



Germanna FOUNDATION

Honoring Our Historic Heritage
GERMANNA.ORG

SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER



Pictured are members of the Germanna Foundation staff on the site of the new lab. (From left: Barbara Bounds, Office Manager; Steve Hein, COO; Eric Larsen, Ph.D., Staff Archaeologist)

Germanna Foundation gets \$250,000 Boost

By Amber Galaviz,
Orange County Review

A \$250,000 donation to the Germanna Foundation will go toward a new archaeology research laboratory and artifact storage building near the Brawdus Martin Germanna Visitor Center in Locust Grove, Virginia.



Michael D. Frost, Ph.D., of Kansas City, gave the large monetary gift to continue his support of the Foundation's growing archaeology research program, following the Foundation's 2013 acquisition of the 62-acre site of Fort Germanna and the remains of colonial Lt.

Gov. Alexander Spotswood's Enchanted Castle built in the early 18th century.

Dr. Frost has underwritten the Foundation's staff archaeologist position since 2014. A descendant of Spotswood, Dr. Frost also serves on the Germanna Foundation's Board of Trustees.

"We are extremely grateful to Dr. Michael

Frost for his thoughtful generosity, and we are delighted that he is committed to the Germanna Foundation's long-term archaeology research program," said **Marc Wheat**, president of the Germanna Foundation. "This gift will be used for the construction of a modern archaeology lab facility to support research and learning opportunities for many years to come."

The Foundation expects the new laboratory building to be completed by the fall of 2016. In the meantime, the Germanna Community College's Locust Grove, Virginia, campus is donating laboratory space to the Germanna Foundation for use during the 2016 archaeology field season. The Germanna Foundation donated 100 acres to the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1969 to launch Germanna Community College. 🏠

We Couldn't Have Said it Better Ourselves: **May 20, 2016, Editorial in the** **Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star**

Thousands of people pass the place every week, yet far too few know of its international significance. Some remarkable moments in American history happened at the Germanna historic site, on State Route 3 in Orange County.

Some of those stories are told, briefly, by exhibits in the Germanna Foundation's Brawdus Martin Visitor Center where the Germanna Highway crosses the Rapidan River. More mysterious ones are still embedded in the ground preserved by the foundation at this horseshoe bend in the river, yet to be revealed by artifacts and archaeological analysis of them.

Now, chances are better that those artifacts and Germanna's complex archaeological sites will receive more of the attention they deserve.

Thank **Dr. Michael Frost** for that. The Kansas City, Mo., businessman is giving seed money to the foundation for an archaeological laboratory to be built near the visitor center, which adjoins Germanna Community College's original Locust Grove campus.

The nonprofit foundation, created in 1956 to preserve the heritage of Colonial Virginia's earliest German settlements, later gave land for the college. Clearly, our region has much for which to thank the foundation. Its 179 acres include some of the early western frontier land settled by German families between 1714 and 1717 at the behest of Virginia's royal governor, Alexander Spotswood—a charismatic, striving character on a par with the Alexander Hamilton of current Broadway fame.

With public relations flair, Spotswood named the town created here Germanna for the German settlers and his patron, Queen Anne of England. He named the river the Rapid Anne, also to honor the British monarch. The town became the seat of Spotsylvania County, named after the colony's leader.

Spotswood also built a magnificent residence of his own design. The brick, stone and timber structure was so handsome and lavishly furnished that one visitor, wealthy James River planter William Byrd II, waggishly called it the "Enchanted Castle."

Continued on Page 7

Road Trip to Germanna and Beyond!

Terry and Wilma Handley recently stopped by the Germanna Foundation's Brawdus Martin Visitor Center to do some family research in our genealogy library 34 days into their road trip from their home in Oklahoma, via Key West. After visiting us, Terry and Wilma participated in the Washington, DC, area "Rolling Thunder" ride on Memorial Day!





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

J. Marc Wheat

Thanks to you, the Germanna Foundation's 60th year is turning out to be one for the history books (and we know it when we see it—we are the ones who write history books!).

For the first time in a generation, an archaeology team is being assembled by **Dr. Eric Larsen** to undertake the discovery of Fort Germanna. We are excited about the forthcoming exploration, and are very proud that our members are launching the careers of a new generation of archaeologists.

At his presentation to the Atlantic Council, I recently met Britain's ambassador to the U.S., **Sir Kim Darroch**, and invited him to attend one of the Foundation's events during the reunion so that he can meet hundreds of descendants of "the westernmost settlement of the British Empire."

Dr. Stefan Buchwald, Director of the German Information Center at the German Embassy in Washington, has met with Foundation members on several occasions, including his attendance at a Germanna presentation at the German-American

Heritage Museum in Washington.

What strikes these gentlemen and other Europeans we have met is that we even exist at all. It is astonishing to them that Germanna is a rare example of a continuing community, sort of a "diaspora network" connected to one another through a 300-year-old memory, but annually refreshing those ties through good fellowship and commitments to help one another on new projects for the coming year.

Our board of trustees has members who live in Germany and Austria, and our membership extends to those countries, all 50 states, Canada, Australia, and even China! Thanks to our multi-generational commitment to trace our families' migrations, your work in the Foundation is helping us extend our network to people living on the other side of the Pacific Ocean.

If you have been putting off coming to our conferences and reunions, I encourage you to undertake what Robert Nisbet might call the "quest for community"—there is something deeply sat-

isfying about walking the river-side trails and the sites of Fort Germanna and the Enchanted Castle. Come and see why Germanna is at the heart of rival theories of historiography (Atlantic History vs. The Frontier Thesis) and add your perspective. We'll need to educate each other to make the case why Germanna deserves to be designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Whether you are a first generation Germanna family (like Trustee **Bruce Davis**) or the ninth (like Trustee **Dr. Michael Frost**), bring your relatives and invest in our ongoing Germanna community at the 59th Annual Germanna Conference and Reunion. ♦

J. Marc Wheat
marc.wheat@germanna.org



CHIEF'S REPORT

Steven L. Hein

The big news this summer is the generous donation from **Michael D. Frost, Ph.D.**, for the construction of our own archaeology laboratory building, and the start of new excavations at the Fort Germanna and Enchanted Castle site, both of which you can read more about in this edition of our newsletter.

At Salubria, we have planned the next step in our ongoing preservation and restoration efforts—installing gutters and enhancing rainwater drainage around the house. We have been searching for Lady Spotswood's burial site, believed to be on the property, using ground penetrating radar, which we also used to gather data to delineate better the extent of the family cemetery on the site.

We also have joined forces with other historic preservation and conservation organizations to support the effort to create a new Brandy Station/Cedar Mountain Virginia State Park in Culpeper County.

And of course, it's the 300th anniversary of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition in this 60th anniversary year of the Foundation's history, so we have some special plans for this

year's annual reunion and conference 14-17 July (there's still time to register and come!).

While attending the Orange County Virginia Chamber of Commerce annual picnic, I was officially invited to sit on the County's Tourism Advisory Council, and at the end of May, I presented an update on Germanna Foundation activities to the Orange County Board of Supervisors. The Supervisors are impressed with everything we have been able to accomplish over the past year, and are excited about the Foundation's future.

It is your support as a member, donor, friend, researcher, and champion of our mission that has made all this possible, and I thank each and every one of you for your continued support. Please reach out to your extended family members and others who may be interested in Germanna, and encourage them to join the Foundation as members, come to the reunion, and support our exciting efforts. ♦

Steven L. Hein

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The Germanna Foundation newsletter is prepared by the Education and Publications Committee:

Katharine L. Brown, Chair and Editor
Cathi Clore Frost, William Johnson, Barbara Price, Steve Hein

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Field Notes

By Eric Larsen, PhD
Germanna
Archeologist



At this point in time, all that we know archaeologically about Spotswood's 1714 Fort comes from a small segment of trench dug for the line of wood "pales" that once comprised the fort walls. This was found only by chance in the early 1990s, when a drain was being dug to move storm water around the foundations of the Enchanted Castle. It was a fortunate find.

The trench was found near the intersection of two adjoining hyphens (in architecture, a hyphen is a connecting link between two larger building elements) that were part of the Enchanted Castle complex. The Fort trench clearly preceded the construction of the Enchanted Castle as it ran underneath the brick walls of the hyphens.

With only this short segment as physical evidence, we have a very limited understanding of

this structure. There is no idea which side (northwest or southeast of the trench) represents the interior, protected space, of the fort. Descriptions tell us that the fort was a five-sided palisade, with each side measuring 300 feet in length. If I've done my math correctly, that means the finished structure once enclosed 154,843 square feet or around 3.55 acres. That's a sizeable space!

It seems the time is finally here. The Foundation has done a lot to get us to this point. They have cleaned up the site, removed vegetation that had begun growing up through the old excavation units of the Enchanted Castle site. Realizing that continuing to hold back nature was going to be costly and difficult, the Foundation executed a far-sighted plan to stabilize the Enchanted Castle ruins and protect them from further deterioration. This involved bringing in 30 truckloads of clean soils and regrading across the site to allow storm water to move unimpeded down the slope to the nearby Rapidan River.

The Foundation has mapped the open areas around the Enchanted Castle and placed a new reference grid for use in future excavations. The Foundation has even begun collecting Ground Penetrating Radar data around the Site to help in locating buried resources that have yet to be defined or explored.

We begin new excavations this summer. This archaeological work is begun in order to better

define the limits of the Fort and where it sat on the landscape. The 1714 Fort Germanna was part of the first colonial forays beyond Virginia's tide-water settlements. Many of the decisions faced by Spotswood and the German settlers sent out to Germanna, would play out over the next generations who continued settling westward.

A few years ago while reading Joel Achenbach's book, *The Grand Idea: George Washington's Potomac and the Race to the West* (2004), I was struck by the author's notion that Washington was very concerned with factionalism in the new United States. But his concern was not over a North/South split; rather he was more concerned with a divide between East and West. Achenbach argues that Washington's long time interest in developing along the Potomac River was born out of an idea that the Potomac could serve as a unifying highway between the regions of the East and West. Many of the issues that concerned Washington in the earliest days of America, have precedents in Germanna's story.

Improving our understanding of the 1714 fort—from a small segment of a wall to the corners and ultimate extents of the fort—will move us to a better understanding of this foray into Virginia's Piedmont. Better defining Fort Germanna is a step along a path towards learning more of Germanna's whole story. ♦

Meet our Archaeology Field Season Staff

The Germanna Foundation is pleased to welcome these seasonal staff members to help Germanna's archaeologist, **Eric Larsen, Ph.D.**, with new excavation work at the Fort Germanna and Enchanted Castle site, and to supervise the VCU field school students later in the summer. Be sure to stop by the site and meet our archaeology staff and students during reunion in July, or any time you're traveling to or by Germanna this summer. Additional donations to support the Foundation's hiring of seasonal staff and other archaeology program expenses are always welcome.

Amelia Chisolm, Assistant Field Director



I received my B.S. in Anthropology with a concentration in Historical Archaeology from Mercyhurst College and a Master's of Applied Anthropology from the University of Maryland, College Park. I've worked as the Laboratory Director for Archaeology in Annapolis, as the Archaeological Laboratory Director for the Restoration Department at the Historic Mount Vernon Estate, and for Brockington & Associates, Inc., as a Laboratory Manager for the Veterans Curation Project. Currently, I am

the vice president of the Board of Directors for Archaeology in the Community, an archaeology education non-profit based in Washington, D.C.

Marissa Kulis, Intern Archaeologist



I'm from Baltimore, Maryland, and recently graduated from the University of Maryland with two degrees, one in historic preservation and the other in anthropology. This is going to be my second year on the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference Student Committee. When I'm not working in archaeology, I work in Baltimore for a human resources office.

Emily Lew, Intern Archaeologist



I graduated from the University of Georgia in December 2015 with a B.A. in Anthropology and Criminal Justice. Prior to this internship I completed field school on a Mississippian mound site in Georgia and attended the Summer School in Osteoarchaeology and Paleopathology held by the University of Pisa. Most recently, I completed an internship with

the American Museum of Natural History in the North American Archaeology Lab. I want to pursue a career in archaeology, focusing on southeastern North American societies.

Rachel Manning, Intern Archaeologist



I am from Albany, New York. I recently graduated with my Master's in Anthropology from the State University of New York at Albany. While completing my Master's degree I maintained an internship in the Anthropology Department at the New York State Museum conducting a complete inventory of what is housed in their collections. My primary interest is historical archaeology.

Zoë Rahsman, Intern Archaeologist



I studied at Virginia Commonwealth University and graduated in 2015 with a B.S. in Anthropology. I was introduced to archaeological fieldwork as a student in a summer field school at James Madison's Montpelier. I gained experience with preserving artifacts through 3-D scanning and printing technology in the Virtual Curation Laboratory at VCU. I want to pursue a career in archaeology. ♦



MISSing

By Barbara Price

Molly Rector, Slave of Elias Rector

The previous MISSing articles have focused on the immigrant wives, daughters and their descendants and the information that we know, but more, what we don't know. This article is about slavery and our German ancestors. If we thought that the documents were limited for our female line, they're even more so for their slaves.

Which of the immigrants owned slaves? We are collecting information about the slaves of our ancestors in the Clore, Cuntz, Harnsberger, Hitt, Holtzclaw, Kaifer, Spilman, Wayman, Yager and Zimmerman families. These families have recorded documents, i.e., wills, inventories, that name slaves, but there are probably many more and we need the documentation about them.

The Rector family is not listed above. We have no record of the will of the immigrant Hans Jacob Rector, which might have told if he held slaves.

However, we do have record of Molly Rector, the slave of Elias Rector, the great grandson of the 1714 immigrants, Hans Jacob and Anna Elisabeth (Fischbach) Richter/Rector. Elias Rector was born in 1785 in Fauquier Co., Virginia.¹

His family moved to Illinois where Elias married Frances "Fanny" Bardella Thurston in 1810.² They had several children, only one of which survived, Henry Massey Rector, who became the Sixth Governor of the State of Arkansas.

The Rector family was very prominent in the defense of the States of Illinois and Missouri and in politics. Elias Rector served as Surveyor and Postmaster General of St. Louis.³

The Thurston family was also of prominence, both families very powerful, so it comes as quite a surprise that in 1827, Molly Rector, the slave of Elias and Fanny Rector, sued Elias Rector for her freedom.⁴

Molly Rector filed the petition for her freedom on 14 Sep 1827 in the St. Louis, Missouri Circuit Court.⁵ In the filing, Molly Rector vs. John Bivens,

"Molly a free girl of colour humbly shows to your honor, that she was born in the state of Kentucky and held and claimed as a slave in the family of John Thurston, that upon the marriage of Francis Thurston to Colonel Elias Rector she said Molly was transferred to said Rector, who sometime in year eighteen hundred and brought your peti-

tioner to Kaskaskia in the territory (now state) of Illinois where she resided four or five years with said Rector, who promised your petitioner her freedom and liberty if she would consent to live with said Rector and serve him faithfully as a slave for the space of four years."

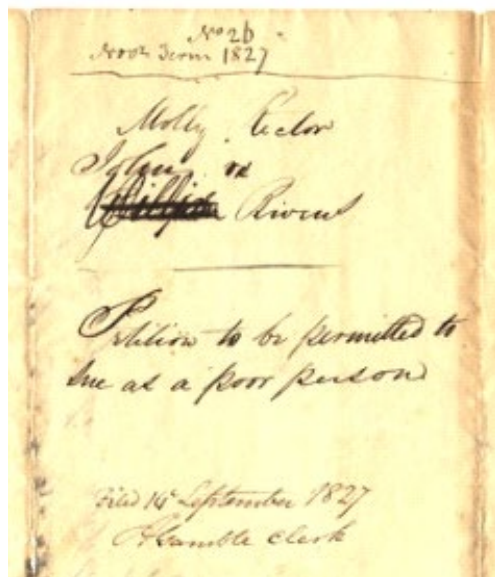
Even though freedom was promised to Molly, she was loaned to Joseph Barton, the brother-in-law of Elias Rector, for several months, then sold to Stephen Rector, the brother of Elias, shortly before Elias' death and held as a slave for another two to three years then sold to John Bivens. She states,

"Your petitioner therefore humbly prays this honorable Court to be permitted to bring suit as a poor person for the recovery of her natural freedom and liberty and that this honorable Court would assign her Counsel and make such other and further orders in the as may be deemed consonant to law and Justice."⁶

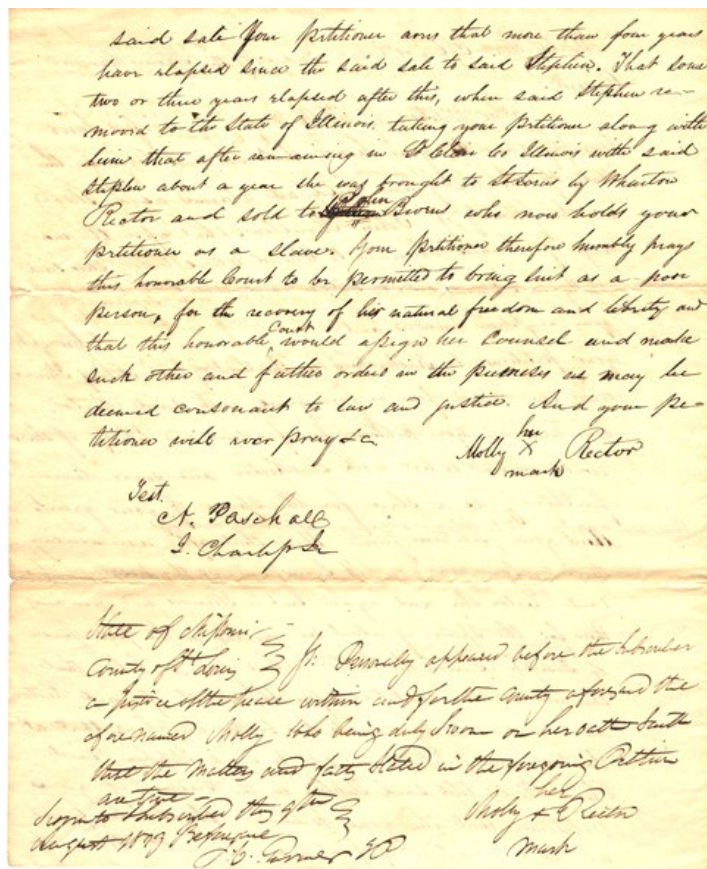
Molly Rector was allowed to bring suit for her freedom by Will C. Carr, Judge of the Circuit Court in St. Louis County. She was assigned Counsel and at the November Court in 1827, her case was heard. She accused John Bivens of the following:

"with force and arms at the city of St Louis, unlawfully an assault did make on the body of said Molly, and then and there did beat bruise

Molly Rector's statement to the court regarding her slavery. Race and Slavery Petitions Project, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, <http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/>; accessed June 2015.



Cover Page of Molly Rector's Petition for Freedom. Race and Slavery Petitions Project: <http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/petitions/details.aspx?pid=9628> (Accessed: June 2015)





and illtreat her said Molly, and then and there imprisoned her said Molly, and kept and detained her in prison without any reasonable or probable cause whatsoever against the will of said Molly, and has ever since kept and detained her said Molly in prison and still keep and detain her in prison against her will....”

It was ordered that Molly could be present at the Court proceedings, that she was not to be removed from the jurisdiction and that she was “not to be subject to any severity because of her said application for freedom.” When Mr. Bivens was served with the court papers, he claimed “utter ignorance of the matter.”

So, Molly was given her day in court, but what happened? Did she gain her freedom? And why did she sue the estate of Elias Rector after his death and at a time when she was owned by John Bivens? I will continue looking for more information about the fate of Molly Rector, such a brave woman, but still MISSING! ♦

**Do you have a MISSING female in your line?
If so, contact Barbara Price at Barbara.
Price@germanna.org.**

ENDNOTES

1. B. C. Holtzclaw, *Germanna Record No. 4: John Jacob Rector—1714 Germanna Colonist*, (Culpeper, Virginia: The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., 1963), 34.
2. Jordan Dodd, Kentucky Marriages, 1802-1850, Ancestry.com, <http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 5/20/16.
3. Josiah H. Shinn, *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas, Vol. 1* (Little Rock, Arkansas: Genealogical and Historical Publishing Company, 1908), 396, 397.
4. Race and Slavery Petitions Project, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, <http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/>: accessed June 2015.
5. Ibid., 001.
6. Ibid., 002, 003.
7. Ibid., 005.
8. Ibid., 006.



Join the Willheit Germanna Record Crew

Germanna Trustee and Genealogist **Cathi Clore Frost** has been hard at work for almost three years tracing the first four generations of the descendants of Hans Michael Willheit and Anna Maria Hengsteler.

Willheit descendants **Don Willhoit** and **Al Welch** commissioned Cathi to research and write this new *Germanna Record*, with an anticipated publication date before the July 2017 reunion and 300th anniversary of the arrival of the Second Colony.

Al and Don are asking for your contributions to raise the nearly \$22,000 needed to cover the costs of this research, the layout, design and printing. To date, just \$6,500 has been raised, so please “join the crew” and let’s get this on course!

Starting with previously published and mostly undocumented accounts, Cathi is attempting to verify and provide source documentation as well as add new information for this book. One of the big challenges researching the Willheit / Wilhoit / Wilhite family is the number of variant spellings – there are at least eighty!

Tracking down documentation for widely reported information with no source is another challenge.

For example, the death date of Eva Wilhoit, who married Nicholas Holt, was given in numerous secondary sources. Since her death occurred more than one hundred years before death certificates were required and her burial place is unknown it was not to be found easily. Eventually it turned up in a deposition made by her grandson regarding her husband’s estate made thirty years after her husband’s death, but only about six or seven after her own.

Sometimes information is within easy reach, such as the gravestone of Elizabeth (Booher) Wilhoit located only a ten minute drive from the route Cathi and her family take to visit her husband’s parents.

Some of the stories are tragic, such as the elderly wife of a descendant who fell asleep in front of the fire and was burned to death. In others we find detailed accounts of estate receipts showing purchases of morocco slippers and bonnets for the children. Many are slim in detail and leave many questions. They are all interesting. ♦

Make a donation to join the Crew:

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Captain	\$10,000 & up	Full page Memorial or Tribute including line of descent from Johann Michael Willheit plus photo and copies of book for you and all children plus copy sent to library of your choice



**Find your ancestors on the
Germanna Genealogy Database:
GermannaFamily.org**



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 212

Offered January 27, 2016

Commending the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition.

Patrons—Freitas; Senator: Reeves

WHEREAS, in August and September of 1716, just two years after settling the first colony of German immigrants to Virginia at Fort Germanna, built along the bank of the Rapidan River, Alexander Spotswood, Lieutenant Governor of the Virginia colony, led a group of men over the Blue Ridge Mountains; and

WHEREAS, the expedition, which originated from Fort Germanna, comprised a group of about 50 rangers, pioneers, Meherrin Indians, and servants, that became popularly known as the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe; and

WHEREAS, Fort Germanna was then the westernmost settlement of the British Empire, 20 miles above the fall line, providing security to Virginia's western frontier; the fort was situated in an ideal location to provide iron ore and fuel for the nascent iron industry of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the expedition marked the first passage over the Blue Ridge by Virginia colonists, reaching the banks of the Shenandoah River, which the explorers dubbed the Euphrates; a journal of the expedition, which has been transcribed and preserved to this day, was maintained by expedition member John Fontaine; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition has taken on the aura of legend in the succeeding 300 years since its occurrence, but is remembered as fact through John Fontaine's account, historic documents, literature, and family histories and traditions; and

WHEREAS, during the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition's 300th anniversary year in 2016, the Germanna Foundation will celebrate the history and legacy of the expedition through continuing archaeological field work at the Fort Germanna site, the presentation of a historical conference program centered on the expedition at a four-day conference in July, and a living history encampment portraying the dramatic story of 18th-century Virginia and the expedition in September, drawing on historical information that has been revealed by archaeological and documentary research; and

WHEREAS, the 300th anniversary of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition is a historic opportunity for the citizens of the Commonwealth and visitors from throughout the United States and the world to come to Germanna on the banks of Virginia's Rapidan River, visit the Blue Ridge Mountains traversed by the explorers, and experience firsthand the area's many contributions to the rich and diverse history and culture of the United States; and

WHEREAS, all Virginians are encouraged to support and commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition by participating in programs and festivities in communities across the Commonwealth that will increase awareness, knowledge, and enjoyment of the history of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition and the Germanna settlement in Virginia and their preeminent role in the origin of the nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition on the occasion of its 300th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Germanna Foundation as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the historical significance of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe Expedition.





Germanna Trustee Bruce Davis. Photo by Frederickburg Free Lance Star

Thank You and Congratulations

Thanks to all who participated in the Community Give day in May and made a donation to the Germanna Foundation.

Your donations helped the Foundation earn one of the \$500 "Golden Ticket" prize donations from the event's sponsors, and earned Germanna fifth place in the total amount of money raised among the more than 180 participating nonprofit organizations.

Germanna Trustee **Bruce Davis**, who also serves on the board of the Community Foundation of the

Rappahannock River Region which operates the Community Give, is to be congratulated for this successful campaign which raised more than \$1.2 million for area nonprofits.

Bruce also recently toasted (see photo above) the generous donors who made the five-year capital campaign of Germanna Community College so successful, raising a record amount (\$12 million) for the college founded by the generous donation of property from the Germanna Foundation in the 1960s. We continue to keep good company! ♦

Editorial in the Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star

Continued from Page 1

But first, the Germans had to carve a military outpost from what they saw as wilderness, building a five-sided fort around a central blockhouse. Inside the fort were nine log cabins for seven German families and six bachelors, along with two cannon.

This colony of 42 Germans—and a second group of 82 immigrants who arrived at Fort Germanna in 1717—built the first roads from the Rappahannock River into the Piedmont, opening up the region to settlement. They dug ore and ran an iron furnace, enabling Spotswood to

export iron wares to England.

Now, the Foundation's latest effort will investigate Fort Germanna's site. This summer, it will host a Virginia Commonwealth University field school to search for the fort's traces. Foundation archaeologist **Eric Larsen**, whose post has been underwritten by Frost since 2014, will lead the project. He is building on the work of Professor **Douglas Sanford** of the University of Mary Washington, whose team excavated the Enchanted Castle site.

The new research will surely give Germanna descendants, who will



Thank you to **Dennis Loba** (a.k.a. Lt. Gov. Alexander Spotswood) for representing the Germanna Foundation at the annual West Virginia Knights of the Golden Horseshoe educational awards in Charleston, WV, in early May. Bringing the history of Alexander Spotswood's expedition to life in this 300th anniversary year even garnered the attention of the current governor of West Virginia who shared the stage with Germanna's Governor Spotswood.

IN MEMORIAM

◆ **Clive "Wayne" Hemphill**, 1LT, USMC (Ret), a Germana Hitt and father of Nona Hemphill Rector, a long-time Germanna Reunion committee member and volunteer. Our condolences to Nona and her family.

hold their annual reunion here in July, even more to talk about. The immigrants' heirs include some distinguished folks. Five Germana descendants became governors. One, **Buzz Aldrin**, was the second man to walk on the moon.

Dr. Frost is a descendant of Spotswood, the wily fellow who arranged for two shiploads of Germans to cross the Atlantic and settle in America. With respect to all of them, we extend our best wishes for the archaeological investigation of this important site. ♦



SIC JUVAT TRANSCENDERE MONTES

*"Thus, it is pleasant to
cross the mountains."*

... Proceeding along the Rappahannock they came to the Germantown, ten miles below the falls, where they halted for some days.

On the twenty-sixth of August Spotswood was joined here by several gentlemen, two small companies of rangers, and four Meherrin Indians.

The gentlemen of the party appear to have been Spotswood, Fontaine, Beverley, Colonel Robertson, Austin Smith, who returned home owing to a fever, Todd, Dr. Robinson, Taylor, Mason, Brooke, and Captains Clouder and Smith.

The whole number of the party, including gentlemen, rangers, pioneers, Indians, and servants, was probably about fifty. They had with them a large number of riding and pack-horses, an abundant supply of provisions, and an extraordinary variety of liquors.

Having had their horses shod, they left Germantown on the twenty-ninth of August, and encamped that night three miles from Germanna.

The camps were named respectively after the gentlemen of the expedition, the first one being called "Camp Beverley," where "they made great fires, supped, and drank good punch"...

From History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia, by Charles Campbell, 1860

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Historic Heritage*



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Tues-Sat, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
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GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA, INC.
THE GERMANNA FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 279
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They're on their way to Germanna!



Governor Spotswood and his Knights of the Golden Horseshoe are coming to Germanna Foundation's 59th Annual Reunion and Conference July 14 to 17, 2016.

Join with Germanna descendants and others from around the country, even the world, as Germanna celebrates the 300th anniversary of the expedition.

Go to **GERMANNA.org** to see the schedule of events and to register or call us at 540-423-1700. *Time is running out!*

From the *Pennsylvania Packet* (Philadelphia, PA) September 3, 1789

FREDERICKSBURG, August 27.

On Friday night last a large dwelling-house at Germanna, the property of Col. Burges Ball, and occupied as a tavern by Mr. Richard Sincock, took fire, and was entirely consumed.

On Tuesday the 25th inst. died at her house in this town, Mrs. MARY WASHINGTON, aged 82 years, the venerable mother of the illustrious President of the United States, after a long and painful indisposition, which she bore with uncommon patience.—Tho' the pious tear of duty, affection and esteem, is due to the memory of so revered a character, yet our grief must be greatly alleviated from the consideration that she is relieved from all the pitiable infirmities attendant on an ex-

This newspaper clipping find surprised us with such a late reference (1789) to Germanna as a location. We're looking for more information about this from our readers. Do you know where Col. Ball's house really was, or have you come across additional references to this from the late 18th century? If so, please let us know!