



NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

143 N. MAIN ST, BEL AIR, MD 21014-3539

January 2009

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: **Sunday, March 15, 2009** Time: **2:00 PM**

Place: **Historical Society of Harford County, Headquarters**
143 N. Main St; Bel Air, MD 21014

Program: **Plats using Maryland's Digital Imaging System.**

Our speakers, members of our own society, Douglas Washburn and Richard Appel, will demonstrate using **Maryland's Digital Image Reference System for Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats** to obtain diagrams of land parcels. Look for more details in the MARCH Newsletter.

2009 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Attached is our 2009 Membership Application and Renewal form for your convenience. Payment is requested before **February 15, 2009**. We are always interested in speakers, program topics, and May off-site Meeting venues. Please jot down your ideas in the COMMENTS section.

NOVEMBER HCGS ELECTIONS

The following members were elected to serve our Society for two years: President –**Arch Phillips**, Vice President –**Jon Livezey**, Secretary –**Rich Appel**, Treasurer –**Doug Washburn**, and three Board of Advisor Members –**Claire Blackmer**, **Mary White**, and **Chris Smithson**.

DIRECTORY

President:	Arch Phillips	anmPhill@qis.net
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Web Site: www.rtis.com/reg/md/org/hcgs/

eMail: HaCoGenSoc@verizon.net

MEETING SCHEDULE: March, May, July, September, & November

We hold five meetings per year, usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The March, July, September and November meetings begin at 2:00 PM at The Historical Society of Harford County Inc., 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. The May meeting is a box lunch held at various historical locations in the county.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A New Year has dawned and for each and every one, I hope you had a memorable holiday season, and that 2009 will be productive and fulfilling. As your Board of Advisors and I approach the New Year, we are focused on how we can help fulfill the hopes and expectations for our Harford County Genealogical Society.

Recently, while reading the book, Twilight at Monticello, I was struck by the myriad resources the author, Alan Pell Crawford, utilized in recounting Thomas Jefferson's final years. Crawford wove a rich tapestry of 19th century family life and history from countless letters; public (and not so public) records; accounts of family squabbles and land disputes; and numerous other documents and reports. How often we hear stories of finding stashes of family letters and previously unknown documents that fill long empty voids in the family story waiting to be told.

As I read Crawford's account, I found myself pondering what records and legacies of evidence we creatures of the 21st century will leave our descendants. How many letters are written and saved? How many accounts of family events are filed for posterity? The world of instant messaging and little permanence creates a very different milieu for inquiry of any sort. What is the residual from readily and easily made phone calls to and from far and near? What remains of the messages when we hit the delete keys on the untold numbers of e-mails sent 'on the fly', or the quickie cell phone messages to report a significant family event that merits remembering? In this era of digital communication and sound-bite records, not to mention statistical sampling in modern census taking, family history, at its best, may become little more than a listing of ancestors gleaned from sterile public records.

Perhaps the challenge to a contemporary genealogical society in this 21st century is to find means, in concert with electronic technology, to assure that rich texts of thick histories persist so that our descendants might write full stories of their families' struggles and triumphs as succeeding generations' legacies are shaped. Come help us do it!

...Arch

GENEALOGY FEATURE

Not Everyone Was a Defender

by John W. Heisey Published in *AntiqueWeek* December 02, 1996

In searching old newspapers for obituaries, it is not unusual to note the heading "Another Old Defender Gone!" This surely ought to catch the attention of any researcher if only to learn what the term means. Has it grabbed you, too?

If it has, think back to America's early history and the War of 1812. One of the unfortunate results of that war was the capture of Washington, D.C. and the destruction of some irreplaceable records genealogists would like to use.

On the other hand, there was the famous episode of the defense of Fort McHenry at Baltimore, MD, and the birth of the "Star Spangled Banner." That whole event could not have happened without the services of American military forces. Most of these were local militia from the states of Maryland and Pennsylvania who shared in the reflected glory of the day, and when they died, it was customary to proclaim the deceased as an "Old Defender" who was a member of an elite group to the last.

Although less than 300,000 men are estimated to have served in that war on the American side, the entire nation was not that large. So, if you find a forebear who was of the right age, he may have participated in that somewhat unpopular war. If he was listed as an "Old Defender," that can narrow down his probable residence
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at the time. In preparation for the bicentennial of that war, it is likely genealogists will be looking for ancestral links to those servicemen. If you are among that group of researchers, perhaps the following suggestions will be helpful.

The nation, at that time, was composed of 18 states -Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Vermont. In addition, we possessed the territories of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, and Missouri.

Do not be misled by the above. Although those old servicemen had served from only those states and territories, many migrated elsewhere after the war and information about them may be found in almost any state. The result is that wherever you find something about a veteran ancestor, the trail should eventually lead back to one of the states or territories extant at the time of the War of 1812.

Obviously not every serviceman of that war took part in the defense of Baltimore; therefore, not every veteran should qualify for the title of "Old Defender." That term may be found for any 1812 vet, so his service record should be checked for verification. The problem may be to find such records as many are apparently missing.

For example, in the National Archives are the service and pension records for the veterans of 1812, but it is often difficult to pin down the right man. The main reason is that many participants in that war were state militia units. For many of those organizations, the company rosters are either incomplete or missing. To compound that problem is the fact that muster rolls are not to be found in the appropriate state repositories.

That leads us to pension records and, again, such documents are not the final answer either. Unless an 1812 veteran was disabled by his war service, it may be difficult to find your man. Basically, that is because only indexes are available on microfilm. Records have not [as of 1996] been filmed by the National Archives so they are hard to check unless you can go to the Archives in person or have someone else do the searching for you.

Another thing, there are several such indexes. The first one is the "Old War Index to Pension Files," microfilm # T-316, which gives such data as name of veteran, his unit, state from which served, and whether the claimant was the widow, child or other heir. This pension was for those men killed or disabled in the war.

Another source is the "Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812," microfilm # M-602. Remember this is an index only and service records have not been filmed. You will thus have to check original records as appropriate. In addition to this microfilm set, there are separate indexes for Louisiana (M-229), Mississippi (M-678), North Carolina (M-250), and South Carolina (M-6652).

The Act of 1871 provided a service pension for veterans who had served at least 60 days, or to their widows if the marriage was performed before 1815. Furthermore, applicants could not have supported the Confederate cause during the Civil War. The Act of 1878 was for men who had served at least 14 days in any engagement, or to the widows of those vets. In addition to some data about the veteran and his marriage data, there was a summary of his service and a statement relative to action taken on his claim. For widows, you should find their maiden names in pension files for all Acts (1871, 1878, etc.)

Veterans of the War of 1812 were also entitled to bounty land under the Acts of 1811-1812. By this, a veteran who was not an officer was to receive 160 acres if he had served 5 years in any Congress regiment, had been discharged earlier, or had been killed. This bounty land was to be in Arkansas, Illinois, or Missouri.

Officers of this war were not authorized any bounty land until the Acts of 1850-1855. Indexes for bounty land for officers and other ranks are available on microfilm (M-848) titled "*War of 1812 Military Bounty Land Warrants, 1815-1858.*"

To get further information about tracing War of 1812 personnel and/or pensions, etc., consult the following:

- a. Stuart L. Buther's article "*Genealogical Records of the War of 1812*," Prologue, winter 1991, pages 420-425.
- b. George K. Schweitzer, *War of 1812 Genealogy* (Knoxville: for the author, 1983).

Lastly, we come back to our first paragraph-newspapers. There is possibly the only place where you may find reference to your ancestors having served in the War of 1812. That will likely take some tedious searching as that data seldom is compiled. You may have to check appropriate papers after you locate the grave of a

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forebear who could have been in that war. In any case, how and when you find the proof, you will be ready for the upcoming bicentennial in 2012.

GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

Harford County Public Library Genealogy Discussion Group

Date: **The first Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm** (6 pm informal discussion)

Place: **Jarrettsville Branch Harford County Public Library .**

Programs:

January – Church Records & Archives

February – Newspapers, Periodicals & City Directories

For Details: **Contact Ann Winkler, Librarian 410-638-3608** Registration is not required

Join them as the group shares tips, techniques, and information on topics of interest to the serious genealogist.

Maryland Historical Society -Library Orientation Series:

The library staff holds Library orientation sessions titled **Introduction to Genealogical Research** on the third Saturday of Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Aug, Sep, Oct, & Nov. Each 45-minute session begins at 9:10 a.m. in the Library. Library hours are 10 AM – 4:30 PM Wed-Sat.

Topics, that rotate each session, include: **Using Special Collections, Introduction to Building Research, Introduction to Genealogical Research, Finding Photographs, & Introduction to Building Research.**

Place: **Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland**

Registration: Not Required, \$6.00 MdHS Admission Fee each session for non-MdHS members.

Details: see <http://www.mdhs.org/explore/library/research/Orientation.html>

Baltimore County Genealogical Society -German Newspapers

Date: **Sunday, February 22, 2009 12:00 – 4:00 pm**

Place: **Parkville Senior Center, 3rd Flr, 8601 Harford Rd (MD147) Parkville, MD 21234.**

Program: **German Newspapers in Baltimore**

The speaker will be Dr. Gary B. Ruppert, who has recently published a book in two volumes, “**The German Correspondent, Baltimore Maryland 1879-1883**”.

2009 Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society -Spring Conference

Date: **April 18, 2009 (Sat) 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM**

Place: **Plaza Hotel, 1718 Underpass Way, Halfway Blvd, Hagerstown, MD**

For Details: www.magsgen.com/ or registration@magsgen.com

or Diane Kuster 252-373-1684

The program is titled **Exploring New Record Groups in Germany & the USA**, and consists of three lectures by **Kenneth Heger**, plus one lecture by **Susannah Brooks**.

Anne Arundel Genealogical Society

Date: **Thursdays, 7:30 PM** (see specific dates below)

Place: **Severna Park United Methodist Church**, 731 Benfield Road, Severna Park, MD

Programs:

January 8, 2009 **State Law Library Genealogy**-Carol Carman

February 5, 2009 **How to Make the Most of Photography in Your Genealogy**-Paul Gillespie

March 5, 2009 **Savings Lives...One Story At a Time**-David Marshall

April 2, 2009 **10 Research Shortcuts for Prof. Genealogists**-Chuck Mason

HCGS eMAIL LIST

Our Society sponsors a mailing list for the discussion of genealogy related to Harford County families, including families of the part of Baltimore County that became Harford County in 1774. Let them know if you are willing to help with details, or tell them about good sources of information.

To correspond, send eMail to: MDHARFOR-L@rootsweb.com

To subscribe or request service, send eMail to: MDHARFOR-L-REQUEST@rootsweb.com

To subscribe: Send service request email with "subscribe" in the message subject and body.

To unsubscribe: Send service request email with "unsubscribe" in the message subject and body.

Here are extracts from some recent inquiries posted on the **Harford MailList**. Only 25% of our society members are subscribers, so these are presented to spark your interest in sharing answers and questions with other subscribing genealogy enthusiast.

Carroll

I am trying to find information on **DANIEL CARROLL**. He wrote his will in Harford County, dated 24 Sept 1870. Part of it says "I devise and bequest to St. Ignatius Church \$25.00." He gave his brother, James Carroll, \$50.00 for a tombstone. "To my nephew, son of James, my house and lot in the Town of Bel Air to be equally divided as tenants in common after the mortgage was paid." The heirs listed are James Carroll, John Carroll, Elen Develine, Bridget Whalland, Mary Connaughton and Margaret Carroll. There was mention of a sister but her name was not given. Daniel Carroll was buried at St. John's Long Green, Balto. Co., MD on 1 Oct 1870. I did not find his grave on my visit there a few years ago so I don't know if there is a tombstone or what inscription is on it.

I attempted to find the heirs mentioned thru census records, etc. I found an Ellen Carroll born abt. 1836 and married in Harford Co. 1 March 1859 to James Devlin. Ellen died in 1874 buried at St. Ignatius.

Mary Connaughton, born abt. 1820 wife of L. Connaughton and Bridget Carroll married 14 Aug. 1854 in Harford Co. to Michael Whalen. If the James Carroll listed as heir is the same as his brother then James was born in 1820 and died in 1898.

Going by the dates for the women I would say they were probably Daniel and James' sisters.

I would like to find information on the house and lot Daniel owned and more about those families mentioned in his Will. [Lisa Lockett]

Chauncey

Am looking for information on the location, condition, and visiting rules for Private Cemetery #7 at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. My ancestor George Chauncey, a Revolutionary War patriot, is reportedly buried there. [Jim Brown]

Kentelmeyers

I would like very much to hear from anyone working on, or having knowledge of, anyone with the surname "Kentelmeyers" or the middle name "Kentle" followed by the surname "Meyers" or "Myers." [Pat Dolan]

Richardson / Harkins

I am a descendant of Ellen Harkins who married **John Thomas Robinson** around the time of the Civil War. John Thomas Robinson was my great-grandfather. What information, if any, do you have on **Ellen Harkins'** predecessors? [William H. Robinson, Jr.]

Do you know if these two are from the Robinson and Harkins family from Chestnut Hill? There are many, many Harkins's in the cemetery at Deer Creek UM Church, also a few Robinson's. I am indirectly related to Robinson--one of

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my cousins (also from Chestnut Hill family) married a Robinson, but I've never explored his family. There is an extensive Harkins family history around. [Sandi Wallis]

Do you know whether Elizabeth Richardson was the daughter of Henry Richardson (1762-1812) and Elizabeth Morgan? They had a daughter, Elizabeth, of whom I have no information. [John Rouse]

Yes, Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Morgan. I have a lot of info on Henry but I've been having trouble tracking down Elizabeth Morgan. Do you know anything about her? [Sandi Wallis]

I only have the name, Elizabeth Morgan, marriage date (March 20, 1782) and date of death (September 1840), but am inquiring. I'll share anything that turns up. If you could easily share what you have on Henry Richardson, I would be grateful. I would like to compare it with what I have, much of which is not verifiable. [John Rouse]

I have not verified my Richardson information--that is on my To Do list!! Most of it I picked up from other family histories of the Richardsons. One, a history by Beale Howard Richardson IV came from the Historical Society. It details the early generations. The connection of Henry Richardson to this line actually was documented through other genealogies on Ancestry.com. Here goes with what I found: Henry was the son of William Richardson (4/11/1737-11/17/1799) and Mary Davis (born about 1740). He is supposedly buried in Fallston Methodist Church Cemetery but I have not gotten there to check.

William left his land to other sons, but Henry is named in the will to receive "5 shillings and no more of my estate." The rest of the information I have comes from connecting this William to the Richardson genealogy and I have no personal verification. Parents of William: Thomas Richardson (1692-1777) and Sarah Standiford (lots of spelling choices here) Thomas was born in AA Co. but died in what is now Harford County. Parents of Thomas: Lawrence Richardson (1650 - 1705) and Anne Taylor. I have Lawrence born in AA Co but dying in Baltimore/Harford Co. Parents of Lawrence: Lawrence Richardson (1601-1666) and Sarah ??? Born in Taunton England, died in AA Co. Parents of Lawrence: Lawrence Richardson (1581-??) and Elizabeth??? Born in Taunton England. [Sandi Wallis]

My GG Grandfather, Thomas Robinson is buried at Deer Creek UMC Cemetery. He had 11 Children, 3 of whom married Harkins, others married into the Smith, Wheeler, Barrow and Galbreath families also names found at Deer Creek. [Joan Lannon]

It was Thomas Robinson's daughter, Margaret Lucenda Robinson, 19 Sep 1843 -18 Jun 1917 who's 2nd husband was Samuel Wheeler. Her sisters, Lourena Slade Robinson and Emma Jeanette Robinson married Joseph A and Thomas Harkins. Brother John Cameron Robinson married Arlene Harkins My own g-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Robinson married 1st Elizabeth Barrow and 2nd, her sister, Martha Stone Barrow I do have some information about other marriages involving Barrows, Robinsons, Harkins, Smiths and other Chestnut Hill families. [Stan Robinson]

Wood

I am trying to track down information on Eliza Wood. This is what I have pieced together so far. Eliza was probably born about 1811 in Harford County. She died in 1863. She was married to Henry Tutcht on 4 Apr 1831 by a minister named Finney. Eliza and Henry Tutcht on had children James Calvin (b. 24 Dec 1833), Annie (d. in girlhood), Nathan (d. in childhood), Theodore (b. Jun 1837), and John (b. abt. 1838). Henry Tutcht on died at age 33, probably about 1843 to 1845. Eliza Wood married for a 2nd time to Aaron Buker (b. 17 Mar 1815, Maine) on 6 Sep 1846. Eliza and Aaron Buker had a son, Thomas Jefferson Buker (b. 18 Nov 1849). Aaron Buker died 13 Mar 1862 and is buried in Mt Carmel cemetery off O'Donnell St. in Baltimore. In the same plot or adjacent plots are Theodore Tutcht on (w/ children & wife).

In the 1850 census Theodore Tutcht on and John Tutcht on are noted with Aaron, Eliza, and Thomas Jefferson Buker as Buker children, not Tutcht on. In the 1880 census Henry Buker, Thomas Jefferson Buker's son is listed living James C. Tutcht on. Their seems to be connections between the Tutcht on/Buker families and the Pennsylvania, Wilmington, & Baltimore Railroad, with Aaron Buker, Thomas Jefferson Buker, and John Tutcht on all working for the railroad either in or near Baltimore or Wilmington DE.

I would very much appreciate any information, suggestions, or just plain wild guesses that may help me connect Eliza to what appear to be numerous Wood families living in Harford Co in the early 1800's. [Don Lechthaler]

MARCH MEETING

There are no General Meetings held in December, January, or February. Our **Sunday, March 15, 2009** Society meeting will be held at the Historical Society of Harford County Headquarters, 143 N. Main St; Bel Air, MD 21014 at **2:00 PM**.

Please, mark your 2009 calendars for our March "almost Spring" meeting, and our **May 17th Off-Site Picnic**. Look for details in the March 2009 issue of the NEWSLETTER.
