



# Germanna FOUNDATION

Honoring Our Historic Heritage  
GERMANNA.ORG

FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER

## FIELD NOTES By Dr. Eric Larsen Germanna Archeologist

After the reunion, I began reading up on Alexander Spotswood's expedition over the Blue Ridge. This past August marked the 299th Anniversary of the "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe." John Fontaine's journal provides a first-hand account of the outing. As I was reading his description of the 5 days of preparation at Fort Germanna, I was struck thinking about what sensations the First Colony settlers must have experienced.

They had lived as a small, isolated community along the frontier for nearly two years. Suddenly they encountered an influx of 12 English gentlemen, their servants (most likely enslaved Africans), four Meherrin Indians, and two companies of Rangers (each company comprised of an officer and six men).

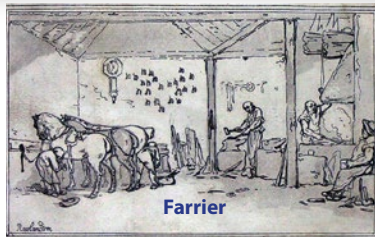
Calculating from Fontaine's description, there were more than 30 new faces among the Ger-

mans at Fort Germanna readying for this trip over the mountains. Spotswood's reports note the company was comprised of 63 men and 74 horses ("Journal of the Lieut. Governor's Travels and Expeditions Undertaken for the Public Service of Virginia." *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Second Series, 3, no. 1 (Jan. 1923): 40-45).

The level of activity at the Fort must have been remarkable. Many of the horses were shod there at Germanna. The ringing of farriers' hammers must have been heard throughout these days. Tents were raised in and around the palisade walls. The smell of cook fires must have filled the whole settlement. What were they eating? How many different languages did the children of the German settlers encounter during these preparations? These five days encapsulate much of the significance of the Fort Germanna

Site—multiple cultures meeting on Virginia's early 18th century frontier. The Germanna Foundation's Archaeology Program is readying itself to begin its own explorations of the 18th century frontier.

Over the next few months we will be mapping the area around the Enchanted Castle and Fort Germanna Site. The intent is to create a



digital map of the current conditions at the site. With this we can create a grid that will be used for all our future work. And we'll be conducting a systematic, ground penetrating radar

(GPR) survey of the site. The ground-penetrating radar doesn't "do" the archaeology for us, but helps us target where best to begin new excavations.

The hope is to find more of the fort's walls, structures, and artifacts associated with its occupation. These would be a whole new data source with which to study life at the Fort. The potential is there to add archaeological data to the documentary record of Fort Germanna and the Enchanted Castle.

We are now embarking on our own expedition to Fort Germanna. Very exciting! ◆



## You Haven't Been to Germany Until You've Been with Germanna! Plans Set for 2016 Germany Trip - June 14 to 24

The Germanna Foundation is proud to offer its 14th summer trip to Germany to visit villages from which your ancestors emigrated in the early eighteenth century. The group will depart from Washington - Dulles Airport (IAD) on Monday, June 14, 2016 on Icelandair. After a plane change

in Keflavik, Iceland, the group will continue to Frankfurt, to board the vans that transport them around Germany. The trip will be ten days and nine nights in Germany, returning from Frankfurt to Washington-Dulles on Thursday, June 24, again on Icelandair.

The final itinerary details will be completed once your Germanna guides know all of the group registrants and the villages from which their Germanna ancestors emigrated. This makes the Germanna tour a custom-designed tour that just cannot be duplicated from any other tour guide company. The first part of the tour will be in the Siegen area where the 1714 First Colony and

*Continued on page 3*







## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

J. Marc Wheat

In 1714, Germanna was the westernmost settlement of the British Empire. And it was German-speaking. Settled on the frontier by Governor Alexander Spotswood to meet potential security threats and to explore the feasibility of establishing an iron industry in the Colony of Virginia, the first emigrants to America from the villages around Siegen were committed to transplanting their families from one side of the Atlantic to the other. They would encourage others to follow, and welcome those who made the hazardous journey.

Many of us are the grateful descendants of Germanna families—Spotswood, Blankenbaker, Clore, Crigler, Fishback, Hitt, Holtzclaw, Kemper, Rector, Utterback—names that passed out of memory in Europe, yet evoke profound attachments of familiarity in America.

Even so, memory runs deep across the Atlantic. The Germanna Foundation owes its transformation from an association to hold an annual picnic to what it is today through the generosity of one man: **Ernst Flender**, a Siegen native and a descendant of “Tyl van Fiske” [Fischbach/Fishback], born circa 1420, ancestor of most first colo-

ny descendants. Ernst Flender first visited Germanna when he learned of its existence from a letter published in the *Siegerland Zeitung*. It was a letter of reconciliation written to the people of Siegen by **Dr. Charles Herbert Huffman**, later the first president of the Germanna Foundation, on the occasion of the re-dedication of the St. Nicholas Church ten years to the day after it was partially destroyed by allied bombing on December 16, 1944.

**The generosity of the Flender family gift was sufficient to buy 270 acres of the Germanna settlement along the Rapidan River.**

The original board of trustees having been drawn liberally from Virginia universities, scholarship and the commitment to education is in our DNA: we are very proud to have made a contribution of 100 acres of that precious land to build the first campus of Germanna Community College, with which we continue to enjoy a close relationship over 45 years later.



Ernst Flender

We are also proud to be a continuing part of the life of the villages Ernst Flender knew as a boy, and where many of our ancestors lived and died, through our annual Foundation-sponsored trips and as a founding member of the Deutsch-Amerikanische Gesellschaft Siegen-Wittgenstein. We are now exploring a formal relationship with the

University of Siegen to augment our ties with Germanna Community College, the University of Mary Washington, the College of William and Mary, and the University of Virginia.

Next year is the 300th anniversary of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe expedition over the Blue Ridge, which Dr. William Thornton, Chairman of the Faculty of the University of Virginia, called in the August 1896 edition of National Geographic maga-

zine, “a prototype of the National Geographic Society.” Readers have literally been dying since 1896 for a follow-up, and we hope that Dr. Eric Larsen’s fieldwork will provide us all with tantalizing clues about life in Fort Germanna.

On the cusp of the 300th anniversary of this important expedition of exploration, you can play the part of Ernst Flender. Your generosity can transform what we are now to what we are working to become: a National Historic Landmark. ♦

*J. Marc Wheat*  
marc.wheat@germanna.org



## CHIEF'S REPORT

Steven L. Hein

Just as your ancestors embarked on a journey of discovery and new opportunity some 300 years ago, the Germanna Foundation is at an exciting and historic time in our journey to learn more about, and tell the stories of, Germanna. As I look back on my one full year on the Foundation staff, I see tremendous progress—all thanks to your support.

Together, just some of the notable accomplishments we have achieved include:

- Remediation of the environmental threats to the Fort Germanna/Enchanted Castle archaeology site by completing the stabilization of the areas of previous excavation;
- Addition of a PhD-level archaeologist (**Dr. Eric Larsen**) to the Foundation staff fulltime; development of our long-term Archaeological Management Plan for the property;
- An historically accurate reconstruction of the 1st floor southeast window at

Salubria which had been removed in the early part of the 20th century;

- Influenced development planning in the Germanna area by supporting Orange County, Virginia’s 50-year Germana-Wilderness Area Plan;
- Received an unqualified opinion from Keiter, LLC of Richmond, Virginia, following its independent audit of the Foundation’s financial records;
- Sponsored another wonderful trip to Germany for a couple dozen Foundation members;
- Continued our annual reunion and conference tradition with another successful multi-day event, including hearing from our distinguished visitor, **Herr Karlfried Bergner**, Minister of Communications and Culture at the German Embassy.

As we near the end of the year, it’s an opportune time for you to help the Foundation keep this exciting momentum going. You’ll soon receive

our annual fundraising campaign mailing. When you do, remember how much your support has already done, and how much more we can do, and please give generously. We know Germanna is an opportunity to preserve and expand our understanding of American history, transatlantic history, exploration and westward expansion, and tell the stories of the men and women who forged their lives in this new land, and made history—your history. ♦

*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  
Barbara Price  
Steve Hein  
Cindy Kwitchoff, Designer (cjkccreative.com)



## Join the Willheit Book Crew

Willheit descendants **Don Willhoit** and **Al Welch** have commissioned genealogist **Cathi Clore Frost** to write an updated and documented account of the descendants of Germanna immigrants Johann Michael Willheit and his wife Anna Maria Hengsteler.

Target publication date for this new Germanna Record is July 2017 in order to be available on time for the 300th anniversary celebration of the Second Colony at the annual Germanna Reunion.

The approximately 700 page volume will include the first four generations of the family, along with basic information about the fifth generation who will be included as children of the fourth generation. Estimated cost for research, layout, cover design and printing is \$22,000.

Don and Al request your assistance to make this publication a reality. Designated donations are needed to defray the costs and should be made to the Germanna Foundation with the intention "Willheit Book" noted clearly. Those wishing to donate in installments may do so.

Donations of research, photographs and document images are also encouraged. Please email Cathi [cathiclore@comcast.net, subject Willheit Book], to get particulars about what is still needed for your line.

All donations, both monetary and of research materials, will be recognized in the foreword of the book. One need not be a Willheit descendant to donate toward publication. Please email for further information.

Don and Al note that the immigration of our ancestors would not have been possible without ship crew and passengers coming together and that this project will take a "boat load" of donations. Therefore, monetary giving levels will be organized per the chart below. If you have any questions, please contact either Don Willhoit willhoit@bellsouth.net and/or Al Welch debal3@aol.com, subject Willheit Book. ♦



LEVEL	AMOUNT	INCLUDES
Stowaway	\$1 - \$99	A grateful acknowledgement suitable for framing and tax purposes
Inside Cabin	\$100 - \$499	Memorial or Tribute
First Class	\$500 - \$999	Memorial or Tribute including line of descent from Johann Michael Willheit (names only) and copy of book
Mate	\$1000 - \$1999	Quarter page Memorial or Tribute including line of descent from Johann Michael Willheit (names only) with photo and copy of book
Ensign	\$2000 - \$2999	Same as above plus copy of book sent to library of your choice
Lieutenant	\$3000 - \$4999	Half page Memorial or Tribute including line of descent from Johann Michael Willheit with photo and copy of book plus copy of book sent to library of your choice
Navigator	\$5000 - \$9999	Full page Memorial or Tribute including line of descent from Johann Michael Willheit with photo and two copies of book plus copy of book sent to library of your choice
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

## Germanna 2016 Trip to Germany *Continued from page 1*

later the Little Fork families lived. The second part of the tour will be based in the Kraichgau area of the state of Baden-Württemberg, home of most of the Second Colony and later Germanna settlers. A visit to some villages in the state of Rhineland-Pfalz may also be included if descendants from that area are on the tour.

The guide for the trip is our own **Ulrike (E.K.) Mayer-Mello**, a native of Baden-Württemberg who participated in the 2015 tour, a German speaker and experienced tour group leader. She has worked closely with veteran Germanna guides **Madison and Katharine Brown** to develop the 2016 tour and logistics.

The price of the tour is just \$4,125 per person, sharing a double room (single room accommodations are available for a \$400 additional fee). This price includes round trip air transportation, ground transportation in Germany, all hotels, all

meals in Germany except for one lunch, and admission to all sites visited. Plus, because we plan the tour and our volunteers serve as your guides for much of the exciting journey, 20 % of this price may be tax deductible.

Seats are limited to just 25 people, and some are already reserved by members who were on the waiting list from last year's trip.

Otherwise, seat reservations are being accepted on a first-come, first served basis upon receipt of your \$100 nonrefundable deposit per person (which is applied to the price of your trip). We expect the trip to fill up fast, so make your deposit as soon as possible.

**To reserve your place, please call the Foundation at 540-423-1700 to pay your \$100 non-**



**refundable deposit by credit card over the phone.** You may also send your deposit to the Foundation (write *2016 Trip Deposit* on your

check please), but the quickest way is to call. Once all the seats are reserved, we will keep a waiting list in case any openings do become available later. Be sure to give the surnames of your Germanna ancestors at the time you make your deposit so we can include as many sites of interest and importance to you as possible. ♦





# MISSing

By Cathi Clore Frost



As the wife of three husbands and the mother of eleven known children who married into seven other Germanna families, my ancestress **Susanna Klaar** was one of the matriarchs of the Second Germanna Colony.

While 1717 Germanna immigrant **Michael Clore** has been a well-known figure in the Germanna story, it was only more recently discovered that his sister **Susanna Klaar** was also a member of the Second Colony. Thanks to the work of Gary J. Zimmerman and Johni Cerny published in the *Before Germanna* series in 1990, we have made the connection between Susanna and the Clore family.

Hans Michael and Susanna Klaar, as they were named in German records, are presumed to have been born in Gemmingen, Baden as that is where their younger siblings have recorded baptisms. Unfortunately, the Gemmingen church records were destroyed during the Thirty Years War and recommence just after the birth of Susanna. Their parents were **Hans Martin Klaar and Maria Anna Barbara**, surname unknown.

## FAMILY OF MARTIN KLAAR AND BARBARA:

1. Hans Michael Klaar aka **Michael Clore**, born about 1687<sup>1</sup>; will recorded 17 March 1763 in Culpeper County, Virginia<sup>2</sup>; married about 1706 Anna Maria Barbara, surname unknown<sup>3</sup>; married before 14 July 1760 Anne Elizabeth, surname unknown, in Virginia.<sup>4</sup>
2. **Susanna Klaar**, born about 1691<sup>5</sup>; died after 6 April 1764 in Virginia.<sup>6</sup>
3. Anna Barbara Klaar, baptized 7 October 1696 in Gemmingen.<sup>7</sup>
4. Anna Maria Klaar, baptized 7 August 1698 in Gemmingen<sup>8</sup>; married 1 April 1718 Hans Heinrich Sauselin in Gemmingen.<sup>9</sup>
5. Anna Barbara Claren, born 15 February 1702<sup>10</sup>; died 27 January 1703 in Gemmingen.<sup>11</sup>
6. Hans Adam Klaar, born 4 February 1704<sup>12</sup>; died 16 August 1704 in Gemmingen.<sup>13</sup>

The church records of Gemmingen also give us the previously overlooked name of Susanna's first husband, **Philipp Joseph Weber**. They were married 26 January 1706 in Gemmingen<sup>14</sup> and had six children baptized there. Another child was born while the family was en route to Virginia.

Soon after the arrival in Virginia, Philipp Joseph Weber died and Susanna married second to fellow 1717 immigrant **Jacob Crigler** with whom she had at least four additional children. All of the Second Colony Weavers and Criglers are descendants of Susanna Klaar. Jacob Crigler died before 3 April 1734 when Susanna gave bond as administratrix of his estate with her brother Michael Clore and George Utz as security.<sup>15</sup>

## CHILDREN OF SUSANNA KLAAR:

1. Hans Martin Weber, baptized 26 April 1707 in Gemmingen<sup>16</sup>; died 4 May 1707 in Gemmingen.<sup>17</sup>
2. Johann Georg Weber, baptized 23 March 1708 in Gemmingen<sup>18</sup>; died 23 May 1708 in Gemmingen.<sup>19</sup>
3. Hans Georg Weber, baptized 7 May 1709 in Gemmingen<sup>20</sup>; died 9 May 1709 in Gemmingen.<sup>21</sup>
4. Hans Dieterich Weber aka **Peter Weaver**, baptized 8 November 1710 in Gemmingen<sup>22</sup>; will recorded 18 August 1763 in Culpeper County, Virginia<sup>23</sup>; married estimated about 1726-1727 **Louisa Elisabetha Volck** in Virginia.
5. **Maria Sophia Weber**, baptized 26 October 1713 in Gemmingen.

**Gemmingen Church in 1842 with the tower dating from 1516. Gemmingen, ehemalige Pfarrkirche, am Turm datiert 1516, Südseite, 1842 bis auf das Untergeschoss des Turmes abgebrochen, 1846 Neubau, Bildarchiv der Kunst und Architektur, Marburg, <http://www.bildindex.de/bilder/Mi05351a07b.jpg>; accessed 16 September 2015.**

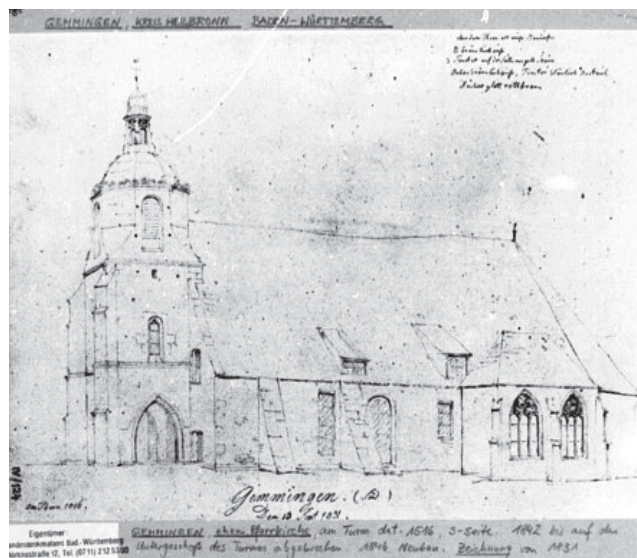
**Gemmingen in the 16th Century. Ansicht des ritterschaftlichen Orts Gemmingen, 4-1594149, J-B Gemmingen 3, Landesarchiv Baden-Württemberg, <http://www.landesarchiv-bw.de/plink/?f=4-1594149>; accessed 16 September 2015.**

gen<sup>24</sup>; married estimated about 1730 Hans Peter Fleischmann aka **Peter Fleshman** in Virginia.

6. Hans Georg Weber, baptized 17 December 1715 in Gemmingen<sup>25</sup>; died 15 April 1717 in Gemmingen.<sup>26</sup>
7. Waldburga Weber aka **Margaret "Peggy" Weaver**, born about 1717<sup>27</sup>; probably died before 25 January 1798<sup>28</sup>; married Johannes Willheit aka **John Wilhoit** in Virginia.
8. **Christopher Crigler**, born estimated about 1721 in Virginia; died between 9 September 1808 - 23 May 1810 in Madison County, Virginia<sup>29</sup>; married about 1750 **Catherine Finks** in Virginia.
9. **Nicholas Crigler**, born estimated about 1723 in Virginia; died before 19 October 1789 in Culpeper County, Virginia<sup>30</sup>; married before 1750 **Margaret Kaifer** in Virginia.<sup>31</sup>
10. **Susanna Crigler**, born estimated between 1721 - 1734 in Virginia; married **Michael Utz** in Virginia.
11. **Elizabeth Crigler**, born estimated between 1728 - 1733 in Virginia; died about 1811 in Madison County, Virginia<sup>32</sup>; married about 1749 **Michael Yager** in Virginia.<sup>33</sup>

Jacob Crigler's land patent was adjacent to that of Michael Clore. Apparently Susanna and her brother had a little disagreement over his choice of location to build a mill, as on 17 July 1735 Michael Claure petitioned to build a water grist mill and have one acre of the land of Susanna Crigler, who refused to sell.

The records are silent as to the cause of this refusal. Was Susanna trying to get a better price? Or did she just not want to give up part of her land? The Court sided with Michael and ordered







Richard Burdine, William Rush and Jacob Broyle, or any two of them, to view the land and if it took away no improvements to value it and Michael Claure to pay the money to Susanna Crigler.<sup>34</sup>

Again on 21 July 1736 Michael Claure petitioned to build a mill as one of the men appointed to appraise and value the land of Susanna Krigler had died. Three new men, William Lucas, Henry Caine and Henry McCoy, or any two of them, were to view the land and if it took away no improvements to value it and if Michael Claure paid Susanna Krigler for him to be put in possession of it.<sup>35</sup> Valuation of an acre of land belonging to Susanna Krigler was returned into court 27 January 1736 (Old Style) and by order of the court sold to Michael Clore.<sup>36</sup>

After once again being widowed, Susanna married third to fellow 1717 immigrant **Nicholas Yager**. As Nicholas Yager had only one son, it seems reasonable to assume that they were married by 1736 when he was taxed for 4 tithables.<sup>37</sup> Together Nicklaus Jaeger and Susanna his wife served as sponsors at the baptism of Elizabeth Hoffman on 3 August 1746.<sup>38</sup>

In 1748 the wife of Nicklaus Jaeger served as sponsor at the baptism of Anna Margaretha Hoffman.<sup>39</sup> Nicholas Yager died between 18 August 1751 when he and Georgia [sic] his wife served as sponsor at the baptism of Maria Hoffman<sup>40</sup> and 6 April 1764 when Susannah was mentioned as the widow of Nicholas Yager in sales of slaves to her sons Nicholas and Christopher Crigler.<sup>41</sup>

Susanna died sometime after this, as it is the last known record of her. There were no known children of the third marriage but Susanna would have become step-mother and grandmother to all of Nicholas Yager's descendants.

While it is wonderful to have all the records of events related to Susanna mentioned in this article, wouldn't it be great to have her exact birth and death dates? And to know her burial location? As my friend Barbara Price reminds us, "remember your female ancestors, they are half of your genealogy."

Do you have a MISSING female in your line? If so, contact Barbara Price at [Barbara.Price@germanna.org](mailto:Barbara.Price@germanna.org). ♦

<sup>1</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register (Lutheran Church), Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT, INTL Film 1189134, Item 11, Toten 1691-1729: 24-25 age recorded as 30 on 12 July 1717.

<sup>2</sup> Culpeper County, Virginia Will Book A: 315, will written 10 May 1762.

<sup>3</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register (Lutheran Church), Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT, INTL Film 1189134, Item 10 Taufen 1691-1724 and Item 11 Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>4</sup> Culpeper County, Virginia Deed Book C: 628-629, date Peter Clore bound himself to his father Michael Clore and mother-in-law Anne Elizabeth Clore.

<sup>5</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register, Toten 1691-1729: 24-25

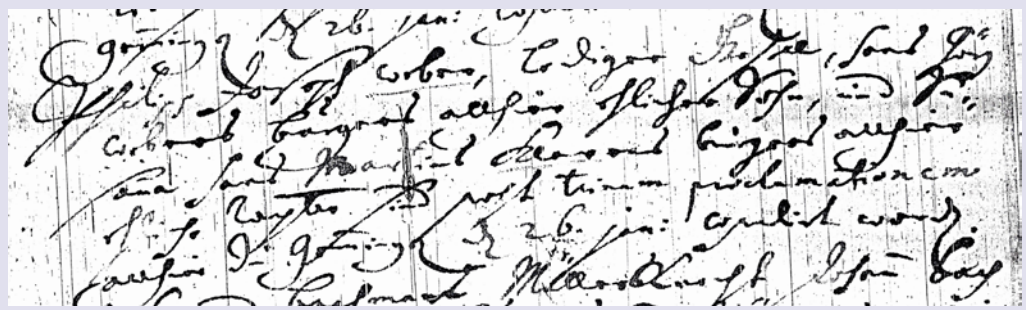


Illustration 1: Marriage Record of Philipp Joseph Weber and Susanna Klaar from the Gemmingen Parish Register of Marriages (Heiraten).

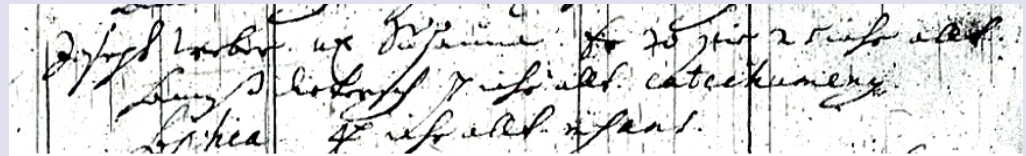


Illustration 2: The family of Joseph and Susanna Weber departing Gemmingen for "Pennsylvania" as recorded in the Gemmingen Parish Register of Deaths (Toten) on 12 July 1717.

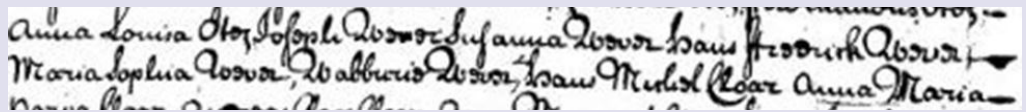


Illustration 3: Members of the Joseph and Susanna Weber family that arrived in Virginia and for whom Alexander Spotswood claimed headrights as recorded in Virginia Land Office Patent Book 14: 382.

age recorded as 26 on 12 July 1717.

<sup>6</sup> Culpeper County, Virginia Deed Book D: 495-497, date she sold slaves to her sons Nicholas Crigler and Christopher Crigler. This is her last known appearance in records.

<sup>7</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register, Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register (Lutheran Church), Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT, INTL Film 1189134, Item 12, Heiraten 1694-1731.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., Heiraten 1694-1731: 14.

<sup>15</sup> Spotsylvania County, Virginia Order Book 1730-1738: 296-297 and Spotsylvania County, Virginia Will Book A: 212-213.

<sup>16</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register, Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid., Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>23</sup> Culpeper County, Virginia Will Book A: 343-344.

<sup>24</sup> Gemmingen Parish Register, Taufen 1691-1724.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid., Toten 1691-1729.

<sup>27</sup> Virginia Land Office Patent Book 14: 382. Library of Virginia, Virginia Memory, Land Office Patents & Grants, <http://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/>; accessed 14 September 2015. She appears as "Wabburie Wever" on the list of Germans for which Alexander Spotswood claimed head rights.

<sup>28</sup> Madison County, Virginia Will Book 1: 162, date her husband's estate was divided among their children.

<sup>29</sup> Cynthia Crigler, "The Jacob Crigler Family, Part 1," *Beyond Germanna*, 9, no. 4, (July 1997): 511-512.

<sup>30</sup> Arthur Leslie Keith, "The German Colony of 1717 - Part 3," *William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine*, First Series, XXVI, no. 4, (April 1918): 239, date estate appraised.

<sup>31</sup> John Blankenbaker, *Hebron Baptismal Register*, (Chadds Ford, PA: 2003), 1. Their first child was born 8 August 1750.

<sup>32</sup> Elizabeth Yates Johnson, *Following John: Documenting the Identity and Path of John Yager Born 25 November 1750 Culpeper County, Virginia and his Extended Family*, (Baltimore, MD: Gateway Press, 2004), 46, notes that she appears in the personal property tax lists from 1797-1806, the land tax records 1796-1811 and the term "deceased" is never attached to her name, taxed only on land she purchased in 1796 and never for land she and husband Michael owned together which was taxed to his estate "Michael Yager, deceased" until sold in 1816.

<sup>33</sup> Hebron Lutheran Church (Madison, VA), Hebron Lutheran Church Register, Volume 1, Accession 29966, Church records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA, 8. Their first child was born 25 November 1750.

<sup>34</sup> Orange County, Virginia Order Book 1: 25.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid., 95-96.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid., 138.

<sup>37</sup> Barbara Vines Little, *Orange County, Virginia Tithables 1734-1782 Part One*, (Orange, VA: Dominion Market Research Corp., 1988), 3.

<sup>38</sup> "John Hoffman: Records from his Bible, 1663-1813" *Beyond Germanna*, 11, no. 2, (March 1999): 618.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., 618, date not listed, birth 27 November.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid., 618. The name "Georgia" must be in error as records indicate Susanna was married to Nicholas before this date and living long after.

<sup>41</sup> Culpeper County, Virginia Deed Book D: 495-497.





## Site of Largest Cavalry Battle Ever on American Soil—just a rifle shot from Salubria—May Become New Virginia State Park

The Civil War Trust has begun working in earnest with the Commonwealth of Virginia and a Culpeper-centered cluster of local and regional organizations, including the Germanna Foundation active in championing the full range of the county's resources—from the natural to the historic—to assess the potential for a new State park rooted in the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain battlefields.



A professional feasibility study—led by preservation landscape architect and longtime collaborator **Glenn Stach**, as well as **Kennedy Smith** of the Community Land

Use + Economics Group—will analyze how best to transition the nearly 1,200 acres of preserved battlefield land currently owned by the Civil War Trust at Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain into a state park.

Virginia Governor **Terry McAuliffe** has announced a goal of establishing 5 new State parks during his administration, with at least some of those happening in 2016, the Virginia State Parks System's 80th anniversary.

Culpeper County does not have a State Park within its boundaries now, and the Park System's vision has long been to have a State park within an hour's drive of every Virginian. The feasibility study is expected to be completed later this fall, and presented to the Commonwealth for consideration. ♦



**Germanna Genealogy Database**  
**GermannaFamily.org**

## Rapidan River Clean-up Support



BELOW: One of the most unusual items pulled from the river this year was this bowling ball, which was presented as a "thank you" from StreamSweepers to Germanna's Office Manager Barbara Bounds for the Foundation's support of the 2015 Rapidan River clean-up.



Over the summer we helped the clean-up efforts of another area non-profit group: StreamSweepers. StreamSweepers is a youth job corps program focusing on river restoration. Each summer about a dozen area young adults are trained and paid a stipend to go out on our area rivers to perform ecological assessments and trash removal. The group finished cleaning the entire Rapidan River this summer, a project which started two years ago. This is the first time an entire river valley in the Commonwealth of Virginia has been cleaned!

The Germanna Foundation provided Rapidan River access to the group, which included two Germanna Community College students this year, from our Visitor Center / Siegen Forest property. The sweepers removed more than 100 tires from the stretch of the river near Germanna alone, along with other trash including rugs, cans, bottles, televisions, tarps and even a playground slide.

Although their work was often very hard and dirty, they reported enjoying the company of the bald eagles along with all sorts of other creatures including eels, herons, large schools of fish, beavers, turtles, snakes and even some rather large carp! It looks like the river is teeming with life, and we are grateful for their efforts to encourage a healthy ecosystem at Germanna and all along the Rapidan. ♦



## Reconstructing our View of the Past

Thanks to a generous donation from **Russell Hitt**, the work of his company Hitt Contracting, and the craftsmanship of several others, Salubria has a brand new "old" window. The east window in the first floor southeast room (the dining room) had been removed in the early part of the 20th century for a kitchen addition to the house, with the opening where the window had been used for access

to and from the kitchen. When the addition was removed many years later (about 1950), a louvered wooden structure with a screen was installed instead of a window. Beginning in August 2014, the Foundation began the work to reconstruct the window to its original 1750's state. This involved removing the louvered structure, restoring the brick wall below the window's original opening, fabrication of a new window frame out of wood of the same type in the original window frames in the rest of the house, cutting of muntins, **hand crafting of window shutter hinges** to match others in Salubria, and many other details to ensure the window was reconstructed correctly and matched the others in the house. The end result, after months of work and \$37,000, is incredible to behold—can you tell which is which? ♦







# Germannia Membership Application and Donation Form

Annual membership helps the Foundation preserve the historic heritage of the Germanna colonists, their families and descendants, and ensures you stay up-to-date on Germanna Foundation activities through our informative newsletter. Membership also gives you exclusive access to the Germanna database (105,000+ records). **Additional contributions allow us to do even more, and are very much appreciated.** PLEASE NOTE: You can also register and donate online via our website, [GERMANNA.org](http://GERMANNA.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Germana Ancestors, if any/known: \_\_\_\_\_

## Annual Membership

- |   |                              |                               |                 |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal                          | <input type="checkbox"/> New | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift |                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership (one year) |                              |                               | \$ 35           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family membership (one year)     |                              |                               | \$ 45           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation              |                              |                               | \$ _____        |
| (see giving levels below)                                 | <b>Total</b>                 |                               | <b>\$ _____</b> |

- ☐ Please set up a recurring monthly donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for a total annual gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (monthly amount x12)


## Donor Levels

Germanna **Colonist**—\$100-\$499      Germanna **Scout**—\$5,000-\$9,999  
Germanna **Explorer**—\$500-\$1,713      Germanna **Pioneer**—\$10,000+  
Germanna **Ranger**—\$1,714-\$4,999

- ☐ Check enclosed
- ☐ Credit Card amount to be charged: \$\_\_\_\_\_

If charging your membership and/or gift, or to set up your recurring monthly donation, please complete below before mailing.

Acct No. \_\_\_\_\_



Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form, along with check or credit card information to:  
**Germanna Foundation, P.O. Box 279, Locust Grove, VA 22508-0279**

The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Annual membership includes a subscription to the Foundation's newsletter, a value of \$12 per year. No other goods or services are provided. The remaining portion of your membership dues and any additional contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## “Can I Go Up There?”

Nearly every visitor to Germanna under the age of 30, and many visitors older than that, ask the staff or our volunteers if they can go up the beautiful spiral staircase in the center of the museum in the Brawdus Martin Visitor Center. Inevitably the next question they ask is, "What can I



see?” For several years now the real answer to that has been “the tops of the trees,” although we do have some **Willi Lünenburger** artwork displayed on the walls below the windows. We’re looking to change that...

This fall, Mr. **Gil Kenner**, a Foundation member, supporter and volunteer, who is also an adult student at the University of Mary Washington (UMW) pursuing a bachelor's degree in historic preservation, is officially an intern with the Foundation as part of his museum studies minor this fall semester.

Gil is working on developing plans for interpretive exhibit(s) that could be displayed in the cupola area upstairs at the Visitor Center. Gil, who is also very interested in Salubria, will be working on revising the Foundation's Salubria brochure too, and is working with **Leta Scherquist** to produce a volunteer docent tour guidebook we'll be able to use to train and educate our future Salubria volunteers.

We're pleased to continue our close working relationship with UMW, and are looking forward to helping Gil achieve his academic goals while he helps the Foundation at the same time. 🍷

## 2015 Reunion Moment



Descendants of "Big Mike" Clore (1746-1817) representing four of his fifteen children gather around his family bible during a stop at the John Fishback home site on the 2015 Second Colony Tour. John Fishback married Big Mike's daughter Anna Clore.

Pictured from left to right are: Martha Fishback Breeden (present owner of the John Fishback home site), Joan Fishback Weaver (present owner of the bible), Skip Poole, Cathi Clore Frost, Warren Heist, Jane Byer Cook, and Fred Smith.

**See more 2015 Conference and Reunion  
photos on [Germannna.org](http://Germannna.org)**



*Honoring our  
Historic Heritage*



**Visitor Center and Hours:**  
2062 Germanna Hwy  
Locust Grove, VA  
Tues-Sat, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
540-423-1700  
foundation@germanna.org  
**GERMANNA.ORG**

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE  
GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA, INC.  
**THE GERMANNA FOUNDATION**  
P.O. Box 279  
LOCUST GROVE, VA 22508-0279



## **Germanna Foundation's 2016 Christmas Market Heart of Germany River Cruise**

Come join many of the Germanna Foundation cousins on a fundraising cruise that will visit the Christmas markets in five German cities in December 2016.

Also trace a portion of the river path taken by nearly all German-speaking persons who emigrated to the American Colonies in the 1700s, including the Germanna 1714 ancestors who departed down the Rhine River from near Cologne, and the 1717 Germanna and later ancestors who departed from the area near Heidelberg. All friends and family are welcome.

Sail along the picturesque Main River—Germany's heart and soul—on this enriching itinerary.

Our 7-day, 6-night river cruise departs from Nuremberg, on Friday, Dec 2, 2016, and sails

westerly, downstream, to Frankfurt, where we will disembark on Thursday, Dec 8, 2016.

Our river boat, the Viking River *Viking Tor*, a beautiful new 190-guest, 433-foot-long, longship, will make 5 stops, including:

- Nuremberg, Bavaria's 2nd largest city, Christmas market
- Bamberg, city tour, Christmas market
- Rothenburg, Christmas market
- Würzburg, tour the baroque Residenz Palace
- Wertheim, city tour, Christmas market
- Heidelberg, full-day excursion, Christmas market
- Frankfurt, transfer to the airport or extend your stay 2 nights in Cologne

The cruise includes 6 guided tours, 6 breakfasts,



4 lunches, 6 dinners, complimentary wine, beer, and soft drinks with onboard lunches and dinners, onboard lectures, and access to five Christmas markets.

Pricing for the trip depends on the category of stateroom chosen. The per person cost, including roundtrip air from Dulles International Airport, all transfers, and trip protection, run from \$2,717.00 (standard) to \$3,697.00 (veranda). Air from other air gateways is available. Pre- and post-stays are available.

Fund-raising proceeds will come directly from Viking River. A \$500/person deposit will hold a cabin. Final payment due by 6/15/2016, or earlier to secure a discounted air fare published on Viking River's website.

Contact the Germanna Foundation's trustee and Germanna descendant **Skip Poole** with any questions and to place your deposit:

**CELL:** 703-505-7593

**TOLL-FREE:** 888-877-2077

**EMAIL:** s.poole@cruiseone.com