



NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

January 2014

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date:

Spring 2014

Place:

An off-site Harford County venue is in the planning process.

Program:

-- TO BE ANNOUNCED --

Look for upcoming details, and invite friends to join in the experience.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hopefully you were able to spend time with loved ones over the Christmas and New Year's holidays ... and took the time to gather information to add to your genealogy records. It may have been for the joyous occasion of birth, the sometimes sad occasion of death, and most importantly, gathering oral history from your elders.

In last month's message I mentioned that we were pursuing webinar software in hopes of doing the 2014 seminar via that facility. While the initial cost was ridiculously affordable, there was also a \$50 per month fee associated with the service. An extra \$600 expense for a one day event is not practical for an organization our size. I will discuss this product with the Historical Society to see if they can justify that level of expense for their organization, but am doubtful this will happen unless other options (e.g., Skype) prove feasible.

Additionally, we may have to go to plan-B for our 2014 historical / genealogical outing. We had hoped to visit Ladew Gardens, the family home of the Scarff family for many generations. Julia Ann Scarff, who was born and raised there, married Luther Jarrett, who named Jarrettsville. He grew up next door at the current location of the Elkridge-Harford Hunt Club on Pocock Road. Ladew does not seem to be willing to reduce the senior admission fee of \$11, and they are not willing to do a tour for just our group. Because the Society's Treasurer, Arch Phillips is a Jarrett descendant, he would be able to add significant family detail to the docent's account, which may not be of interest to the general public. Stand-by ... the board will work on alternatives.

I hope that 2014 is (y)our best year yet... for health, wealth and genealogical information.

- Doug

MEETING SCHEDULE: Spring & Fall

We hold two program meetings per year, one at an offsite venue, and one at The Historical Society of Harford County Inc., 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014.

GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

2014 Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Workshop & Meeting

Date: **21-22 March 2014** (Fri-Sat)

Place: **TBA**

Registration: See: <http://www.magsgen.com> for details and flyer *not yet published*.

Program:

Fri 21st Workshop, "Dissecting a Civil War Pension File" Debra Hoffman

Sat 22nd Spring Meeting, "Creating Access for Genealogists 24/7"



2014 National Genealogical Society Conference

Date: **7-10 May 2014** (Wed-Sat) +Bus tour on Tuesday May 6th

Additional Tours and Libraries are available on Monday & Tuesday before the conference.

Place: **Greater Richmond Convention Center and Marriott Hotel,**

[403 N Third St, Richmond VA 23219](http://www.marriott.com/hotels-and-reservations/usa-va/richmond/403-n-third-st-richmond-va-23219). Hotels are selling out now.

Registration: online at: <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>

Contact: conference@ngsgenealogy.org or 1-800-473-0060

Program: **Virginia: The First Frontier**, will explore the records and history that draw so many back to their roots in the Old Dominion. Lecture topics will also include migration into, within, and out of the region down the Great Wagon Road (a colonial American improved trail transiting the Great Appalachian Valley from Pennsylvania through Maryland along I-81 to North Carolina, and from there to Georgia.), over the Appalachian Mountains, and across the south to Texas and beyond. The program will feature ten tracks per day covering a broad array of topics including records for Virginia and its neighboring states; migration into and out of the region; military records; state and federal records; ethnic groups including African Americans, Germans, Irish, and Ulster-Scots; methodology; analysis and problem solving; and the use of technology including genetics, mobile devices, and apps useful in genealogical research. Save the date! See Program brochure at:

[http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/2014 Announcement Brochure.pdf](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/2014%20Announcement%20Brochure.pdf).



2013-2014 HCGS DIRECTORY

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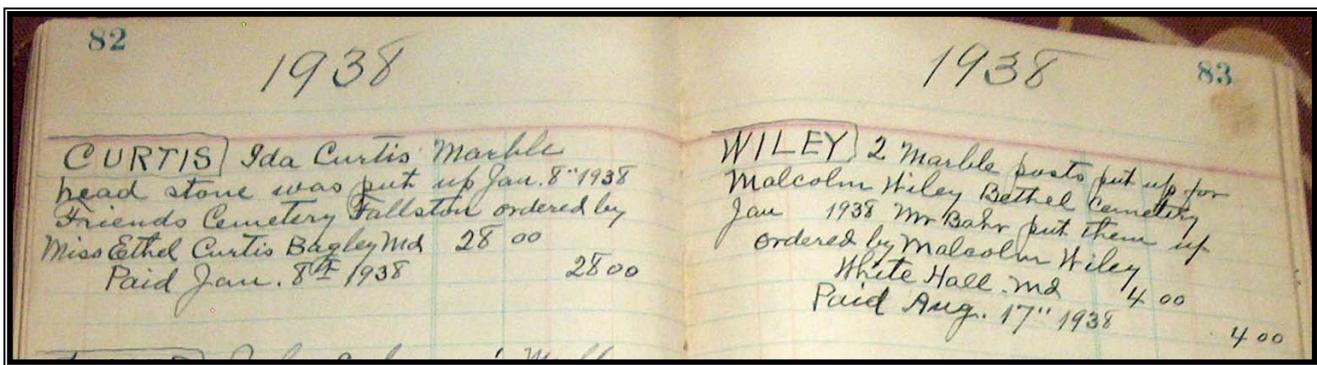
GENEALOGY FEATURES

COLLABORATIVE TRANSCRIPTION

The New Year provides an opportunity to try new things, and my proposal is a collaborative transcription project that will result in a HCGS Special Publication. As always, everyone who contributes to each project will be given credit (cited) for their efforts.

Each volunteer will be provided with a handwritten original document image in pdf format, with multiple records (usually 10) per image, to be transcribed to a digital format. As transcriptions are completed they will be emailed to the project editor for review and inclusion in the final publication. An instruction sheet will be provided to ensure that everyone submits a uniform transcription so that results appear as if one person did all of the processing. The instruction sheet has been used before and proven to be successful in obtaining uniform results, from careful transcribers. Shown below is a before and after sample of a partial document image plus a single completed transcribed template for the one record on the right.

Ledger Page Image:



Transcription (right side only):

SURNAME	WHERE	PAGE	ENTRY
WILEY	BETHEL - MADONNA	83	2-Marble posts put up for Malcolm Wiley Bethel Cemetery Jan 1938 Mr. Bahr put them up ordered by Malcolm Wiley White Hall, MD 4.00 Paid Aug 17th 1938 4.00

To volunteer your time and effort, set at your own pace, please send an email request with "Subject: COLLABORATIVE PROJECT" to me the Project Editor at Richard.Appel3@verizon.net. Please indicate what type of software (Excel, Word, Writer, Calc, etc) you have for the transcription template. A detailed instruction sheet along with a trial page image and an transcription template will be sent to volunteers. Transcribe the trial page into the template, attach it to an email with "Subject: COLLABORATIVE PROJECT" and send it back to me at Richard.Appel3@verizon.net.

As we progress, additional page images will be distributed as transcriptions are returned. For this initial attempt, we will be transcribing more business ledger pages from the Jarrettsville based J. C. Taylor Marble Co. See Special Publications 37, 38, 39, 42, & 43 for a glimpse of the finished product. *Rich Appel*

WHAT DID SANTA BRING?

Please tell me what new genealogical gifts Santa gave you over the Holidays and how they will help you enjoy and move your research forward. A tablet or special software? A database program like RootsMagic™, or FamilyTree Maker™? Registration for the National Genealogical Society Conference in Richmond, VA? A subscription to Ancestry.com, FindMyPast.com, or another site? A DNA Test Kit? A gift certificate for genealogical studies tuition? Scrapbooking supplies? Document scanner? I plan to share the excitement with our members in the March issue.

Send me a note at: Richard.appel3@verizon.net or by USPS. Tell me about your joys, but *please avoid berating me for late gift ideas.* *Rich Appel*

THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS INTERVIEWS

All of you are Family History fanatics, so you must have uncovered or remembered some bits and hints about your families that will help your research. Please share those moments of triumph and surprise with me for our March issue and your Society members! Did you make notes, take pictures, copy documents or photographs,...? Was there a cousin who invited you to visit them as part of a family research expedition? Did you video-record an interview? What genealogical discovery did you uncover while the rest of us were lost in the turmoil of the Holidays? Special stories under 500 words are welcomed.

And now for the BIG question: How many research logs have you created for your 2014 hunt? Share your plans and light fires of excitement in all of us.

Send me a note at: Richard.Appel3@verizon.net or Harford Co Genealogical Society, 3813 BELMONT DR, JARRETTSVILLE MD 21084-1406. *Rich Appel*

SURNAME LIST

Many of our members have inquired about a list of surnames being researched by other members. The thought behind this list is enabling discussions, providing hints, and sharing information about the same families. I have little experience in sharing, since I am an only child, but it does seem like a good project.

Some major concerns to be addressed are privacy, and plagiarism. First and foremost for all genealogists, is the citing of sources, which includes credit to everyone who helped the researcher uncover a fact. Do this fastidiously and consistently –recognize that we all need each other.

The second concern is privacy, in that researchers want a shield between themselves and predators, solicitors, scam artists, tele/cyber marketers, and identity thieves. This is a tough topic for those in the “sharing” mode. My initial concept is to establish myself as a go-between the parties willing to share, and parties seeking information that keeps identities private, until both parties request direct contact.

With this said, I would like all of you to submit a list of surnames that you are researching to me through my email or HCGS USPS address. The lists will be organized in a simple non-published database that can associate surnames with researchers. When I find surnames with more than one researcher all parties will be notified that others are working on the same surname (not necessarily the same family). From that point researchers can submit specific questions, and the questions will be distributed to the other researchers for a response.

In summary, if there was expressed interest in say the WILSON surname, I would route questions and responses between researchers with WILSON in their individual Surname Interest List.

DATA REQUIRED: Your name, & contact information, and for each SURNAME submission include: Surname, County, State/Provence/Region, Country, Begin Year, End Year. See SUBMISSION FORM.

To initiate this project, please compile your Surname Sbmmission and forward it to me at: Richard.Appel3@verizon.net or Attn: Surname Project, Harford Co Genealogical Society, 3813 BELMONT DR, JARRETTSVILLE MD 21084-1406. Lists received before Super Bowl Sunday, February 02, 2014 will be organized and published in the March HCGS Newsletter, as SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED BY HCGS MEMBERS. Personal contact information will not be published. All suggestions for improving this Surname Project are welcomed. *Rich Appel*

Please consider helping our Society by becoming an Advisor at Large and volunteering to assist us with providing programs and projects valuable to our members. -Contact Doug Washburn, President.

NON-ASSOCIATORS

All of our 2013 Members should be familiar with the term non-associators after receiving our Society's free Special Publication 46 –*Non-Associators in Harford County, Maryland at the on set of the Revolutionary War, 1775-1776*, by Henry C. Peden, Jr. Henry expanded on the earlier work of George Washington Archer and others to help us understand a little more about those who refused to sign the “Declaration of the Association of Freemen of Maryland.” Many who refused to sign this Declaration, may have been erroneously labeled as Tories, but in fact were *hedging their bets* on the outcome of a fight with the world's superpower, Great Britain, or were opposed to war altogether.

As with all of our research, when we fail to locate ancestors in common records linked with the times, we need to look elsewhere, and not write them off as those who left town or died. Everyone with their ears to the wind in the late 1770's would have been concerned for their safety, fortunes, and future.

We give thanks to HCGS member Henry Peden for providing us yet another (12th) useful HCGS Special Publication.

GENEALOGY TIDBITS

Index to Historic HA Co Properties

Our [HCGS website](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcg/MIHP-HA.html) URL= <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcg/MIHP-HA.html> provides a practical index with links to 1,890 *Harford County properties* appearing in the *Maryland Historical Trust - Inventory of Historic Properties* (MHT-IHP). The advantages of using our webpage over the MHT-IHP webpage is the ability to easily search (use CTRL+F) the entire list for surnames, site names, towns, street or road names, etc., located in Harford County without results being cluttered with properties located in other counties.

For example, on the MHT-IHP website, to locate the Dougherty property on Constitution Road, you would either Search By Property to locate those that “CONTAINS” the characters “Dougherty” in the property name, or Search By Address for those that “CONTAINS” the characters “Constitution” in the street name, and then manually cull through the results. The Search By Text option is similar. Basically there are too few search options on the MHT-IHP webpage ...so you just sort of stumble around until the property is revealed.

Additionally, HA Co District Numbers have been added to our HA Co list, which is shown sorted by DISTRICT #, then by TOWN name, then by Site #. Some *updates* have been noted and are shown in braces { } e.g. “Fawn Grove” => {Pylesville}. Clicking on the Site # (hyper-link) will access the MHT-IHP website *Historic Places Registration* form (pdf file) describing the referenced historical property of interest.

EXTRACT FROM HCGS's Harford County specific Inventory of Historical Properties:

Site #	Site Name	Address	Town	District(s)
HA-1064	A. T. Blevins House	Old Emmorton Road	Abingdon	1
HA-1065	Mt. Carmel Methodist Church	Wheel Road & Old Emmorton Road	Abingdon	1
HA-1245	Ladew Topiary Gardens & Ladew House	3535 Jarrettsville Pike (MD146)	Jarrettsville	4

Continuing Education

The Mesa AZ, FamilySearch™ Library has an array of WEBCASTS designed to improve your research skills. URL= <http://www.mesarfhc.org/Webcasts.html> select from 40+ titles, most of which are not specific to Arizona. Here is a sampling of a few titles:

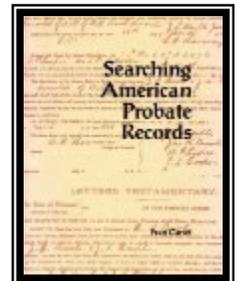
- “Using Land and Probate Records in Family History Research” by Fawn Barnes
- “Searching Historic Newspapers” by Deanna Johnson
- “Using Roots Magic” by Bruce Buzbee
- “Finding Your Ancestors in Germany” by Barbara Holm
- “Breaking Down Ancestral Brick Walls” by James Tanner

Probate Documents

Before 1850, when census records began to list the names of household persons, and deeds, Wills and Probate records may be the only way to uncover your ancestors. They are interesting documents, full of useful information. Nearly every courthouse in the US has a master ‘Index to Estates’ or ‘Index to Probate Cases’. Ask for the ‘**packet**’ or ‘**journal**’ not just the Will. The process of probate creates many other documents, and as these documents are gathered, they are kept together in a ‘folder’ or ‘packet’. Mesa [AZ] FamilySearch™ [LDS] Library Newsletter, December 2013, p. 4.

Searching Probate Records

A great primer to begin your probate records searching is “Searching American Probate Records” by Fran Carter, 1995, pp.52, ISBN: 978-0945433279. It includes simple explanations, a probate terminology glossary, and an alphabetical list of states with their manner of preservation and housing of probate records. This is an ‘easy read’ book, only 52 pages long, that makes ‘Probate’ understandable. Mesa [AZ] FamilySearch™ [LDS] Library Newsletter, December 2013, p. 3.



2014 Membership Dues

Enclosed is our 2014 Membership Application and Renewal form for your convenience. Payment is requested before **February 15, 2014**. Additional forms are available on our [website](#). We are always interested in your thoughts for improving our Society. Please jot down your ideas in the SUGGESTIONS section of the form.

Your support allows the Society to continue to publish research works, share information, help improve your research skills, and distribute this Newsletter.

2014 DUES with **USPS** Delivered Newsletters are: **\$19.00** per household

2014 DUES with **e-Mail** Delivered Newsletters are: **\$12.00** per household

Maryland Archive Project Volunteers Needed

A joint venture between FamilySearch™ and the Maryland Archives to digitize Wills and Probate Records is well underway. Since June, thousands of documents spanning the mid-1800's to 1940's have been processed and imaged. Carroll County is almost completed, and we are ready to begin on Caroline & Baltimore counties and Baltimore City. Digitized images will be made available to the public at no cost on FamilySearch.org.



Additional help is needed for document prep work, which includes removing fasteners and flattening documents. An index is created as each document is prepared, which will make the records name-searchable immediately. Volunteers can work anytime between 8:30 & 4:30 on a day of their choice at the Archives building at 350 Rowe Boulevard in Annapolis. For additional information, contact fsmdvol@gmail.com and see <http://fsmav.blogspot.com>.

Ref: Carol Petranek, Volunteer Coordinator, FamilySearch™ Maryland Archive Volunteers. Nov 2013.
info@baltimorefamilyhistoryworkshop.org phone: 301-572-4105.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

<p>For the latest information see our HCGS website www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcg/</p>	<p>We also post our upcoming events on the BelAirPatch http://BelAir.Patch.com/events</p>
<p>“Like” our  at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Harford-County-Genealogical-Society/181956435224989</p>	<p>And on  www.DaggerPress.com</p>
<p>YAHOO! GROUPS HaCoGenSoc: http://groups.yahoo.com <i>Join us after receiving your invitation.</i></p>	

FUTURE HCGS MEETING

Our Society is planning a Sunday afternoon event at an offsite location in Harford County for its Spring Meeting. Please look for additional information, and plan on attending with a few friends.

See our Newsletters, our website www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcg/meetings.htm or other online venues, Facebook, BelairPatch, The_Dagger, and our HaCoGenSoc YAHOO!Group, for the latest information.