



NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

March 2014

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

SPRING 2014

Date:

Place:

Program:

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

-- TO BE ANNOUNCED --

See President's Message on page 8.

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

GENEALOGY FEATURE

WHY GENEALOGY ?

by Doug Washburn

On a recent trip to Florida to be with family and friends, I picked up a copy of a local paper, the DAILY SUN. The ADVICE section included an article by contributors Jim & Terry Willard on the benefits of doing genealogical research. The Willards have hosted the PBS show Ancestors and written columns for Ancestry magazine.

I thought the following, gleaned from their article, was worth passing on as a reminder of why our society, and hundreds of other societies, exist. I have attempted to add personal and / or HCGS context.

- The most practical reason to do genealogical research may be to help yourself and your descendants with health issues.

Our children and my wife and I share a surprising number of common ailments. Mary and I often tell our children "we are sorry they inherited X from us".

A few years ago I became motivated to assemble a family tree that identified relatives that had been diagnosed with cancer, along with their type of cancer. The hope is that our descendants will share this information with their medical professionals.

- A fun reason to do genealogy is that it can be a cross-generational activity.

My two youngest grandsons (are lucky enough to) have two grandfathers that work on the family genealogy, so when they (hopefully) get 'the bug', they will have a significant start on both sets of their roots. I provided them with a framed and matted paternal family tree in hopes that it would spur their natural curiosity about their family's past. I'm still waiting, but it is a hopeful wait.

Many years ago, Harford County Public Schools had a Social Studies section on genealogy, but it has since been dropped. In 2013 I contacted the Social Studies chair about advertising our 2013 fall seminar ... unfortunately, we got zero response (from hundreds of teachers and thousands of students). Even though our program was of general interest, I assume this lack of interest was because Harford's school population lacks roots here, and hopefully, is not an indication of a demise of genealogy interest.

...continued on page 2

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 links us to our cultural heritage. It lets us understand where we come from and who we are. I think this is reflected in HCGS by the fact that 2/3s of the membership is not local. My son, my father and I are very good at math. I have heard stories that my grandfather worked in a lumber yard in Flint, MI, and he was, in his head, able to write the order for the lumber required to build a house if you gave him the dimensions, number of windows and doors. And my great grandfather could ride a horse through a forest and tell you how many board feet of a type of tree a section of forest would yield. True or not, such stories make family history come alive.
- Time separates us from our ancestors, but only distance separates us from our relatives. Genealogy allows us the opportunity to connect with family members that we may have never known existed or met, or to reconnect with relatives we have not seen for many years. A new 2014 HCGS member has shown me ‘the light’ (actually an Ohio deed) that links a whole new line of off-spring to my 3rd great grandfather James McFADDEN. I had heard this story before but, until now, never fully understood ‘the proof’. I am sure my new, western U.S., 3rd cousin once removed relative and I will be able to swap many family details in the coming weeks and months.
- For a lot of us retired folk, another fun aspect of genealogical research is the opportunity to travel. My father moved to Harford County from Michigan, and his father and grandfather had moved to Michigan from New York State. Before that, Washburns had moved to N.Y. from Vermont. In the last few years I have traveled to Michigan twice and Vermont once in the quest for those ‘missing details’ every genealogist knows exist somewhere.
- Also for us aging folks, genealogy provides an activity to keep our minds stimulated ... sometimes, genealogy is like trying to fit the pieces of a puzzle together.
- Genealogical research is a flexible hobby. You can pick up or put aside genealogy research on your own schedule. You may work on it for weeks at a time, or not even think about it for months.

So, I hope that something in this article will inspire you to dust off those notes and start up your research again. Build that medical family tree to share with your children or see if you grandchildren are ready to be ‘bitten by the bug’.

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>	

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.

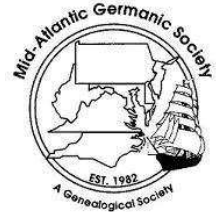
GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

2014 Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Workshop & Meeting

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

Place: **Holiday Inn Laurel West**, 15101 Sweitzer Ln, Laurel, MD

Registration: eMail: Diane Kuster registration@magsgen.com call 252-281-5000
or USPS: 6411 TOWN CREEK RD, ELM CITY NC 27822.



Program:

Fri 21st 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM \$40 non-members. For flyer & details see:

http://www.magsgen.com/images/Spring_2014_Workshop_Flyer.pdf

Workshop, *Dissecting a Civil War Pension File* by Debra Hoffman & Dr. Kenneth W. Heger.

Attending this MAGS workshop will explain how to dissect a Civil War pension file and how to maximize the information you can glean from it to further your research. This workshop will discuss the pension laws, types of pensions and the pension process and will provide a hands-on experience working with an actual pension file. Learn about the valuable information that pension files could contain.

Sat 22nd 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM: \$50 non-members. For flyer & details see

http://www.magsgen.com/images/MAGS_Meeting_Flyer_-_Spring_2014.pdf

Spring Meeting, *Creating Access for Genealogists 24/7*

Assessing and Preparing Records for Digitization

Ancestry's Digitization Program

Digitizing the War of 1812 Pensions

Ancestry.com: Overview, Questions & Answers

-----Several Vendors will also be present-----

Enoch Pratt Library –Genealogy Circle Meeting

Date: **29 March 2014 (Sat)** **10:00 am - 12:00 noon**



MARYLAND STATE
LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER
ENOCH PRATT *free* LIBRARY

Place: Enoch Pratt Central Library,

School and Student Services (2nd Floor), 400 Cathedral St, Baltimore, MD 21201

Registration: Call 410-396-5468 or e-mail mdx@prattlibrary.org to register.

Contact: Caprice Di Liello 410-396-1789 cdiliell@prattlibrary.org for questions.

Program: *Photographic Preservation* by Michael McCormick, Director of Reference Services at the Maryland State Archives. Learn how to extend the life of your photographs using techniques learned by McCormick in his years as a photographic archivist, both at the Western Reserve Historical Society, and in private practice.

Maryland Genealogical Society – Spring Luncheon

Date: **05 April 2014 (Sat)** **11:45 am - 2:15 pm** with **Buffet Luncheon**

Place: Towson Univ. Marriott Conf. Hotel, 10 W. Burke Ave, Towson, MD 21204

Registration: online at <http://www.mdgensoc.org> or by mail:

Md Genealogical Society, 201 W MONUMENT ST, BALTO MD 21201-4674

Fee: Non-members \$45, or \$40 before 31Mar2014.

Program: **MdGenSoc Awards Presentations**. Hosted by Jon H. Livezey, FMGS

Lecture: *Scandals in the Family*. By Audrey Collins, Family History Specialist at The National Archives, UK. We all have a black sheep back there somewhere. We are pleased to have Audrey come from England to present her thoughts and information on researching scandals. We hope to see you there.



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 begins. Attendance has been about 1,500 persons.

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



Maryland Genealogical Society – Fall Program

Date: 06 September 2014 (Sat)

Save the date and look for details on the MGS Home Page in the coming months

Place: Maryland Historical Society,
 201 W MONUMENT ST, BALTIMORE MD 21201-4674

Registration: TBA see <http://www.mdgensoc.org/eventListings.php?nm=92>

Program: *Finding Your War of 1812 Ancestors* is a jointly sponsored program with the Maryland Historical Society. This is a great opportunity to learn about where to find records, and see the Society's great War of 1812 Exhibit.



2013-2014 HCGS DIRECTORY

President:	Doug Washburn	Douglas.Washburn@verizon.net
Vice President:	Jon H. Livezey	jLivezey@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Arch Phillips	anmPhill@qis.net
Secretary:	Betsy Keithley	JeffKandBetsyK@comcast.net
Advisors At Large:	Kathy Glackin	KathleenGlackin@gmail.com
	Chris Smithson	ctSmithson@gmail.com
	-- vacant --	
Newsletter Editor:	Rich Appel	Richard.Appel3@verizon.net

Web Site: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcg/

eMail addr: HaCoGenSoc@verizon.net

GENEALOGY TIDBITS

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS and GENUINE STORIES

Many of us have ancestors that were war veterans and some may have suffered from a loss of limb. Records for these wounded veterans hold a story about their injury and coping with a disability.

The American Civil War was the first in the United States to result in tens of thousands of amputations. This “opportunity” gave birth to a service industry that produced artificial limbs for soldiers and industrial workers. Congress fed this industry by authorizing the Army’s Surgeon General to purchase artificial limbs for disabled soldiers and seaman in 1862, and then for officers in 1868. Business was brisk, and the prosthetics only held-up for about 4 years, so repeat business was even better. By the way, wars continued to produce limb losses.¹

If you had an ancestor that fought after 1860, consider examining their Combined Military Service Record and Pension file to see if there is mention of an injury or loss of limb disability. Since most of the military related limb losses were being addressed by our government, records of applications, letters, registers, payments, etc. were created and stored for accountability. NARA is the curator for these records as well as those records that help find these records.¹

After you have gathered some basic details, here are some rich repositories² of the Department of Veteran Affairs just waiting to be searched in NARA Record Group 15, NM-23. These records are in multiple, large bound books that need to be requested and manually searched:

Series 02: Letters Sent Relating to Prosthetic Appliances, Commutation, and Transportation Reimbursement, 09/1885 - 02/1892

National Archives Identifier: 2538344. **HMS Entry Number:** NM-23 2
Creator(s): War Department. Office of the Surgeon General. (1818 - 09/18/1947)
<http://research.archives.gov/description/2538344>

Series 16: List of Veterans Furnished Artificial Limbs, 1871 - 1872

National Archives Identifier: 2538345. **HMS Entry Number:** NM-23 16
Creator(s): War Department. Office of the Surgeon General. (1818 - 09/18/1947)
 List of Veterans Furnished Artificial Limbs Before June 17, 1870
<http://research.archives.gov/description/2538345>

Series 17: List of Persons Furnished Artificial Limbs and Commutation, 1885 - 1885

National Archives Identifier: 2538346. **HMS Entry Number:** NM-23 17
Creator(s): War Department. Office of the Surgeon General. (1818 - 09/18/1947)
<http://research.archives.gov/description/2538346>

Series 18: Registers of Persons Furnished Artificial Limbs and Commutation, 07/1870 - 04/1927

National Archives Identifier: 2538348. **HMS Entry Number:** NM-23 18
Creator(s): War Department. Office of the Surgeon General. (1818 - 09/18/1947)
<http://research.archives.gov/description/2538348>



***** Please consider sharing your search story with Society members, by contacting HCGS. *****

Sources:

1. Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, *Did your Union Civil War ancestor have an artificial limb?*, NGS Magazine for Generations Past and Present, Vol. 40, No. 1 (January-March 2014) page 41-45.
2. National Archives Online Public Access (OPA) website was used to obtain these four particular citations of record series mentioned by Prechtel-Kluskens. The volume title for the particular record series was searched online at OPA (<http://archives.gov/research/search/> : accessed 16Feb2014) to obtain accurate citations. The citation for each Series points to “Catalog information about the record(s) with no online copy currently available.” not to the actual hand written or manually typed record images. You need to visit NARA to see the real thing!

TOP 100 GENEALOGY WEB SITES for 2014

GenealogyInTime Magazine recently published its annual list of the current *Top 100 Genealogy Web Sites* based on traffic studies of 35 million websites worldwide. Both the Magazine and this particular article are interesting and informative. Consider exploring an issue and visiting some of the popular websites.

[GenealogyInTime Magazine](#) is the fifth largest **free** genealogy website in the world (according to Alexa the internet traffic-data source). People like this website because it is independent and they provide valuable, honest information. They claim to be a genealogy platform with tools and resources to help people find their ancestors. *It also helps that this magazine is free.* It is hoped that you find the article and list, which includes links to all of the sites, helpful.

Top 100... Article:

<http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/top-100-genealogy-websites-of-2014-page01.html>

Top 100... List (same as the one in the article, but in its own pdf file):

<http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/GenealogyInTime%20Magazine%20Top%20100%20List%20for%202014.pdf>

Source: Richard Hill, The DNA Testing Advisor, *Recent News on DNA Testing*, eMail 18Feb2014

NEWSPAPERS at GenealogyBank.com

Newspapers contain valuable clues and images that can help in our efforts to locate records and details about our ancestors. Julia Coldren-Walker's talk *Newspaper Research On The Internet* at our Fall Genealogical Society Seminar reminded us of the wealth of information that can be gleaned from newspaper articles.

GenealogyBank.com houses a huge collection of newspapers including various special ethnic newspaper collections and foreign language newspapers:

- [The African American Newspapers Collection](#) covers the years 1827-1999
- [The French American Newspapers Collection](#) covers from 1780-1873
- [The German American Newspapers Collection](#) covers the years 1750-1920
- [The Hispanic American Newspapers Collection](#) covers the years 1808-1978
- [The Irish American Newspapers Collection](#) covers the years 1810-Today
- [The Jewish American Newspapers Collection](#) covers the years 1910-Today



Shown below are the results of a GenealogyBank test search using an ancestor's name that resulted in 488 hits. A subset of these results could be special German ethnic newspaper articles.

Genealogy and Family History Records for Edward Appel		<u>Total Records</u>
Record Type		
Newspaper Archives (1690 – 2010)		
View Records	Newspaper Articles: Includes additional births, marriages, obituaries...	37
View Records	Historical Obituaries	7
View Records	Marriage Records	3
More Results –	Other Newspaper Archives Records	342
Recent Newspaper Obituaries (1977 – Today)		
View Records	Recent Obituaries	21
Historical Documents (1789 – 1994)		
<i>Find military records, widow's claims, orphan petitions, land grants and much more!</i>		
View Records	Historical Documents	33
Social Security Death Index (1936 – Today)		
View Records	Social Security Death Index	45

GenealogyBank is a subscription service: \$20/mo. or \$70/year, but they offer a one-time 30-day Trial for \$6. Consider making a research plan and schedule your time before signing-up for any Trial period.

Source: GenealogyBank online (at <http://www.genealogybank.com/> : accessed 02Feb2014).

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. The January HCGS Newsletter introduced this project, and the first results are as follows:

SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED BY HCGS MEMBERS

BAKER, BENINGTON, BENNINGTON, BOUGHTER, BOYD, CAGE, CAMPBELL, CAUDILL, DINTINGER, ELLER, FASSNACHT, FRICK, GUNDEL, HAZLETT, HINKEL, HUNSBERGER, MAHAN, RINGER, SHERIDAN, SINCLAIR, TATE, VAN HORN, WASHBURNE, WILSON.

If you have interest in any of these SURNAMES submit specific questions, to be distributed to the provider of these names for a response. At this time only 5 members have submitted their Surname List, and none of the surnames were duplicated.

Send inquiries to: Richard.Appel3@verizon.net or Attn: Surname Project, Harford Co Genealogical Society, 3813 BELMONT DR, JARRETTSVILLE MD 21084-1406.

Please see the January HCGS Newsletter for details and submission format provided in the article titled "Surname List."

DATA REQUIRED: Your name, & contact information, and for each submission include your Surname List. To help improve the data organization, it would help to provide this additional data for each surname: County, State/Provence/Region, Country, Begin Year, End Year.

To join this project, please compile your Surname Submission 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 will be organized and a sorted then published in the 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. Several examples of Societies exchanging Surname information between members, and one excellent software package have been identified. For starting this project, I will act as the software to manually facilitate the matching and communicating.

Rich Appel



DID SANTA BRING A LUMP OF COAL?

On page 3 of the January HCGS Newsletter I asked about what new genealogical gifts Santa provided over the Holidays and how they will help you enjoy and move your research forward, but nobody replied. I am disappointed, and feel so sorry for all of you that apparently did not receive or purchase books, equipment, website subscriptions, DNA test kits, software, camera, portable scanner, conference registrations, etc. to help in your genealogical research pursuits. If in the future you happen to obtain anything of possible interest to our Society members, please send me a note and a picture, so your good fortune can enlighten others. We are gathered as a Society to learn and to help others. As for me, I purchased two registrations for my wife & me to the National Genealogical Society Conference in Richmond, VA, May 7-10. We will be exploring the Richmond-Petersburg area before the conference starts, and staying at the house of my wife's cousin in Richmond the whole time to reduce expenses. Next year the conference moves to Austin, TX, and the travel costs are a little too pricey.

Send a note to: Richard.appel3@verizon.net or by USPS. Tell us about your joys.

Rich Appel

COLLABORATIVE TRANSCRIPTION -Progress Report

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

As mentioned in the January HCGS Newsletter, for this initial attempt we are 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.

Thus far two participants, Gary Frick and Karen Costanzi, have transcribed 230 pages covering the years 1938 to 1942. Remaining to be transcribed are 200 pages covering activities up through 1946.

Each volunteer is 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 are emailed to the project editor for review and inclusion in the final publication. An instruction sheet is 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 proven to be successful in obtaining uniform results, from these meticulous transcribers.

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 a 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 Richard.Appel3@verizon.net. *Rich Appel*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wow, what a winter at least if you live north of I-10 (that's Jacksonville, FL to Los Angeles, CA). Like many areas of the country, Harford County has been hit hard with snow and ice, and while the power outages would have prevented you from updating your genealogy data bases, you may have had time to sift through and organize your paper files.

The weather has prevented the board from meeting to resolve the 2014 schedule for Society events. I apologize. Hopefully Mother Nature will start to co-operate soon. We will keep you posted. After last month's message, I received, and appreciated, some membership comments. The issue with Ladew was not really price, but schedule.

Looking to the end of the year, if anyone would like to join the board ... even if you are remote ... please let us know (I believe technology can "make it work"). I know that I will not be accepting any officer position in the fall, so there will be at least one opening. I am doing this for selfish reasons, but also acknowledge it is time for some new ideas and different direction for the Society. Contact us at HaCoGenSoc@verizon.net or HA Co Gen Soc, 143 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. *Doug*

IN MEMORIAM

HCGS 1979 CHARTER MEMBER Anna Lee Kirkwood Smith 1917 – 2014

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