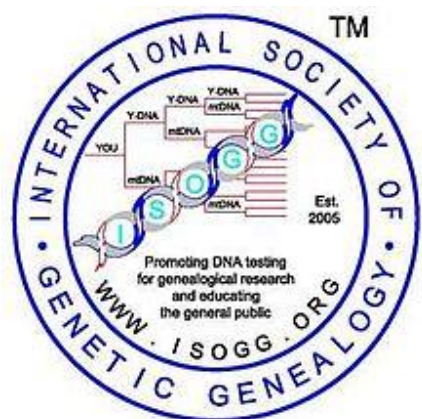


Der Kurier

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 1 / MARCH 2019

Old handwriting, new tools: Did you know that you can change your word-processing program to spell-check in German? Or that there are websites devoted to the many German abbreviations? Or that simply doing a Google search might help you figure out how a place name has been garbled and rendered unfindable? Well, “Stick to the Script” columnist Katherine Schober does know—and she shares these and other types of tools in her column for this issue. **Page 15.**



Online help with DNA: How many online sites are there to help you decipher DNA tests? Loads and loads of them, for sure. “DNA Discoveries” columnist Andrew Hochreiter profiles the plethora of websites and social media groups that offer advice and experiences on the subject of genetic genealogy. **Page 20.**

DEPARTMENTS

From the Editor	3	Immigrant Connections	24
From the President	4	2018 Index	29
Stick to the Script	15	Der Kalender / The Calendar	38
Our Language Leaves	17	New Members	38
DNA Discoveries	20	MAGS Store	39

**MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY**

PO Box 241
New Windsor, MD 21776
<http://www.magsgen.com>

Our mission: To stimulate and facilitate research on Germanic genealogy and heritage in the mid-Atlantic region

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) is a non-profit genealogical society founded in July 1982. Annual dues are only \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Add \$5 if you desire a printed copy of **Der Kurier** each quarter. Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. A membership application appears on the back cover and on our website. Benefits include:

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– Featuring expert speakers, member discounts

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– German research aids, searchable databases

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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. Unless previous arrangements are made with the editor, 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 241, New Windsor, MD 21776. E-mail: newsletter@magsgen.com

VOM HERAUSGEBER

FROM THE EDITOR

German Genealogy World Rushes to Sacramento for Golden Connections

Where will you be in mid-June this year? I hope you'll be joining me and many members of the MAGS Board at the 2019 International German Genealogy Conference in Sacramento, CA. As many of you know, this is the second such conference, following an enormously successful debut in Minneapolis in 2017.



James M. Beidler

The conference is one of the prime activities to come out of the International German Genealogy Partnership and is being headed this time around by the Sacramento German Genealogy Society in conjunction with other IGGP Partner groups in California. MAGS itself will have a table in the exhibitor area of the conference.

Enthusiasm for the Sacramento event has been so intense that host site Hyatt Regency Hotel's block has been sold out (don't worry—a block at a second hotel within walking distance has been secured).

I've been going to major genealogy events for about 20 years and I can honestly say that the Minneapolis event was the best to which I've ever been.

Many of the conferences to which I go are ones where there's what I'd call a "big tent" as far as program—they are events meant to appeal to the generalist genealogist (or "specialist" genealogists with many different interests), and that's appropriate for organizations such as the National Genealogical Society and the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

But this conference is "all Germans, all the time," and that created an incredible energy of kindred spirits in Minneapolis that I expect will be duplicated in Sacramento. In addition to the programming with dozens of speakers from around the world, all the major genealogical vendors such as Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org and FamilyTreeDNA will be vendors. There will be social events both onsite during the conference and day trips available before and after.

As I noted in last September's *Der Kurier*, I will be debuting my latest book, *The Family Tree Historical Atlas of Germany*, in Sacramento. As part of my support for the conference, I put together a Bronze sponsorship that includes our own "Stick to the Script" columnist Katherine Schober and "Your DNA Guide" Diahann Southard, one of the most dynamic presenters in the ever-enlarging world of genetic genealogy, as well as corporate backers Family Tree Magazine and German Life magazine.

Hopefully all of this has made a strong case for coming to Sacramento in June (there's a full-page advertisement on Page 5 of this issue that gives you more specifics and cues for more information).

In the meantime, relish this issue of *Der Kurier*—President Heger continues his examination of American consulate records in Bavaria, our columnists have some excellent learning in store for you, and we have our usual March feature, the every-name index to the previous year's volume.

Enjoy!

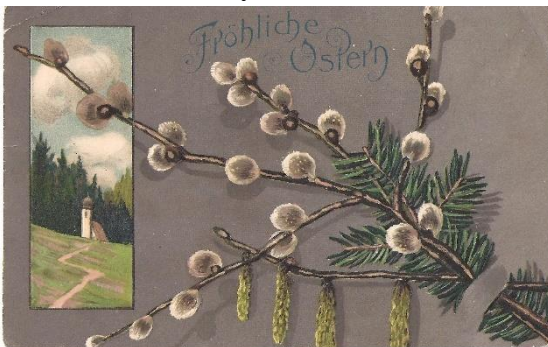
VOM PRÄSIDENT**FROM THE PRESIDENT****2019 – A Year of Opportunity for MAGS**

I need to begin my column with an apology. In the December issue of *Der Kurier*, I pointed out the names of four MAGS members who will be speaking at the International Germanic Genealogical Partnership (IGGP) conference this June in Sacramento. I overlooked two MAGS members and want to add their names to the list of MAGS speakers. They are Ken Weaver, our featured columnist on German language, and Katherine Schober, our columnist on German script. Both are dynamite speakers; if you are going to IGGP in June consider attending their talks. As my Uroma Ellen would say here “Ach ... the hurrieder I go, the behinder I get.”

As you already know, our editor Jim Beidler will be transitioning from *Der Kurier*'s editor to editor emeritus status. Debra Hoffman and I met with a potential new editor early in January. His name is Sean Kessler, who is an energetic young man with a solid basis in German history and political geography and a desire to assume Jim's mantel. In its first meeting of the year, the MAGS Board agreed unanimously to offer Sean a contract when Jim's expires at the end of the year. Sean is enrolled in the upcoming conference; if you are there, too, we will introduce him to you. Please take a minute say hello. Sean will introduce himself to the readership in an upcoming issue of *Der Kurier*.

Membership chair Gunter Schanzenbacher reports our outreach efforts continue to help us grow. Membership is up. The increase in members living in California is particularly noteworthy. Our goal is to reach 500 members by the end of the year. We are only 60 members short of that goal. Please help us talk up the Society. Between *Der Kurier*, innovative workshops, and the ever-growing website, MAGS membership is a great bargain.

Here's a brief reminder about our spring conference. We'll meet in Laurel, Maryland, at our traditional venue. The nationally-known Teresa Steinkamp McMillin will be our speaker. Ms. McMillin is a dynamite presenter, one whom you shouldn't miss. See the MAGS website for details and guidance on how to register for the event. Remember, the workshop fills up fast; a McMillin-led conference is likely too as well.



During 2019 we will continue to create guides to original records, expand our searchable databases, and add scans of visual images to the website. Take a minute to visit the website, at www.magsgen.com. Look for updates in future *Der Kurier* issues and expect the occasional email from the Board keeping you up-to-date on important accomplishments and events.

In advance let me wish you all – **Fröhlich Ostern!**



Kenneth W. Heger

Registration Continues!

2019 INTERNATIONAL German Genealogy Conference
INTERNATIONAL GERMAN GENEALOGY PARTNERSHIP

STRIKE IT RICH! with Connections 2 Discoveries

15-17 June 2019
Saturday ■ Sunday ■ Monday
Hyatt Regency Hotel
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INTERNATIONAL GERMAN Genealogy Partnership

Researching Bavaria, Part II: The American Consulate in Bamberg, 1890 - 1908

BY KENNETH W. HEGER, PH.D.

The Kingdom of Bavaria was the largest, most populous, and richest state in southern Germany. Bavaria was also the origin of many emigrants who made the United States their home, was a prime vacation spot for Americans traveling abroad, and boasted some of the finest art and music schools in Europe, schools that attracted many American students. These factors make records documenting Americans in Bavaria an important source of research. This article focuses on the records of the American Consulate in Bamberg; it is the second¹ of a seven-part series discussing the sources at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), which the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) will describe and post on the society's website to help you with your research.

The Post in Bamberg

The city of Bamberg is in Franconia, the northern portion of the Kingdom of Bavaria. Bamberg, the principal city in the district, was founded in the 10th Century and in 1901 had over 42,000 inhabitants. Prior to the French Revolution, it had been one of the Holy Roman Empire's independent ecclesiastical states, ruled by its bishop.² In 1815, the Congress of Vienna officially recognized the city and its surrounding area as part of Bavaria.

The Department of State opened a Consular Agency in Bamberg on 22 February 1867. On 25 January 1892, the post was elevated to a Commercial Agency, and on 1 April 1903 State raised it to full consulate status. In 1908, the Department of State abolished the post in Bamberg along with numerous other posts, in accordance with an Act of Congress, 11 May 1908. After the consulate's abolition, the consulate in



View of Bamberg showing the *Rathaus* (city hall) and the *Linker Regnitzarm* (left branch of the Regnitz). The Regnitz's intersection with the Main is about three miles in the distance.

¹ The first article was Kenneth W. Heger. "Researching Bavaria, Part I: Introduction and Augsburg." *Der Kurier: Quarterly of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society* December 2018 (Vol. 36, No. 4): 127-137.

² By the mid-eighteenth century, the bishop of the neighboring city of Wurzburg was also bishop of Bamberg. Although they shared the same head of state, the two bishoprics has separate governing bodies.

Coburg assumed responsibility for looking after American interests in Bamberg and the surrounding area.



St. Michael's Monastery in Bamberg

The consulate's district consisted of virtually all the Bavarian province of Upper Franconia (*Oberfranken*) and about one half of the province of Lower Franconia (*Unterfranken*). The district's principal industries were the manufacture of cotton goods, cloth, shoes, furniture, and the brewing of beer. In the district there were numerous china and basket-ware manufacturers. The district's major exports to the United States included beer, hops, china-ware, baskets, and piano wire. Cotton was the only significant good the United States exported to the district.

Bamberg was an inland post. Its principal duties consisted of certifying invoices for German goods exported to the United States and looking out for the interests of private American citizens in the district. That included settlements of estates, protection of citizens vis-à-vis local authorities, and paying pensioners living in the district.

THE RECORDS

Despite its brief existence, the consulate in Bamberg produced a surprisingly large volume of records, making it a significant source of information for researchers. The records accumulated during the existence of the foreign service post at Bamberg total 12 linear feet and cover the period 1 March 1890 to 30 June 1908; there are no extant records for the period February 1867 – March 1890.

There is official correspondence for the consulate both to and from the Department of State in Washington, D.C. and there is substantial correspondence between the consulate and private citizens. The consulate's records this article discusses are in two National Archives Record Groups (RG): RG 59, General Records of the Department of State; and RG 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State.

The MAGS website has a detailed guide to the Bamberg records on the members-only portion of the website. You should consult that guide for more direction and for lists of names. The "Accessing the Records" section at the end of this article has more information about the guide.

**DESPATCHES SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
Record Group 59, General Records of the Department of State**

This record group contains the documents the Department of State kept at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. Chief among them for family historians are despatches the Department received from consulates. Consular despatches are the go-to records to start your State Department research. They cover the entire gamut of a consulate's activities, providing useful information on how the local population lived, the local economy, and emigrants. Consular despatches often document individuals. The following section provides an overview of the despatches Bamberg sent to America. All these despatches are on a single microfilm publication, T510. The "Accessing the Records" section at the end of this article tells you how to view the records.

Emigration Information

Several despatches provide detailed statistics about Bavaria's population, economy, and society. These statistical documents give you the data you need to place your ancestors' lives in context. The following despatch serves as an example.

Despatch No. 7; 5 April 1894 from Bamberg

This despatch forwarded a report entitled "Emigration Statistics of the Kingdom of Bavaria" for the preceding year. It included the following data on the number of Bavarians who emigrated and where they went. The large number of emigrants headed for the United States strengthens the assertion that State Department records for Bavaria are valuable sources of information.

U.S.A. – 5,981	British America – 130
Mexico – 1	West Indies- 1
Brazil – 38	Argentine Republic – 20
South American States – 4	Africa (German Territories) – 23
Asia – 7	Australia & Polynesia – 9

Deaths & Estates of American Citizens

Death reports are important documents in family history. Because reporting the deaths of American citizens abroad was a key duty of American foreign service posts, State Department records are often a rich source of those records. The records of the consulate in Bamberg include many death reports, perhaps reflecting the number of Americans who hailed from or traveled to the area. Most of the reports include the date, place and cause of death, although this information is inconsistent and depended upon the details the consulate received from relatives of the deceased or from local German authorities. Some despatches include official forms such as the Department of State's Standard Form 192 or the German *Sterbekunde*. Examples of death reports are:

- **Louis Gerst – Despatch No. 2; 19 January 1895.** The former resident of Palatia, Columbia County, NY died in early January. He was 64. Although the despatch does not list all of his belongings, it noted that Gerst left “a considerable fortune.”
- **John Schroepfer – Despatch No. 38; 24 May 1899.** Schroepfer was an American pensioner living in the district. He died on 7 May 1899 in Meinnestadt.³
- **Katherine Gauch – Despatch No. 42; October 1903.** The Newark, NJ resident died on 22 September 1903 in Kleinsteinach, Bavaria.
- **Regina Ross – Despatch No. 53; 14 October 1904.** The resident of Brooklyn, NY died on 27 September 1904 in Berneck, Bavaria.

RECORDS KEPT ON SITE IN BAMBERG, 1890-1908

Record Group 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State

The bulk of the records relating to Bamberg are those the post kept on site in Bamberg and consist of fifty-four volumes and three boxes of records. Records that consulates kept in their offices overseas are in National Archives RG 84. There are twelve series of correspondence (forty-five volumes and two boxes); this includes two volumes containing official correspondence from the Department of State. There are also two series of financial records (seven volumes), and three series documenting assistance to American citizens and miscellaneous record books (two volumes and one box). It is worthwhile to look at some examples of valuable family history records.

Despatches and Instructions from the Department of State

Just as the despatches from Bamberg to Washington, D.C. contain useful genealogical data, so too do the despatches and instructions the Department of State sent to Bamberg. Those records pertain to pensioners, requests of citizens for assistance from the American government, and raise questions of citizenship status. Remember, these letters are likely available nowhere else and are, therefore, a unique source of information on your ancestor. As you read through this article, note how some of the documents supplement those found among other records series the consulate created, e.g. the estate case of Katherine Gauch.

- **Lorenz Schipper – Despatch No. 29; 16 May 1903.** Despatch from State forwarding a letter from the Commissioner of Pensions relating to the status of Schipper’s pension claim.
- **Katherine Gauch – Despatch No. 31; 16 November 1903.** Despatch from the Department of State. State approved of the way in which the consulate handled Gauch’s estate. It mentions **William Gauch**.
- **Franz Glaser, alias Frank Kesner – Unnumbered despatch; 19 April 1904.** The Department forwarded an order from the Commissioner of Pensions for Glaser to undergo his medical examination to support his pension claim.
- **S.C. Ullman – Unnumbered despatch; 21 March 1908 & Despatch No. 53; 15 January 1908.** These two documents relate to Ullman’s registration as an American citizen.

³ Best guess on city name.

- **Mrs. George Dellermann** – Despatch No. 37; 8 June 1905. Mrs. George Dellermann of Hollerndorf, Bavaria wanted to sell her interest in an estate in New York. She complained that the consulate was lax in helping her obtain a power-of-attorney to help her do so. The 4-page file mentions other names: **Henry Bischoff** (an attorney), **Charles Miller**, and **John Schneider**.

Registrations of American Citizens

The post at Bamberg kept a single volume in which it registered American citizens who visited the consulate and asked the consulate to register them (Vol. 46 – NAID 1323395); these volumes are always useful for family historians. The volume covers about a year from February 1907 until February 1908 and there is only information on five pages. The certificates are arranged chronologically by the date the consulate issued them. Certificates include the registrant's name; marital status, and name of spouse if married; date and place of birth; date and place of residence (usually in the United States); children, if any; how the citizenship was obtained; and passport number. The following text is a synopsis of the information.

- Page 1. **Thomas Jones**. Born 2 April 1858 in Wales. Arrived in Bamberg 1 July 1906. In Bamberg to recuperate his health. Wife – **Bertha Jones**.
- Page 2. **Daniel Boston**. Born 26 December 1875 in Brooklyn, NY. In Bamberg for business. Unmarried.
- Page 3. **Moses Traub**. Born 2 August 1872 in Teunstadt, Bavaria. In Bamberg to recuperate his health. Unmarried.
- Page 4. **William Heller**. Born 11 December 1836 in Bratzfeld, Bavaria. In Bamberg for recreation. Wife dead. Lists names of Children:
 - **Rosa Heller** **Henry Heller**
 - **Samuel Heller** **Moses Heller**
 - **Max Heller** **Iseer Heller**
- Page 5. **Samson Carl Ullman**. Born 21 September 1861 in New York. In Bamberg for his daughter's education. Wife – **Rosalie Ullman**. Daughter – **Emma Karoline Ullman**⁴.

Miscellaneous Correspondence Files

Bamberg's records contain several volumes and boxes of correspondence the consulate sent to addressees other than the Department of State. Those letters are often difficult to research but can contain great data. The following text give you a taste of what you might find.

⁴ Best guess on Ullman family given names. Handwriting difficult to read. Note that S.C. Ullman's citizenship status was the subject of correspondence from the Department of State.

Examples of letters sent recorded in the volume of fair copies of letters sent 30 September – 18 December 1902⁵:

- **Veronica Hillingmeier** – Correspondence to Hillingmeier and to Sydney L. Willson, Pension Agent in Washington, D.C. concerning Hillingmeier’s pension claim. Pages 6 & 7.
- **Christoph Ebenhack of Baltimore, MD** – Correspondence from Bamberg about the Ebenhack family in Poppendorf. Pages 16, 17 & 31.
- **Kunigunde Hermann of New York City** – Several letters dated sent from Bamberg to addressees in New York and Horb-am-Main concerning and estate. Pages 14 & 16.
- **Lorenz Schipper** – Letter to Schipper at his home in Thulba about his pension and his medical examination. Pages 25 & 26.
- **Carl Fulton** – Letter to Fulton in St. Louis, MO. The consulate reminded Fulton it was trying to be helpful and pushed back on his assertion that the consulate was not doing enough. The consulate chastised Fulton for the tone of his letter and reminded him that he still owed the consul \$5 for work the consul had already done for him. The letter reads further:
 - *“At the same time I want to state right here, that if I am to continue in your interest, I demand of you respectful language, you write to me and instruct me as if I was your boot black instead of a United States Consul ...”* – p 26

Examples of Letters Received from the Consulate in Nürnberg among the Consulate’s Two Boxes of Correspondence⁶


- Four pages of correspondence with Barbara Küpfer of Philadelphia, PA – 1893
- Seven pages of correspondence pertaining to Charles B. Potter of Baltimore, MD – 1893

Accessing the Records

None of the records of this consulate are digitized or available online. You will need to visit NARA’s facility in College Park MD, also known as Archives II, to examine the originals or their microfilmed surrogates. This section helps you understand how to use the guide on the MAGS website, how to access the despatches sent to the Department of State in Washington, D.C., and how to mine the records kept on site in Bamberg.

⁵ The guide on the MAGS website has a longer list of names and citations.

⁶ The guide has more detailed folder title lists for these two boxes.



Casualty Indemnity Insurance
Capital Full Paid \$ 500,000.

The *Guarantors*
LIABILITY INDEMNITY CO.
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Thomas V. Cooper, PRESIDENT.
John L. Wilson, V. PRESIDENT.
Frank Bower, TREASURER.
Wm. H. Knorr, SECRETARY.

Richard F. Leper, General Manager.

Philadelphia, July 10th, 1897

U. S. COMMERCIAL AGENCY AT
BAMBERG, GERMANY.

RECEIVED Aug 19 1897
ANSWERED 4 11 1897
No. 116

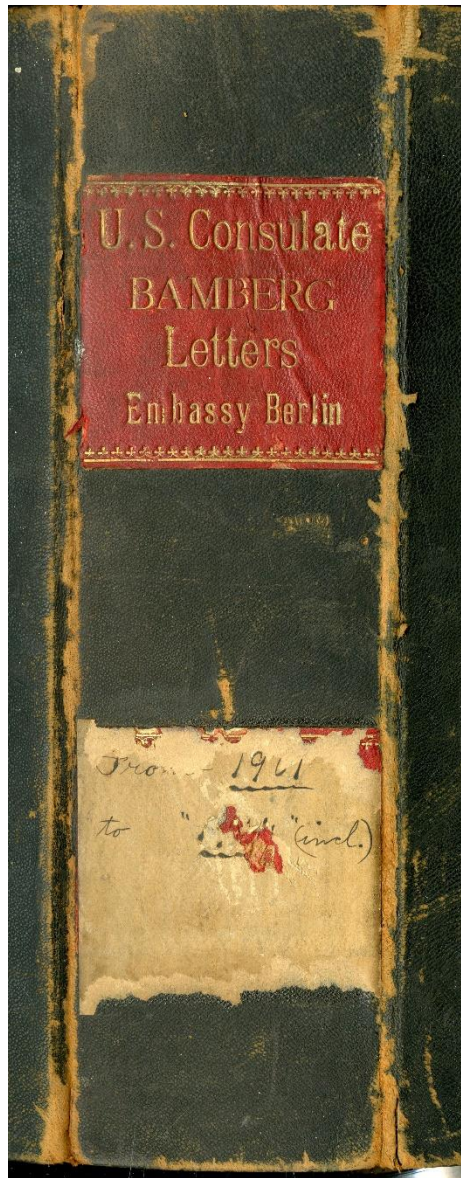
Louis Stern, Esq.,
Commercial Agent,
Bamberg, Germany,

My Dear Sir:-

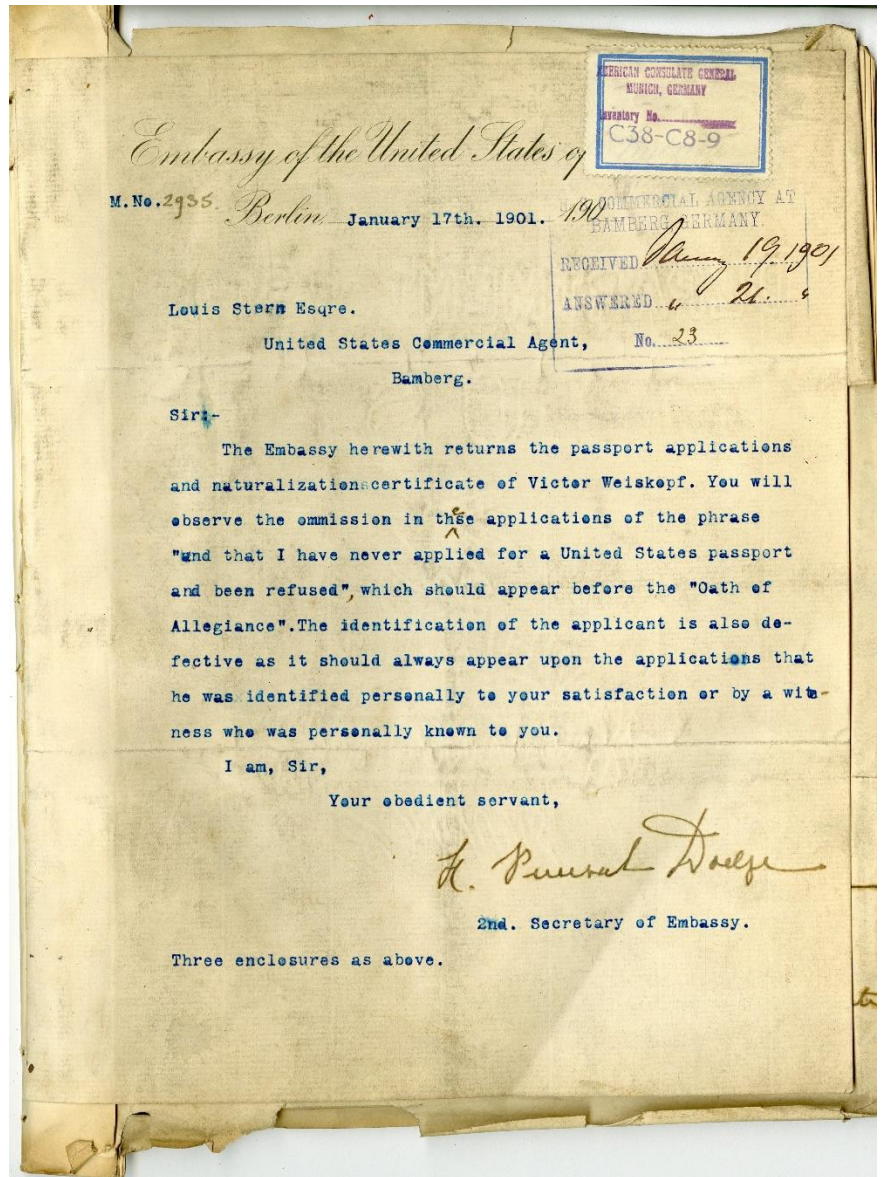
We have received an advance copy of a pamphlet entitled "German Labor Legislature", referring particularly to the beneficial insurance established by the German Empire, concerning the insurance of German working men. We are very desirous of studying this matter more thoroughly, believing that we can be particularly benefitted by the advance made under the German power in this line of business. Might I ask you to be so kind as to forward us such necessary forms as are used,- i.e., applications, forms of policies or indemnity contracts and such other detailed information as you can consistently supply us with.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,
Very truly yours,
Richard F. Leper
GENERAL MANAGER.

Example of commercial correspondence



Letters received from the American Embassy in Berlin, Bamberg Vol. 38, NAID 1323387



A letter received from the American Embassy in Berlin relating to Victor Weiskopf. This is an example of how old documents can be in poor condition, something you need to factor into your research.

Lists of Names in the Online Guides

If you plan to add the Bamberg records to your research, you should consult the “Guide to the Records of the Consulate in Bamberg” available on the members-only portion of the MAGS website. The guide includes several detailed lists of names as appendixes. The lists contain a brief description of the document’s subject and the records citation information you need to find the documents at the National Archives. The three most detailed lists are:

- Guide to Instructions, Despatches and Circulars from the Department of State to the Consulate in Bamberg, 1900 – 1908
- Select List of Names and Addresses of Letters Sent, September – December 1902 from the Consulate in Bamberg
- Information About the Certifications of Registrations of American Citizens in Bamberg, 1907-1908

Accessing the Microfilmed Records – The Despatches to Washington, D.C. (RG 59)

The despatches from the consulate in Bamberg are on a single-roll microfilm publication. **T510**, *Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Bamberg, Germany, 1892 – 1906*. 1 roll.

Usually only full-fledged consulates sent despatches directly to the Department of State. That was the case with the post in Bamberg, and the reason there are no records on this publication predating 1892.

Accessing the Records Kept on On-Site in Bamberg (RG84)

The records in RG 84 are boxed or bound in volumes. That requires you have ample data to retrieve the volume you want to examine. Be sure when you request a volume to examine (and when you cite it in your notes and writings) to include all the information listed below. The descriptions of the records in the online guide include all of that information. The following is an example of how to request and cite a single volume.

- *Records of the American Consulate in Bamberg; Certificates of Registration of American Citizens, 18 February 1907 – 20 February 1908; Vol. 46; NAID 1323395; Record Group 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the United States*

Future Articles in this Series

This series of articles will continue in upcoming issues of *Der Kurier* as we process and describe the records.

- Part III: The Consulate in Fürth
- Part IV: The Consulate in Munich
- Part V: The Consulate in Nürnberg
- Part VI: The Bavarian Palatinate
- Part VII: Other Sources Available on the MAGS Website About Bavaria (This will include visuals, quick fact sheets, and additions to the searchable databases.)

VORSCHRIFT IST VORSCHRIFT

STICK TO THE SCRIPT

Five Must-Know Technological Tools for Transcribing the Old German Handwriting

While our genealogical documents may be hundreds of years old, we don't have to decipher these texts as if we were still living in 1745. With the vast world of technology at our fingertips, transcribing German documents can be much easier than you would ever think – but what tools to use? Read on for a list of the resources that will make your time deciphering German handwriting less time-consuming, less stressful, and much more fun.



Katherine Schober

1. Spell-Check in German.

You may be tempted to transcribe your document with a pen and paper, but using Microsoft Word – with its spell-check tool – can provide you with many helpful hints as you go about your work. Change your “Spelling and Grammar Check Language” to German (you can do so by going to Tools >Language>German – make sure the “check spelling and grammar” box is checked), and the grammar check will tell you if your transcribed letters are actual German words or not.

Toufe



For example, let's say your handwritten word looks like “T-o-u-f-e”. You then type this into Microsoft Word, but Word underlines it in red, signaling that “Toufe” is not a German word. You can then right-click on the word itself to see suggestions of what the word could be. Type these possibilities into an online dictionary (I recommend Langenscheidt.com), and see if any of these make sense within your genealogy document.

When right-clicking on our transcribed word of “Toufe”, we see that there are five possibilities of what this misspelled word could be. If you don't know German, type each of these words into an online dictionary and you will find that the third suggestion, “Taufe”, means “baptism” – a perfect match for your genealogy document. Those a's and o's can be tricky!

Keep in mind: Microsoft Word showing a red line under your transcription does not necessarily mean you transcribed the handwriting incorrectly. There are many old-fashioned words that the tool does not recognize, as well as many misspelled words that may appear in genealogy documents. However, the “right-click list” can provide you with options for what the word could be, giving you somewhere to start when trying to transcribe your German document.

2. Use Wordmine.info.

As I've mentioned in a previous Der Kurier article, Wordmine.info is my favorite website for transcribing. This site allows you to type in the letters of the German word that you do recognize, placing an asterisk in the spot of the letters you can't read. You can then select “Words beginning with” (Wörter beginnend mit) or “Words ending with” (Wörter mit Endung), depending on which

part of the word you can read more easily. Press "Suche" (Search) and a list of German words with that specific beginning or ending will appear. Hundreds of results? Check the box "Anzahl der Buchstaben" (Number of Letters) and fill in the number of letters that you think are in the word (I always do one more and one less than I actually think, just to be on the safe side - you never know with handwriting!). Check the words against your handwritten word, and hopefully you find a match!

In this example, I recognized “G-e-b-u” at the beginning of a word, and “e-i-n” at the end. I then typed this into Wordmine, and found that my word must be “Geburtsschein” – birth certificate.

3. Get Abbreviation Assistance.

Genealogical documents are filled to the brim with abbreviations (Abkürzungen in German), and knowing what these individual letters stand for in German is not always easy. The two websites below allow you to type your abbreviation into their search boxes, providing you with a list of words that the abbreviation may mean. If you don’t speak German, simply copy and paste this list of words into an online dictionary, and see if any make sense within the context of your document.

- <http://www.abkuerzungen.de/>
- <https://abkuerzungen.woxikon.de/>

4. Use Meyers Gazetteer to Decipher Town Names.

As genealogists, I’m sure most of you are familiar with the Meyers Gazetteer website, but for those of you who aren’t, this site is a wonderful collection of pre-World War I German cities, towns, villages and more (so yes, for all of you with ancestors in present-day Poland, France or other areas that used to be part of Germany, your ancestor's town is likely included!). If you are unable to recognize all the letters of your handwritten word, type the letters you can recognize into Meyers Gazetteer’s search engine, using an asterisk for those letters you can’t read. Meyers Gazetteer will then provide you with a list of possibilities of what your town could be. If there are too many results, simply use your computer’s Find tool (on Macs, command + F; in Windows, Ctrl-F) and type in the specific state your document comes from – you can then quickly jump to those towns in your specific state, saving you the hassle of searching through dozens of entries.

If you only recognize the handwritten letters “Ma...burg”, you can type these letters into Meyers Gazetteer with an asterisk in the middle. A list of all towns with these letter combinations will appear, providing you with various possibilities of your ancestor’s town’s name.

Search results for [Ma*burg]

Filter results by region: All

Magdeburg

StKr. (City with own state government offices), HptSt. of the prussian province of Sa.

Magdeburg

Magdeburg-Sudenburg

Magdeburg-Sudenburg

Mahnburg

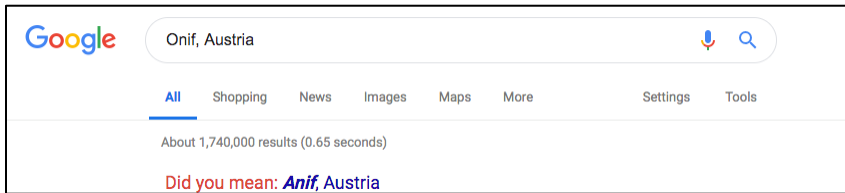
D. (Village)

Mahnburg, Isenhagen, Lüneburg, Hannover, Preussen

5. Google, Google, Google.

Google's search engine can make your transcription work much easier! Simply type your transcription guess into Google and see what happens. If many search results appear, this means you are very likely correct in your transcription (of course, it's important to read the results to make sure that they correspond with your document's meaning). However, if you have one or more letters wrong, Google may actually suggest the correct word for you.

Let's say you are trying to transcribe the name of a town in Austria, and to you, the handwritten word looks like "Onif". You type this into Google – with the description of Austria after it – to see if the town really exists. This is what appears:



Google automatically suggested the correct transcription for us! Of course, you would then need to double-check Google's suggestion to see if it works

within the context of your specific document, but Google is often very accurate in its assumptions of what we are trying to find.

With these technological tools, you should be well on your way to deciphering the words of your ancestors. Best of luck, and happy transcribing!

Schober is the author of the book, *Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting*. Her business is SK Translations, found on the web at www.SKTranslations.com.

UNSERE SPRACHBLÄTTER

OUR LANGUAGE LEAVES

What's in a Name?

Some time ago, the editor of *Der Kurier* asked all of his columnists to provide him with some idea of articles we intended to write for the 2019 issues. Answering his question was relatively easy; I

would shift gears a bit from my past endeavors and focus more on German vocabulary, dealing primarily with names, both given and family, as well as town and village names.



Ken Weaver

I thought I would begin with German surnames, for two reasons: as a student of language I find the topic extremely interesting and secondly, I had the most readily available resources on that topic. Unfortunately, each my sources deals with the origins of German surnames a bit differently. While they have similarities, my job will be to synthesize the work of several sources to make the

Occupational Surnames
Seidler variation of Beutler purse maker
Seilmann healer, doctor
Suber owner of a small farm (Eng. = Hoover)
Kaufmann merchant
Küster sexton (Eng. = Custer)
Maurer mason
Kohler coal burner

topic of German surnames as understandable as I can. I will begin with a focus on the work of three researchers/authors: Karl Mesloh of the New Bremen (OH) Historical Association, Kimberly Powell of ThoughtCo, and the lesser known work of Oscar Kuhns, a fellow Lancaster County native who in 1901 published a history of German and Swiss settlers into Pennsylvania during the 18th century. As a professor of languages (although not German!), Kuhns categorized German surnames found in PA and took a look at some of the unique linguistic changes and mutations that occurred to them.

Regardless of the researcher, all are in agreement that the most common German surnames are ones that come from **occupations or professions**. Since the earliest occupation was to put food on the table, the surnames of Jäger (hunter) and Fischer (fisherman) are quite common. Other early professions of note are Weber (weaver), Schneider (cutter, i.e. tailor), Wagner (waggoner), Ziegler (brickmaker), Bäcker (baker), Müller (miller) and Gerber (tanner). The

list is almost endless and it is probably in this category that we see the most direct translations to English in this country. In my own family, my German immigrant ancestor Caspar Weber became almost overnight, with little official fanfare or paper trail, Gasper Weaver.

The one occupation that produced a variety of German surnames is that of farmer. Depending on the type of farm one owned, the German word that named one as such was different. Without going into great detail of the nuances that differentiate the terms, surnames in this category include: Meyer, Myer, Maier, Mayer, Mann, Hofer, Hoffner, Hoffmann, Bauer, Baumann, Acker, Ackermann to mention just a few. Depending on where the farm was located, one's name might include a prefix to better describe its location: Reitmeyer, farmer in the clearing. In Bavaria, the suffix -meier (in all its various forms) was contracted to -mer, and names such as Hummer, Wimmer, and Kretschmer were created.

The second largest category of German surnames is related to **geography and places**, not necessarily just from names of villages, towns and regions, but also other geographic features, such as rivers and streams, mountains, hills and valleys and very uniquely, names of the farm or estate on which one resided. German surnames related directly to the names of German/Swiss municipalities would include names such as Bayer (from Bavaria), Böhm (from Bohemia), Schwab (from Schwabia), Zug (from the Swiss Canton Zug), Berner (from Bern), just to name a few. Just about any German geographic place name could have an '-er' appended to it to form a surname: Oppenheimer, Dresdner, Schweitzer.

Some of the other geographic features that influenced German surnames are things such as the word for stream/creek: Bach, Bacher, Bachmann, Bachmeier, names of people who lived near these waters. From the German word for mountain – Berg – come a whole host of surnames with that used alone or as a prefix or suffix: Bergmann (mountain man), Hochberg (high mountain), Donnerberg (thunder mountain), Steinberg (stone mountain). Other geographic features that influenced surnames include the German words for woods (*Grünwald*), valley (*Rosenthal*) and

village (*Beyersdorf*). (One of my favorites in this category is the name for the person who lived ‘along the way’ – *Amweg*, which most Americans may recognize as the name of the multi-levelled retail company, *Amway*, with only one of its two syllables translated into English!)

The discussion of how place names influenced German surnames would not be complete without a closer look at the phenomenon of house/farm names, known as *Hofnamen*. In the Middle Ages, residences did not have postal numbers as they do today; they had names, typically of things of relevance or importance to the family. It was typical to post a house sign with that image painted on it and that became the family surname. Names such as *Bär* (bear), *Baum* (tree), *Kalb* (calf), *Krebs* (crab), or *Vogel* (bird) were common. This was also the opportunity to pay tribute to someone in the area who was respected. As a result, there are farm names and now surnames such as *Bischof* (bishop), *Hertzog* (duke), *Münch* (monk), *Pfaff* (priest), and *Ritter* (knight). One recorded *Hofname* was *Fasnacht*, which all Pennsylvania Germans should recognize as Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

One of the most unique features of *Hofnamen* came into play when a woman inherited the property, and while not a very common occurrence, it did happen. If her husband passed away and she remarried, the second husband more than likely adopted the existing *Hofname* as his new last name. Needless to say, this poses some dilemma for genealogists, who typically believe that the male’s surname never changed!

One last item for discussion for this issue is that of German surnames that describe **personal peculiarities**. In this group fall names that describe the color of a person’s hair: *Braun* (brown), *Rot[h]* (red), *Schwartz* (black), *Weiss* (white) or one’s lack of hair: *Kahl* (bald). One’s height also produced surnames: *Hoch* (high, tall), *Klein* (small). Included here are also names that describe one’s personality or other personal characteristics: *Rau/Rauch* (rough), *Dürr* (thin), *Reich* (rich). Two very unique names here would include *Seltenreich* (seldom rich) and *Krumbein* (crooked leg). In Pennsylvania Dutch country these names exist even today as *Seldomridge* and *Grumbine*!

In the next issue of *Der Kurier*, I will discuss the remaining categories and take a look at some of the linguistic changes that occurred to German names, as well as the dramatic influence and impact of the many German regional dialects on surnames.

Tschüss!

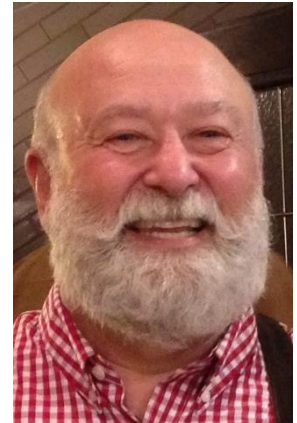
As a native Pennsylvania Dutchman, Weaver can trace most every line of ancestors to a German immigrant in the 18th century, so it was only natural that he learn to speak German and did so under the tutelage of a very inspiring immigrant high school German teacher. Majoring in German at Millersville University, he studied at Philipps-Universität as a junior and upon graduation began a career as a German teacher and later became a principal. Upon retirement from the public schools, he taught at the college level until moving to Florida. Feel free to e-mail suggestions for this column to kenneth.n.weaver@gmail.com.

DNA-ENTDECKUNGEN

DNA DISCOVERIES

A Survey of Genetic Genealogy Resources

Genetic genealogy can be a complex and confusing research tool. It is a blend of biology, statistics, algorithms, technology and strategic thinking -- then throw in some intuition and luck to keep us going. The learning curve can be steep. But thankfully, there are many sources of information out there. We live in a world of instantaneous communications, quick orders, and widely disseminated knowledge. Social media has provided numerous platforms to share information. This article, recommended by our Editor Jim Beidler, offers a survey of resources that are readily available to answer questions and extend your understanding of using DNA in your family research.

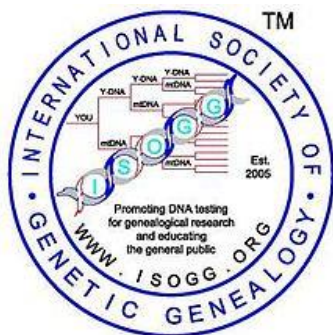


Andrew Hochreiter

The International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG)

<https://isogg.org/>

Perhaps the premier DNA help website is run by the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). It was formed in 2005 as an independent non-commercial nonprofit organization by Katherine Borges. It is supported by an army of volunteers. Its mission is to promote education and networking for genealogists interested in DNA testing. It is free to join and use their educational resources. The website provides numerous valuable features and links; most notably the ISOGG Wiki, a free online encyclopedia maintained by members. In addition, they provide a comprehensive *Genetics Glossary*, informative articles, and comparison charts of the DNA test companies.



This last feature is beneficial for beginners who wonder what test to take or what company to use. Topics range from expert to novice. Their *Beginner's Guide to Genetic Genealogy* is an invaluable orientation for newbies. A Y chromosome phylogenetic tree is maintained by knowledgeable members for use by the entire genetic community. Many ISOGG members are recognized citizen scientists who administer group DNA projects and contribute to advancements in the field of genetic genealogy. It is the first place I go to seek answers to many questions. In fact, the following review comes from ISOGG's list of blogs, websites and Facebook groups that offer educational guidance.

Genetic Genealogy Blogs

https://isogg.org/wiki/Genetic_genealogy_blogs

Another highly useful resource are the numerous genetic genealogy blogs that are available on the internet. Using Google to query key terms or questions will usually lead to one of these helpful sites. ISOGG lists numerous ones that offer expertise, advice and clarification of DNA concepts and practices. Many address advanced topics and offer a forum for experts while others are meant for beginners. Here is a short survey of my favorites but you are encouraged to visit the ISOGG list and explore the wide variety of sources.

A couple of the oldest and most influential (and similarly named) blogs are [*The Genetic Genealogist*](#) by Blaine Bettinger and [*Your Genetic Genealogist*](#) by CeCe Moore. Both of these DNA pioneers have had a tremendous impact on the popularity of genetic genealogy since the first days of direct-to-consumer test kits. CeCe Moore was instrumental in forging procedures to help adoptees identify birth parents. She is now using these same methodologies to track down violent criminals in the emerging field of investigative genealogy. Blaine Bettinger is renowned for his informative articles and innovations. His early booklet titled [*I Have the Results of My Genetic Genealogy Test, Now What?*](#) is freely available to help guide newcomers after testing. He has used his blog for crowd-sourcing data to create the Shared cMs Project chart that provides insight to autosomal relationships. Blaine's and CeCe's blogs contain archived articles that continue to inform and guide genealogists on DNA research.

Two other significant blogs are [*DNA Explained*](#) by Roberta Estes and [*Kitty Cooper's blog*](#). These ladies are remarkably adept at posting the latest updates by test companies and tool developers. They are the go-to blogs that quickly analyze and explain the newest features offered to the genetic community. Their explanations clarify and illustrate the tools and techniques with personal examples, screenshots and step-by-step instructions. They are talented technologists who share their expertise in a user-friendly and understandable manner. Roberta Estes has a BS in Computer Science and has completed graduate work in Geographic Information Systems. Kitty Cooper has created several tools for genetic genealogists and has discriminating reviews of other products on her site. They have combined their technical skills with their interest and expertise in genetic genealogy to benefit the field.

Another standout blog is run by retired engineer Jim Bartlett. He manages the [*Segmentology blog*](#) focusing on autosomal DNA testing. He has a series of articles that effectively explain the intricacies of atDNA segments, triangulation, and chromosome mapping. He is a guru of spreadsheets for organizing and tracking atDNA segments to identify ancestor contribution. His blog features an *Outline of Segmentology* with in-depth discussion and information about all aspects of autosomal DNA and testing. He also explains *How to Triangulate* in easy instructions. Jim tracks his matches from all the test companies and continually adds new ones to his spreadsheets, which contain thousands of matches. In addition to his spreadsheets, Jim utilizes many tools to organize his research findings including Chrome extensions such as MedBetterDNA. Considerable information can be gained about his successful techniques through his blogs.

There are also many sites written by academics. A few sites whose authors have PhDs, but who deliver their information in unpretentious terms, include [*The DNA Geek*](#) by Dr. Leah Larkin, [*Dr D Digs Up His Ancestors*](#) by Dr. Dave Dowell, and [*DNA and Family Tree Research*](#) by Dr. Maurice Gleeson. Each of these professionals engaged their scholastic abilities in support of genetic genealogy. Dr. Larkin has a large archive of posts on wide-ranging DNA topics. Her Ph.D. in biology and experience in scientific publishing enables her to comment on many aspects from ethnicity estimates to reviews of new tools. Dr. Dowell authored the book [*NextGen Genealogy--The DNA Connection*](#) which he elaborates with additions and updates in his blog. On his blog, there is a search box that enables you to find past posts of interest. Dr. Gleeson resides in Ireland and researches his Irish roots. He is a leading authority on using DNA in family research. His blog offers advice and guidance on autosomal, Y, and mitochondrial DNA. An interesting and illuminating section is *Solving Adoption Mysteries with DNA*, which provides definitive steps to search for birth parents. There are links to his presentations, many on YouTube, that are enjoyable and instructive to watch.

[*The Legal Genealogist*](#) is a blog by Judy Russell which frequently addresses DNA testing. Since Ms. Russell is a lawyer by training, her posts offer insightful commentary on such topics as

privacy, law enforcement, copyright and other legal issues. But her straight-up DNA articles are informative with amusing titles such as *DNA and the locks of hair* and *Admixture: not soup yet*.

One of the best sites for beginners is [Genealogy Junkie](#) by Sue Griffiths. Her website and blog focuses on both genealogy and genetic genealogy, with extensive and well-organized topical categories. Her *Genetic Cousins* heading offers dropdown selections as *Comparisons across Companies*, *Your DNA Results & What Next?* and *Presentations on DNA Testing*. Another great blog site for beginners is [Genie1](#) run by Louise Coakley, an Australian genetic genealogist. In addition to its blog postings, it features articles on basic DNA analysis such as *Introduction to Using DNA for Genealogy*, *What types of DNA tests are available?*, and *Which DNA testing company should I use?* The articles are well written, making the information easy to absorb.

[DNAAdoption](#) describes itself as "...a team of volunteer genealogists, citizen scientists, geneticists and IT professionals who provide education, guidance and support to anyone worldwide who wants to use DNA testing to find their roots." With an emphasis on adoptees, the site offers superb resources to anyone interested in DNA testing. The subject areas are comprehensive extending from *Get Started* to *How-To's*. The site offers free courses called the First Look Classes that tell what to do after DNA results are received. A free 11-page booklet is available on the site entitled *A Methodology for Researching Autosomal DNA Results*. There are also *Reference Docs* on subjects ranging African American Searches to Ashkenazi DNA.

Social Media Groups

Blogs can be an outstanding source of information provided by knowledgeable genealogists. If you are looking for guidance on tests or testing strategies, how-to instructions on techniques and tools, or explanation of scientific concepts, these blogs can be searched for the answers. Another source of information has become popular and provides an interactive community of fellow enthusiasts. Social media groups have emerged as an alternative or supplementary means of sharing knowledge and advice on DNA. Again, ISOGG provides an excellent list of [Genetic genealogy mailing lists and Facebook groups](#) with links to the sites. Earlier interactive groups were formed on RootsWeb, Yahoo, and ISOGG. Some groups no longer appear to be active. The preferred forum now seems to be Facebook groups. A list of 13,200+ Facebook genealogy links is maintained by Katherine R. Willson, of which 233 are identified as [DNA/Genetic Genealogy](#) groups (as of November 2018). There is a wide variety of groups reflecting all aspects of genetics including ancient DNA, specific haplogroups, ethnicities, test companies, DNA tools and sundry other themes. These forums are very active with daily posts that become the "frontline" for many announcements, disclosures or unveilings. For the most part, the interaction is civil and informative. When the answer to a question cannot be found, it is a quick way of getting feedback from fellow members or an expert administrator. Most groups are "closed," so to participate, you must have a Facebook account and request to join the group. This may require answering some short questions about your interest or experience. Of course, participation in Facebook can be controversial with concerns for privacy. Joining these groups would need to be a personal decision based on one's level of comfort with this type of platform. As with the above survey of blogs, our review will concentrate on popular groups that provide practical advice for using DNA to trace families.

An excellent group for beginners is [DNA Newbie](#). The group is described as "...a Facebook group for those wishing to learn how DNA testing can help with genealogical research. Discussion topics & queries must be relevant to genealogical uses of DNA testing. Medical uses of DNA testing are off-topic for this group." There are 14,000+ members.

One of the most popular groups is [Genetic Genealogy Tips & Techniques](#) administered by Blaine Bettinger. This has become an extension of his blog and has attracted many of his followers. He now has over 52,000+ members who read and comment on posts. The description of the group is "...a place to discuss topics in DNA ranging from beginner to advanced." Blaine uses this group to gather data by surveys and crowd-sourcing to help refine various tools and opinion polls about issues affecting DNA testing. But it is an excellent source for answers, especially for certain abstruse details encountered in testing.

[ISOGG](#) is represented by a Facebook group with many members contributing to their updates, discussions and explanatory posts. It is an ideal place to hear from leaders in the field of genetic genealogy about issues, solutions, and ideas.

All the test companies are represented by Facebook groups to help their test takers understand how to use company tools and analyze their results. Some groups are not affiliated with the company but are managed by volunteers who understand each company's results and tools.

23andMe:

- 23andMe (Page): facebook.com/23andMe
- 23andMe Newbies (Group): facebook.com/groups/161126313940147

AncestryDNA:

- Ancestry DNA Ethnicity: facebook.com/groups/148908075702132
- Ancestry DNA for Dummies: facebook.com/groups/393020010880660
- Ancestry DNA Matching: facebook.com/groups/407494112747727
- Ancestry DNA Publick House: facebook.com/groups/195539723912784

Family Tree DNA

- FTDNA Project Administrators: facebook.com/groups/748625258556621 (limited to group project administrators)
- FTDNA User Group: facebook.com/groups/FTDNAUserGroup

Living DNA

- Living DNA Users: facebook.com/groups/252972658442127/
- LivingDNA: facebook.com/livingdna/

MyHeritage

- MyHeritage: facebook.com/myheritage

Some of the most useful groups were formed around the third-party tools (3pt) to help users learn and apply them. They are administered by volunteers or the tool developers. The shared issues and assistance fill in where a user manual is unclear or doesn't exist. Many times, these groups alert the developer and lead to improvements in the tools. A few of these 3pt groups are listed here.

- DNA Gedcom User Group: facebook.com/groups/DNAGedcomUserGroup
- DNA Gedcom: facebook.com/DNAGedcom
- DNA Tools: facebook.com/groups/DNATools
- DNA Painter User Group: facebook.com/groups/127620554606673
- DNA Painter: facebook.com/dnapainter
- GEDMatch Genealogy & Ancestry Group: facebook.com/groups/7702889496528549112.
- GEDMatch.com Discussion Group: facebook.com/groups/5407027059871519113.
- GedMatch.com Lazarus Tool: facebook.com/groups/8185553415280489114.
- GEDMatch.com User Group: facebook.com/groups/405531739562579

- Promethease-DNA Results: facebook.com/groups/352413688479080
- RootsFinder DNA Tools: facebook.com/groups/205093263417577
- Uniting Relatives through GedMatch Numbers: facebook.com/groups/842163879202037
- Visual Phasing Working Group: facebook.com/groups/visualphasing

Lastly, there are numerous specialty groups that focus on specific areas. These include nationalities, forensics, adoption, and the science of genetics. One that would appeal to our MAGS members who have DNA tested is the [German-Language Areas DNA Project: facebook.com/groups/germanydna](https://facebook.com/groups/germanydna). This site calls itself a Study Group and states “This genetic genealogy project for German (Deutsch) ancestry is open to any autosomal or direct male Y-DNA line or direct female mtDNA line person with earliest known ancestry source within any German speaking country or historical area.”

As mentioned, this article is not meant to be a comprehensive list of websites, blogs and groups focused on genetic genealogy. If I have missed one of your favorites, please let me know. Everyone is encouraged to take a DNA test and add it to their repertoire of research tools for ancestor hunting. Joining these groups is another way to effectively learn to use DNA and related tools in your ancestral studies.

Andrew Hochreiter, MEd, MIS, is a genetic genealogist who manages multiple DNA surname projects and has successfully applied DNA to trace several related family branches overseas. He is an experienced genealogist and has 12 years involved with genetic genealogy. He instructs continuing education courses in basic and advanced genetic genealogy at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. He is a facilitator for the genetic genealogy module of the on-line Genealogical Research Course at Boston University.

AUSWANDERER ZUSAMMEN

IMMIGRANT CONNECTIONS

The Passow FAN Club in Warnow



Bob Greiner

In a previous article I presented several sources and techniques used to uncover details in the baptism record of Augusta Krusemark in Karow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin. The sources used were church book images from FamilySearch, Mecklenburg-Schwerin census records from Ancestry, and village information from meyersgaz.org. After arriving in the United States in 1876, Augusta Krusemark married Christian Passo in Saunders

County, Nebraska, where they lived the remainder of their lives. In this article we will examine several issues that arose while searching for Christian's origin.

Christian and Augusta Passo were found in Saunders County, Nebraska census records for all years between 1880 and 1930. According to the 1880 census, both were born in Mecklenburg. They were buried in the Holst-Lawn Cemetery outside Yutan, Nebraska. Christian's birth date was recorded on his tombstone as 4 January 1855 (from Findagrave.com, memorial ID 72488073 and 72488121).

A 1930 newspaper article commemorating the couple's 50th wedding anniversary noted that Christian Passo was born in the northern German village of Warnow in 1855. He immigrated in 1873 and settled in Saunders County by 1880. To determine the location of that village, my first step was to search the meyersgaz.org website. The search returned four results, all in northern Germany. Two were in Mecklenburg-Schwerin – one a village and another a state-owned estate. It seemed logical to begin the search there, since the census indicated Christian Passo was born in Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

An initial search for Christian Passo (born ca. 1855) on Ancestry and FamilySearch revealed several interesting possibilities. A Christian Passow was born 28 January 1853 in Banzkow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin. The surname variation seemed reasonable and the difference in birth dates was within an acceptable range. However, further exploration of this lead revealed that the same person married in a nearby village in 1878 and was found in the 1900 Mecklenburg-Schwerin census. This was not likely the correct person, as the given information was not consistent with Christian Passo's immigration in 1873. Sometimes it is just as important to use available resources to disprove a theory as well as to verify one.

The screenshot shows the Ancestry.com Card Catalog interface. The search criteria are: Title: Mecklenburg-Schwerin; Keyword(s): census. The search results are sorted by Date Added. The results table is as follows:

Title	Collection	Records	Activity
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Census, 1919 (in German)	Census & Voter Lists	676,989	
Güter-Adressbuch von Mecklenburg-Schwerin und -Strehlitz : Verzeichnis sämtlicher Güter der Ritterschaft ... der evangelischen und katholischen Kirchspiele, der Standesamtsbezirke... (in German)	Schools, Directories & Church Histories	180	
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Census, 1890 (in German)	Census & Voter Lists	173,845	
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Census, 1900 (in German)	Census & Voter Lists	1,229,016	
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Census, 1819 (in German)	Census & Voter Lists	406,887	
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Census, 1867 (in German)	Census & Voter Lists	615,410	

The right-hand panel shows the 'Browse this collection' options, including County (Dominalamt Bützow) and Enumeration District (Warnow).

Figure 1- Finding the 1867 Mecklenburg-Schwerin census in Ancestry.com

Without an obviously simple solution, I used the 1867 Mecklenburg-Schwerin census found on Ancestry to search both Warnow locations. From the main Ancestry screen, I selected **Search -> Card Catalog** and entered *Mecklenburg-Schwerin* in the title box and *census* for the keyword. Clicking on **Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Census, 1867** returned a search screen. In the right-hand panel I selected the **County**, then the **Enumeration District** within that county. One Warnow result from the Meyers gazetteer was in Dominalamt Bützow and the other in Dominalamt Grevesmühlen. Finally I selected Warnow from the list under **Enumeration District**.

Many of these Mecklenburg-Schwerin census records have an index of families at the start of the film. Sometimes there are several distinct locations identified within an enumeration district, and

there will be several indices – one at the start of each section. The index lists the householder's name and the sequential house number. The entry for each household has three pages: a cover sheet with the surname of the householder and the house number; a sheet with the name, relationship, and birth year of all people in the household; and a similar sheet for any family members living away from home.

It was relatively simple to search for a surname within the index, as the surnames were written in Roman script. A search of the two indices for Warnow in Grevesmühlen revealed no Passo(w) surnames. The census of Warnow in Bützow also had two indices – one for the inherited estate (Erbpachthof) and the other for the village itself. There were nine separate family entries for the estate. Living in the household with the leaseholder (Erbpächter) Wilhelm Kelling in house number 1 was a Wilhelm Passow, born in 1820.¹ There was no evidence to determine whether he was related to Christian. No other Passow's appeared in the estate or the village. However, a serendipitous discovery proved to be the clue that helped solve the puzzle of Christian Passo's birth.

While paging through the 42 families in Warnow (Bützow) village one entry at a time, I recognized the name of the Schneidermeister (master tailor) Fritz Bohms and his wife Marie². They were enumerated with two children, Cristian and Louise, and Fritz's mother Cristine. I recalled that a couple with a similar surname (Pohms, Boams) was found in the 1885 (state) and 1900 (federal) census of Saunders County, Nebraska. They lived in the same household as the Passo family. Their ages in each of these three census records were consistent. This possible connection was worth further exploration.

Ordnung	NACHNAME	VORNAME	geb. d.	geb. m.	Jahr 1867	1. für die Statistik	2. für die Statistik	3. für die Statistik	4. für die Statistik	5. für die Statistik	6. für die Statistik	7. für die Statistik	8. für die Statistik	9. für die Statistik	10. für die Statistik	11. für die Statistik	12. für die Statistik	13. für die Statistik	
1	Fritz	Bohms	1	.	1822	Lutz	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2	Marie	Bohms	.	1	1827	—	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Cristian	Bohms	1	.	1854	—	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	Cristine	Bohms	.	1	1795	—	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5	Louise	Bohms	.	1	1853	—	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Figure 2- Bohms family in 1867 Mecklenburg-Schwerin census of Warnow

According to the entry for Warnow (Bützow) in the Meyers gazetteer, the Standesamt (civil registry office) was in nearby Zernin and the Amtsgericht (district court) was in Bützow. The entry also notes that there was a Protestant church in Warnow. There are no results for Warnow in the FamilySearch catalog. Church books are available for Zernin (through 1934) and Bützow (through 1875), the next closest villages.

Here I encountered a somewhat unfortunate situation. The church books for Bützow are digitized, but only viewable by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Those for Zernin appear to be digitized, but are not yet available online. The microfilm is still available in Salt Lake City and about a dozen Family History Centers around the country. The [Archion](#) website has many Mecklenburg records available, but only for villages whose names begin with A through

G. Bützow records are there, but not Zernin. It is likely that FamilySearch and Archion will eventually put the Zernin church books online, but they cannot predict when that will be.

I searched the Bützow records on [Archion](#) for the Passow family with no luck. The only remaining option was to find a copy of the microfilm or somebody who could access it. A friend who can read German script was going to Salt Lake City, so I asked if he would look at the Zernin microfilm. In his limited available time, he found the baptism record for Christian Passow. That record included a page reference to his mother's baptism, so I received that one also as a bonus. The information obtained from these records resolved several questions, but raised some additional ones.

Geburta im Jahr 1855 263

No	Tag		Mutter		Name der Kind	Name der Gewaltthun	Name der Taufpater
	der Geburt	der Taufe	der Mutter	der Vaters			
1.	Jan 4	Jan 7	Angelica Wetzelberg Dienst in Warnow	Maria Sophia Dorothea Passow in Warnow 1829	Christian Friedrich Wilhelm Passow Ampfahlf.	1. Dietrich Christian Hampf Arbeitmann Warnow 3. Friedrich Joh. Christian Carlhoff Arbeitmann in Warnow	H. Wagner p. 6.

Figure 3- Christian Passow 1855 baptism record, Zernin

Christian Friedrich Wilhelm Passow was born 4 January 1855 to the unmarried Maria Sophia Dorothea Passow.³ The father was named as possibly a servant from the nearby village of Glambeck. Maria was born on 5 March 1829 on the Warnow Hof (farm), the twin of another sister. Their parents were Johann Christian Passow and Johanna Maria Tiet. But where were Maria Passow and her son Christian in the 1867 census, and what was their relationship to the Bohms? Were Maria and Christian Bohms the same mother and child?

Fortunately, a clue was found in another record found on Ancestry. In the database *Mecklenburg, Germany, Parish Register Transcripts, 1740-1918*, Zernin church records from 1876 to 1918 are included. I searched for the Passow and Bohms surnames in that database. There was a

21	Sept. 20	Sept. 25	Rechtshandl.	Louise Dorothea Marie Bohms in Warnow 1859	Friedrich Dorothea Karl Bohms Ampfahlf. + 30. Sept. 77	1. Friedrich Bohms Ampfahlf. Warnow 2. Dorothea Marie g. Passow 3. Dorothea Anna Aldenberg Brenn	duy
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Figure 4- 1876 baptism record for Friedrich Bohms, showing Fritz and Marie Bohms as sponsors

baptism record for Friedrich Johann Karl Bohms, born illegitimately on 20 September 1876 to Louise Bohms, born 1859.⁴ The sponsors were Friedrich (Fritz) Bohms, Schneider, and his wife Maria, nee

Passow. Louisa's birth date is consistent with the child of that name found in the 1867 census. The child Friedrich Bohms died ten days after his birth.

With no further direct evidence readily available, it would appear that Maria Passow married Fritz Bohms sometime after the birth of her son Christian in 1855. In 1859 a daughter Louise was born. The Christian Bohms (b. 1854) listed with the family in the 1867 census must be Maria's son Christian Passow. Further research in the Zernin church microfilm, when it becomes available, should verify the facts of this couple's marriage and the birth date of Louise.

Fritz and Marie Bohms, together with Louise, immigrated to the United States in 1880. They departed from Hamburg on 29 September 1880 aboard the ship Herder⁵ and arrived in New York on 12 October⁶. They settled in Saunders County, Nebraska with many other families from Warnow and Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

apl. 1055

Verzeichniss
 der Personen, welche mit dem Dampfschiffe *Herder*
 unter *Burdeker* Flagge, Capitain *Brandt* nach *New York*
 zur Auswanderung durch Unterzeichnete engagirt sind.
 Abgang des Schiffes, d. *29. Sept. 1880*

Die zu einer Familie gehörenden Personen sind unter einander zu notiren und durch eine Klammer als zusammengehörig zu bezeichnen.		Geschlecht		Alter	Bisheriger Wohnort.	Im Staate oder in der PROVINZ.	Bisheriger Stand oder Beruf.	Ziel der ANWANDERUNG, Ort und Land ist anzugeben.	Zahl der Personen	Davon sind		
Zuname.	Vorname.	männlich	weiblich							Erwachsene	Kinder	unter 10 Jahre	unter 10 Jahre	unter 1 Jahr
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	
<i>Mischendorf</i>												
<i>Bohms</i>	<i>Fritz</i>			<i>35</i>	<i>Hamburg</i>		<i>Handel</i>					
	<i>Marie</i>			<i>37</i>	<i>Hamburg</i>		<i>Handel</i>					
	<i>Louise</i>			<i>2</i>	<i>Hamburg</i>		<i>Handel</i>					

Figure 5- Hamburg passenger list for Bohms family, 29 Sep 1880

Fritz and Marie were enumerated with the Christian Passo family in the 1885 Nebraska state census⁷ and in the 1900 federal census.⁸ Several sources indicate that Christian emigrated in 1873, but I have not found him in a passenger list under either name – Passow or Bohms. He used his birth name – spelled Passo – during the remainder of his life in the United States. Friedrich Bohms died in 1903 and Maria in 1908. Christian Passo died in 1931. Trees for these families can be found at FamilySearch.org. Christian Passo's ID is [K6CM-9GT](#) and Fritz Bohms' is [GMNH-N9Z](#).

One lesson learned in this research effort is that while a record might not be available or easily accessible, a search for related names (e.g., the FAN club – friends, associates, and neighbors) may uncover records that illuminate your search. Another point is that different websites may have records for the same location, although the covered timeframes may be different. It is worth trying all potential sites to determine what is available. Finally, you must think like a detective. Use all possible clues and tools of the trade to suggest theories and try to verify each one until it either fails or proves correct.

¹ Ancestry.com, 1867 census, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Domanialamt Bützow, Warnow, image 4, line 13.

² Ibid. image 142.

³ Evangelische Kirche Zernin (AG. Bützow), Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, Taufen, Heiraten, Tote 1720-1934 Konfirmationen 1787-1934, FHL microfilm 69700, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah

⁴ Ancestry.com, Mecklenburg, Germany, Parish Register Transcripts, 1740-1918, Evangelisch-lutherische Gemeinden Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Zernin, 1876 – 1918, image 6, 1876/7, #21. His death is recorded on image 11, 1876/7 #13.

⁵ Ancestry.com, Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934, 1880-1889, Direkt Band 038 (5 Jul 1880 - 29 Dez 1880), image 231, line 7. Note that the Hamburg list includes their former residence (Wohnhort) of Warnow and state (Staate) or province (Provinz) of Meck. = Mecklenburg.

⁶ Ancestry.com, New York, Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957, M237, 1820-1897, Roll 431, image 561, line 7.

⁷ Ancestry.com, Nebraska, State Census Collection, 1860-1885, 1885 census, Saunders (part 1), image 550, ED 700, p. 5, line 1.

⁸ Ancestry.com, 1900 United States Federal Census, Nebraska, Saunders County, Marble Precinct, image 3, ED 131, p. 119A, line 18.

Index for Vol. 36 of *Der Kurier*

As has been the case for many years now, MAGS is indebted to Emily Andrews for compiling an every-name index to the issues of *Der Kurier* published in 2018. The index gives surnames, first names, date of issue and page number.

A					Elisabetha		
ADT	John B.	Jun	46	BAUER	(Elise)	Sep	108
AHRENS	Julius	Jun	46	BAUER	(Jacques)	Sep	108
AIREY	Mamie	Mar	10	BAUER	Jacob	Sep	110
ALBAUGH	John	Jun	46	BAUER	Jacob	Sep	111
ALBERS	A.	Jun	46	BAUER	Charles (Karl)	Sep	109
ALBRECHT	Hanns	Jun	62	BAUER	Charles	Sep	110
ALEY		Jun	78	BAUERNSCHMIDT	George	Jun	46
ALLEN		Sep	118	BAUERNSCHMIDT	John	Jun	46
AMBACH	David	Jun	46	BAUERNSCHMIDT,			
AMENT		Dec	158	JR.	John	Jun	46
AMMONS		Dec	158	BAUMGARDNER		Jun	78
ARENS	Henry	Jun	46	BAUS		Mar	37
ASHINFELTER	Hannah	Mar	37	BAUZE		Mar	37
	William			BECHTEL	George J.	Jun	46
ATKINSON	George	Jun	46	BECK	Jacob	Jun	46
AX	Christian	Jun	46	BECK	Louis	Jun	46
				BECKER		Jun	78
B				BECKER	Charles	Jun	46
BALZ	R.	Jun	46	BECKER	John A.	Jun	46
BARLEY		Dec	157	BECKER	Henry	Jun	46
BARNDT		Jun	78	BECKER	Louis	Jun	46
BASSLER		Mar	37	BEEHLER	C. E.	Jun	46
BAUER	Adam	Sep	108	BEHRENDT		Mar	37
BAUER	Adam	Sep	111	BELITZ	Adelbert	Jun	46

BENDER		Sep	118	BRUNE	F. W.	Jun	47
BENZINGER	Harry M.	Jun	55	BRUNS	John	Jun	47
BERGER	Christian	Jun	68	BUCHHOLTZ	Wm.	Jun	47
BERGER	Christian	Jun	70		Johanna		
BERGER	Frederike	Jun	68	BUCKLEY	Josephine	Sep	108
BERGER	Frederike	Jun	70	BUDNITZ	Emil	Jun	47
BERGMANN		Jun	78	BUNN		Dec	157
BERKSTRESSER		Jun	78	BUNNECKE	George	Jun	47
BERSCH	Carl	Jun	46	BURY	Kayton	Jun	47
BERSHENS		Dec	157	BUSCHMAN	V. H.	Jun	47
BESCH	Michael	Jun	70	BUSSERT	Karl Friedrich	Sep	91
BESCH	Rosine	Jun	68	BUTZLER	Chas.	Jun	47
BEYER		Mar	37				
BINDER		Dec	157	C			
BLANCK	C. H.	Jun	46	CALLOW	Mrs. E. P.	Jun	47
BLODE	V. G.	Jun	46	CASPARI	Wm.	Jun	47
BLUHM		Mar	37	CHRISTMAN		Dec	157
BLUM		Mar	37	CHRISTMAN	George	Mar	10
BLUME		Mar	37	CHRISTMAS	Lebanon	Mar	10
BLUMNER	George	Jun	46	CHURCH	Katherine	Dec	154
BOBE		Mar	37	CLASSEN	Herm.	Jun	47
BODNICK		Jun	78	CLAUS	E. C.	Jun	47
BOEHM	Dr. A.	Jun	46	CLAUS	Henry	Mar	10
BOHLSEN		Sep	118	COOK	John	Jun	47
BOLSTETTER		Mar	37	CRAMER		Jun	78
BOLTE	H.	Jun	46	CREAMER		Jun	78
BONGE		Mar	37	CREMER		Jun	78
BONHAIS		Sep	118	CRIST	Philip	Jun	47
BONHEYO		Sep	118				
BORCHERS	Julius	Sep	109	D			
BORING	J. H.	Jun	46	DAMMANN	F. W.	Jun	47
BORN	Hers.	Jun	46	DEAL(E)		Dec	158
BORST	Theo L.	Jun	46	DECKER	Fred.	Jun	47
BOSS	R. D.	Jun	46	DECKERT		Dec	157
BOSSERT	Ottilia	Sep	109	DEICHMAN	Dr. Ed.	Jun	47
BOSSERT	Ottilia	Sep	110	DEPKIN	Henry	Jun	55
BOVE		Mar	37	DIEK	H. W.	Jun	47
BOVEY		Mar	37	DIERCKSON	Christ.	Jun	47
BRACK	Charles E.	Jun	46	DIETERICH	L.	Jun	47
BRAUMANN		Jun	78	DOBLER	Gust. A.	Jun	47
BRAND	Wm.	Jun	46	DOHME	Charles E.	Jun	47
BRAUNS	F. L.	Jun	46	DOHME	Louis	Jun	47
BREHM	Geo.	Jun	46	DOLFIELD	A. Y.	Jun	47
BRICKNER		Sep	118	DOTZAUER		Dec	157
BRINGMAN		Jun	78	DREY	Elkan	Jun	47
BRINK	Carl A. D.	Jun	46	DUPONT	Elise	Dec	133
BRINKMAN	A. H.	Jun	47	DUPONT	Elise	Dec	134
	Christian			DUPONT	Elise	Dec	136
BROWN	Henry	Dec	131	DUPONT	Emil	Dec	136
BROWN	W. Colvin	Dec	128	DUPONT	Heinrich	Dec	136
BROWN	Henry	Jun	47	DUPONT	John	Dec	136
	Henriette			DUPONT	Karl	Dec	133
	Johanne			DUPONT	Karl	Dec	135
BRÜGGMANN	Wilhelme	Dec	149	DUPONT	Karl	Dec	136
BRUMSHAGEN	J. Fr.	Jun	47				

DUX	Daniel	Mar	10	FLADUNG	Sebastian	Mar	13
E				FLADUNG	Willis	Mar	13
ECK	August	Jun	47	FLATEN	Elizabeth	Mar	14
ECKERT	Elizabeth	Sep	108	FLERTZHEIM		Sep	118
ECKER	Elizabeth	Sep	111	FLERZHEIM		Sep	118
EIGENBROT	R.	Jun	47	FLODDING	Charles	Mar	14
ELENBROK	F.	Jun	47	FLODDING	Elizabeth	Mar	14
ELI		Jun	78	FLODDING	George	Mar	14
ELY		Jun	78	FLODING		Mar	13
EMMEL	Conrad	Jun	47	FLODING		Mar	14
ENGEL		Sep	118	FLODING		Mar	15
ERNST		Jun	78	FLYNN	James	Jun	48
ESCHENFELTER	Hannah	Mar	37	FOLZ		Mar	37
EULER	Fred.	Jun	47	FORSTER	Geo. H.	Jun	48
EVANS	Harry G.	Jun	47	FORTENBAUGH	Chas.	Jun	48
				FOSS	John N.	Jun	48
F				FOX		Sep	118
FAAS	Marie	Sep	92	FRANKE	George	Jun	48
	Maria			FRENTZ	Henry A.	Jun	48
FACKLER	Magdalena	Jun	78	FREY	Barbara	Jun	69
FAHRMBACHER		Sep	118	FREY	Christiana	Jun	68
FAIST	Dorothea	Jun	69	FREY	Katharina	Jun	68
FAIST	Johannes	Jun	69	FREY	Christina	Jun	69
FARBER	Martin	Jun	48	FREY	Margaretha	Jun	69
FAUST	Chas. H.	Jun	48	FREY	Bernhard	Jun	68
FAUST	Henry	Jun	48	FREY	Christiana	Jun	68
FAUST	John	Jun	48	FREY	Christiana	Jun	70
FAUTH	Henry	Jun	48	FREY	Christiana	Jun	69
FEIERTAG		Dec	157	FREY	Catharina	Jun	69
FELDNER	F. W.	Jun	48	FREY	Dorothea	Jun	68
FELGNER	Edw. L.	Jun	48	FREY	Eva	Jun	69
FEUSS	A. C.	Jun	48	FREY	Frederika	Jun	69
FINKBEINER	Catharina	Jun	69	FREY	Godfrey	Jun	68
FINKENBINDER	Eugene	Sep	91	FREY	Godfrey	Jun	69
FISCHER		Jun	78	FREY	Godfrey	Jun	70
FISCHER	Adam	Sep	109	FREY	Gottfried	Jun	68
FISCHER	Amalie	Sep	109	FREY	Gottfried	Jun	69
FISCHER	Jacob	Sep	109	FREY	Jacob	Jun	69
FISCHER	Jacob	Sep	111	FREY	Friederich	Jun	69
FISCHER	Louisa	Sep	109	FREY	Johann	Jun	68
FISCHER	Louisa	Sep	110	FREY	Michael	Jun	68
FISHER	L. C.	Jun	48	FREY	Johannes	Jun	69
FLADING	Conrad	Mar	14	FREY	Karl Peter	Jun	69
FLADING	Elizabeth	Mar	14	FREY	Maria	Jun	69
FLADING	Ernst Charles	Mar	14	FREY	Magdalena	Jun	69
FLADING	George Adam	Mar	14	FREY	Maria	Jun	70
FLADING	Johan William	Mar	14	FREY	Magdalena	Jun	70
FLADING	Sebastian	Mar	14	FREY	Rosina	Jun	69
FLADING		Mar	13	FREY	Rosina	Jun	70
FLADING		Mar	14	FRIEDENWALD	Jos.	Jun	48
FLADING		Mar	14	FRIEDMAN		Jun	78
FLADING		Mar	15	FRYG	Ueli	Jun	62
FLADUNG	Frank	Mar	13	FUCHS	Fritz	Jun	48
FLADUNG	Nicol	Mar	14	FUCHS	Prof. Otto	Jun	48

G

GABEL	Josephine	Dec	136
GAIL	Geo. W.	Jun	48
GAIL, JR.	Geo. W.	Jun	48
GANTER	F. X.	Jun	48
GAUB		Jun	78
GAUMER		Mar	37
GEBHARD		Sep	118
GENSLER	John	Jun	48
GENSO	F. G.	Jun	48
GENTZLER		Dec	158
GERBERDING	C. O.	Dec	128
GERDTS	Everhardt	Sep	93
GEYER	Edw. C.	Jun	48
GIESKE	Gustav	Jun	48
GIETZ		Mar	37
GLAESER	Chas.	Jun	48
GLUCKART		Dec	157
GMINDER	Jacob	Jun	48
GOEBEL		Sep	118
GOLDSCHMITT		Dec	158
GOMBEL	Dr. W.	Jun	48
GOSWEILER	Dr. A. V.	Jun	48
GOTTLIEB	F. H.	Jun	48
GOTTSCHALK	A.	Jun	48
GRAUE	Edw.	Jun	48
GRIMM	H.	Jun	48
GRUENWALD	Richard	Mar	10
GUENTHER	Geo.	Jun	48
GUGGENHEIMER	J.	Jun	48
GUIDER	G. Chas.	Jun	48
GUMPERT		Sep	118
GUSTAVUS	T.	Jun	48
GUTMAN	Joel	Jun	48

H

HAAS		Dec	158
HABERCOST		Jun	78
HABICHT		Jun	78
HALLER	John Jacob	Jun	78
HAMAN	B. Howard	Jun	49
HARIG	H. A.	Jun	49
HÄSENBALG	E.	Jun	49
HARTMAN		Jun	78
HARTUNG		Jun	78
HAUGHT		Dec	158
HAUSER		Jun	78
HAUSER		Jun	62
HAUSER		Jun	63
HAUSER	Ulrich	Jun	61
HAUT		Dec	158
HAX	Peter	Jun	49
HAYEN	E.	Jun	49
HECHT	Jacob	Jun	49

HEHEINDEL		Jun	78
HEINEMAN	Fred.	Jun	49
HEINEMANN		Jun	78
HEISE	Wm.	Jun	49
HEISER	Charles	Jun	49
HELDORFER	S.	Jun	49
HELLER	John Jacob	Jun	78
HELLWEG, JR.	Aug.	Jun	49
HELTRICH	Dr. Philip	Jun	49
HEMPERLIN		Jun	78
HENNINGHAUSEN	L. P.	Jun	49
HENNINGHAUSEN	Percy C.	Jun	49
HERFURTH		Dec	157
HEROLD		Jun	78
HERR		Jun	78
HERRMAN	Francis H.	Dec	133
HERRMAN	Francis H.	Dec	134
HERRMAN	Francis H.	Dec	136
HERRMANN	John M.	Jun	49
HERTZOG	Claus	Jun	62
HERTZOG	Hanns	Jun	62
HESS		Mar	37
HESSEMER	Chas.	Jun	49
HEUBACH	Edw.	Jun	49
HEYT		Dec	158
HILDENDAHL		Jun	78
HILGENBERG	Chas.	Jun	49
HILKEN	H. G.	Jun	49
HILL	Berhard	Sep	94
HINKLE		Mar	37
HINRICHS	John	Jun	49
HINRICHS	Theo	Jun	49
HIRSCHBERG	M. H.	Jun	49
HITZ		Sep	118
HOBELMÄNN	H. H.	Jun	49
HOEN	Ernest	Jun	49
HOEN, SR.	Henry	Jun	49
HOENES	A. F.	Jun	49
HOFF	John Charles	Mar	11
HOFFMAN	Edward T.	Sep	94
HOFFMAN	Dr. Robert	Jun	49
HOLLJES	D.	Jun	49
HOMAN		Dec	157
HOMER	Chas. C.	Jun	49
HORNBAACH		Jun	78
HORNER		Dec	157
HOUCK		Jun	78
HOUCK	G. F. M.	Jun	49
HUBER	Rev. Edw.	Jun	49
HÜLASHOFF	J. G.	Jun	49
HUSER		Jun	62
HUSER	Hanns	Jun	62
HUSER	Heyni	Jun	62

I J

INGRAM	James E.	Jun	49	KNOOP	John H.	Jun	50
JACOB	Philippina	Sep	110	KNOSP		Dec	158
JANOWITZ & SON	S.	Jun	49	KNÜSSI		Jun	78
JANSSEN		Mar	37	KOCH		Jun	78
JARECKI	Gustave	Dec	128	KOCH	Cuonrat	Jun	62
JARRETT		Mar	37	KOCH	Wm.	Jun	50
JENKINS		Jun	78	KOEHLERT	Henry	Jun	50
JOESTING	A.	Jun	49	KOEHLERT	Hermann	Jun	50
JOESTING	H.	Jun	49	KOETHER	Wm.	Jun	50
JUNKER	F.	Jun	49	KOEPKE		Jun	78
K				KOLB	Friedrich	Sep	92
	Gerd Edwin			KOOKE	G. F.	Jun	50
KAESS	Paul	Jun	65	KOPPELMANN	C. H.	Jun	50
KAISER	Chas.	Jun	50	KOSZLA	Martin	Dec	131
KAISER	Karl	Dec	154	KOSZTA	Martin	Dec	131
KAISER	Karl	Dec	155	KRAMER		Jun	78
KAISER	Michael	Dec	154	KRAUS	Jacob	Jun	50
KAMMERER	P. Aug.	Jun	50	KREBS	Margaret	Dec	154
KASPERAIT		Mar	37	KREEMER		Jun	78
KECK	Alexander	Jun	70	KRAUSE		Jun	78
KECK	Barbara	Jun	68	KREMER		Jun	78
KECK	Barbara	Jun	70	KRIEMER		Jun	78
KECK	Emil	Jun	70		Augusta		
KECK	Jacob	Jun	70		Henriette		
KECK	Louisa	Jun	70	KRUSEMARK	Louise	Dec	149
KEIDEL	Chas.	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Augusta	Dec	150
KEIDEL	Henry	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Augusta	Dec	151
KEIDEL	Louis	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Augusta	Dec	152
KEIPER		Jun	78	KRUSEMARK	Augusta	Dec	153
KEMPER	M.	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Friedrich	Dec	152
KESMODEL	M.	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Friedrich	Dec	153
KEYSER	P. L.	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Joh. Christian		
KINDELBERGER		Sep	118	KRUSEMARK	Friedr.	Dec	149
KING	W. G. H.	Jun	50		Joh.[ann]		
KIRSCH		Dec	157	KRUSEMARK	Christian		
KLEIN	Carl H. W.	Mar	9	KRUSEMARK	Friedrich	Dec	150
KLEIN	Daniel A.	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Mina		
KLEIN	Jacob	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	(Wilhelmina)	Dec	152
KLEIN	Joseph	Jun	50	KRUSEMARK	Mina	Dec	153
KLEINTAB		Dec	157	KÜHLE	Emil	Jun	50
KLEMM	Chas. H.	Jun	50	KUHN		Dec	157
KLIPPER	F. W.	Jun	50	KULHANEK		Jun	65
KLOEPFER		Mar	37	KULP		Jun	78
KLUG	Wm. J.	Jun	50	KUMMER	A.	Jun	50
KNABE	Ernst	Jun	50	KUPER	John	Jun	50
KNATZ	Philip	Jun	50	L			
KNEFELY	Henry	Jun	50	LACHMUND	Edward	Mar	10
KNOBLOCH		Mar	37	LACHMUND	Edward	Mar	11
	Johann			LAHUSEN	F. W.	June	50
KNOLL	Konrad	Jun	68	L'ALLEMAND	Chas.	June	50
	Johann			LANDAHL		Dec	157
KNOLL	Konrad	Jun	70	LANDIS		Mar	37
	Maria			LANG	August	Mar	10
KNOLL	Magdalena	Jun	68				

LANG	Hanns	Jun	62	MESSMER		Dec	157
LANG	Heintz	Jun	62	MEULLER	Albert	Mar	37
LANG	Leonhard	June	50	MEYER		Mar	11
LAUBHEIMER	Wm.	Jun	55	MEYER	A. C.	June	51
LAUTERBACH		Sep	118	MEYER	Ferdinand	June	51
LAUTS	Henry	June	50	MEYERDIRCK	M.	June	51
LEATHERMAN		Jun	78	MEYERS		Jun	78
LEHMAN	L.	June	50	MICHEL		Mar	37
LEHR, JR.	Robert	June	50	MICHEL		Dec	158
LEIMBACH	Gebh.	June	50	MIDDENDORF	Henry	June	51
LEIST	Frederick	June	50	MIDDENDORF	J. Wm.	June	51
LEGLER		Jun	78	MIDENBACH		Mar	17
LENTZ	Frederick	June	50	MILLER		Jun	78
LEREW		Dec	158	MILLER		Sep	118
LERIAN	Jacob	June	50	MILSKE	Chas.	June	51
LETZER	Joseph	June	51	MOLL		Jun	78
LEUTZ	Eugene M.	Sep	91	MONTGOMERY		Sep	118
LEYH	Edw. F.	June	51	MORAWETZ	Dr. L. F.	June	51
LICH		Sep	118	MUELLER		Jun	78
LIEBIG	Dr. G.	June	51	MUELLER		Mar	17
LINDERS		Sep	118	MUELLER	A.	June	51
LINDNER		Jun	78	MÜLLER	Fritz	Mar	17
LINGE		Mar	37	MUTH	M. Jos.	June	51
LINSENMEYER		Dec	157	MYER	Dr. B.	June	51
LIPPS	F. W.	June	51	MYERS		Dec	158
LOEBER	John	June	51				
LOEWENTHAL	Isidore	June	51	N			
LOGEMAN	Henry C.	June	51	NAAR	Frederick	Sep	91
LOHR		Jun	78	NEHREN		Mar	37
LONG		Dec	157	NEIDIG		Jun	78
LORZ	John	June	51	NEUDECKER	L. H.	June	52
LUDWIG	John	Sep	91	NEUHAUS	Chas.	June	52
LUDWIG	Theo.	June	51	NEURATH	John	June	52
LUERSSSEN	Chas. C.	June	51	NIEMANN	Ed.	June	52
LURMAN	John S.	June	51	NITZE	Charles	June	52
LUTTRUP	Henry	Mar	11	NOLTING	Charles	June	52
				NUMSEN	John W.	June	52
				NUMSEN	Wm.	June	52
M				O			
MAAG	August	June	51	OBENDORF	G.	Dec	128
MAIER	J. G.	June	51	OBERMAYER	Charles	Dec	128
MANN	Harry E.	June	51	OBERMAYER	Max	Dec	128
MÄRBURG	A.	June	51	OEHM	Charles H.	June	52
MÄRBURG	Chas. L.	June	51	OEHM	F. W.	June	52
MÄRBURG	Theo.	June	51	OELMANN	Fr.	June	52
MÄRR	John	June	51	OHRENSCHALL	F. A.	June	52
MARTIN		Dec	157	OLDENDORF		Sep	118
MAHLSTEDT		Sep	118	OPPERMANN		Jun	78
MATHAI	John C.	June	51	ORTMÜLLER	John	June	52
MAYER	Charles	Sep	91	OSTER	Julianna	Sep	108
MAYER	Chas. F.	June	51	OSWALD		Sep	118
MAYER	Fritz	June	51	OTT	Hanns	Jun	62
MEETH	John	June	51	OTT	Heyni	Jun	62
MEIXNER		Dec	157				
MERZ	Henry	June	51				
MESSERSMITH	Chas.	June	51				

P

PASSO	Christian	Dec	153
PAUSCH	Frau Louise	June	52
PEESE		Mar	37
PETER	Barbara	Sep	108
PETZOLD	Louis	June	52
PETZOLD	Robert T.	June	52
PFEIFER		Dec	157
PFEIFLE	Eva Maria	Jun	68
PFEIL	August	June	52
PHILLIPS		Sep	118
PLACK	Jacob	June	52
PLILT	George	June	52
POEPPLEIN, JR.	George	June	52
PRACHT	A. C.	June	52
PRACHT	Charles	June	52
PRECHTEL	Geo. F.	June	52
PRIOR	Edw. A.	June	52
PRIOR	Gustav	June	52

Q

QUAP		Mar	13
QUASS		Mar	15
QUASS	Augustus	Mar	13
QUASS	Augustus	Mar	14
QUASS	Ernst Charles	Mar	13
QUASS	George Adam	Mar	13
	[Johann]		
QUASS	William	Mar	13

R

RADECKE	J. D.	Jun	55
RADECKE	Gebrüder	June	52
RAHN	Clara	Sep	109
RAINE	Fred.	June	52
RAMER		Sep	118
RAUSCHENBERG	H.	June	52
REINKE		Mar	37
REISS		Mar	37
REITZ	Lewis H.	June	52
RENNERT	Robert	June	52
REQUARDT	J. Fred.	June	52
REULING	Dr. George	June	52
REUTER		Sep	118
REUTER	Chas.	June	52
RIES		Dec	157
RINEHART		Mar	37
RINKER		Jun	78
RIPPEL	Henry S.	Jun	55
RIPPELMEYER	C. H.	June	52
RITCHHART		Dec	157
RITSCHARD		Dec	157
RITSCHHARD		Dec	157
ROCH	Cleinhanns	Jun	62

ROCH	Hanns	Jun	62
ROCK		Sep	118
ROEDER	August	June	52
ROEHLE	L. C.	June	52
ROEMER	Henry	June	52
ROGGE	Christian	June	53
ROSENFELD	S. & Co.	June	53
ROSCHEN	H.	June	53
ROTHER	R. M.	June	53
ROTTMANN		Mar	37
RUDOLPH	Christina	Jun	70
	Christine		
RUDOLPH	Margaretha	Jun	68
RUEDIS	Michel	Jun	62
RÜHL	Conrad	June	53
RUFF	August Eugen	Sep	91
RUH	Hanns	Jun	62
RUHSTRAT	Charles	June	53
RUHSTRAT	Heinrich	June	53
RUNK		Dec	158

S

SALLADE		Sep	118
SALLMANN	Wm.	June	53
SANDER	Henry	June	53
SANGMEISTER	R.	June	53
SATTLER	Edm.	June	53
SATTLER	G. W.	June	53
SAUER	Johann Gottlip	Sep	94
SAUTER	Wm.	June	53
SAVAGE	George	June	53
SCHAD	Fred.	June	53
SCHADE		Mar	37
SCHAUB	Otto	June	53
SCHERER	Wm. C.	June	53
SCHICK		Mar	37
SCHIDELL		Dec	157
SCHIPHORST		Sep	118
SCHLECHT		Mar	37
SCHLEGEL		Sep	118
SCHLENS	G. A.	June	53
SCHLICHT		Mar	37
SCHMARE	Edward	Mar	13
SCHMARE	Elizabeth	Mar	13
SCHMARE	Elizabeth	Mar	14
SCHMARE	George	Mar	13
SCHMEER	Elizabeth	Mar	15
SCHMEER	Joseph	Mar	13
SCHMEER	Joseph	Mar	15
SCHMEISSER	Ernst	June	53
SCHMIDT		Sep	118
SCHMIDT		Dec	157
SCHMIDT	Heinrich	Jun	62
SCHMIDTBORN	Emil	June	53
SCHMITT		Sep	118

SCHNAUFFER	Wm.	June	53	SPIEKER	Dr. Edw. H.	June	54
SCHNEIDER		Jun	78	SPILMAN	Charles	June	54
SCHNEIDER	Louis	June	53	STAHEL		Sep	118
SCHNEIDEREITH	C. W.	June	53	STAUF	F. C.	June	54
SCHNEIDEREITH	Louis C.	June	53	STEFFENS	Capt. H.	June	54
SCHNEPF	John H.	June	53	STEGNER		Mar	37
SCHNEYDTER	G.	June	53	STEIGERWALD		Mar	37
SCHOENIG		Jun	78	STEIN	Samuel	June	54
SCHORR		Dec	157	STEINER		Jun	78
SCHOTT	S. P.	June	53	STEINMETZ	Dr. Wm.	June	54
SCHREIBEIS	Ann	Dec	154	STIEBRITZ	Gottlieb	June	54
SCHREIBEIS	Anton	Dec	154	STIEFF	Chas. M.	June	54
SCHREIBEIS	Beatrice	Dec	155	STOCKER	Fredericke	Sep	94
SCHREIBEIS	Charles	Dec	155	STOCKER	Jacob	Sep	94
SCHREIBEIS	Dominicus	Dec	154	STOCKER	Louise	Sep	94
SCHREIBEIS	Dominicus	Dec	155	STOCKER	Pauline	Sep	94
SCHREIBEIS	Edward	Dec	154	STOFFREGEN	Carl	June	54
SCHREIBEIS	Eleanor	Dec	155	STOFFREGEN	E.	June	54
SCHREIBEIS	Elizabeth	Dec	155	STRAUSS	Jos. H.	June	54
	George			SÜTTERLIN	Ludwig	Mar	19
SCHREIBEIS	Dominic	Dec	154	SUNDERMAN		Sep	118
SCHREIBEIS	Joseph	Dec	155	SUTRO	Otto	June	54
SCHREIBEIS	Margaretha	Dec	155	SWAN	Frrank	Dec	128
SCHREIBEIS	Theresia	Dec	154	SWARTZ	John	Mar	37
SCHREIBEIS	Theresa	Dec	155				
SCHROEDER		Sep	118	T			
SCHROEDER	Henry A.	June	53	TAWNEY		Mar	37
SCHUPP		Dec	157	TEUBER		Jun	78
SCHULZ	A. H.	June	53	TEXTOR	Anton	June	54
SCHULZE	Ferd.	June	53	THIEL		Dec	157
SCHUSTER		Dec	157	THIES	John H.	June	54
SCHWARZ		Jun	78	THOMA	Elise	Dec	133
SCHWARZ	Henry	June	53	THOMA	Elise	Dec	134
SEEGER	Paul A.	June	53	THOMA	Professor	Dec	133
SEEMULLER	Wm.	June	53	THOMA	Professor	Dec	135
SEIDENBERG		Mar	37	THOMA	Professor	Dec	134
SEITZER	Christian	Sep	91	THOMA	Professor	Dec	136
SHEARER		Dec	158	THUMON	Carolina	Sep	92
SHOWALTER		Jun	78	THUMON	Elizabeth	Sep	92
SIEGMUND	Gustav	June	53		Jacob		
SIEMERS	H. F.	June	53	THUMON	Friedrich	Sep	92
SIEMON		Jun	78	TIECK	Heinrich C.	June	54
SIEVERS		Jun	78	TOEL	Chas. H.	June	54
SIMON	Dr. W.	June	53	TORSCH	E. L.	June	54
SINNISEN		Mar	37	TORSCH	F. A.	June	54
SLINGLUFF	Chas. B.	June	53	TRAUTMANN	Dr. Theodor	Sep	91
SLINGLUFF	Dr. F.	June	53	TRIMBUR		Sep	118
SMITH		Dec	157	TRUTT	Rosa	Sep	109
SMITH	B. F.	June	53	TUCKER	Caroline	Sep	109
SMYSER	James A.	June	54	U V			
SNYDER	Henry	June	54	UBHOFF		Mar	37
SOHNGEN		Sep	118	UEHLEIN		Jun	78
SOMMERFELD	John	June	54	UHRIG	John	June	54
SPANHAKE	H.	June	54	ULMAN	A. J.	June	54
SPECK		Mar	37				

UMBACH	Geo. W.	June	54	WEIRICH		Jun	78
UNVERZAGT	Geo. P.	June	54	WEIS	Louis T.	Jun	55
VAHL		Sep	118	WEISEL		Sep	118
VANDLINGER	Isaac	Sep	91	WEISKITTEL, JR.	A.	Jun	55
VEES	Henry	Jun	54	WENZING	H.	Jun	55
VEITHEIM		Mar	37	WERTHWEIN		Dec	157
VOCKE	Claas	Jun	54	WESSEL	Henry	Jun	55
VOCKE	Henry	Jun	54	WIDMER	Hanns	Jun	62
VOGEL	Ph. R.	Jun	54	WIENCKE	A. G.	Jun	55
VOGELER	August	Jun	54	WIENER	Chas. J.	Jun	55
VOGELER	Jerome	Jun	54	WEINER	Dr. M.	Jun	55
VOLZ		Dec	157	WIESEL	John M.	Jun	55
VOLZ	John	Jun	54	WIESER		Dec	157
VON DER HORST	H. R.	Jun	54	WIESSNER	J. F.	Jun	55
VON DER HORST	J. Herm.	Jun	54	WIESSNER	J.F. & Bros.	Jun	55
VON KAPF	H.	Jun	54	WILFONG			
VON LINGEN	G. A.	Jun	54	WILKENS	Julius C.	Jun	55
VOSSBERG		Sep	118	WILKENS	Wm.	Jun	55
W				WILKENS	W. W.	Jun	55
WACKERHAUSER	Wm, G.	Jun	55	WILLE	Carl	Jun	55
WaelTI	Hanns	Jun	62	WILLMS	Chas.	Jun	55
WAGGONER		Dec	157	WINKELMANN	J. H.	Jun	55
WAGNER	B. L.	Jun	55	WIRT	Hanns	Jun	62
WALLDE	Hanns	Jun	62	WIRTH		Jun	78
WALPERT	F.	Jun	55	WIRTH		Sep	118
WARD		Dec	158	WISCHMEYER	Edw.	Jun	55
WASP		Dec	158	WISSINGER		Sep	118
WATTENSCHIEDT	R.	Jun	55	WITTE	F.	Jun	55
WEAVER	Louis	Mar	11	WITTMANN		Jun	78
WEAVER	Wm. H.	Jun	55	WOHLPERT	Barnhart	Dec	154
WEBER		Jun	78	WOLF		Jun	78
WEBER	Adam	Sep	109	WOLF		Sep	118
WEBER	Adam	Sep	110	WOLFF	Oscar	Jun	55
WEBER	Anna Maria	Sep	110	WOLPERT	Bernardus	Dec	154
WEBER	Elisabetha	Sep	110	WOLPERT	Christina	Dec	154
WEBER	Emma	Sep	110	WOLPERT	Christina	Dec	155
WEBER	Friedrich	Sep	110	WOLPERT	Juliana	Dec	154
WEBER	Karl	Sep	110	WOLPERT	Juliana	Dec	155
WEBER	Louisa	Sep	110	WOOLENSACK		Sep	118
WEBER	Philippina	Sep	110	WUEST		Jun	78
WEBER	August	Jun	55	WUNSCH		Dec	157
WEBER, JR.	Chas.	Jun	55				
WEGNER	Julius	Jun	55	X Y Z			
WEHR	August	Jun	55	ZEBELEIN		Dec	157
WEHR	Frederick	Jun	55	ZEBERLEIN		Dec	157
WEIKEL	Wm.	Jun	55	ZELLER		Dec	158
WEIL	Albert	Jun	55	ZEUL	Conrad	Jun	55
WEILBACHER	Paul	Jun	55	ZIEGLER		Dec	158
WEILER		Dec	157	ZIEGLER	Barbara	Mar	17
WEIMAN		Jun	78	ZINK	Henry	Mar	11
WEIMANN		Jun	78				

DER KALENDER

THE CALENDAR

2019

March 28-30. Lancaster Family History Conference, sponsor: Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society. Vendors, speakers, trips. More info: <https://www.lmhs.org/>

April 13. Ohio Chapter Pal Am, Spring Seminar, "The Land They Lived On!" with speaker Warren Bittner. Der Dutchman Restaurant, 445 Jefferson Avenue, U.S. Route 42, Plain City, Ohio
<https://oh-palam.org/registernow.php>
Or: make check payable to Ohio Chapter – Palam and mail to: Joe Stamm, 3930 Lander Road, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-1329, questions? lindabelle@lcs.net

April 26-27. MAGS Spring Conference, Laurel, MD. Saturday program: Presentations by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin. <https://www.magsgen.com/>

May 1-4. Ohio Genealogical Society, Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. "Building a Heritage." Speakers, vendors, workshops. More info: <http://www.ogsconference.org/>

May 8-11. National Genealogical Society, "Journey of Discovery," family history conference, St. Charles, MO. More info: <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

June 15-17. International German Genealogy Conference, Sacramento, CA, second-ever biennial conference being sponsored by the International German Genealogy Partnership (coordinated by Partner groups) with theme of "Strike It Rich: with Connections 2 Discoveries." Headlining presenters will include Fritz Juengling, Michael Lacopo and Roger P. Minert. There will be an exhibit hall and many special events. Registration expected to open Nov. 1, 2018. More info: <https://iggpartner.org/cpage.php?pt=73>

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.

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(*Juengling*)

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(*Bender, Stroh, Theis, Walter*)

STEVEN CHIDESTER of SAN DIEGO, CA
(*No Names*)

PAMELA & RAY FREDERICK of TIMONIUM, MD
(*Renner, Lodes, Frederick*)

DAVID HUNSICKER of MACUNGLE, PA
(*Hunsicker, Mantz, Schertzinger, Handwerk*)

PEGGY MAYNES of FAYETTEVILLE, PA
(*Groseclose, Cregger/Krieger, Spangler, Brickner*)

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(*Linsenmeyer, Bunn, Weiler, Pfeifer*)

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