

Germanna

Newsletter of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia

An Earthquake, a Wedding, and a Hurricane One Extraordinary Week at Salubria

Heather Cheek and Joseph Lunceford, both teachers in the Culpeper County School system, visited Salubria during Culpeper's April Remembrance Days and decided then that they wanted their August 27 wedding to be held in Salubria's boxwood ring. Little did they know what an adventure it would become!

Central Virginia experienced a 5.8 magnitude earthquake on August 23, 2011 at 1:50 pm. The epicenter of the quake was in Mineral, Virginia, a small hamlet located about 20 miles from Salubria.

Like many historic buildings near the epicenter, Salubria's tall brick chimneys suffered significant damage, fracturing and twisting the top eight feet of both, making it dangerous to be near the house. Fortunately, there was no roof damage from falling bricks and no serious damage to the perimeter walls of the venerable house.

To make matters even more interesting, Hurricane Irene, one of the largest and most dangerous storms to hit the east coast in memory, was due on August 28.

The damaged portions of the two severed chimneys, which measure 22 feet from roof to

cap-line, had to be quickly removed for everyone's safety. Bricks falling from this height would pose a serious danger to persons on the ground, and could also wreak disastrous damage to the roof and its structural members.

Doug Harnsberger, Russell Hitt and Mitch Filipowicz's combined energy and resources made it happen. Twenty four hours after the earthquake, Doug Harnsberger, a historic architect and a Foundation Trustee, Andy Schwind, Hitt Construction engineer and Elizabeth Tune of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, were on site to make an initial evaluation.

Twenty four hours later, there were two cherry pickers and a full team from Hitt Construction and Price Masonry working full daylight hours to carefully deconstruct the damaged chimneys.

The teams slept in the Guest Cottage and worked all daylight hours. Leta Scherquist and Kathy Ellis kept up frequent communication to the anxious bride-to-be whose reception site, the Culpeper Depot, was also closed due



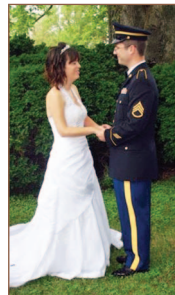
to earthquake damage.

The result of this coordinated teamwork at Salubria was the safe removal of the top eight feet of both chimneys at Salubria by Friday evening, after two days of intense deconstruction work. All of the salvageable brick from the severed chimneys were gently brought down to the ground and stacked for future chimney cap reconstruction.

A happy (and unforgettable) wedding for Heather and Joseph proceeded on Saturday morning, and no further damage from hurricane Irene occurred on Sunday.

Fundraising for the immediate restoration of the chimneys has already begun, and your donation would be most welcome. Please specify that your donation is to "Save Salubria." ■

By Kathy Ellis and Doug Harnsberger



Earthquake at Germanna Visitor Center

On a perfectly beautiful day, August 23, the Brawdus Martin Visitor Center at Germanna experienced a 5.8 earthquake. Seven visitors, volunteer Sandy Wemmerus, and office assistant, Brenda Rogers were in the visitor center. There was a noise like a jet plane inside the building, and then the building began to shake violently and accelerated in fierceness. It

probably lasted for approximately 50 seconds, but it seemed longer to those experiencing it. Brenda Rogers, the staff member in charge, quickly had everyone exit the building. It was a frightening experience. There were other visitors who had walked to the river and reported that the water shot into the air twenty feet. No one was injured. Brenda made the wise

decision to close the visitor center since we did not know the extent of damage, but she returned the next day to inspect the building since there had been subsequent tremors. One melon-sized stone fell from the building. Books had fallen from shelves and pictures had been moved. We are thankful for no further damage. ■ *By Brenda Rogers*



Presidents Message



J. Marc Wheat

By the time this newsletter has gone to press, the Germanna Foundation will have announced the appointment of a new executive director to succeed Dr. Frank Turnage, who publicly announced at the Conference and Reunion in July that he would be retiring.

The Germanna Foundation was greatly blessed by the executive directorship of Dr. Frank Turnage, President Emeritus of Germanna Community College, whose reputation as a "True Gentleman" reflected well on all the contributions made to our culture through the Germanna Foundation.

The noted Virginia historian, Dr. John Walter Wayland, Germanna descendant and one of the founders of the Germanna Foundation, is known best in some circles for a short essay entitled "The True Gentleman."

Written for a contest sponsored by the *Baltimore Sun*, this essay continues to shape the

character of young Americans and is a standard to which we expect Germanna Foundation trustees, employees, and volunteers to adhere.

The fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon adopted "The True Gentleman" as its creed in the 1930s. For many years, the fraternity did not know who wrote the essay until its authorship was discovered in the United States Naval Academy Midshipmen's Guidebook.

Dr. John Walter Wayland, a true gentleman, lived his life according to the words of his essay, repeated in countless homes and campuses to commission a young man on new voyage in life, and reflecting the ethos which we seek to inculcate in ourselves as representatives of the Germanna Foundation:

"The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will and an acute sense of propriety and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not

make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others rather than his own; and who appears well in any company; a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe."

Dr. Turnage's service and effectiveness were abundantly evident at the 54th Annual Germanna Conference and Reunion this year. The team effort brought very high levels of satisfaction in our surveys, the second highest attendance on record, and by far the most money raised toward our goals for the Foundation in 2011 and 2012.

In this newsletter, you will find a rather comprehensive survey that will help make the Germanna Foundation more effective. Please mail in your completed survey so that we can learn from each other, and match your passions and interest with on-going projects that will advance our shared heritage in Germanna. ■



Germanna Across America

Germanna Descendants Michael Rouse, Kathy Caminiti and Warren Heist stand proudly at the entrance of Hopeful Lutheran Church, Florence, Kentucky. They were among the main organizers of the "Germanna in the Hinterland" event held in Boone County, Kentucky on July 20, 2011.

Hopeful Lutheran is a daughter church of Hebron Lutheran in Madison, Virginia and was founded by Germanna descendants who migrated to Boone County, Kentucky in 1805. Sitting in the historic 1917 sanctuary surrounded by beautiful stained glass windows dedicated to Germanna descendants, attendees learned about the history of Hopeful Lutheran Church from the Rev. Dr. Charles Aylor (a Germanna descendant) and about Boone County's Germanna settlers from Michael Rouse. Following lunch, there were excursions to the local cemeteries, the Boone County Public Library and the Boone County Courthouse. Germanna Foundation Trustee Cathi Clore Frost chose to visit the Courthouse basement records.

After looking through the usual land and tax records, she checked out the Lunatic Inquests of the early 1900s and found a future project—Jeff Rouse—who "when at home roams about the country wades the creek, abuses his sister, threatens to kill the neighbors and family and burn property."

The final activity of the day was a delicious dinner at the historic Tousey House Tavern in Burlington, Kentucky. ■

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Reunion 2011: First Colony Tour

The first stop of the day was Spilman Park in Jeffersonton, the site of the 1730s Little Fork Colony of relatives of First Colony families. Local historian Perry Cabot reported the results of continued research and mapping of the Little Fork grants in Culpeper County.

Virtually all the original German grants are now accounted for and fit neatly between the large grants to Englishmen on the south and the Rappahannock River on the north. The configuration and sequence explain many details regarding land use, family relationships, and even early politics.

As we left Spilman Park, we saw Hebron, the home of Harmon Fishback, built around 1734 and still occupied. We continued on to the Hitt Cemetery along the Rappahannock River on the homestead of Peter Hitt and his wife, Hannah James near Amissville in Fauquier County.

Peter, the son of John and Mary Hitt and grandson of Peter and Elisabeth (Otterbach) Hitt served in the Revolutionary War under Capt. Elias Edmonds.

Near Warrenton we made a brief stop

at the elegant Ashland/Ashlawn, much expanded today, but once the home of Joseph and Caty (James) Holtzclaw.

Part of the Martin land acquired in 1729, Joseph purchased the land in 1768 for 15 shillings and it stayed in the Holtzclaw family for 160 years. Currently it is on the market for \$8.9 million!

In Warrenton, the county seat, we saw Brentmoor, the home of Judge Edward M. Spilman. James Keith, member of the Black Horse Cavalry, President of the Virginia Court of Appeals and Chief Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court bought it in the 1870's. John Singleton Mosby, commander of the Partisan Rangers or Mosby's Rangers, bought the house in 1875.

Next we traveled to the site of the c. 1719 Germantown settlement. At the Martin Home/Cemetery near Crockett Park, the sole prominent gravestone is said to mark the burial place of the Reverend Henry Haeger.

The late 19th century farmhouse contains part of the original Martin house, one of four remaining First Colony homes, the others



being "Fleetwood," the home of John Fishback; "Hebron," the home of Harman Fishback and the John Hoffman home in Madison.

Our final stop of the tour was the Rogers Ford Winery on the Rappahannock River on the farm that had been home to George Kemper and his wife, Anna Field. George Kemper is the great grandson of the First Colony immigrants, Johannes Kemper and Elisabeth Catherina (Ailsey) Otterbach. Carlotta and John Puckett, the owners, shared the history of the house with us, including letters written during the Civil War.

John took us on a hayride to the river, an ideal ending to a day filled with education and fun. ■

By Barbara Price

Reunion 2011: Second Colony Tour to Madison County

On the morning of July 15, 2011, fifty Second Germanna Colony Descendants gathered for a tour of Madison County, Virginia, the area in which their ancestors settled. John Blankenbaker provided narration for the tour.

After crossing into Madison County, the land patents of Weaver, Huffman, Moyer, Lang, Castler and Rouse were noted. The tour route passed to the south of the town of Madison in order to drive across the Holt, Broyles, Wayland, Kaifer and Moyer patents.

Ann Miller, Architectural Historian for the Virginia Department of Transportation, met the group at the entrance to the historic Madison County Courthouse and gave an informative talk on the area history.

Who knew that turkey drives took place along the Blue Ridge Turnpike, herded right past the courthouse? She also arranged for a tour of the newly renovated court room which continues in use.

Following the courthouse tour, free time in town was enjoyed visiting Joan Tanner at the Feed Store, the Madison County Historical Society in the Arcade building, or relaxing in the shade before boarding the bus.

Next the tour traveled across the Kerker patent to Hebron Lutheran Church. Upon arrival, all visited the historic sanctuary and John Blankenbaker spoke on the history of the church.

Judy Ann Fray discussed some recent maintenance including painting that had recently been completed to the church. At John Blankenbaker's request, a freewill offering was taken to help with the stewardship of our heritage. Thanks to the generosity of tour participants, the offering netted \$198 plus \$2 added by a member to make an even \$200 for the church Historic Preservation Fund.

After leaving the historic sanctuary and entering the more modern parish hall, the tour was served a delicious fried chicken lunch prepared by Hebron's Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America group.

After lunch, the tour continued across the Utz, Willheit, Blankenbaker, Thomas, Fleshman and Snyder land patents. Having been warned that the bus could not negotiate the left turn onto Weaver Hollow Road, our skilled Blue Ridge Coach driver negotiated a difficult about face and, because the bus bot-



tommed out at the entry of the drive, parked on the road.

Those who were able walked the quarter mile driveway to Deale Mountain Farm to see the historic farmhouse, setting of owner Maxine Weaver Crane's book *Ask for Nothing*, while others waited patiently and visited in the air conditioned comfort of the bus.

The tour resumed across the Crigler, Clore, Cook, Carpenter and Kerker patents while looping back to Madison.

The tour made a final stop in Madison County at the Prince Michel Winery on Route 29 where free tastings were offered and bottles with specialty labels including Germanna surnames were available for purchase. ■

By Cathi Clore Frost

Germanna's Trip to Germany—a Family Historian's Dream

For any genealogist there can be nothing more exciting than actually seeing where one's ancestors lived, to walk in their footsteps, and to imagine what their life must have been like. For me, the trip to Germany with my fellow Germanna travelers was all about that but so much more.

I am a descendant of at least fifteen Second Colony families and was able to visit many villages of interest to me.

In Lambsheim in the Palatinate, home to my sixth great grandparents, Leonard and Anna Maria Bender Christler, I was able to walk the streets of the quaint double-walled village complete with a moat.

I got to see the Lambsheim landmark, a quaint conical white tower with a charcoal slate roof that had originally been part of the

town's medieval defenses.

I saw Schmied Lane where my seventh great-grandfather, Johannes Bender, may have operated his blacksmith business before he left in 1719 to come to Pennsylvania.

I saw the Rathaus (or City Hall) on Hauptstrasse where Johannes Bender and his sons-in-law, Christian Merkel and Leonard Christler, sold their property in 1719 in preparation for their trip across the ocean. These three families landed in the port of Philadelphia and settled in Pennsylvania.

Leonard Christler's son, Theobald, would become a member of the Second Colony when he moved to Virginia in the 1730's. Once settled in the Robinson River Valley, he and his wife, Rosina Garr would raise a family of twelve children.

Rosina Garr, the eldest daughter of Andreas and Eva Seidelman Garr, was also a Second Colony late-comer to Virginia. The Garrs (or Gaars) had also settled originally in Pennsylvania and then moved to Orange County, Virginia in the 1730's.

On a beautiful Sunday morning in Waldbach our Germanna group attended services at the church where my Wayland/Wieland ancestors had worshipped before they immigrated to Virginia.

There we were greeted by Pastor Petra Schautt at St. Kilian's Church. I was thrilled to meet another Wieland, possibly a long-lost cousin.

Later that afternoon, we visited the Evangelical church at Willsbach, another church associated with the Wayland family.



Leslie Hall meets a Wieland (Wayland) cousin when we attended the Pentecost service at St. Kilian's Church, Waldbach. (photo by Marcia Perry)



Leslie and Pastor Petra Schaut find the Wieland baptismal records at St. Kilian's Church, Waldbach. (Photo by Marcia Perry)



The group listens to the pastor at the Lambsheim Church. (Photo by Frank Hall)



The watch tower in Lambsheim, village of the Chrisler family, which was recently restored by the town's Heimatverein.



Close-up of the church register at St. Kilian's, Waldbach. (Photo by Marcia Perry)



Talking at the doorway of the Lambsheim Protestant church with the pastor, our guide Jochen Eichbusch, and the newspaper reporter, Bettina. (Photo by Marcia Perry)

Pastor Helmut Krause, his wife and daughter greeted us and graciously served us refreshments. After showing us the church, Pastor Krause proudly pulled out some of the early church records.

To my amazement he showed us the record of the marriage of Thomas Wieland and Maria Barbara Seppach who were married in Willsbach in 1711. Thank goodness, Pastor Krause was fluent in English but could also read the old German script. He provided a copy of the marriage record as well as baptismal records for two of the Wieland children, Hans Jacob and Anna Catharina Clara Wieland. What a treasure!

In Ötisheim, home of the Broyles family, we toured the church and were treated to a magnificent organ recital.

In Oberoewisheim we viewed the church where some of my Blankenbaker, Schone,

Fleishman and Thomas ancestors worshipped when they lived in Neuenberg.

When we arrived in Neuenberg we were greeted in the town square by members of the Heimatverein (local heritage society). To our surprise and delight, they provided us with a taxi (actually a tractor drawing a Kemper trailer piled high with hay bale seating).

Aboard our taxi, we took a scenic ride through the grape-vine covered hillsides for a fantastic view of their lovely village. Once aboard, they served us wine in wine glasses, and then slowed the wagon long enough for us to harvest fresh cherries dangling from the trees over the lane.

In Illenschwang we peeked into the church where the Gars worshipped before they left for Pennsylvania. At nearby Sülzfeld, home of the Zimmermans, we visited the Ravensburg Castle, and were treated to a fantastic scenic

view of the surrounding vineyard strewn countryside.

When I look back on this trip I cannot help but be amazed at the wonderful opportunity provided by the Germanna Foundation's customized trip. It was wonderful to visit the ancestral villages of so many of my 18th century German ancestors.

I would encourage anyone researching their Germanna origins to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. You will travel the roads your ancestors traveled, you will get an idea of what their lives were like in their small rural villages, and you will meet the friendly German people, maybe even some cousins. It is so meaningful to do that and to learn how your ancestors experienced their environment. I don't think you'll regret your decision. It is unlike any other trip you will ever take. ■

By Leslie Hall



Group leader Madison Brown introduces our group to the congregation at St. Kilian's on Pentecost. (Photo by Ellis Hitt)



Tour leader and Germanna Foundation Trustee Katharine Brown show several Kemper and Martin descendants the entries for their ancestors in the Muesen church book from the late 1600s.



Germanna Foundation Trustee Horst Schneider shows several Hitt descendants an early map of the Rehbach farm near Siegen where they were standing, and where their ancestor, the 1714 immigrant Peter Heide, was manager.



Our Siegen guide and Germanna friend Alida Matthey shows our group the remarkable baptismal bowl given by the Nassau ruler Johann Moritz to the Nicholaikirche in Siegen.



Hitts meet with their German cousin Eberhard Heide, a Foundation member, at our farewell banquet at the Ongelsgrob restaurant in Siegen-Buchen. From left, Gary Hitt, former trustee Mary Doyle Johnson, Jean Williams, Heide, Germanna Foundation Trustee Ellis Hitt, and Beverley Hitt.



We enjoyed a superb luncheon at the Palace Café at Schwetzingen Castle after touring the castle and its exceptional gardens, considered among the finest in Germany.

Tenth Annual Tour of Ancestral German Villages in 2012

Next June will mark the tenth anniversary of the highly popular Foundation tour to visit the German villages in the Siegerland, the Palatinate, and the Kraichgau from which our Germanna ancestors emigrated in 1714, 1717, and later. Tour dates will be Tuesday, June 5 to Saturday, June 16, 2012.

The itinerary for this trip is never completed until tour guides Madison and Katharine Brown know exactly who has registered for the trip and who their Germanna ancestors are.

They make sure that the principal villages from which the ancestors of participants emigrated are included.

Some towns and villages have been visited each of the previous nine years, including Freudenberg, Siegen, Oberfischbach, and Trupbach in the Siegerland, and Gemmingen, and Schwaigern in the Kraichgau, as there has never been a year families from those towns have not been represented on the tour.

Other villages have been visited some years and not others. For example, Oberschelden in the Siegerland is home to the Spilman and Crim families, but we have only visited it once, the year that a Crim descendant was on the trip.

This past summer we visited three villages in Baden-Wuerttemberg for the first time, Waldbach, Willsbach, and Lehrensteinfeld, homes to the Wieland/Wayland family, that was represented on the trip for the first time.

Regardless of the exact itinerary, this personally-tailored tour is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. You will sit in the church where your ancestors worshipped, you may hold the chalice from which they took communion in your own hands, and you may find their bap-

tismal entry from c. 1690 in the original parish register.

You may see a house in which your ancestors lived. You may even meet a cousin, the descendant of a sibling your ancestor left behind in Germany.

The red carpet is rolled out for us in every village. Mayors greet us, sometimes with a bottle of sparkling wine, and often guide us on a walking tour. Local historical societies turn out for us and may host us for "Kaffee und Kuchen."

Church organists give us private concerts. We share a worship service at one of the historic churches where the ancestors worshipped.

We enjoy some typical German specialties: beer at a brewery and wine at a winery. Sometimes we are even invited to a private home for a "Kaffeetafel."

We eat extremely well at local specialty restaurants—no "rubber chicken" meals in the hotel dining room for our group!

Your guides speak fluent German, as well as being a Germanna descendant and spouse who has lived and worked in Germany.

Barring a sudden drop in the value of the dollar, we believe that the Foundation can keep the price for the 2012 tour at the same level as in recent years, \$3,995 per person, with a \$400 supplement for a single room. This includes airfare from Dulles and all expenses in Germany except for one lunch.

You may register by sending a check for \$100 per person to the Germanna Foundation address, or you may register online at www.germanna.org. ■



The Heimatverein in Neuenburg (home village of Blankenbaker, Fleischman, Scheible, and Thomas families) presented the group with a flag from the old duchy of Baden in which the town lies.



We posed with our guide in the courtyard of Heidelberg Castle for a traditional group photo.



We enjoyed an evening with the Heimatverein of hearty peasant food and fun music provided by the Zorn family at their winery in Neuenburg.



Save Salubria!

We ask you "movers and shakers" to consider donating to fund the restoration of Salubria's chimneys which were damaged in the strongest earthquake to hit Virginia in over 100 years. Donations can be sent by check to:

The Germanna Foundation

P.O. Box 279, Locust Grove, VA 22508-0279

or you can donate securely online via our website:

http://www.germanna.org/donate_to_germanna

Please specify that your donation is to "Save Salubria."

Thank you!

Rhine River Cruise offered in 2012

The Germanna Foundation is proud to offer a romantic Rhine River cruise next year. This seven-night cruise departs from Basel, Switzerland on September 2, 2012 and sails north, or down the Rhine to Amsterdam in comfort and elegance.

The cruise traces the river path taken by nearly all German-speaking persons who emigrated to the American colonies in the 1700s. That would include not only our 1714 ancestors who departed down the Rhine from somewhere near Cologne, and the 1717 and later ancestors who sailed from the area near Heidelberg, but also any non-Germanna ancestors that members have who came from Switzerland or from Alsace.

The nine stops and land excursions on the cruise include Breisnach in the Black Forest, Strasbourg in France, Ruedesheim in the heart of the Rhine wine area, Cologne with its magnificent cathedral, and a historic windmill area

in The Netherlands.

Participants will be in four countries: Switzerland, France, Germany, and The Netherlands.

The stops include walking tours and bus tours of historic towns and cities and an opportunity for wine tasting. The Rhine scenery, especially in the area of the castles and the famous Lorelei, is beautiful and world renowned.



The stops do not include any of the Germanna ancestral villages, as this cruise explores the river route the ancestors traveled, but not the towns and villages from

which they came.

The cruise ship, the Viking Helvetica, has 99 outside staterooms, a sun deck, wi-fi service, the use of bicycles and walking sticks, local evening entertainment, a lecture on "The European City from the Middle Ages to

the Present," seven breakfasts, five lunches, and seven dinners. Travelers will be met at the airport and transferred to the ship in Basel, and taken from the ship to the airport in Amsterdam. Pre-and post-cruise extension packages in Basel and Amsterdam are available for an additional fee.

Pricing for the trip depends on the category of stateroom chosen. The per person cost, including airfare from Dulles, will run from approximately \$4,400 for the basic stateroom to \$5,500 for the French balcony stateroom.

Persons who are interested in this tour should indicate so as soon as possible to the Germanna Visitor Center by sending a check or online credit card payment of \$100 per person as a deposit. These prices are based on an early enrollment discount, and will rise later. The web address is www.germanna.org. ■

Germanna Foundation Festschrift to Honor John Blankenbaker

The German word "Festschrift," meaning literally "festival publication," is used most often in America when a university professor retires. His or her graduate students who have achieved academic recognition produce a book in the professor's honor that contains essays by these distinguished scholars whom he or she has trained.

The trustees of the Germanna Foundation have voted to produce a Germanna Record *Festschrift* honoring John Blankenbaker for his career of remarkable research that has saved the genealogies and family histories of so many of our Germanna ancestors.

John's work has included his outstanding "Beyond Germanna" series, publication of original records, especially of Hebron Lutheran Church, and many wonderful talks prepared for Germanna Reunions.

The *Festschrift* will be published as another volume in our long-standing Germanna Record series that the Foundation has published at various intervals since the first volume appeared in 1961.

John's own work, *The Second Germanna Colony and Other Pioneers*, appeared as Germanna Record Number 18 in 2008 and should be on the bookshelf of every member who is a descendant of a Second Colony immigrant or other German family that moved into the Madison county community prior to the American Revolution.

To make this volume possible, your Publications Committee members are soliciting essays from the members and friends of the Germanna Foundation.

All essays are welcome whether you are descended from a First Colony, a Second Colony, a Little Fork, or a later immigrant, or from Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood. The scope of John's research and writing has extended to all of these people.



All of us have been inspired by John's work and have benefitted from it in doing our own research.

If you have written up portions of your own family's story that you have researched, please submit a chapter or an essay to be considered for inclusion in this volume. Your committee has the editorial skills to work with your material. We only ask that you include documentation, so that those who read your

essay can know what your sources were.

If you want further information, or if you have an idea you would like to place before the committee for consideration, please e-mail its chair, Katharine Brown, klbrown@cfw.com or send it in a letter to her at the foundation address. ■

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Germanna Reunion 2011



A highlight of Reunion was the presentation, by the 2011 travelers to Germany, of the handsome set of Wappen, or coats of arms, for some of the villages from which Second Colony emigrants came. These are the work of Werner Hoffmann-Gassner, a talented friend of Germanna from the village of Eisern in the Siegerland.



A group of Reunion attendees listen as archaeologist Kerri Barile explains the work that was done on the site of Lt. Governor Spotswood's grand home, often called the "Enchanted Castle." The archaeologists discovered what appears to be part of the palisade of the original 1714 Fort Germanna under the governor's house.



Two young Germanna descendants, Jordyn Price (left) granddaughter of trustee Barbara Price, and Laura Elizabeth Wheat, daughter of board president Marc Wheat, examine a map of the Fort Germanna site.



The Saturday banquet is always a special occasion. This year was doubly so because of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Observance underway in Virginia. Our event took place at the Inn at Kelly's Ford, site of a battle in that terrible conflict. The Black Horse Cavalry, a famous unit from Fauquier County that included many Germanna descendants, appeared during the social hour prior to the banquet and went through maneuvers for our group.



On Sunday morning, the final day of the Reunion, the Reverend Greg Hampton of Yorktown led a Morning Prayer service in the beautiful new cloister in the Memorial Garden at the Brawdus Martin Visitor Center.