

THE STORY  
OF  
GERMANNA DESCENDANTS  
IN  
REUNION AT SIEGEN FOREST  
VIRGINIA



1957

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**THE STORY**  
**OF**  
**GERMANNA DESCENDANTS**  
**IN**  
**REUNION AT SIEGEN FOREST**  
**VIRGINIA**

*By*

CHARLES HERBERT HUFFMAN

Containing Four Historical Addresses  
Seventeen Photographs of the Current Scene  
Roster and Other Pertinent Information

*Auspices of*

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE GERMANNA COLONIES  
IN VIRGINIA, INCORPORATED

1957

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By

The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies  
in Virginia, Incorporated

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## FOREWORD

This report of the first reunion of descendants, sponsored by The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, has been prepared at the explicit request of one of the trustees whose generous provision made possible the acquisition of Siegen Forest; also it has been written at the implied requests of many thousands of Germanna descendants who are now residing in widely separated areas throughout the United States. The Board of Trustees is pleased to comply with these wishes and to publish this account for the information and pleasure of all.

Much interest was shown in this historic occasion, manifested chiefly by the large attendance and by the generous expressions of hopes for the success of the venture fulfilled and satisfied. Repeatedly well-considered reactions described the event as "successful," "inspirational," and "best . . . ever." Many traveled long distances to be present, and thus gave evidence of more than ordinary interest. Descendants were registered from Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Virginia—the remoter parts as well as those near-by.

The registration records reveal the fact that each founder of his family line in America was well represented by his descendants. Here to speak in person for their progenitor were those who trace their ancestry, respectively, to Balthaser Blankenbaker, Jacob Broil, Melchior Brumback, William Carpenter, Michael Clore, Joseph Coons, Herman Fishback, John Fishback, John Henry Haeger, Peter Hitt, Jacob Holtzclaw, John Henry Hoffman, John Kemper, John Joseph Martin, John Jacob Rector, John Spillman, ———— Utterback, and Tillman Weaver. One handsome young man proudly proclaimed descent from four of the first family names: Brumback, Coons, Hitt, and Weaver.

This brief account of our first reunion is presented with the hope that frequent perusal of it will bring to remembrance your happy experiences at Germanna and will keep alive your wish for repetitions; and with the hope, too, that it will stimulate in all interested persons the desire to share in the promotion of the purposes and objectives of the Foundation.

C.H.H.

## GERMANNA MARKER



This highway marker stands on the south side of Route 3 at the brow of the bluff near the Rapidan River bridge. The handsome marker was designed and constructed by Mr. J. B. Carpenter, Sr. in his hobby workshop. The material is deep-red heart of Siegen Forest cedar, shaped and smoothed by Mr. Edgar Payne Martin at his fully equipped lumber yard near-by. The message is the same on both sides of the metal plate. The marker, set right-angled to the highway, can be read by tourists approaching from either direction. The Virginia State Highway Department, Culpeper Division, graciously cooperated by constructing a turn-out from the highway so that tourists may stop and visit. At the top right of the picture, a few hundred feet further on, can be seen the granite monument erected in 1953.

## THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA, INCORPORATED

First Picnic of the Germanna Foundation

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1957

On Our Property, SIEGEN FOREST\* at the

Germanna Bridge (Va. Route 3)

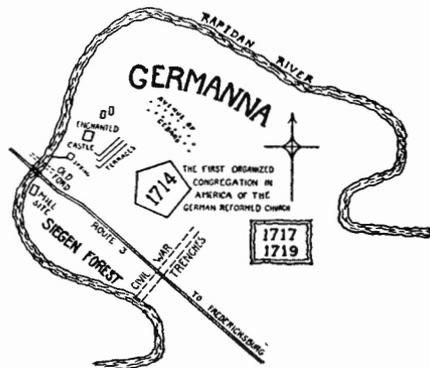
Beginning at 11 o'clock

### Order of Events

Greetings and Congratulations ..... President of the Foundation  
 Memorial Sketch—Faith of Our Fathers ..... Dr. J. W. Wayland  
 Dedicatory Prayer—Siegen Forest ..... Dr. B. C. Holtzclaw  
 Solo—"Invictus" ..... Mr. W. R. Showalter  
 Germanna, Then and Now ..... Mr. J. B. Carpenter  
 Introduction of Guests ..... Responses  
 Patriotic Songs ..... Congregation  
 Announcements

Invocation—Festival Spread ..... Rev. T. A. Graves

\*SIEGEN FOREST, acquired in 1956, embraces 270 acres of the original Germanna tract. The generosity of one of the trustees enables the Foundation to own the property unencumbered. Recently the Board of Trustees re-named the site "Siegen Forest," after the city Siegen (Germany) whence many of the colonists emigrated, first in 1714, followed by others in 1717 and in 1719. The area is bordered on the northeast by Va. Route 3; on the southwest by the Rapidan River.



## DEDICATORY PRAYER—SIEGEN FOREST\*

Almighty God our Father: Thou who through countless ages hast been the refuge and mighty fortress of those who trust in Thee; Thou who dost guide the course of history by Thy mighty hand, so that in spite of the errors and blindness of sinful men, "all things work together for good to them that love the Lord"; Thou who, above all else, didst grant the great gift of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, that we through Him might have eternal life in Thee:

We thank Thee on this day of commemoration of the distant past for all the blessings that Thou hast bestowed upon us; we thank Thee especially for the courage and faith of these our ancestors who settled in this place, whom Thou didst guide across the waters to a distant land, to whom Thou gavest hope and sustenance and final prosperity in their new home, and who have left their heritage to us their descendants in this good and blessed land of America.

As we dedicate this tract of land on which they first dwelt, we pray that Thou wilt bless us, their descendants, and the organization that perpetuates their memory; we pray that Thou wilt especially bless our benefactor, who hails from our remote fatherland of Siegen and who enabled us to possess this original home of our ancestors in Virginia; and we pray that our organization may grow and thrive in future years, accomplishing good in our land and furthering Thy kingdom.

Grant above all that we, the descendants of this group of pioneers, may exemplify in our own lives the virtues of honesty, thrift, independence, and sturdy faith in Thee, our Heavenly Father, which enabled them to overcome difficulties and plant a home in the wilderness; that we may perpetuate these virtues in ourselves and our descendants; that we may be loyal to Thee in all that we do or say; that Thou mayest be first in our hearts and lives; that we may never forget that Thou art our Creator, Preserver, and Redeemer; and that this spirit of faith and love and loyalty to Thee may pervade our whole national life, so that we may preserve our souls and escape the manifest punishment which comes to peoples and nations that forget Thee.

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\*By Dr. Benjamin C. Holtzclaw. Dr. Holtzclaw is Professor of Philosophy and Dean of the Graduate School, University of Richmond.

Yea, more, we pray that men everywhere may come to know Thee, to love Thee and to do Thy will, so that they may dwell together in peace and amity; that the spirit of the gospel may leaven the lump of humanity; that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdoms of God and His Christ; and that Thy kingdom may come quickly.

These blessings we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Dr. Wayland reads his "Faith of Our Fathers" address.



The gentlemen on the platform who were responsible for the program, reading left to right, are Dr. Benjamin C. Holtzclaw, Richmond; Dr. John W. Wayland, Harrisonburg; Mr. Jesse B. Carpenter, Sr., Culpeper; Mr. Raymond W. Showalter, Jr., Harrisonburg; and (standing) Dr. Charles Herbert Huffman, Harrisonburg, tendering the "Greetings and Congratulations" message.

## GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS\*

As you meet each other today on this festive occasion — each at the end of a long line of distinguished ancestors — you are no doubt keenly aware of pent-up emotions — emotions that often were felt but were never fully expressed. It is with deep humility, therefore, that I greet you as members and friends of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, and congratulate you upon the successful completion of this first step toward the realization of your cherished hopes. Perhaps your greetings are spoken for the first time here among kindred spirits in honor and in memory of forefathers who, nearly two and a half centuries ago, came to this spot of the New World and brought with them from the Old culture of mind and skill of hand. Gratefully and pridefully you join in the chorus, "I'm truly happy to greet you here — here at Germanna where our forefathers, bound inseparably by ties of family, language, vocation, and religious tenets — first built their homes, and where they lived and worked and worshipped together.

The primary purpose of a foundation is to support the superstructure. If the building is to be a beautiful one, meaningful and enduring, and if it is to mellow gracefully with the passage of time, the foundation must be laid carefully and well. Our Memorial Foundation, we are persuaded, does rest upon a solid footing. The four cornerstones are the enduring verities, shall we say, that were bequeathed to descendants, yes, but more broadly still, bequeathed to all the peoples of this nation.

The first one of these four verities that lie at corners of the Memorial Foundation let us denominate *courage*. In the summer of 1713 a small band of enterprising persons, numbering in all about forty, got together and entered into a solemn compact. Briefly, they agreed among themselves to turn their backs on home, friends, relatives, and Fatherland, and turn their faces westward by accepting the invitation, then in their hands, to come to America. This momentous decision required a quality of courage of the highest and purest type. It is this quality of

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\*By Dr. Charles Herbert Huffman, President of the Foundation. Dr. Huffman retired recently from Madison College as Head of the Department of English and Director of the Division of the Humanities.

character that they brought with them from their native Siegen and environs to their new life in America. The first colony arrived here at Germanna in April, 1714. The first was followed by others of like character and purpose in 1717 and in 1719.

The second cornerstone may appropriately be named *skill and craftsmanship*. The invitation to come to America was first extended only to such as were endowed by nature and by training with sound knowledge and superior skill of hand and brain. Their specialty was iron ore mining and metallurgy. We are confronted today with the assertion, displayed in almost every magazine, "Only steel can do so many jobs so well." But specific processes which made this development possible were unknown in America in the early 18th century. Indeed such were not well understood among Englishmen until these skilled craftsmen arrived and explained the science. The initial stages were undertaken here under able leadership from Siegen, Germany. Today iron and steel constitute one of the basic factors of our national economy.

The third cornerstone of the Foundation is *independence* of religious and political ideals. Here at Germanna our forefathers established the first organized congregation in America of the German Reformed Church. This deliberate act on their part, in violation of precedent and established practice, was not so simple and easy as it is today. Indeed it was a bold and daring venture, owing to the intolerant and generally hostile attitude of the Established Church toward other religious sects. But despite such obstacles and deterrents they proceeded to conduct their worship according to their custom and ritual, once each week day and twice each Sunday. The blockhouse, which was intended only as a protection against attacks of hostile Indians, they used as a house for worship. It has always seemed to me significant and indeed a bit ironical that this provision which Governor Spotswood made for imminent war they made use of for permanent peace. So far as is known our colonies were never attacked by the natives, nor were they ever molested by them.

They took no part in the entangled web of politics with religion, the prevailing mode then in Colonial Virginia. True, they were not missionaries for their faith and form of worship, but in the matter of religious freedom they did assert their independence. They desired to worship as they chose without

let or hindrance from others. Resenting interference from others, they scrupulously avoided provoking the suspicion and displeasure of others. In the practice of their religious tenets, to paraphrase Mr. B,

“They drew their furrer straight  
And into nobody’s tater patch poked.”

Thus it is evident that they were not granted toleration. They won it. And thus it occurred, too, antedating by a half century or more Jefferson’s statute for Religious Freedom in Virginia, they pointed the way and demonstrated by their example the feasibility of complete separation of church and state, a common heritage, dear to us today.

Let us call the fourth verity *Democracy*. It is certain that a calm, even-tempered, and exemplary democratic spirit was the controlling force of their life and thought. In 1719 or 1720 the first colony patented a large body of land in what is now Fauquier County, moved there and founded Germantown on Licking Run. The cost of this purchase was shared equally, and then the immense tract of 1800 acres was divided into twelve equal parts, one part going by lot to each family. Here their grist mill, iron furnace and forge, their church and school were community projects. And here they practiced, with balanced emphasis on each, individualism and the general welfare, an exhibition, if you will, of our future Democracy at work.

Today, then, we lay claim to our heritage — to their democratic ideals, their quiet, unobtrusive independence, their efficient craftsmanship, and to their indomitable courage — and we freely appropriate these verities and proclaim our use of them as cornerstones of the Foundation, established to their memory and promoted in their honor. But concurrently we admonish ourselves that the enduring structure is yet to be built. Upon greeting each other today as members and friends of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, let it be said sincerely that this first Reunion is our book of beginnings and our story without end.

## FAITH OF OUR FATHERS\*

This year, more than ever before, the people of Virginia should become conscious of their spiritual heritage. Jamestown is not a city of towering granite — it is not even an ordinary town: it is a place of cherished memories, a symbol of fortitude and beneficence. It stands in our history and in our national life for certain qualities of human character and certain principles of civic virtue. These qualities and principles are intangible, but they are nevertheless essential to our welfare and happiness.

In the history of Jamestown two facts stand out above all others: the fact of survival, and the fact of wise statesmanship. The early settlers there suffered grievously, and many of them died. But the remnant held out in spite of all adversity. This is one supreme fact. The other is that they founded representative government. They did not build an enduring material city, but they established an enduring commonwealth. A commonwealth is a state in which all the citizens share in common benefits and are guaranteed equal justice. These fundamental principles are intangible, but their presence or absence is manifest in civic action.

What I have said about Jamestown is true in certain respects also of Germanna. The early settlers here did not build a city, but they left a place of memories. They left here for us a spot that should be forever sacred. They bequeathed to us a heritage that is intangible, but nevertheless is real, and fraught with principles and qualities that we may emulate with profit.

The Germanna pioneers had courage. It took courage for them to come out into a far distant land and begin the subjugation of a wilderness. They had the fortitude to continue the task from year to year. Their achievement was a victory of faith, primarily a religious faith. This faith they kept alive by daily devotions, under a pious leader.

They brought with them the training and skills of an old world that were a rare gift to this new world. To this new commonwealth they contributed effectively in building up essential industries. At the same time they stood as an outpost

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\*By Dr. John W. Wayland, eminent authority on historical subjects. His most recent book is entitled, *Twenty-five Chapters on the Shenandoah Valley*.

of defense on the frontier, thus adding to the peace and security of the older communities.

For ten years or more Germanna was the countyseat of the new county of Spotsylvania. Thus it was a civic center, where the majesty of law was proclaimed and courts of justice were held. Business and trade were naturally stimulated.

But Germanna entered also into the romantic and literary life of Virginia. It was the starting point and the home station of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe, whose expedition across the Blue Ridge under the leadership of Governor Spotswood was one of the most notable incidents in early Virginia history, widely celebrated ever since in prose and verse. A few years later Germanna was visited by Col. William Byrd and was graphically described by him in one of his books. Colonel Byrd, as we know, was one of Virginia's most fascinating writers, as well as an outstanding man in public affairs.

The men of Germanna were not only courageous, religious, and skilful in useful arts, they were also ambitious and awake to progress. They were not satisfied to remain indefinitely under the patronage of Governor Spotswood, but soon they went out and acquired lands of their own. They founded Germantown, in Fauquier County, and obtained a large grant of land in the Shenandoah Valley. Many of them became landowners in what is now Madison County and in various other places. As years passed their descendants went out into Virginia and other parts of the United States. In military and civil life, in the various fields of business, in religious service, in education, and in literature they have risen to prominence and honor.

In view of what Germanna stands for in the history of Virginia and in the lives of thousands of men and women who are descended from those valiant pioneers, there seems to be abundant reason why this place should be consecrated in cherished memory and dedicated as a perpetual and sacred memorial. Gathering here from time to time, the heirs of this inspiring heritage should gratefully renew their hold upon those homely virtues that have always been essential, whether in the wilderness or in the palaces of wealth and luxury.

## GERMANNA, THEN AND NOW\*

The first I heard of Germanna was in the time of my Grandfather who was a descendant of the 2nd Colony of 1717, under Gov. Spotswood. I remember his speaking of the River at Germanna being past fording sometimes when teams from Madison were on trips to or from Fredericksburg, Va. Fredericksburg in those days was the market for grains and also a place for shopping.

With such roads as they had it took four days for the return trip. There was no bridge at Germanna then, but a ferry was provided in 1726. It must have been needed only in case of high water. A bridge was built sometime later. The present one was built not many years ago.

During the time of the first bridge, once in crossing it I noticed two old mill stones lying in the bed of the river. Having no idea we would ever own the property, I bought them from Mr. Page Back, the owner of the property at that time. They can be seen now in my front yard in Culpeper. One is lying flat on a cement base and the top stone is standing on edge by it, forming a seat. If sometime we should have a caretaker here I would agree to have them mounted in some place here. Evidently the mill was on the bank just opposite where the stones were found in the river. The mill race ended just opposite where the two stones were found. The old mill race is nearly filled with sand now, except near the upper end of it, where high water currents have kept it open, apparently at its original width and depth. The remains of the dam seem to be a natural ledge of stone which projects out of the water.

We would all like to know what kind of building these two chimneys were for. And if not dwellings for what were the buildings used. In those days they could not have gotten any power from the mill. You can see from the plaster still on one of them that the building was an "L" shape, and the plaster shows the pitch of the roof. The main part of this one also had a basement. Near here is evidence of an old graveyard, one that has been robbed of all of its stones except one slab. We have a copy of the wording of the inscription.

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\*By Mr. J. B. Carpenter. Recently Mr. Carpenter was presented a 14-carat gold hammer by a hardware manufacturing firm in recognition of his fifty years' service in the hardware industry. Rumor has it that, when constructing our highway marker (see page 5) Mr. Carpenter was so much enamored with his task and so much concerned for the success of the Foundation, he selected only goldheaded nails and tapped them gently in with his gold hammer.

Whilst the other end of this mile-long tract does not contain such evidence of history as this end does, I think we might believe that the Fontaine and Spotswood Party traversed it on August 29th, 1716, when they started on that noted Journey across the Blue Ridge Mountains. Fontaine does not mention crossing the river until they had travelled several days.

In the way of Civil War History, there is near the other end several cannon pits and a hundred yards or more of infantry breastworks. These being in the forest and having no interference, seem to be of their original depth.

We have had some inquiry as to what we expect to do with the property by way of improvement. That will have to be decided as time goes on and will depend largely upon your interest as well as ours. But with a mile of our best Highway on one side and a mile of the river on another, and containing several good springs, it has great possibilities as a Park. Where Jamestown is the site of the first English Settlement for Virginia, Germanna is the site of the first Immigrant German Settlement, of ancestors of you and me. With your cooperation and a continuance of the untiring interest of Dr. Huffman, we shall have a Jamestown all our own.



Mr. Carpenter speaks informally, in delightfully reminiscent mood, of "Germanna, Then and Now."



The ladies also spoke freely and earnestly concerning their ancestry and their interest in the success of the Foundation. Above, the fluent speaker (wearing hat) stands near the platform and directly in front of the massive oak tree. Below, the charming lady gives her hearers information they are grateful for. No, she is not timid or excitable. The open car door to her left is not a measure of preparedness for precipitant departure.





Mr. Raymond Showalter, Jr. sings "Invictus," Henley's lyric arranged for solo work by Bruno Huhn. "Buddy," as he is familiarly known among his many friends, is a graduate of Madison College and was a special student in Juilliard School of Music. Currently he is co-owner and manager of "Buddy's Carpetland," Harrisonburg, Virginia.



The voice of each is full, free, melodious in Siegen Forest as all join enthusiastically in singing patriotic songs, "America," and "America, the Beautiful."



Why those winsome smiles? Well, you should know. The addresses have all been delivered. The program is over. NEXT? The bountiful picnic spread.



The picnickers line up on both sides of the table and enjoy the basket lunch, family style. The photo shows but one of the four sections of the sturdily built, sixty-four foot table.



Our two hundred forty-third anniversary cake was baked and decorated by Mrs. J. B. Carpenter, Sr. Here, it is being displayed by Dr. A. M. Hitt of Salem and Roanoke, Virginia, who confidently asserts that it is "out of this world, Angel Food, in fact; non-authorized sustenance for mere mortals."



What's a picnic without chilled, luscious melons? Mr. Henry C. Coons of Culpeper remembered, and brought with him a generous supply, for which we were most grateful. The gentleman in the center appears to be indulging in wistful wishing. "No, thanks," he murmurs, regretfully. "No more melon. I'm not wishing for more melon, but for more MAN." Mrs. Vann standing near-by (right) appears to understand the gentleman's dilemma and hence to sympathize, deeply, with him.



"What! Slowing down, gentlemen! Shall I bring you *another* serving?"



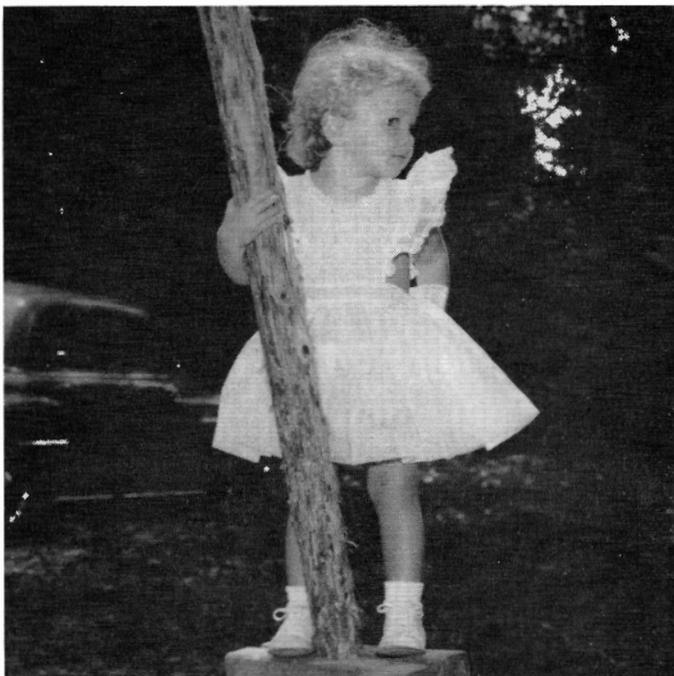
A leisurely stroll after the bountiful picnic lunch was ideal for a close-up view of some old landmarks near-by. Other enticing landmarks, more remote and less accessible in Siegen Forest, are the cannon pits, the infantry trenches, the mill race, and the Point of Rocks. Not all of the extensive forest has as yet been explored by the new owners.

## CHEERFUL AND HAPPY

“How do you like to go up in a swing,  
Up in the air so blue?  
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing  
Ever a child can do!”

## RELUCTANT

“Please, please, Mother! Just *one more* swing  
before we go!”



The pretty lady on the odd-looking swing is little Miss Mary Page Jordan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar W. Jordan of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Carpenter of Brightwood, Virginia. One of our careful observers described the odd-looking swing thus: “He (Mr. J. B. Carpenter) is one of these do-it-yourself boys and has fashioned a swing out of a 20 or 30 foot cedar pole, swinging free from iron work mounted on a horizontal limb, with foot rests at the free end. It swings like a pendulum and can make a mighty arc if you wish. A two-year old also enjoyed it. I never saw its like before, nor heard of one.”

## REACTIONS

## Anticipation

"Deeply regret that owing to impending departure for Europe am unable to be present at the picnic in Siegen Forest in honor of Germanna settlers. My best wishes and cordial greetings."

"I regretted greatly not being able to come to Germanna to so important and historical occasion."

"The programs for the picnic in "Siegen Forest" came in this morning's mail and look so very interesting. How I *do wish* that I could bring my dear remaining brother and attend."

## Reflection

"I want to congratulate you on the meeting at Siegen Forest yesterday. It was very successful indeed. Both of us enjoyed it very much."

"There is one word that describes the Reunion to me more than any other and that is the word *inspiring*. I was delighted to be there and to associate with so many educated people of good breeding who are descendants of the original settlers of the colony. The program was fine and I enjoyed it all."

"I want to say that I enjoyed the meeting on July 21 very much but for one thing."

"The weather was quite warm the day of the Germanna picnic but I felt the meeting was a great success and everyone seemed so enthusiastic and wanted to tell about their ancestors. Liking history as I do I count the day as one of the happiest ones of my life. The time went so fast just as it does when I am in the Genealogy Department of our Down Town Library."

"I did not see or hear a mosquito, fly or other flying or crawling object at Germanna. It was the nicest outdoor picnic I ever attended."

"It was a pleasure to be present at the meeting yesterday. You may bill me for \$100 for Life Membership."

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Orders for Books and Photographs

For additional prints of photographs address our authorized photographer: Charles and Polly, Harrisonburg, Va.

For additional copies of this booklet at nominal cost address the Germanna Foundation, Box 786, Harrisonburg, Va.

For "Germanna: Outpost of Adventure," (cloth \$5.00, paper \$3.00) address the Germanna Foundation, Box 786, Harrisonburg, Va.

For information relating to the Foundation address The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., Box 786, Harrisonburg, Va.

### Germanna Contemporary Events

1934: Orange Bicentennial; Temporary Marker Placed

1949: Society of Germanna Colonies Proposed

1953: Granite Monument Erected

1955: Germanna Foundation Projected

1956: Memorial Foundation Established

1957: Germanna Descendants Assembled



Miss Myrtle Jo Carpenter sees to it that all register. She wants your name and address, and the name of your illustrious ancestor. She then tags you for identification purposes.

## ROSTER

Names and addresses follow of all who were present and registered at the first Reunion of the Foundation. A few did not register. Should you detect an error in either your name or your address, kindly notify us.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Berling, Mr. Frank<br>3010 Floyd Ave., Richmond, Va.               | Dixon, Mrs. J. W.<br>107 N. Harvie Street<br>Richmond, Virginia            |
| Broyles, Mrs. Annie<br>Brandy Station, Virginia                    | Fishback, Mr. Ashby A.<br>Madison, Virginia                                |
| Broyles, Mr. Carol<br>Reva, Virginia                               | Fishback, Mrs. Davis E.<br>2307 Lakeside Drive<br>Orlando, Florida         |
| Broyles, Mrs. Elsie Clore<br>Reva, Virginia                        | Fishback, Mr. & Mrs. Edw. W.<br>2804 Shewsbury Rd.<br>Orlando, Florida     |
| Broyles, Miss Greta Sue<br>Reva, Virginia                          | Fishback, Mr. G. Ben<br>170 E. Washington St.<br>Orlando, Florida          |
| Broyles, Mr. & Mrs. James H.<br>Brandy Station, Virginia           | Fishback, Mr. Jos. S.<br>Madison, Virginia                                 |
| Broyles, Mr. & Mrs. S. C.<br>Reva, Virginia                        | Fishback, Mr. & Mrs. T. W.<br>16 Grace St., Harrisonburg, Va.              |
| Carpenter, Mr. & Mrs. J. B., Jr.<br>509 S. West St., Culpeper, Va. | Galey, Mrs. John T.<br>715 Valley View Road<br>Pittsburgh, Pa.             |
| Carpenter, Mr. & Mrs. J. B., Sr.<br>801 S. East St., Culpeper, Va. | Green, Mr. James W.<br>Editor, Orange Review<br>Orange, Va.                |
| Carpenter, Miss Myrtle Jo.<br>801 S. East St., Culpeper, Va.       | Green, Mr. R. Duff<br>510 S. Main St.<br>Culpeper, Va.                     |
| Carpenter, Mr. & Mrs. O. F.<br>Brightwood, Va.                     | Gott, Mr. John K.<br>Marshall, Virginia                                    |
| Carpenter, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. J.<br>Culpeper, Virginia                 | Gott, Mrs. Minnie Smith<br>Marshall, Virginia                              |
| Caton, Mr. Penny<br>Culpeper, Virginia                             | Hackley, Dr. & Mrs. Woodford B.<br>University of Richmond<br>Richmond, Va. |
| Chisholm, Miss Ruth M.<br>Box 294, Elkton, Va.                     | Harlin, Miss Barbara<br>Luray Avenue, Luray, Va.                           |
| Clark, Miss Sue<br>1320 Kenmore, Apt. 1 B<br>Fredericksburg, Va.   | Hitt, Dr. & Mrs. A. M.<br>Salem, Virginia                                  |
| Coons, Mr. H. Carroll, Jr.<br>Culpeper, Virginia                   | Hitt, Mr. & Mrs. F. C.<br>Culpeper, Virginia                               |
| Darter, Dr. Oscar H.<br>1311 Sunken Road<br>Fredericksburg, Va.    | Hitt, Mr. John H.<br>Culpeper, Va.   |
| Davidson, Mr. & Mrs. D. N.<br>Rhoadesville, Virginia               |  |
| Davidson, Miss Nancy C.<br>Charlottesville, Va.                    |  |
| Denny, Mr. Clifford M.<br>Midlothian, Va.                          |  |

- Hitt, Miss Linda  
Culpeper, Virginia
- Hitt, Mr. M. J.  
Rileyville, Virginia
- Hoffman, Miss Dorothy Jean  
Culpeper, Virginia
- Hoffman, Mr. & Mrs. E. H.  
Culpeper, Virginia
- Hoffman, Mr. & Mrs. G. W.  
Remington, Virginia
- Holtzclaw, Dr. & Mrs. B. C.  
University of Richmond  
Richmond, Virginia
- Hudson, Mr. C. Lee  
Washington, D. C. (Guest)
- Hudson, Mr. & Mrs. L. Reginald  
205 E. Piedmont Street  
Culpeper, Virginia
- Huffman, Dr. & Mrs.  
Charles Herbert  
271 Grattan Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia
- Huffman, Mrs. Clyde H.  
464 Hornor Avenue  
Clarksburg, W. Va.
- Huffman, Mr. & Mrs. Percy L.  
281 Vine Street  
Salem, Ohio
- Inskeep, Mr. J. Louis  
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- Jones, Mrs. Isabella McCoy  
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- Jordan, Mr. & Mrs. Edgar W.  
3111 Gilmer Avenue  
Winston-Salem, N. C.
- Kean, Miss Elsie  
316 Jefferson St.  
Orange, Virginia
- Koontz, Dr. Amos R.  
1014 St. Paul Street  
Baltimore 2, Maryland
- Koontz, Dr. Warren W.  
Allied Arts Building  
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Fairview Farms  
Scottsville, Va.
- Marguard, Mr. Frank H.  
3010 Floyd Ave.  
Richmond, Va.
- Marshall, Mrs. Alice  
Arlington, Virginia
- Marshall, Mr. James W.  
Address incomplete
- Martin, Mr. & Mrs. James E.  
Stevensburg, Va.
- Martin, Mr. & Mrs. T. I.  
901 S. East St.  
Culpeper, Virginia
- Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. H.  
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- Showalter, Mr. & Mrs. W. R., Sr.  
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- Vann, Mrs. E. E.  
253 Sunset Avenue  
Englewood, N. J.
- Wayland, Dr. John W.  
53 Weaver Avenue  
Harrisonburg, Va.
- White, Mrs. R. M.  
5026 Sylan Road  
Richmond 25, Virginia
- Willis, Mrs. Lelia Spotswood  
809 S. West St.  
Culpeper, Virginia



A group of the descendants who were present at Germanna on April 26, 1953 for the dedication of the granite monument which stands in the center. For the story of this event see "Germanna: Outpost of Adventure," pp. 12; 85-87.

## A BRIEF PROGRESS REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP

More than 100 members of the Foundation are active and enthusiastic supporters, and this number is gradually increasing. Requests for information come frequently. The size of the membership is very gratifying, first because an opportunity to join the Foundation was given but a few months ago, and second because interest and enthusiasm for the success of our purposes and objectives are high and stable.

Wide-spread interest is attested by the fact that seventeen states, including the District of Columbia, are already represented in the membership. These states are listed below for your information. It is hoped that one or more chapters of the Foundation will be organized in each one.

1. California
2. Colorado
3. Connecticut
4. District of Columbia
5. Florida
6. Georgia
7. Indiana
8. Kentucky
9. Louisiana
10. Maryland
11. Missouri
12. New Jersey
13. New York
14. Ohio
15. Pennsylvania
16. Virginia
17. West Virginia

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### OFFICIAL SEAL



## ADDENDA

## GERMANNA GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Germanna, in a horseshoe bend of the Rapidan River, south side, now near the northeast end of Orange County, Va., when first settled in 1714 was in Essex County. In 1721 Spotsylvania County was organized, formed from Essex, King William, and King and Queen. Thereafter, until 1734, Germanna was in Spotsylvania, and was the county-seat until 1731 or 1732, when the court was moved to the new town of Fredericksburg. In 1734 Orange County was formed from Spotsylvania, and since that time Germanna has been in Orange. It was the first settlement in Orange.

At first there were indications of silver deposits at or near Germanna, and on Mine Run, six miles to the west, a mine was opened that was believed to yield silver ore. On August 25, 1716, while the company was gathering for the tramontane expedition, John Fontaine and others tried unsuccessfully to run some of the ore. Again, on the 12th of September, after the return from the mountains, Fontaine and a Mr. Robinson attempted to melt ore in the smith's forge. Their failure may have been due to their lack of training in that kind of work. The forge was probably built primarily for blacksmith work—sharpening hoes, picks, etc., and shoeing horses. Better equipment for smelting ores was no doubt soon provided, and good iron ore was found 13 miles farther down the river where the furnace was set up in 1717 or thereabouts. Years ago by the riverside, near the ford at Germanna, was an oblong pile of rubble which may have been brought there from the supposed silver mine.

That the original settlement of 1714 was in the horseshoe bend of the Rapidan, and that it was known as Germanna and German-town from the beginning, is apparent from incontestable evidence. John Fontaine, who was with Governor Spotswood on the expedition over the Blue Ridge in 1716 and at other times, kept a daily journal which has been before the public for more than one hundred years and is accepted as thoroughly reliable. In it he tells of a visit he made to Germanna in 1715 and of his sojourns there in 1716 with Spotswood and others, preceding and following the tour over the mountains.

Repeatedly Fontaine says that Germanna was on the river

(he calls it the "Rappahannoc" and the "Rapid Ann") thirty miles above the Falls (site of Fredericksburg and Falmouth). By present roads the distance is much less than thirty miles, and we might suppose that Germanna was farther up the river, were it not for the well-known streams west of Germanna to which Fontaine makes definite reference when Spotswood and his party started westward towards the mountains.

They started about 1 p. m., August 29, 1716, and went only three miles that afternoon, camping on a small stream that they called Expedition Run. This stream is shown on the maps three miles west from Germanna, though on some of the maps it is not named, and on some it is named Russell Run. The next day, continuing westward, they came to and crossed Mine Run, three miles farther on, and after three miles more to Mountain Run, where they camped. The third day, August 31, five miles beyond Mountain Run, they came to the Rapidan River and crossed it.

On the maps these streams are all shown at the exact distances westward from Germanna as stated by Fontaine: Expedition Run three miles west, Mine Run six miles, Mountain Run nine miles, and the river 14 miles west from Germanna. Hence it is plain that the starting point must have been at the horse-shoe bend—it could not have been anywhere else.

In 1732 Col. William Byrd, visiting Colonel Spotswood at Germanna, wrote of a row of "ruinous" houses that German families had occupied years before, and says that those families had moved northward ("higher") to land of their own. Those families could have been only the colonists of 1714 who moved up to Licking Run, in what is now Fauquier County, in or about 1720. Fontaine had seen the same row of houses in 1715 and mentioned them in his journal. By 1732, when Byrd wrote, they could have been falling into ruin.

Mr. W. W. Scott, in his well-known history of Orange County, published in 1907, says: "Far and away the most ancient and most historic settlement [in Orange County] was Germanna, in the peninsula formed by the Rapidan. . . . . These German Protestants who came in 1714 were in fact the First Settlers of Orange, then a part of Essex, afterwards of Spotsylvania, and not called Orange until 20 years later."

J.W.W.