



NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

September 2009

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Sunday, September 20, 2009 **Time:** 2:00 PM
Place: Historical Society of Harford County, 143 N Main St, Bel Air, MD 21014-3539
Program: **A Group That Flees From The Light:
Catholics in the Upper Chesapeake.**

Our speaker is **Father Michael James Roach** a Catholic Priest, Associate Pastor, St. Bartholomew, Manchester, MD, Mount St. Mary's Seminary History Instructor, and an expert in the history of the Catholic Church in America. Father Roach's love of the church and of history has provided him with an in-depth knowledge of the Catholic Church, and its communicants in the early years of our country, especially in the colony and state of Maryland. He is an expert in researching Catholic Church records and knows what can be found where.

Father Roach has presented many lectures to historical organizations including: Catholic Sacramental Records in Baltimore, John Fitzgerald, Washington's Catholic Aide de Camp, From the Fathers of the Church to the Poet-Priest of the Confederacy, Gens Lucifugata: The Religious Minority in the Maryland Colony, A Tale of Two Churches: The Great Church at St. Mary to Bishop Carroll's Cathedral, and The Irish – from the Origins of Baltimore Town until...



Catholic Archdiocese
of Baltimore

His magazine articles include: A Journey of Faith: Catholic History of Baltimore, The Catholic Review, The Plenary and Provincial Councils of Baltimore, Encyclopedia of Catholicism in America, John Carroll, Eerdman's Handbook of American Christianity; The Irish in Maryland, Encyclopedia of Irish America, The Irish in Baltimore, Encyclopedia of Irish America, The Other Millennium: Evidence of the First Millennium on the Streets of Baltimore, The Catholic Review, and A Taste of Catholicism Cathedral Foundation Press.

He also wrote a booklet titled "History of Catholic America" a history of the Roman Catholic Church in the future United States from the time of Columbus through the 20th century, and was published as part of three books including: Mantz E. Phillips & Rev. Roach, Michael J.; Church of the Good Shepherd : Camp Hill, Pennsylvania and a History of Catholic America : The Story of Church of the Good Shepherd; Custombook Inc, 1979, 48 pages.

His talk will discuss why early Catholic Church records in the Maryland colony and state are so sparse, as well as where researchers should look for clues to their Catholic ancestors.

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

What a great celebration we had marking the 30th year for the Harford County Genealogical Society. Heartiest thanks to the many that put their shoulders to the myriad of tasks to make it all happen. I also extend a sincere thank-you to each and everyone who joined us on that special occasion and a warm welcome to the number of new and returning members. Our seventy-five attendees made for the largest gathering thus far accommodated at the Historical Society headquarters. I would be remiss if I did not publicly express sincere appreciation to Mr. Craig Scott, our distinguished guest speaker who drove from North Carolina that morning in order to be with us. Likewise, I also want to acknowledge our local Harford County farm producers, Fiore Winery and Bloom's Bloom Dairy from which we procured wine and cheese for the reception. It was a grand afternoon and I trust all enjoyed it as much as I did.

This 30th anniversary celebration is something like commencement – not the end, but rather signals a new beginning. In moving forward, we look to you, the members, to keep us on track. Do let your elected officers know your program desires and research needs. In another section of this newsletter, you will find an appeal for you to share your research and work with the membership. Each of us has interesting and helpful stories to tell; mysteries solved and unsolved in our family trees; and convoluted routes by which we sorted out truth from fiction passed down in oral histories. In this fun and challenging business, we lean on each other to learn. We await your responses.

I look forward to seeing you all on September 20th when we learn about Catholic Church records from another eminent authority.

...Arch

IN MEMORIAM

Katherine Streett Davis Scarborough 1914 - 2009

It is with deep sorrow that we mark the passing of Kay Scarborough, a long time member of our Society, who died on 10 August 2009. She was a descendant of several Revolutionary War patriots, plus the 1812 Cavalry commander, Col. John Streett.

Kay was active in genealogical societies, a genealogist, former teacher, and newspaper columnist, and was also active in patriotic and historic organizations. In the 1950s, she joined the Daughters of the American Revolution and later founded the Colonel John Streett Chapter of the DAR in Timonium, MD.

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30th ANNIVERSARY REVIEW

What a wonderful time was had by all at our 30th Anniversary Celebration meeting in July. Over 75 people attended the lecture and reception. Several of our original Charter Members honored us by their



attendance as well as invited guests from the Historical Society and other organizations. This was the largest group ever to make use of the Historical Society's HQ building –*thank goodness for the air conditioning.*

President Arch Phillips opened the meeting by welcoming our special guests, followed by greetings from the Maryland Genealogical Society given by Paul Izat, Jr. Vice President, MGS. Arch went on to recognize Henry Peden's recent 2009 Preservationist Honor Award and contributions to genealogical research.

After a brief introduction by Henry, our guest speaker Craig R. Scott presented a program titled "Searching the Military Records of Your Ancestors." His five-step approach was covered in detail along with anecdotes of several pitfalls that foil many a researcher. His slides were clear and simple, and his stories were in abundance. Each person in attendance was given a printed program that included more than five pages of special microfilm resources for military records researchers, prepared by Mr. Scott.



Henry Peden & Craig Scott

The printed program also included the names of our 84 charter members, names of past presidents and secretaries, plus a Brief History of our society prepared by Jon Livezey.

After Mr. Scott's presentation, everyone was invited to take part in our reception and mingle with those in attendance. The reception included assortments of hors d'oeuvres and beverages from local Harford County businesses.

If you missed the celebration, you missed a splendid event hosted by our Board Members.

GENEALOGY TIDBITS

Baltimore Sun back stories, 1837-1945

Readers are now able to search and purchase digitized microfilm copies of articles published in The Baltimore Sun from its first issue, on May 17, 1837, through the last day of 1945 - more than 100 years of historical material.

To subscribe to this service, go to www.baltimoresunstore.com then click on "search for articles."

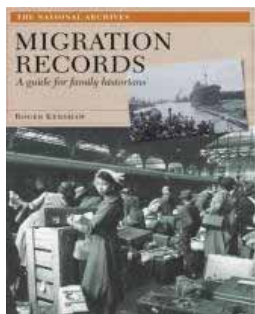
Previously, Sun Store could only offer digitized searches from September 1990. The Baltimore Sun is working to make available its articles from 1946 through September 1990 as well.

The Sun Archives SEARCH page now offers the following options:

9/16/1990 to Present ([Text](#)) & **5/17/1837 to 12/31/1945** (Historic Article [Images](#))

GENEALOGY TIDBITS *continued*

Migration Records: A Guide for Family Historians by Roger Kershaw



I was a little to quick-on-the-draw when I recently picked up a copy of Kershaw's text. My mistake was in thinking it was a National Archives and Records Administration publication, but alas, the United Kingdom National Archives published it. It is still a useful reference for those of us seeking information on ancestors who left England and Wales for the American Colonies.

Over the past 400 years, thousands of people have moved to settle in Britain, and thousands more left its shores for life overseas. This practical and accessible guide shows how to explore migration records and ancestors feature in them through the wealth of records at the UK National Archives and elsewhere. Moving Here website charts new online releases, naturalization applications, and discusses how improved catalogue information has opened up passport applications for research. From refugees fleeing persecution to child migrants, naturalization and citizenship papers to transportation records, it is an invaluable guide to the story of migration that changed so many lives.

This book will help the reader get oriented to the data available, the years covered, terminology, and how data is organized. The bulk of the data seems to be post 1793, but there is data dating back to 1086. With this background, plus book-in-hand, the reader should be able to navigate the UK National Archives website with ease: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

The UK Archives Migration Record collection focuses on passport type documents for those leaving or entering the country, but also includes passenger lists; births, deaths, and marriages on vessels; naturalization papers; American Loyalist Claims; and transport of convicts.

Typical questions and useful solutions for family historians are outlined on five pages in the last chapter for three major areas of research: Passenger Lists, Naturalization Records, and Internments. Of course, the major area of interest in this text is on those persons moving to Britain, but there is a lot of relative data for those emigrating from Britain to the American Colonies and States.

Paperback 9.5"x7.5" - 160 pages - ISBN 190561540X less than \$20.00 \$US new.

FARNANDIS BRANCH

Our Genealogical Society responded to a September 2008, HA Co Dept of Public Works request to support the official naming of a stream and to provide some rationale, which we did. This stream is shown on ADC Map of Harford County, page 17, Grids H10 to K10. The following letter is the official response from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Subject: **Naming Of An Unidentified Harford County Stream** Date: 19 Jun 2009
 To: HA Co. Dept. of Public Works, Div. of Highways and Water Resources

We are pleased to inform you that the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, at its May 27, 2009 meeting, approved your proposal to apply the new commemorative name Farnandis Branch to a stream in Harford County. The name has been entered into the Geographic Names Information System, the nation's official geographic names repository, which is available and searchable online at <http://geonames.usgs.gov>. The entry reads as follows:

Farnandis Branch: stream, 2.1 km (1.3 mi) long; heads just SE of the center of Bel Air at 39°31'24"N, 76°20'15"W, flows generally E to enter Bynum Run; named for Henry D. Farnandis (1817-1900), Harford County lawyer, Maryland State Senator, and businessman; Harford County, Maryland; 39°31'40"N, 76°19'04"W; USGS map — Bel Air 1:24,000.

Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, Domestic Names Committee, U.S. Board on Geographic Names

GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

Genealogy Conference at Kutztown University

Date: **September 12, 2009** (Sat) 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Place: McFarland Student Union Building, Kutztown University, **Kutztown, PA**

For Details: go online to: <http://www.kutztown.edu/hcl> or

<http://www.kutztown.edu/community/pgchc/library/2009%20genealogy%20conference.html/>

For additional information and a registration form contact: Lucy Kern, Librarian

484-646-4165 or pagermanlibrary@kutztown.edu

There will be three sequential seminars. A Fee applies.

- **The role of religion in the lives of 18th and 19th century PA German Emigrants.** Don Yoder
- **PA land and the opportunity for 18th century immigrant ownership.** Rosalind Beiler
- **PA Germans: creating ethnic identity through architecture and artifacts.** Cynthia Falk

There will also be an associated narrated bus tour of **Historic Oley Valley** with several stops, on Friday, September 11, 2009. -Preregistration and fee required.

The Heritage Center Library is open M-F 10 AM-12 PM; & 1 PM-4 PM. Fee is \$5.

DELMARVA 2009 Genealogy Seminar

Date: **October 17, 2009** (Sat) Reg **8:00 am** Program 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Place: **Washington College**, Chestertown, MD

Registration: Pre-registration Deadline: September 26th All Walk-ins \$45.00

\$35.00 for members of the Maryland or Delaware Genealogical Societies; \$40.00 for others

Registration does not include lunch.

For Details: <http://www.delmarvaroots.com/DestinationDelmarvaIndex.htm>

The Maryland Genealogical Society and Delaware Genealogical Society will co-host **Destination Delmarva – Finding your Maryland and Delaware Ancestors**, in Chestertown. The sessions and speakers are as follows: **The Boundary Dispute between Maryland and Delaware** - *Russ McCabe*

Orphans Court Records in Maryland and Delaware - *Sarah Burke & Margaret Mealy*

The Value of Military Records to the Genealogist - *Rebecca Koford*

Getting the Most from Land Records - *Robert E. Jarell*

Church Records of the Delmarva - *F. Edward Wright*

Finding the Skeletons - *Robert Barnes*

One-on-One Research Consultations - *Henry C. Peden, Jr.*

Finding Female Ancestors - *Rebecca Whitman Koford*

MID ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY FALL 2009 Meeting

Date: **October 24, 2009** (Sat) 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Place: **Comfort Inn Conference Center**, Bowie, MD

Registration: Fee \$40 for MAGS members, \$45 for others. After October 10th there is a \$5 surcharge

See http://www.magsgen.com/images/MAGS_Meeting_Flyer_-_Fall_2009_1_.pdf for brochure.

For additional information call: Diane Kuster 252-373-1684

Program: **Finding "Un-findable" Ancestors** *Thomas Jones, Ph.D*

Five Proven Techniques for Finding Your Ancestor's European Origins *Thomas Jones, Ph.D*

How To Avoid Being Duped by the Internet *Thomas Jones, Ph.D*

Baltimore's German-American Newspapers *Gary Ruppert, MD.*

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our **Sunday, November 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**. Look for details in the November 2009 issue of the NEWSLETTER.

Our speakers will be members of our Society reporting on their current research projects.

SHARE YOUR WORK AND EXPERIENCES

A large number of our members are actively involved in on-going family research and genealogical study. Across our membership, there is an extraordinary pool of knowledge, experience, and resources to share. Don't "hide your talents under a bushel." There are many ways for us to share our wealth, among them, featuring on-going research in our Newsletter that can spark unexpected and useful leads or be a basis for interesting conversation in Genealogical Society programs.

Do let us know – please complete the enclosed form and mail to Attn: Arch Phillips; Harford County Genealogical Society; 143 N. MAIN ST., BEL AIR, MD 21014-3539

OR

Send us an e-mail with the following information to: HaCoGenSoc@verizon.net

Thanks for your valued input – it will not get lost in the shuffle!

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

- Brief description of current or recent family history project and/or genealogical study you have been pursuing.

- Note some research or technical issues or frustrations you have encountered.
(How did you solve the problem, or is it still pending?)

- What special help or information would you find useful to learn?

...Arch