# Germanna FOUNDATION

**SUMMER 2015 NEWSLETTER** 

### A Chance Encounter on a Plane: A Germanna Descendant meets a German Relative

It was in 1999 on a United

Airlines flight from Wash-

ington to San Francisco that a Germanna descendant

from Virginia, Anne Brit-

ton, who was living with

her family in San Francisco,

and a Trupbach descendant,

Horst Schmidt-Böcking, by

chance were sitting next to

each other. Fortunately, they

by Robert Britton and Horst Schmidt-Böecking in memory of Anne Britton, a Spilman descendant



Anne Britton

began to talk.

She told her neighbor that she had visited her sister and family in Virginia for the last time. Because of her cancer she did not expect to visit her family in Virginia again.

She was quite astonished when her German neighbor, who was born in the Siegen area, in return asked her in which part of Virginia that she grew up in. She thought "Why would this German citizen ask me such a question?" He cannot possibly know of my little home town? Nevertheless, she answered: "I grew up in Warrenton."

Horst had attended several conferences at the Warrenton Airley conference center, when

the United States Department of Energy had organized special meetings there on atomic physics.

Since Horst had been a life member

of the Germanna foundation since 1986, he had also visited the 200-year-old Warrenton cemetery a few times, where many graves can still be seen of Germanna descendants from the very early German immigrants. On their grave stones, which are still in very good condition, one can still can read the names: Utterback, Spilman, Rector, Fishback, Coons, Hanback etc.

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When he mentioned the name Spilman, she suddenly said: "Oh, my mother was a Spilman." This was the start of a long enthusiastic talk on family ancestry on that United flight. Fortunately, the flight took more than 4 hours. Anne Britton was about 70 years old in 1999, and Horst was just 60 years old.

During that flight both found out that

they were actually distant relatives, and that both had common roots in Trupbach near Siegen. Soon after that flight Anne Britton's son **Robert** had the opportunity to visit the small village of Trupbach on a trip to Germany.

More than twenty emigrants from the first Germanna colony were born in Trupbach. The members of the Rector (Richter), the Fishback (Fischbach), the Utterback (Otterbach) families and also Jakob Holtzclaw were all born in Trupbach. This was when the Britton family became aware that they were closely connected to Germanna

Soon after Robert's visit, Anne, Robert, and Horst met again at the Chez Panisse restaurant in

Berkeley near San Francisco and had lunch together. This was the last time that Horst saw Anne. She died of her cancer in April 2000.

Anne had informed her sister **Elizabeth (Betty) Gookin** who lives in Warrenton in the old Spilman

house named "The Oaks" about this coincidental meeting on that United flight. Betty invited Horst to visit her the next time he was attending a conference at the Airley center. A few months later Horst did visit the Gookin family at the old Spilman house.

Coming from Trupbach, where eight acres would be a large farm, Horst was deeply impressed by the size and status of the Gookin family property. For a German visitor, the land belonging to The Oaks house was unimaginably large. The beautiful Oaks house, gave more the impression of a palace or a chateau than of a farm house. The warm welcome to the house by Betty and her husband **Richard** was overwhelming and for Horst



unforgettable.

To explain later to friends in the US and in Germany the importance for Horst of what Germanna means to him, he has very often told this story of an accidental meeting on an airplane, which

had such deep family connections. In the 15 years since 1999 Horst has told this story more than a hundred times, but never expected to have again the opportunity to come back to this historical house with such nice hosts.

During last year's 300th jubilee Germanna

reunion and conference the unexpected occasion suddenly occurred as the bus tour of historic Germanna sites made a stop at The Oaks. For Horst it



Horst Schmidt-Böcking with Betty and Richard Gookin

was wonderful to meet Betty and Richard again in very good health 16 years later. This visit at The Oaks house of Betty and Richard was for Horst the greatest gift of the 2014 reunion. ◆



Enjoying the 2014 conference together: from right: Kim Ford (Daughter of Betty Gookin), Robert Britton, Marc Wheat (president of the Germanna foundation) and Betsy Anderson (also a daughter of Betty Gookin) (conference photo)





### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### J. Marc Wheat

On Palm Sunday, my son and I visited the Nikolai Kirche (Church of St. Nicholas) in Siegen, where Germanna's pastor (and my ancestor) Rev. Henrich Haeger was on staff as the conrector of the Latin School.

It was so good for us to sit in the same pew with friends I have made since becoming involved with the Germanna Foundation: the Foundation's Trustee Sven Eric Utsch, the Foundation's Herald Werner Hoffmann-Gassner; Werner's grandniece Danica Junker, who my family and our Treasurer Keith and Laura Hoffman have hosted in our homes in Virginia; and our two former au pairs, Annelie Manche and Sabrina Seng.

My son Benjamin, who speaks a few words of German, was surprised to pick out words of greeting from the pastor, and an explanation of the Germanna Foundation to the congregation. Werner arranged to have lunch in nearby Kreutztal at a restaurant that was part of a large estate owned by the Dressler family, the in-laws of Rev. Haeger.

That afternoon, we were joined on a tour of the Upper Castle in Siegen by the Eric Utsches and **Volkmar Klein**, a good friend of the Foundation who represents the Siegerland in the German parliament in Berlin. That evening, Volkmar took us on a driving tour of his district, and then hosted us for dinner at his home with his wife **Dorothee** and daughter **Ann-Sharon**.

Our members who have travelled with the Germanna Foundation to Germany can also speak of the big-hearted welcomes and hospitality they have received. Why is that?

"The mystic chords of memory," in Lincoln's phrasing, span the Atlantic. We each share a memory and a connection to this place, which was America in embryo: a place where people from England, Scotland, Germany, and Africa interacted with each other and with the native peoples. It was the frontier of European civilization, but not an isolated outpost. The faces and languages of the inhabitants told a complex story, and their letters

and trade goods back and forth across the ocean testify that this was part of a larger story that was transforming the history of Atlantic civilization.

And it continues. The Germanna Foundation is seeking to build lasting connections between the young people of Germanna's ancestral churches in Europe and the young people of America who descend from those congregations.

Led by our volunteer **Amelia Koehn**, a sophomore at the University of Iowa and our Transatlantic Church Coordinator, we hope to engage the young people of Germany and America in learning about the families they have on the other side of the ocean.

I. Mac What
marc.wheat@germanna.org



### CHIEF'S REPORT

### Steven L. Hein

As this year's reunion and conference time is upon us, I'm excited by the steady progress we're making at the Fort Germanna and Enchanted Castle site. While we fought a long and wet winter and spring, the work to stabilize and protect the Enchanted Castle site is nearly complete.

Many thanks to all of you who supported this important project with your donations and "sweat equity." Thank you to **Luck Stone** for donating the fill dirt needed; **Gary Bounds** for donating his time as our expert Bobcat operator; **Dave's Trucking** for hauling materials at cost; and the many other volunteers who came out to work under **Dr. Eric Larsen's** leadership to stabilize the site with new semi-permeable fabric and a protective layer of soil. This work better protects the site from the elements while allowing future excavation work to be done.

We did notice some trespassing activity over Memorial Day weekend with fresh ATV tracks on the property, but no damage to any of our historic assets was apparent. This does stress the importance of erecting a fence to further protect the property from such casual trespassers. We need to raise an additional \$15,000 to add to the \$10,000 we have set aside for this already in order to build nearly 4,500 feet of fencing along our 62-acre property—so please consider making an additional donation to support this important effort. Every \$110 contributed buys us about a 20 foot-long section of fencing, so how many sections can you help us build?

I recently had the pleasure of visiting with Harry ("Mac") and Sarah McNaught, the owners of Clovelly in Warrenton, VA. As many of you know, Clovelly is the historic Kemper homestead known in the past as Cedar Grove, and has been included on some of our First Colony reunion tours. The McNaughts are renovating the main home and have also renovated the cottage. The care and attention the McNaughts are paying to the home's historic nature, and the cemetery located on the property, is apparent and very much appreciated.

I also enjoyed the privilege and pleasure of accompanying the Germanna group to Germany in June. What struck me is the wonderful reception given to our members and the Foundation by not only our distant German cousins, but everyone



Clovelly—Historic Kemper homestead

we met in Germany. Such a relationship is unique, and makes the experience of traveling to Germany with Germanna one that cannot be matched and that will be remembered for a lifetime.

shein@germanna.org

Stan L. Ni

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 (cjkcreative.com)

### **Thank You for Supporting Germanna!**

Thank you for supporting the Foundation's work through your generous donations of money, as well as your time and sharing of genealogy information and records. These supporters' generosity has earned them a public thank you according to our new annual giving levels as noted below. Just as each stone contributes to a strong foundation, you are part of building the Germanna Foundation's legacy. **Thank you!** 

### **Germanna Pentagon Society (\$50,000 +)**

Russell and Joan Hitt Dr. Michael and Ginger Frost

#### Germanna Pioneer (\$10,000 - \$49,999)

The Hitt Family Foundation

### Germanna Scouts (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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Richard and Elizabeth Gookin

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David Zimmerman





Warmer weather has brought some new work for archaeology at Germanna.

Before the trees leafed out and the ground cover took over, Steve Hein, members of the Wilderness Battlefield Grounds Force, and I walked the bounds of the Fort Germanna/Enchanted Castle property.

We were doing this while contemplating what it would take to install a fence around the property. Walking the property line, I filled my notebook with several things I hadn't yet discovered.

Many new archaeology questions came to me including, "can we find evidence of the old road?" Wouldn't that be helpful in understanding the long history represented on this property. I have worked on roads and pathways before. They are not full of artifacts, but oh, a road can significantly add to our understanding how people moved around in the past.

This weather allowed the Fort Germanna/Enchanted Castle site to dry out enough to make real progress on our first big task—the stabilization of the Enchanted Castle excavations from 20 years ago.

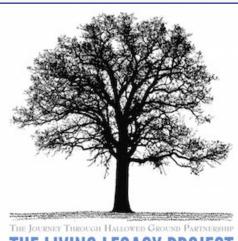
In May, with the help of **Luck Stone** and **Dave's Trucking**, we brought in 128 tons of clean fill for use at the site. Later, **Gary Bounds** volunteered to operate a tracked Bobcat loader and carefully moved the material closer to the edges of the old excavations.

We then began the heavy work of moving the fill into place by hand with shovels and wheelbarrows. In early June, we were able to bring in another 130 tons of clean fill to keep the work going.

The job of stabilizing the site requires us to replace the tarps that have covered the site for the last year. This has given me many opportunities to see for myself the remains of the Enchanted Castle.

While that has been exciting, it also reinforces with me how necessary it is that we stabilize the site properly and protect it for our future archaeological work.

As I've said other times about the stabilization, "it may not be the most exciting task we undertake for Germanna Archaeology, but it may well be among the most important."



### THE LIVING LEGACY PROJECT



Germanna Foundation Trustee Andrew Gutowski, COO Steve Hein, and Salubria caretakers Leta and Dick Scherquist attended the *Journey Through Hallowed Ground Living Legacy Project*'s tree planting dedication ceremony at the Inn at Meander in Locust Dale, VA on the afternoon of Sunday, April 12th.

Soldiers of the 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Virginia Army National Guard, the Stonewall Brigade, headquartered in Staunton, VA and led by Col William J. Coffin, planted more than 200 Rising Sun Redbuds on the very property where Jackson's troops crossed enroute to the Battle of Cedar Mountain in August of 1862.

The keynote speaker was legendary Georgia Bulldogs football coach Vince Dooley. Other speakers included the Founder and President of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, Ms. Cate Magennis Wyatt.

Also attending was Culpeper County Supervisor **Steven L. Walker**, who spent some time talking with Andrew and Steve about Germanna following the ceremony.

# Germanna Foundation Descendant Database

now available to Foundation members online at:

**GermannaFamily.org** 



### **Grand Entrance**

Many thanks to Germanna Trustee **Skip Poole** for donating the materials and more than 15 hours of his time to spruce up the roadway entrance area to the Brawdus Martin Visitor Center.

Skip first tended to the rusting wrought iron gates, which we're pretty sure hadn't been worked on since their installation some 15 years ago. Once rust removal was complete, Skip re-painted the gates a nice glossy black with rust-inhibiting paint. For you geocachers, the hidden geocache is still somewhere on one of the gates.

Skip also repaired some sections of the split rail fencing near the gates that had weathered and rotted over the years, giving our grand entrance a much-needed update.



## **Colonial Dames Necostin Chapter Officers Visit**

In May, **Katherine Cullen King**, President of the Necostin Chapter (Alexandria, VA) of the Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, and fellow Dame **Lea Fowlie**, visited the Fort Germanna/Enchanted Castle site to inspect their historic marker (erected in 1992 on the site) and meet with Foundation archaeologist **Dr. Eric Larsen**.

Afterwards, the ladies, both of whom had attended the marking ceremony in 1992, toured the Brawdus Martin Visitor Center. Katherine sent an email following the visit thanking the Foundation and staff for giving them the "royal tour!"





In my last article, I discussed the two wives of Hans Jacob Holzklau, Anna Margreth Otterbach and Catherine, maiden name unknown. What do we know about the first wife of Hans Jacob Holzklau, Anna Margreth Otterbach, and her family, namely, her sisters?

Anna Margreth Otterbach was one of five daughters of Hermann Otterbach and Elisabeth Heimbach. Her parents were married on 11 Aug 1685:



Hermann and Elisabeth (Heimbach) Otterbach lived in the village of Trupbach, in the house called, "Welmes," that was built around 1680 and is still occupied today. Welmes is the house on the right, c. 1960.



The Otterbach family is well documented in Trupbach. Hermann was noted in the census of 1707/08 as "Mannus Otterbach mit Ehefrau, 7 Kinder, 9 Personen, Vermogenslage Mittel (Average Income), Haus—Welmes."

Hermannus and Elisabeth (Heimbach) Otterbach had the following children whose baptisms were recorded in the Nikolaikirche (St. Nicholas Church) register in Siegen:

- 1. Anna Margreth Otterbach, born 1686
- 2. Ellsbeth Otterbach, born 1689
- 3. Johann Philip Otterbach, born 1692
- 4. Johannes Otterbach, born 1693
- 5. Johann Jacob Otterbach, born 1695. This child died as an infant on 30 Jan 1696.
- 6. Elisabeth Cathrina Otterbach, born 1697
- 7. Maria Cathrina Otterbach, born 1699
- 8. Johannes Otterbach, born 1702
- 9. Anna Catharina Otterbach, born 1705

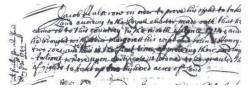
There are no records in either Germany or Virginia regarding the sons of Hermann and Elisabeth other than their baptisms. We do know that Hermann Otterbach was the first of the 1714 group to apply for permission to leave Germany, just a few weeks after Johann Justus Albrecht signed the contract with the ministers of Siegen.

On 5 Sep 1711, Otterbach stated that he wanted to emigrate to Prussia, a common request at the time according to the staff at the Stadt Archiv (City Archives) in Siegen, where the document on the right was found.

In Virginia, we can only conjecture as to the fate of the daughters of Hermann and Elisabeth. We know that before they emigrated, the eldest daughter, Anna Margrethe, married the school master at Oberfischbach, Hans Jacob Holzklau, her lifelong friend and neighbor in Trupbach. But, we do not know when she died for certain, just that her death occurred between 1727 and 1729 when his second wife, Catherine, is named in a Virginia deed.

We can gather some information about Margret and the other four daughters from the importation statements made by their probable husbands at the Spotsylvania County Courthouse in 1724

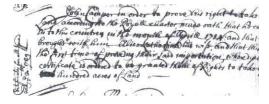
Anna Margreth Otterbach, born in 1686, the wife of Jacob Holtzclaw:



Ellsbeth Otterbach, born in 1689, is the probable second wife of Peter Heide/Hitt. His wife, Elizabeth is named in his statement, but there are no children named. This could be his first wife, Elisabeth Freudenberg, but it is thought that the first wife died before 1724:

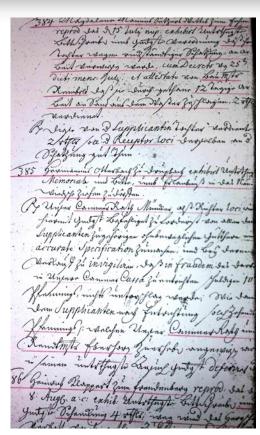


Elisabeth Cathrina Otterbach, born in 1697, named Alice Katherine in the document, is the probable wife of John Kemper, who emigrated from Muesen near Siegen:



Maria Cathrina Otterbach, born in 1699, is the probable wife of John Joseph Martin, who also emigrated from the mining village of Muesen:





Anna Catharina Otterbach, born in 1705, is the probable wife of Harman Fischback, one of the sons of Philip and Elisabeth Fischbach, who emigrated in 1714 from the village of Trupbach:

Hamon fitth back in order to proching at the take the action of according to the Roman accident to make down that Be can so cain few collony to dwell in the year 1924: Sur that to oranged to the Rim to proceed the Rim of proceed the interval of the time of proceeding their said importations to the first time to the feat of the case is ordered to be greated them of Right to take up on think so days of fam of Right

We can only guess as to the death dates of any of the Otterbach sisters. The only one of the above who is named in the will of her husband is Elisabeth, the wife of Peter Hitt, but there are no further records of her after her husband's death in 1772. Maria Cathrina, the wife of John Joseph Martin, died prior to his death in 1758/59 and his second wife, Eve, was still alive in 1777. Elisabeth Cathrina, the wife of John Kemper, probably died around 1745-50, prior to her husband's death in 1758/59. Anna Catharina, the wife of Harman Fishback, died prior to 1745 according to a deed dated 7 Feb 1745 in which Harman Fishback is solemnizing his marriage to the widow Mary (Otterbach)Noe/Nay.

Unfortunately, there is no certainty as to the deaths of the five Otterbach sisters, all wives of members of the First Colony. Wouldn't it be great to know when and where they died and where they are buried? Just another reason to take note of your female line, they're the other half of your genealogy!

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



Twenty-two travelers met at Keflavik, Iceland, airport early Monday 8 June for the flight to Frankfurt. They had gathered from flights from Dulles, Portland, and Seattle and represented Germanna descendants from at least 7 states. In Frankfurt, a Kentucky traveler and **Ulrike Mayer-Mello**, leader-in-training, met us and we piled into 4 vans to drive to the Siegerland.

In the homeland of the 1714 and Little Fork emigrants the Siegerlanders overwhelmed us with kindness and hospitality, beginning with a greeting from our longtime friend **Eckhard Guenther**, Mayor of Freudenberg.

The bells of Oberfischbach rang out in our honor as we arrived in the last church that Pastor Haeger and Schoolmaster Jacob Holtzclaw served before Virginia. The Trupbach Heimatverein put on a delicious lunch, a program about village history, music, and a walking tour.

Eisern rolled out the red carpet. Werner Hoffman-Gassner presented 10 more village Wappen for our Visitor Center, and our 38 German friends who visited Germanna Reunion in 2014 hosted a wonderful dinner with music, and brought items

for the 2015 Reunion auction fundraiser.

A visit to an iron mine nearby brought insight into the hard life that our mining ancestors led. (photo on the right) Coffee and cake in the beautiful home and garden of **Lisa and Hannes Kraemer** was a rare experience for American travelers, and dinner at the oldest pub in Siegen, where our ancestors may have enjoyed a beer, was the hospitality of our friends in the German-American Society of which Germanna is a proud charter member.

A walking tour of Siegen and concert in St. Martin's Church, and farewell dinner at Ongelsgrob among Germanna friends rounded out our Siegerland stay. Herborn, the town in Hessen where Pastor Haeger studied theology was an interesting stop on our way south from First to Second Colony homelands.

Hospitality in the Rhineland-Palatinate, in the Kraichgau region of Baden-Wuerttemberg, and in the Franconian region of that state and northern Bavaria was just as warm.

At least 15 different families and villages from the Second Colony were represented on this trip, and every one visited at least one of their family villages. In Lambsheim a special luncheon at a winery brought a sampling of the unique Palatine cuisine. You would be surprised how many Ger-

mannans thought Leberknoedel (liver dumplings) were delicious! In a tiny Franconian village of Bernhardswend, Gaar family descendants welcomed cousins with beer and sandwiches.

We worshipped in the St. John the Baptist Church in Schwaigern (Wilhite, Lederer & Koch village), filled with priceless art treasures of the 15th and16th centuries and received a warm welcome from the pulpit, heard scripture readings in English as well as German, and sang hymns known to the ancestors as well as an American spiritual.

Thoughtful touches for us everywhere! Pastors and organists in Hueffenhardt (Utz, Volck), Oetisheim (Broyles, Ruopp) and Sulzfeld welcomed us to ancestral churches and played music for us. Winetasting at an Oberderdingen family winery took us to another Germanna village.

We did some sightseeing as plain old tourists in Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Bruchsaal Palace, and the Auto and Technical Museum in Sinsheim.

We ate a LOT of excellent food, including the fantastic white asparagus, amazing salads, pork in every variety imaginable, venison, wild boar, lamb and remarkable ice cream sundaes. The Heimatverein in Neuenbuerg gave us a perfect sparkling wine welcome, tour, and evening of hearty peasant food, lots of singing, laughter, and good wine for our final day in Germany.

We were tired puppies by the end, but happy in what we saw and did. One traveler said "This exceeded my wildest expectations in what we have seen and done." Another said "Every day I think 'It can't get better than this, but the next day is even better!"



\$9,999





### Germanna **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.

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#### 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.

### Germanna **Condolences**

#### **Magdalene Ochel** Longtime Germanna friend

Foundation members were saddened to receive the news that Magdalene Ochel (nee Shäfer) died on 13 May.

Over the past half century, hundreds of Germanna descendants and members enjoyed the hospitality that she, her husband and family offered at Ongelsgrob, their inn, restaurant, and beer garden in Siegen-Buchen.

A Siegen native and lifelong resident, Frau Ochel was a proud lifetime member of the Germanna Foundation, and had visited Culpeper and Germanna in 1990 as part of an official delegation.

A woman of many accomplishments, including skilled needleworker, Magdalene Ochel took an active role in local and regional organizations and served as Ortslandfrau in Buchen, 1979-1994, and member of the Ortsvorstand (local administration) 1986-1994, where she worked on the historical chronicle.

In recognition of her public service, Magdalene Ochel was awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz (Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany) in 1994. This highest award of the German government was established in 1951 by the first President, Theodor Heuss and signed by Chancellor Konrad Adenauer. Among its foreign recipients is Queen Elizabeth II of of Great Britain. Frau Ochel received her Order of Merit and citation from the local administrative chief in a special ceremony at the Siegen-Wittgenstein Governmental Center in January 1995.

#### Dr. John F. Nash, Jr.

The Germanna Foundation extends its condolences to the family of Dr. John F. Nash Jr., a Germanna-descended Nobel laureate in economics whose life inspired the four-time Academy Award-winning film "A Beautiful Mind." He died May 23rd at the age of 86, along with his wife Alicia, 82, in a traffic accident.

The New York Times quoted University of Chicago economist Roger Myers who compared the impact of Nash equilibrium on economics "to that of the discovery of the DNA double helix in the biological sciences."

Dr. Nash also made contributions to pure mathematics that many mathematicians view as more significant than his Nobel-winning work on game theory, including solving an intractable problem in differential geometry derived from the work of the 19th century mathematician G.F.B. Riemann.

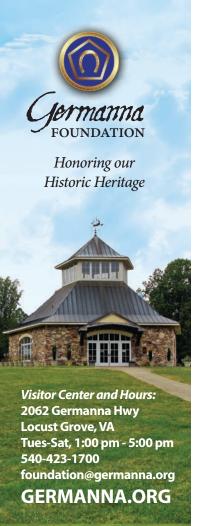
Just a few days prior to his death, Dr. Nash was awarded the Abel prize in mathematics from the King of Norway. Dr. Nash is survived by two sons, John David Stier and John Charles Martin Nash, and a sister, Martha Nash Legg.

According to the Germanna Foundation Descendant Database (now available to Foundation members online at GermannaFamily.org), the family descends from the Germanna 1714 families of Fishback and Heimbach and the 1717 families of Wilhoit, Clore, and Weaver.

### **Germanna Foundation Descendant Database**

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The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc. THE GERMANNA FOUNDATION P.O. Box 279 Locust Grove, VA 22508-0279



### 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, Germany, 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, Germany, on Friday, Dec 2, 2016, and sails westerly, downstream, to Frankfurt, Germany, 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
- Wurzburg, 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

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