

NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

March 2013

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY – 2013 EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES!

For 2013, the Harford County Genealogical Society has modified its schedule of five programs in favor of two larger events for the membership and the public.

EVENT #1: HEREDITARY SOCIETY FAIR, Saturday, 18-May-2013 from (tentatively) 1:00-4:00 P.M. at the Historical Society of Harford County, 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. The following organizations have indicated that their personnel will staff tables to provide visitors with handouts and information, and answer questions. Each organization will have the opportunity to present a brief program on how it supports and contributes to genealogical research.

Daughters of American Colonists Daughters of the American Revolution

Sons of the American Revolution Children of the American Revolution

General Society of the War of 1812

Colonial Dames of America

The Hereditary Order of the Signers of the Bush Declaration

The Historical Society of Harford County [the host location]

The Harford County Genealogical Society [the host organization]

The following organizations were invited, but have not committed at this time.

General Society of Mayflower Descendants National Society Daughters of the Union

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

Maryland Genealogical Society

Upper Shore Genealogical Society of Maryland

Come find others that share your roots!

MEETING SCHEDULE: Spring & November

EVENT #2: **GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR**, Saturday, **21-Sep-2013**, we will hold a multi-session from (tentatively) 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Our guest speakers will be two well-known genealogists from the Maryland area.

In the morning, Rebecca Whitman Koford will speak on "RESEARCHING YOUR WAR OF 1812 ANCESTOR & THE PRESERVE THE PENSIONS PROJECT" and "GRANDMA WHERE ART THOU?".

In the afternoon, <u>Julia Coldren-Walker</u> will speak on "YOU BETTER WATCH OUT: OMISSIONS, ERRORS & FRAUD" and "NEWSPAPER RESEARCH ON THE INTERNET."

Admission: **HCGS members - FREE**; Non-members, - \$20; and Students (with school ID) - \$10. **Seating is limited**. *Bring your own brown-bag lunch*. Light refreshments and drinks will be provided.

[-- ADVANCED NOTICE FOR <u>MEMBERS ONLY REGISTRATION</u> UNTIL APRIL --]

A registration form is available at The Historical Society of Harford County HQ and on the Harford County Genealogical Society web site (below).

Additional details to follow. Latest information will be posted under "Meeting Info" at www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcgs.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

For the latest information see our HCGS website https://www.facebook.com/pages/Harford-County-Genealogical-Society/181956435224989

We also post our upcoming events on the BelAirPatch

www.BelAir.Patch.com/events/

And on DGGER

www.DaggerPress.com

HaCoGenSoc:

Join us after receiving your invitation.

2013-2014 HCGS DIRECTORY

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

To start off 2013, I was hoping to report that most of our membership had joined our Society's recently established *Yahoo!Group* and that great information was being exchanged. Unfortunately, that is not the case – at least, so far. I wish I could come up with an inspiring topic to "ignite the process", but have failed to do so – but I will keep thinking! The *HaCoGenSoc Group* membership at the time of this writing is 12.

I am glad to report the events for the year are shaping up nicely. The details, as we currently know them, are elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter. Our fall speakers and topics are decided ... the Board hopes you find them to be interesting. The start or end times of both events, and participating organizations at the Hereditary Fair may change slightly, so keep checking for the latest information.

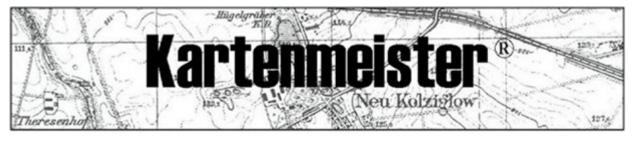
Our hope is that the four-session September Genealogical Seminar, presented by two excellent and well known speakers, will inspire our "semi-nearby" membership to travel for the day event. PLEASE NOTE, the September seminar is FREE to HCGS members and that seating is LIMITED. So get your names in ASAP if you plan to attend (registration form to be on the web page soon and in the next Newsletter). This event will be advertised to the Historical Society of Harford County membership, Harford County Public School social studies teachers, and the genealogy group that meets with the Harford County Public Library ... we are expecting a "sell-out".

- Doug

GENEALOGY TIDBITS

Kartenmeister

I recently discovered a website called **Kartenmeister**, aka Map Master, that provides a search engine and database of counties, cities, and towns prior to 1918, in what is today Germany, Poland, Russia, and Lithuanian. My understanding is that the area covered is Poland, and generally the area from western Czech Republic to Belarus, and up through Lithuania.



This is a most comprehensive database that contains <u>93,488</u> locations with over 38,691 name changes once, and 5,500 twice and more. All locations are EAST of the Oder and Neisse rivers and are based on the borders of the eastern provinces in spring 1918. Included in this database are the following provinces: East Prussia, including Memel, West Prussia, Brandenburg, Posen, Pomerania, and Silesia. It currently lists most towns or points (points being: Mills, some bridges, battlefields, named trees, cenotaphs etc.). As more information becomes available, (books, maps, your input etc) this database will be updated.

There are several criteria for searching: 1. German name, 2. Older German name, 3. County, 4. by the next larger town, 5. Today's Polish, Russian or Lithuanian name, or 6. by Family Name. Each result is linked to one or more historical maps, plus a current Google® Map display.

Many historical maps are shown, and can be enlarged on your screen for detailed viewing. The downside is they are not written in English, but the upside is you can download these 5MB jpg files

and create your own little image for your records. If nothing else these maps are wonderful, and can be browsed to your heart's delight.

The website is the personal effort of Uwe-Karsten Krickhahn of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. It appears that he gathered old map images, and indexed every word on each map, then correlated information and alternate spellings on similar maps.

I found that gaining an understanding of how to make the site work for me was confusing, but that was probably due to my poor language skills, and minimal European geography knowledge.

The web address is: http://www.kartenmeister.com. Please let me know about your stories and experiences while using this site. An essay would be great!

Rich Appel (Thank you Lizabeth Wyant)

If you are currently considering or working on a Harford County version of this type of database, using, Jennings & Herrick-1858, Martenet-1878, & ADC-2013 maps, please let a HCGS Board member know about your project or desire to volunteer on a similar task. Previously HCGS Special Publications have focused on surname indices, and were not assembled into a multi-term searchable database.

Finding Your German Heritage



About ten months ago Steven Packer, Mesa, AZ, FamilySearch Library, assembled a slide presentation titled *Finding Your German Heritage*. It has been printed to a pdf file and is available for free downloading online. You will need a high-speed internet connection to access this large 18MB file.

The document begins by describing various waves of immigration to the new world starting in 1683. It can help you find the point of origin in Germany with maps, websites, census information, and information on Citizenship Declaration, Borders of the German Empire, Modern Germany, passenger

lists, plus much more. You will also find additional information about Kartenmeister.com in his presentation.

This presentation needs to be studied thoroughly to absorb all of its details. Please let me know about your impressions and any benefits you gain from this "booklet". *Rich Appel (Thank you Lizabeth Wyant)*

 $Download\ from\ \underline{http://www.mesarfhc.org/quick_starts/German\%20Records/German\%20Roots.pdf}$

Note: There are no spaces in URLs but the hyperlink underlining may obscure a "low line" (aka underline) character.

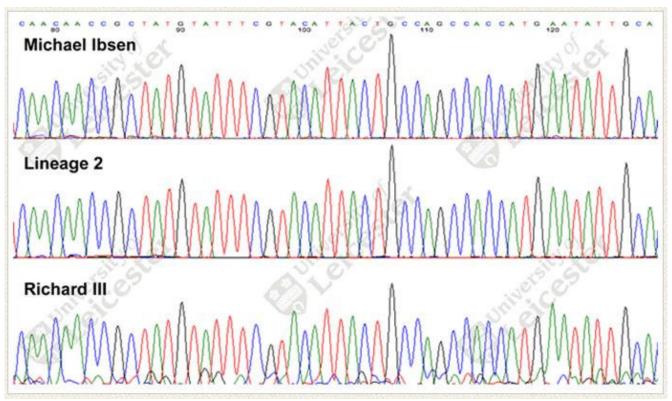
GENEALOGY FEATURE

Genealogy & DNA

On the 4th of February 2013, the University of Leicester, England, UK, announced their use of DNA to help identify the 560 year old bones of King Richard III (House of Plantagenet) 1453-1485. As a genealogy society we can use this story to improve our understanding of how DNA testing and genealogical evidence complement and validate each other.

University of Leicester archeologists had been allowed to search the ruins of an old church, and came across bones buried in the dirt under a parking lot. Knowledge of the church history, radioactive carbon dating, and analysis of the bones and their wound marks led to the hypothesis that these were the bones of King Richard III. Genetics Department scientists (pioneers of the practice of DNA fingerprinting) were able to establish an almost perfect match (only minimal and expected gene mutations) between mtDNA gene sequences from the bones to samples provided by two living

descendants of Richard's sister Anne. A University Vice Chancellor, and genealogist, led a group of students that verified documented genealogical evidence that the two were indeed descendents of Anne.



Graphical representation of mtDNA protein (T,A,C,G) matches of two living descendents and the remains of King Richard III.

<u>Mitochondrial deoxyribonucleic acid</u> or mtDNA resides in a cell, but not inside the nucleus with the usual 23 chromosome pairs. It is passed through the maternal lineage from mothers to their children. Anne, her brother Richard, and their mother Cecily would all have matching mtDNA, as would all of Anne's female descendents.

A mother's egg cell contains one of her two X-chromosomes, and a father's sperm cell contains either his X- or his Y-chromosome. When a sperm cell fertilizes (enters) an egg cell it loses its cell "tail," where the mtDNA resides. The only mtDNA in the fertilized egg cell is from the mother, hence all of her children have matching mtDNA. Boys have one X- and one Y-chromosome (so they determine the biological sex of offspring), and girls have two X-chromosomes, both having their mother's mtDNA. Since the fertilized egg cell only contains the mother's mtDNA, maternal linage can be established with mtDNA gene sequence comparisons.

The University of Leicester team is hoping to obtain sufficient Y-chromosome DNA (many more genes than the short mtDNA chromosome) from the exhumed bones to allow matching available Y-DNA samples to living male descendents of Richard's great-grandfather, King Edward III 1312-1377, and Edward's third son John of Gaunt 1340-1398. Several males have donated Y-DNA samples for this project, and have assisted researchers in gathering genealogical evidence to confirm their fraternal relationship.

This story of King Richard III tells of a confluence of timing, luck (finding the bones before desecration of the property and bones, plus involvement of University of Leicester genetics group), scientific analysis, and genealogical research. Our task is much simpler, in that sampling and mapping of our genes is available for a modest cost, and tens of thousands of persons have already made their

results available for comparison. We just have to participate in order to find living "cousins" to compare and share genealogical research. The results could be another Genealogy and DNA collaboration success that is more exciting, and meaningful to our family and their descendents. *Richard A. Appel*

Sources:

Chu, Henry; "DNA confirms skeleton is England's King Richard III," <u>Baltimore SUN</u>, NEWS, (Tribune Newspapers), 05Feb2013, p.10.

DNA information obtained from various seminars and studies over the past few years, including those by Thomas H. Shawker and James V. {Jim} Bartlett.

Leicester, University of; www.le.ac.uk/offices/press ; various press releases related to King Richard III of England, and research findings.

Wikipedia www.wikipedia.org/wiki; names of Richard III relatives.

GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

Reginald F. Lewis Museum: GENEALOGY SERIES

Date: 23 Mar 2013 (Sat) Program: 1:00 pm

Place: **Reginald F. Lewis Museum**, 830 E. Pratt St; Baltimore MD 21202 Registration: Fee \$5.00 Register by calling the Museum at 443-263-1816 or email resourcecenter@maamc.org

Program: African American Family History of the Eastern Shore. Kimberly C.

Dumpson and Diana Thompson will share the journey into their families' history on the Eastern Shore. These talks highlight resources from the Edward H. Nabb Research Center at Salisbury University. This program is in conjunction with the 2013 Harriet Tubman Centennial.

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society – Spring Conference

Date: **06 April 2013** (Sat) 8:30 am - 4:00 pm lunch provided.

Place: Holiday Inn –Laurel West, 15101 Sweitzer Ln, Laurel, MD 20707 301-776-5300 Registration: Fee \$50.00 max, discounts available before 23 March. Registration by mail only.

Brochure/Registration form available online at:

http://www.magsgen.com/images/MAGS_Meeting_Flyer_-_Spring_2013.pdf or

email registration@magsgen.com or

call Diane Kuster 252-281-5000 during business hours, or 252-373-1684,

Program: **Germans From The South**. Seminar titles: *Those other Germans: Intro to the Hapsburg Empire* -Heger, <u>Using Wikipedia for Family History</u> -Parks, *Documenting the War of 1812 Army Service* -Deeben, & *Austrian Germans: Bohemia* -Heger . Editor's note: These conferences are always well organized, fruitful, and popular.

Washington DC Family History Center -Workshops

Date: **04 May 2013** (Sat) 9:00 am - 4:15 pm

Place: Washington DC Family History Center, 10000 Stoneybrook Dr, Kensington, MD 20895 Registration: FREE. Register after 01 March on-line http://www.wdcfhc.org or call the Family History Center at 301-587-0042 during regular business hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:30 am-4:30 pm & 7:00 pm-9:30 pm; Friday: 9:30 am-1:00 pm; & Saturday: 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Seminar descriptions on-line at http://www.wdcfhc.org/conf2013/index.php



Program: This conference is free of charge with 29 classes from beginning to advanced level genealogy. The keynote speaker popular Teacher, Author, Blogger, and Webinar Host, **DearMYRTLE**, addressing the topic, **Digging into Our Roots Using 21st Century Tools**.

2013 National Genealogical Society Conference

Date: **8-11 May 2013** (Wed-Sat) +Bus tour on Tuesday May 7th Place: **The Las Vegas Convention Center** in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Registration: online at: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/attendee_registration or by mailing a form

http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/2013 Registration Form.pdf

Visit http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference info
Contact: conference@ngsgenealogy.org or 1-800-473-0060

Program: **Building New Bridges**, a four-day conference offers more than 150 lectures on researching peoples and places of the West, migration to and from the West, law, military records, immigration, methodology, academic history, family history writing, Board for Certification of Genealogists[®] Skill building, African-American and other ethnic research, technological innovation in genealogy (GenTech), and more. See online Program description at:

http://members.ngsgenealogy.org/Conferences/Program2013.cfm

A 6-hour RT bus tour to Hoover Dam & Clark County Museum is available before the conference begins on Tuesday May 7th. http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/2013 Conference Registration Brochure 20 November.pdf

Save the date and register now!. Las Vegas Hotel, Conference Center, & Casino are all on this site.

HCGS Hereditary Society Fair

Date: **18 May 2013** (Sat) 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Place: The Historical Society of Harford County Headquarters, 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD

21014

Registration: none See also http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcgs/

Program: Numerous organizations will have tables and personnel to provide visitors with handouts and information. Currently, the following organizations have indicated that they will participate:

Daughters of American Colonist (DAC)
Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)
Bush Declaration
General Society of the War of 1812
Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
Children of the American Revolution (CAR)
Colonial Dames

The Historical Society of Harford County [the host location]
The Harford County Genealogical Society [the host organization]

The following organizations are also invited, but not committed:

General Society of Mayflower Descendants
Upper Shore Genealogical Society

National Society Daughter of the Union
Maryland Genealogical Society (MGS)

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS)

Come find your roots!

2013 Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference

Date: 21-24 August 2013 (Wed-Sat) +Librarian's Day Tuesday Aug 20th

Place: Fort Wayne, Indiana

Registration: See: http://www.fgs.org later this year for details

see preview flyer at http://www.fgs.org/upload/files/FGS2013 Conference Flyer.pdf

Program: Journey Through Generations

Fort Wayne, Indiana, is also home to The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library, a HCGS member.





HCGS Genealogical Seminar

Date: **21 Sep 2013** (Sat) 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Place: The Historical Society of Harford County Headquarters, 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD

21014

Registration: Pre-event-Registration open now. Members FREE, non-members \$20, Students \$10.

Seating is limited. See also http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcgs/

Program: Four one-hour seminars. Rebecca Koford- "RESEARCHING YOUR WAR OF 1812 ANCESTOR & THE PRESERVE THE PENSIONS PROJECT" and "GRANDMA WHERE ART THOU?".

In the afternoon, Julia Coldren-Walker- "YOU BETTER WATCH OUT: OMISSIONS, ERRORS & FRAUD" and "NEWSPAPER RESEARCH ON THE INTERNET."

Bring your own brown-bag lunch. Light refreshments and drinks provided.

2013 Baltimore Family History & Genealogy Workshop

Date: **12 October 2013** (Sat) 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Place: Baltimore Maryland Stake, 120 Stemmers Run Rd, Essex, MD 21221

(nr MD702 & MD150)

Registration: Registration for Workshops opens late July. No cost!

Program: Save the date and look for details www.baltimorefamilyhistoryworkshop.org



...STILL MORE EVENTS

A big thank you goes to HCGS member Karen Costanzi for the referral to **HAROLD's LIST of Upcoming Genealogy Events**, (~60 pages) by Harold McClendon. Mount Vernon Genealogical Society posts HAROLD's LIST at http://www.mvgenealogv.org/PDFs/Upcoming Genealogy Events.pdf for your review. These events are generally held in the DC, VA, MD, & DEL area, but include Salt Lake City, and national conferences. In Washington DC, the National Archives and the Library of Congress offer an extensive program of seminars and courses.

Have you joined our HaCoGenSoc Yahoo! Group?

Post what you would like to know, and what you would like to see. Post questions and inquiries for all members to see, and for some of us to respond.

Let us discover where this adventure takes us. FOR HCGS MEMBERS ONLY.

FUTURE HCGS MEETING

Our Society is planning a **HEREDITARY SOCIETY FAIR** on Saturday **May 18, 2013** at The Historical Society of Harford County Headquarters, 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. Several local Hereditary Societies have agreed to staff display tables, introduce you to their societies, and membership benefits. Each one of these groups has ancestral records linking their members to historical events. Please look for our announcements, and plan on bring some friends.

See our Newsletters, our website www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcgs/ other online venues, Facebook, BelairPatch, The_Dagger, and our new HaCoGenSoc Yahoo!_Group, for the latest information.