

[David] HUMBERT in 1869, but no specific date of baptism was given. The parents sponsored Christiana's baptism.

The current location is unknown of a Taufschein made for Jacob SCHWEITZER, son of Isaac and Maria (HOSCHAUER) SCHWEITZER. Jacob SCHWEITZER was born March 22, 1860 in Brecknock Township. He was baptized October 18, 1860 by Pastor GERMAN. Jacob's parents sponsored his baptism.

On May 4, 2002, Conestoga Auctions in Manheim sold a Taufschein made for Jacob's older sister, Sussana. According to this certificate, Sussana was born June 8, 1858 in Brecknock Township. She was baptized by A.S.LEINBACH on January 12, 1859. The parents served as Sussana's sponsors.

The current location is unknown of a Taufschein made for Sophia, daughter of Wilhelm and Sarah (BICKSLER) SCHWEITZER. Sophia was born April 2, 1839 in Brecknock Township, Berks County. She was baptized June 30, 1839 by A. HERMANN. The parents sponsored Sophia's baptism.

The third volume of German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition lists data from a Taufschein made for Katy Louisa, daughter of Jacob and Louisa (KISSINGER) SCHWEITZER. Katy Louisa was born May 16, 1881 in Brecknock Township. She was baptized September 22, 1881 by Z.H. GABLE. Katy Louisa's parents sponsored her baptism.

In the September 2010 issue of Der Kurier, we published a Bible record made for the FEHR and CLEWELL family of Northampton

County. This record mentioned Georg and Hette SCHWEITZER as sponsors at the baptism of Isak Samuel FEHR. The baptism took place on April 12, 1857.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Owen, son of John OBERLY and his wife Catherine, daughter of John SWITZER. Owen OBERLY was born April 10, 1826 in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County. He was baptized July 14, 1826 by Pastor HECHT. Owen's parents sponsored his baptism.

Of interest, the oldest known Swiss Taufpatenbrief has the name of Hans Jakob SCHWYTZER on it. The Taufpatenbrief (or Taufzedel as it was often called) was the European counterpart to the Taufschein. Unfortunately, the typical Taufpatenbrief gives few, if any, genealogical details. The Hans Jacob SCHWYTZER mentioned on the Swiss example, dated March 1, 1629, was written by SCHWYTZER and given to his godchild.

No information concerning the godchild's name, date of birth, date of baptism, parents' names, nor location are recorded on it. The SCHWYTZER Taufpatenbrief is pictured in Klaus Stopp's first volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*.

June Burk Lloyd, Librarian Emerita at the York County Heritage Trust in York, provided data from a Taufschein made for Seth SWITZER, son of Jacob SWITZER and his wife Juliann, daughter of John BAHN. Seth SWITZER was born December 27, 1848 in York County (no township given). He was baptized March 5, 1859 by Pastor RINECKE. The parents sponsored Seth's baptism.

Lloyd also provided information from a Taufschein made for Stephen STRAYLY, son of Jacob and Rebecca (SWEITZER) STRAYLY. Stephen STRAYLY was born May 21, 1818 in Dover Township, York County. He was baptized by Pastor REHMAN (no date of baptism given).

The William Penn Museum in Harrisburg has a Bible record that is difficult to

read, but one entry from 1751 mentions Hans SCHWEITZER as the male sponsor at the baptism of Hans Michael SCHMIDT, who was born March 1, 1751. No location was given concerning the birth of Hans Michael SCHMIDT, but other documents that accompanied this record says the SCHMIDT family eventually settled in Rye Township, Perry County.

In 1975, Charlotte D. Walter, registrar for the Fort Augusta Chapter of the DAR, recorded a Taufschein made for Esther ERDMAN, daughter of Heinrich and Elisabeth (SCHWEITZER) ERDMAN. Esther was born February 27, 1812 in Lower Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County. She was baptized on April 11, 1812, but the name of the pastor was not recorded. The sponsors at Esther's baptism were Georg and Catharina ERDMAN.

On February 29, 2008, Conestoga Auctions in Manheim sold a Taufschein made for Peter KOLB, son of Peter and Barbara (SCHWEITZER) KOLB. Peter KOLB Jr. was born about nine o'clock in the evening on July 31, 1803. Born in Heidelberg Township, Dauphin [now Berks] County, he was baptized by Emanuel SCHULTZ on December 4, 1803. The sponsors at Peter's baptism were Valentin and Magdalena MILLER.

The following two Taufscheine (plural form of Taufschein) are in private collections. The owners provided images of them along with comments concerning family background. One was made for Jeremias ZIEMER, son Johannes and Susanna (SCHWEITZER) ZIEMER. Jeremias was born March 22, 1806 in Brecknock Township, Berks County. He was baptized, but only the names of the baptismal sponsors, Jeremias ZIEMER and Elizabeth SCHWEITZER, were recorded. An added note says that Jeremias ZIEMER married Maria WESTLEY on April 27, 1828. They were married by William PAULI.

The other example was made for David, son of Johannes and Barbara ("SCHWEITZ") ZERBE. David ZERBE was born about three o'clock in morning on July 17, 1792 in Cumru

Township, Berks County. He was baptized by Henrich MÖLLER, Lutheran, on August 17, 1792. The sponsors at David's baptism were Johannes and Catharina ZERBE. The owner of this example confirmed the mother's maiden name was SCHWEITZER.

As customary, I am forwarding Sharon Peery data from other examples of fraktur I found that might help her in her research.

*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**

### **Shoff/Warfel Bible record**

A Bible record in the collection of Jon Acker was made for the Frederic and Delilah (WARFEL) SHOFF family of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The English-language Bible was published about 1876 by Bradley, Garretson & Co. in Philadelphia and Wm. Garretson & Co. in Columbus, Ohio.

The family register in this Bible begins with the marriage of Frederic SHOFF of Martic Township, to Delilah WARFEL of Conestoga Township. They were married on October 9, 1878 in Lancaster by J.B. LINDEMUTH. Witnesses to the marriage were J. W. ESHLEMAN and Sue ROUTZ.

Frederic SHOFF was born April 1, 1857 and Delilah SHOFF was born October 29, 1857. They had eight sons, including; Lloyd W. SHOFF, born August 19, 1880, died November 7, 1880 at the age of 2 months and 19 days; Walter W. SHOFF, born September 17, 1881; William SHOFF, born May 13, 1883; Chester SHOFF, born January 1, 1886; Milton SHOFF, born January 17, 1890 (July 18 was originally recorded, but struck through and corrected in pencil), died July 15, 1890 at the age of 5 months and 28 days; Edgar SHOFF, born July 23, 1891; Erle SHOFF, born June 20, 1893; and Frederic SHOFF, born June 23, 1895. The father, Frederic SHOFF died December 2, 1939 at the age of 82. No date of death was recorded for Delilah (WARFEL) SHOFF.

### **Dietrich / Kohler Bible record**

An English-language family register in the collection of Jon Acker appears in a German-language Bible published in 1872 by Wm. Flint & Co. of Philadelphia.

According to this record, the father of the family, Jacob DIETRICH, was born July 7, 1843 to Samuel and Sarah (HEINLY) DIETRICH. On March 28, 1869, Jacob DIETRICH married Elisabeth Emmeline KOHLER, who was born May 29, 1850, to William and Anna (DEISCHER) KOHLER. Jacob and Elisabeth Emmeline DIETRICH were married by G. F. J. JÄGER. This family was in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

The DIETRICHs had the following children:

Titus Elmer DIETRICH was born October 12, 1869 and baptized October 31, 1869 by G. F. J. JÄGER. The sponsors at his baptism were his grandparents, Wm. and Anna KOHLER. Titus Elmer died February 20, 1873 at the age of 3 years, 4 months, and 8 days.

Eldon Orson DIETRICH was born February 3, 1873 and baptized February 15, 1873 by G. F. J. JÄGER. The sponsors at his baptism were Samuel and Sarah DIETRICH. Eldon Orson died February 15, 1873 at the age of 12 days.

William DIETRICH was born December 26, 1873 and baptized January 25, 1874 by G. F. J. JÄGER. The baptismal sponsors were Peter and Sarah (DIETRICH) KLEIN. William K. DIETRICH died August 3, 1906 at the age of 32 years, 7 months, and 7 days.

Ammon Charles DIETRICH was born November 22, 1875 and baptized January 2, 1876 by G. F. J. JÄGER. The sponsors at his baptism were Charles and Katharine DIETRICH.

Anna Rebecca DIETRICH was born October 9, 1877 in Greenwich Township, Berks County. She was baptized in November 1877, but this entry is too faded to read the exact date of baptism. Anna Rebecca was baptized by B. SCHMOLL and the sponsors were Charles T. GRIMM and his wife, Rebecca.

Edgar Samuel DIETRICH was born October 14, 1880 and baptized November 6, 1880 in Greenwich Township by Daniel D. TREXLER. The sponsors at his baptism were Peter and Maria FISTER.

Alvin Jacob DIETRICH was born October 6, 1884 in Greenwich Township and baptized November 16, 1884 by D. D. TREXLER. The sponsors at Alvin Jacob's baptism were John and Hettý (HEINLÝ) ADAM. Alvin Jacob died September 29, 1885 at the age of 11 months and 23 days.

Morris DIETRICH was born June 12, 1886 in Greenwich Township and baptized June 27, 1886 by D. D. TREXLER. The sponsors at Morris's baptism were Simon and Anna BAUSCHER.

An added note tucked in the Bible says that Jacob DIETERICH received a "good conduct In school" award by his teacher, Geo. G. FISLER. This award is dated April 8, 1852.

## **Burkhart Bible record**

An English-language family register in the collection of Jon Acker was made for Jacob BURKHART and his wife, Hannah BURKHART, who were both born in Germany (no specific location given).

Jacob was born February 6, 1834 and Hannah was born April 5, 1840. Jacob died September 16, 1870 at the age of 36 years, 7 months, and 10 days. Hannah died September 26, 1907 at the age of 67 years, 5 months, and 21 days. The BURKHARTs had six children, namely: Mary BURKHART, born December 14, 1860; Lizzie BURKHART, born May 13, 1862; Adam BURKHART, born October 20, 1863; Anna BURKHART, born July 5, 1866; Jacob BURKHART, born May 10, 1868 and died December 27, 1889 at the age of 21 years, 7 months, and 17 days; and Hiram BURKHART, born February 6, 1870. An entry beneath Hiram's entry says that David MILLER was born February 23, 1885.

No location was recorded for the births of the BURKHART children, but the register was made by scrivener David HOKE of Lititz, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He made it in 1913, several years after Hannah BURKHART's death.

## **Hartman / Mellinger Bible record**

An English-language family register was presented to Susan M. HARTMAN by Martin B. BRUBAKER on August 30, 1898. Susan M. HARTMAN became the wife of Jacob L. HARTMAN, but the relationship of Martin B. BRUBAKER to this family was not given.

According to this record, Jacob L. HARTMAN of East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, married Susan M. MELLINGER of West Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, on December 31, 1892. Jacob L. HARTMAN was born February 7, 1863 and Susan M. MELLINGER was born November 7, 1868. Their children were Bessie M. HARTMAN, born December 20, 1895 in East Cocalico Township, and Luella M. HARTMAN, born May 15, 1899 in East Cocalico Township.

Two other entries appear in this record. The first says that Samuel MELLINGER was born March 8, 1834 and died March 22, 1897 at the age of 63 years and 14 days. The other says that Eliza MELLINGER was born June 12, 1834 and died October 23, 1890 at the age of 56 years, 4 months, and 11 days. Presumably, these were Susan M. MELLINGER'S parents. This record is in the collection of Jon Acker.

## Marks / Kieser Bible record

An English-language family register in the collection of Jon Acker was made for George Albert MARKS of Cumru Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, and his wife, Barbara KIESER of Robeson Township, Berks County.

They were married in Reading on October 25, 1873 by J. J. KUENDIG, Lutheran. The witnesses to the wedding were J. J. K[UENDIG], the pastor who performed the ceremony, and J. H. M. EPSTINE, the scrivener who penned the Bible record. George Albert MARKS was born January 23, 1853 in Cumru Township and baptized in his infancy. His parents were Richard and Kate (HELD) MARKS. Barbara MARKS was born October 10, 1851 in Reading and baptized in her infancy. Her parents were Gottlieb and Regina KIESER.

According to this register, the children of George Albert and Barbara (KIESER) MARKS were:  
John William MARKS, born May 20, 1876 in Mohnsville, Berks County. John William was baptized on Christmas day, 1876 by J. CEGRESS. The sponsors were John and Miss Agnes MARKS.

Harry Luccas MARKS was born February 5, 1878 in Mohnsville. He was baptized February 12, 1879 by D. YOST. The sponsors were Rich and Sallie MARKS.

Kate Ellen MARKS was born November 8, 1880 in Reading and baptized by Pastor WARFEL on March 26, 1881. The parents sponsored Kate Ellen's baptism.

Maggie Irena MARKS was born January 27, 1884 in Mohnsville and baptized in her infancy by Pastor DILLIBER on June 1, 1884.

Elmer Alfred MARKS was born August 28, 1888 in Mohnsville and baptized February 24, 1889 by B. H. MILLER.

Charles Henry MARKS was born June 22, 1893 in Mohnsville and baptized at home on November 30, 1893 by B. D. ALBRIGHT.

## Funk / Kronrath Bible record

A family register made for the FUNK/KRONRATH family of Berks County, Pennsylvania, is in the collection of Jon Acker. This record appears in a German-language Bible printed in Philadelphia by Kimber and Scharpless.

According to this record, written in German, Samuel FUNK married Judith KRONRATH on April 13, 1851.

Samuel FUNK was the son of Georg and Catharina (GERHARD) FUNK. Samuel was born March 3, 1826 in Rockland Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized by Pastor KNOSKE on April 20, 1826. The sponsors at Samuel's baptism were Jonas STIMMEL and Catharina DREY, both single.

Judith Anna KRONRATH was born December 3, 1826 in Rockland Township. Her parents were Johannes and Anna (WEIL) CRONRATH [sic]. Judith Anna was baptized February 21, 1828 by Pastor KNOSKE and the baptismal sponsors were Christian and Catharina MILLER.

The children born to Samuel and Judith Anna (KRONRATH) FUNK include:

Tomas FUNK, born July 25, 1851 in Rockland Township and baptized August 26, 1851 by Pastor RELLER. The parents sponsored Tomas's baptism. Thomas [sic] died March 21, 1852 at the age of 7 months and 25 days.

Catharina Anna FUNK, born March 23, 1853 in Rockland Township. She was baptized July 19, 1853 by G. HINDERLEITER. The parents sponsored Catharina Anna's baptism.

Georg Aelles FUNK, born November 17, 1855 in Rockland Township. He was baptized December 23, 1855 by S. HERRMANN. The parents sponsored Georg Aelles's baptism.

Calvin FUNK was born October 24, 1860 in Rockland Township. He was baptized January 13, 1861 by J. S. HERMANN. The parents sponsored Calvin's baptism.

## Van Antwerp Bible record

On Sept. 22, 2012, Horst Auction Center in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, sold a Bible with an English-language family register recorded between the Old and New Testaments. The Bible was a Polyglott Bible printed in 1841 by Robinson, Pratt & Co., 63 Wall Street, New York. No location was recorded in the family register, and because the Bible was printed in New York, this family might have been located there. However, it ended up in Pennsylvania.

The record begins with a list of six marriages. Wandle [Wendle] Van ANTWERP married Ann SMITH on May 24, 1799. Simon Van ANTWERP married Rachel TALLMAN on May 13, 1821. Alexander BLAUVELT married Catherine A. Van ANTWERP on January 12, 1833. Cornelius Van ANTWERP married Sarah HER[R]ING on June 12, 1824. Peter HERRING married Sarah A. Van ANTWERP on November 13, 1834. And James E. Van ANTWERP married Euphemia NAGALL on December 19, 1830.

The following page gives dates of birth for Wandle and Ann (SMITH) Van ANTWERP, and it lists children born to them. Wandle was born January 19, 1779, and Ann SMITH was born July 23, 1778. Their children were Simon Van ANTWERP, born June 11, 1800; Cornelius Van ANTWERP, born September 22, 1802; Maria Van ANTWERP, born December 26, 1804; James Ellis Van ANTWERP, born March 8, 1807; Catherine Ann Van ANTWERP, born May 3, 1809; Margaret Van ANTWERP, born August 19, 1811; a second Margaret, born December 19, 1812; Sarah Ann Van ANTWERP, born July 13, 1815; and Rachel Van ANTWERP, born February 23, 1818.

Deaths were recorded as follows:

Margaret Van ANTWERP, the sixth child, died October 10, 1811 at the age of 7 weeks and 2 days. Rachel T. Van ANTWERP, wife of Simon, died November 18, 1842 at the age of 39. Wandle Van ANTWERP died February 7, 1843 at the age of 64. Simon Van ANTWERP died December 21, 1844 at the age of 44 years, 6 months, and 10 days. Ann, wife of Wandle Van ANTWERP, died July 15, 1846 at "nearly" 68 years. Rachel Van ANTWERP, the ninth child of Wandle and Ann (SMITH) Van ANTWERP, died July 6, 1851 at the age of 33 years, 4 months, and 8 days.

The next entries were made in another hand. The first lists Hubert V.W. HARING, but gives no date of death. Next came the death of Sarah G. HARING, who died April 29 (or 27?), 1861 at the age of 16 years, 11 months, and 20 days. Effie Van ANTWERP died May 9, 1862 at the age of 53. Sally Van ANTWERP died August 23, 1867 at the age of 67 years, 10 months, and 5 days. Maria Van ANTWERP died October 27, 1889. And Sarah Ann HARING died September 8, 1900, at the age of 85 years, 1 month, and 8 days.

A loose page in the Bible gives data about the ACKERSON and HERRING family. It says James H. ACKERSON married Anna R. HERRING on July 18, probably in 1868, although the year is difficult to read due to staining. They were married by G.M.S. BLAUVELT. John SIMON married Mary ACKERSON on April 17, 1887. They were married the Reverend SEIBERT. John C. ACKERSON married Margaret DEMEREST on March 31, 1844, and H.J. ACKERSON married Sarah VOORHIS on January 16, 1907.

The reverse of that page records the births of James H. ACKERSON, who was born May 27, 1850; Anna R. HERRING, who was born September 12, 1851; Mary C. ACKERSON, who was born February 15, 1869; Franklin ACKERSON, whose information is illegible due to paper loss and staining; and Herbert J. ACKERSON, who was born March 13, 1883.

Other loose pages list:

John SIMON, June 4, 1869

Mary Louisa SIMON, February 15, 1869

Chester Nelson SIMON, January 26, 1891

LeRoy SIMON, July 28, 1893

William SIMON, March 19, 1896

Mabel Virgin[i]a (or Regina?) SIMON, January 1, 1902

Grand Papa, January 19, 1779

Grand Ma, July 23, 1778

Maria Van ANTWERP, December 26, 1804

Margaret, August 19, 1811

Sarah Ann, July 13, 1815

Rachel, February 23, 1818

## **DER KALENDER / *The Calendar***

**2013**

**March 16. Pennsylvania German Zammelaaf**, New Covenant Christian School, 452 Ebenezer Rod (Route 72), Lebanon PA 17046, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with Pennsylvania Dutch food, history, music, language, traditional crafts, artists and children's activities More info: [zammelaaf@hotmail.com](mailto:zammelaaf@hotmail.com) or (717) 865-6723.

**April 6. MAGS Spring Meeting**, Holiday Inn, Laurel, MD. Featured speaker Kenneth Heger. More info: [www.magsgen.com](http://www.magsgen.com).

**April 25-27. Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference**, "Expanding Your Ancestry Through Technology," Millennium Hotel, Cincinnati, OH. More info: <http://www.ogs.org/conference2013>

**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>

**May 10-11. Lancaster Family History Conference**, Lancaster, PA, with keynote speaker John Paul Colleta. 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 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  
 Judith S. Campbell of Frederick, MD  
*(Morgenroth, Hiltz, Barnhouse, Everhart)*  
 Cheyenne Cashin of Sterling, VA  
*(Barham, Kilder, McFillen, Pope)*  
 Lin Formwalt of Parkville, MD  
*(Allnecht, Breher, Rahter, Zeiller)*  
 Lowell Fry of Stafford, VA  
*(Fry/Frey, Hollenbach, Earnest/Ernest, Sitrler)*  
 Corrinne & Alan Groesbeck of Chantilly, VA  
*(Diehl, Heffelfinger, Hursh, Seidel)*  
 Steve Kibler Grudziecki of Olney, MD  
*(Kibler, Barham, Popp/Pope)*  
 Bud & Christina Herron of Killeen, TX  
*(Herron, Braitinge, Rehfeld, Hagmeyer)*  
 Sheryl Herzog of Westminster, MD  
*(Herzog, Schoenewald)*  
 Christina Humphreys of Tucson, AZ  
*(Sachs, Wiegand, Keim, Neidlinger)*  
 Victoria R. Kinnear of Baltimore, MD  
*(Dillehunt, Rebbert, Henneberger, Neff)*  
 Barry Louis Kline Jr of Annandale, VA  
*(Kline/Klein/Cline, Schipbower, Spaid, Reece)*  
 C. Susan Law of Annapolis, MD

*(Lammers, Schifferer, Seidle, Sprengel)*  
 Joan E. Mack of Pen Argyl, PA  
*(No Names)*  
 Jonathan L. Mansch of New Cumberland, PA  
*(Mansch, Schweinert, Bajor, Lashinski)*  
 Mildred & J. Arch Phillips of Street, MD  
*(Huber, Hopfman/Hoffman, Boehnlein, Sturm)*  
 Susan S. Reardon of Catlett, VA  
*(Stine, Davis, Harclerode)*  
 Eileen Souza of Eldersburg, MD  
*(Meisberger, Gunther, Strausser, Mumma)*  
 Susanne Spangler of Duarte, CA  
*(Spangler/Spengler, Hauenstein, Rapp)*  
 Jill Stephens of Allentown, PA  
*(Shrell, Schutle, Sauerborn, Rosenberg)*  
 Marilyn Jewett Tracey of Hagerstown, MD  
*(Troppmann, Riedhammer/Riethammer, Dressell, Neumeister)*  
 Don Warner of Hampstead, MD  
*(No Names)*  
 Sarah S. & J. Patrick Warner of Silver Spring, MD  
*(Warner/Woerner)*

## 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)

# DOOR PRIZES FALL MEETING 2012

\*\*\*\*\*

*Genealogical Research in Nebraska* by Ruby Coleman

Donated by Joel David

**Won by Charles Gelschlichter**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Goody Bag** – 20 winners

*Facts About Germany* – 4 winners – **Won by Bill Kaifer, Debra Hoffman, Rowland Hauser and Jill Stephens**

Donated by the German Information Center USA [www.germany.info](http://www.germany.info)

**Winners – Damon Kletzien, Fred Ruppenthal, Richard Buss, Don Warner, Sylvia Fenzel, Sheryl Herzog, Susan Reardon, Diana Larsen, Marsha Masone, Marilynne Ocando, Mary Lyon, Deyerle Atkins, George Martel, Doris Glick, David Fyfe, Pat Fritz, Doris Merson, Eileen Mummaugh, Pat Grossman and Nicholas Peters**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Kids and Kin The Family History Vacation That Involves Kids Number 1* by Patricia Suter and Corinne Earnest - **Won by Nancy Alford**

*Proof Before You Publish! 21 Checklists for Proofreading Genealogy Publications* by Corinne and Russell Earnest - **Won by John Foertschbeck**

*Our Family Diary* by Russell D. Earnest - Won by Eileen Souza

Donated by Russell D. Earnest Associates

\*\*\*\*\*

*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors 4<sup>th</sup> Edition* by John Grenham

Donated by Genealogical Publishing Company – 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260 – Baltimore, MD 21211 – [www.genealogical.com](http://www.genealogical.com)

**Won by Mary Ann Mullerleile**

\*\*\*\*\*

**At a Glance Ellis Island Research - Won by Carol Poole**

*The Wehrmacht War Crimes Bureau 1939-1945* by Alfred M. deZayas – **Won by Marjorie Leyh**

**Colored Map of Germany (10 winners) – Won by Lowell Fry, Dorothy Martell, Marjorie Buss, Katherine Hamilton, Alan Groesbeck, Susan Law, Cheyenne Cashin, Nancy Cole, Bernard Graf, Corinne Groesbeck, Jerry Kissel and Hazel Pflueger**

Donated by MAGS and the MAGS Store

\*\*\*\*\*

Lebanon Births and Buck County Births by John T. Humphrey

Donated by Gunter Schanzenbacher

**Won by Charles Glick and George Horvath**

\*\*\*\*\*

Set of Films by Ann Morrison – **Won by Mildred Phillips**

Donated by Ann Morrison

**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  
 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

***Germanic Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns*** (Third Ed.) by Edward Brandt  
 M/NM ..... \$44/\$49 S&H..... \$ 5

***Alsace Lorraine Atlantic Bridge to Germany*** by Linda M. Herrick and Wendy K. Uncapher  
 M/NM..... \$22.25/\$24.95 S&H .....\$3.70

***Pomerania Atlantic Bridge to Germany*** by Linda M. Herrick and Wendy K. Uncapher,  
 M/NM.....\$19.75/\$22 S&H ..... \$3.70

***Baden Atlantic Bridge to Germany*** by Linda M. Herrick and Wendy K. Uncapher  
 M/NM..... \$18/\$20 S&H .....\$3.70

***Lands of the German Empire and Before, Second Edition***, by Wendy K. Uncapher,  
 M/NM.....\$22.25/\$24.95 S&H .....\$3.70

***How to Read and Understand Meyers Orts Meyers Geographical and Commercial Gazetteer of the German Empire***, by Wendy K. Uncapher,

M/NM.....\$8.10/\$9 S&H .....\$3.20

***German Maps and Facts for Genealogy Second Edition***, by Wendy K. Uncapher and Linda M. Herrick,  
 M/NM .....\$17.75/\$19.95 S&H .....\$3.70

***If I Can You Can Decipher Germanic Records*** by Edna M. Bentz, M/NM....\$15.50/\$17.25 S&H ....\$3.70

***Following the Paper Trail A Multilingual Translation Guide*** by Jonathan D. Shea & William F. Hoffman  
 M/NM \$25 / 29 S&H \$3.70

***The German Research Companion, 3rd Edition*** by Shirley J. Riemer, Roger P. Minert, Jennifer A. Anderson  
 M/NM \$25.00/28.00 S&H \$3.70

***German American Names, 3rd Edition*** by George F. Jones  
 M/NM \$29.75/33.00 S&H \$3.70

***The Wehrmacht War Crimes Bureau 1939-1945*** by Alfred M. deZayas M/NM \$29.00/32.50 S&H \$3.70

***Where to look for Hard-to-Find German-Speaking Ancestors in Eastern Europe*** by Bruce Brandt & Edward Reimer Brandt M/NM \$21.25/23.00 S&H \$3.70

***German English Genealogical Dictionary*** by Ernest Thode  
 M/NM \$26.75/29.95 S&H \$3.70

***Address Book for Germanic Genealogy, 6th Ed.*** by Ernest Thode M/NM \$22.50/24.95 S&H \$3.70

***Culinaria Germany*** edited by Christine Metzger  
 M/NM \$12.00/15.00 S&H \$5.50

***Our Daily Bread German Village Life 1500-1850*** by Teva J. Scheer M/NM: \$16.00/\$19.95 S&H \$3.70

**MAGS Membership Lapel Pin**

Colors: black / white / gold. One-inch diameter.  
 Members only ..... \$ 5.00 S&H \$ 1.75

**MAGS BAGS**

Canvas tote bag, wheat color with MAGS logo.  
 Members only ..... \$ 8.00 S&H \$ 3.00

**Ahnentafels: Ancestral Charts for Families of German Heritage, Volume I**

M/ NM ..... \$13.50 / \$15.00 S&H \$3.7

**ORDER FORM.** Circle item(s) desired, calculate cost below, and mail to:  
**Judy Dohner, 6130 Sebring Drive, Columbia, MD 21044-3924**  
**Make checks payable to Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society. Do not send cash.**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**STREET ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY, STATE, ZIP+4** \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM COST** \_\_\_\_\_  
**6% SALES TAX** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (MD addresses only)  
**SHIPPING** \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL COST** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Amount enclosed)



---

# The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

---

PRRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Vandergrift, PA  
15690  
Permit No. 86

PO Box 334  
Glenn Dale MD 20769-0334  
ISSN 1059-9762

Address Service Requested

---

## MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please complete this form fully and send it with payment to address below.

NAME(S)

---

---

HOW DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT MAGS ?

---

LIST 4 SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING

---

Membership year runs January 1 through December 31.

---

## ADDRESS

---

---

CITY

---

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE

---

E-MAIL

---

Annual Membership Fee:

\$15.00 (individual) or \$20.00 (family)

Make check or money order payable to  
Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society and mail to:

Gunter Schanzenbacher

725 Fir Spring Dr.

Waynesboro PA 17268-2914

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