



In the name of God Arnew I Peter Hitt of the County of Fauquier
and Commonwealth Virginia, being advanced in life but of perfect
Sense and Memory Thanks be to Almighty God for the same. do make
and Ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and form
following. Viz; I bequeath my precious and immortal soul to
Almighty God who gave it, in full hopes of pardon and mercy
and that I may be reunited to the dear Saviour Jesus Christ and may be
eternally united to my dear friends and family.

I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife, Sarah Hitt, during
her natural life for her Support, all the real and personal Estate I possess in this
County of Fauquier except as hereinafter expressed.



Germanna
FOUNDATION

Preserving the Past
Educating the Next Generation

*Lt. Governor
Alexander Spotswood*

John Fontaine





The Germanna Foundation Seeks Your Support

The Germanna Foundation owes much to the support and dedication of our generous members. More than 90% of the Foundation's funding is provided by annual donations from individuals. The Germanna Foundation must develop alternative resources and partnerships to achieve our goals.

Over the next decade, the Germanna Foundation will expand its facilities and programming to fulfill our mission of land conservation, historic preservation, education, and support for local and transatlantic partnerships. The continuation of the Germanna Archaeology program would compel us to hire more staff archaeologists and acquiring specialized equipment to aid our search for Fort Germanna.

The preservation of historic Salubria is paramount in creating a local and regional wedding and tourism destination to provide context not only to our Germanna narrative, but also to create a site where visitors can make an emotional connection to our history through interpretive tours.

Interpretation at the Fort Germanna Visitor Center and Siegen Forest would allow visitors to get a better understanding of Germanna's past, present, and future. The Germanna Foundation's dedicated staff needs support to continue providing excellent service to our descendants, visitors, and the local community.

We thank you for your continued support of the Germanna Foundation and ask you to join us in taking the Foundation to the next level.

Sincerely,

THE GERMANNA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Germanna Foundation President J. Marc Wheat presents a gift to Apollo 11 Astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the first person descended from the Germanna Colonies to walk on the Moon.





Welcome

I joined our community of Germanna supporters in 2013. It's been my pleasure to work with you as we grow the Germanna Legacy. If you feel as I do, you know that we stand on the shoulders of giants, and we are doing our part to preserve Germanna for future generations. I've witnessed the following accomplishments:

- Our Foundation's acquisition of the 62-acre Fort Germanna Property, the ancestral home of Germanna, in 2013.
- Hiring our staff archaeologist, Dr. Eric Larsen, in 2014. Since then Dr. Larsen has fortified our Fort Germanna site from environmental risks and is currently supervising the second summer archeological program. The summer programs are managed in cooperation with the staff of Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Completion of more than \$600,000 of repairs and improvements at Salubria following the 5.8 magnitude earthquake in 2011.
- Growing the Foundation's base of financial supporters by over 40% in the last 18 months.

To maintain this progress my wife, Laura, and I provide annual financial support and have made estate bequests to support Germanna.

Our community's progress is encouraging. Help us continue this good work and please consider an estate gift to preserve these gifts for future generations.

Keith

Keith Hoffman
Germanna Foundation Trustee and Treasurer



President's Message

The Germanna Foundation is at an exciting and important inflection point in our history. After nearly 60 years of trying, we finally acquired the archaeological site of Fort Germanna and Governor Alexander Spotswood's Enchanted Castle and are now undertaking our second full season of archaeological investigations.

Thanks to the generous pledge by Russell Hitt, the "Hitt Archaeology Center" has been built near the R. Brawdus Martin Fort Germanna Visitor Center to process, analyze, and safeguard artifacts discovered by Germanna Foundation Archaeologist Dr. Eric Larsen and his team. Our historic site has been called "one of the most significant eighteenth-century sites in Virginia yet to be excavated" by the late Ivor Noel-Hume, former Resident Archaeologist of Colonial Williamsburg, and we aim to prove him right.

In recognition of the importance of Germanna as the westernmost settlement of a westward-expanding America in 1714, upon the recommendation of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the U.S. Department of the Interior has initiated the process with the Germanna Foundation to evaluate the archaeological site as a National Historic Landmark—a distinction held by only three percent of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

At Salubria, thanks to designated gifts from supporters and members like you, we have completed emergency structural repairs needed following the 2011 earthquake and resumed our preservation plans for this stately colonial-era manor house, which likely inspired James



Madison's Montpelier. Salubria is a real treasure and may serve a critical role in interpreting the impact of the Civil War on the civilian population if Virginia acts upon a generous offer of land to create a new Brandy Station / Cedar Mountain Battlefields Virginia state park.

Key to our past accomplishments, current successes, and our promising future is your fully committed support as a generous member, donor, or volunteer. Germanna is about more than discovering Fort Germanna, stabilizing the Enchanted Castle, expanding our 100,000-descendant genealogical database, conserving Siegen Forest on the Rapidan River, or saving Salubria as a beautiful architectural showpiece. Sharing the stories of Germanna, a cornerstone of our nation's history, will help all who hear them discover insights and understanding to build their own futures while honoring our historic heritage.

Just as each stone contributes to a strong foundation, you are part of building the Germanna Foundation's legacy for all Americans.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

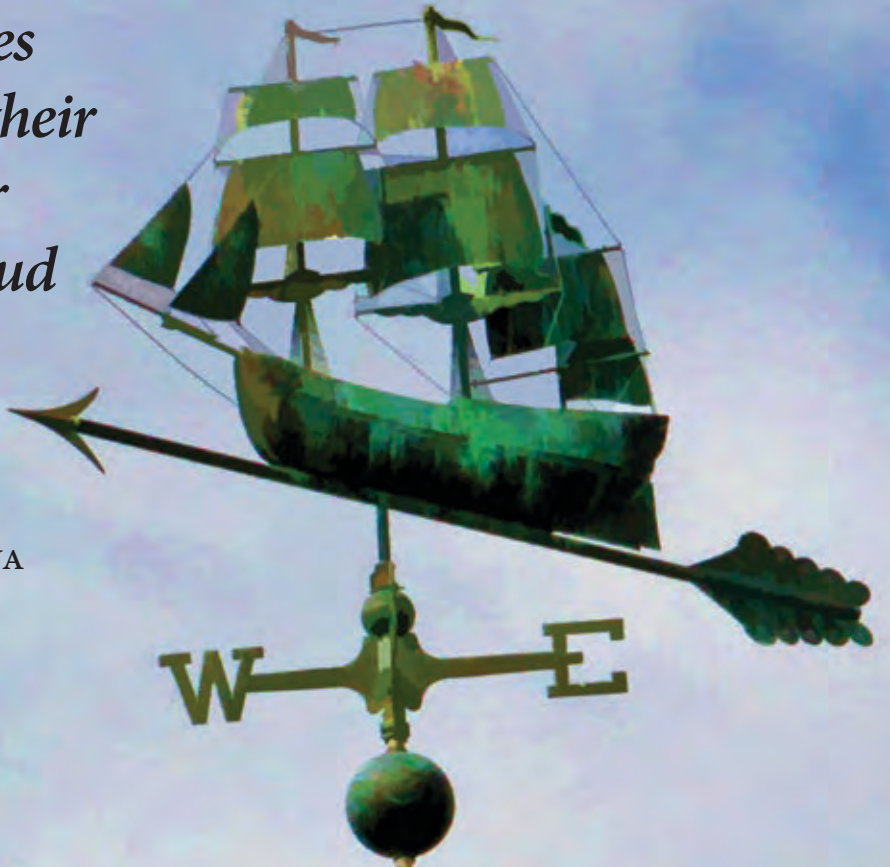
J. Marc Wheat

J. Marc Wheat
President
The Germanna Foundation



“I’m so happy that our German Ancestors are remembered and honored...their legacies continue on through their descendants and their children onward! Proud and honored to be a part of their legacy.”

QUOTE POSTED ON THE GERMANNA
FOUNDATION FACEBOOK PAGE



CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES:

FORT GERMANNA AND ENCHANTED CASTLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

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BRAWDUS MARTIN FORT GERMANNA VISITOR CENTER/ MEMORIAL GARDEN

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SIEGEN FOREST/HIKING TRAILS

Page 14

SALUBRIA MANOR

Page 16

BUILDING COMMUNITY

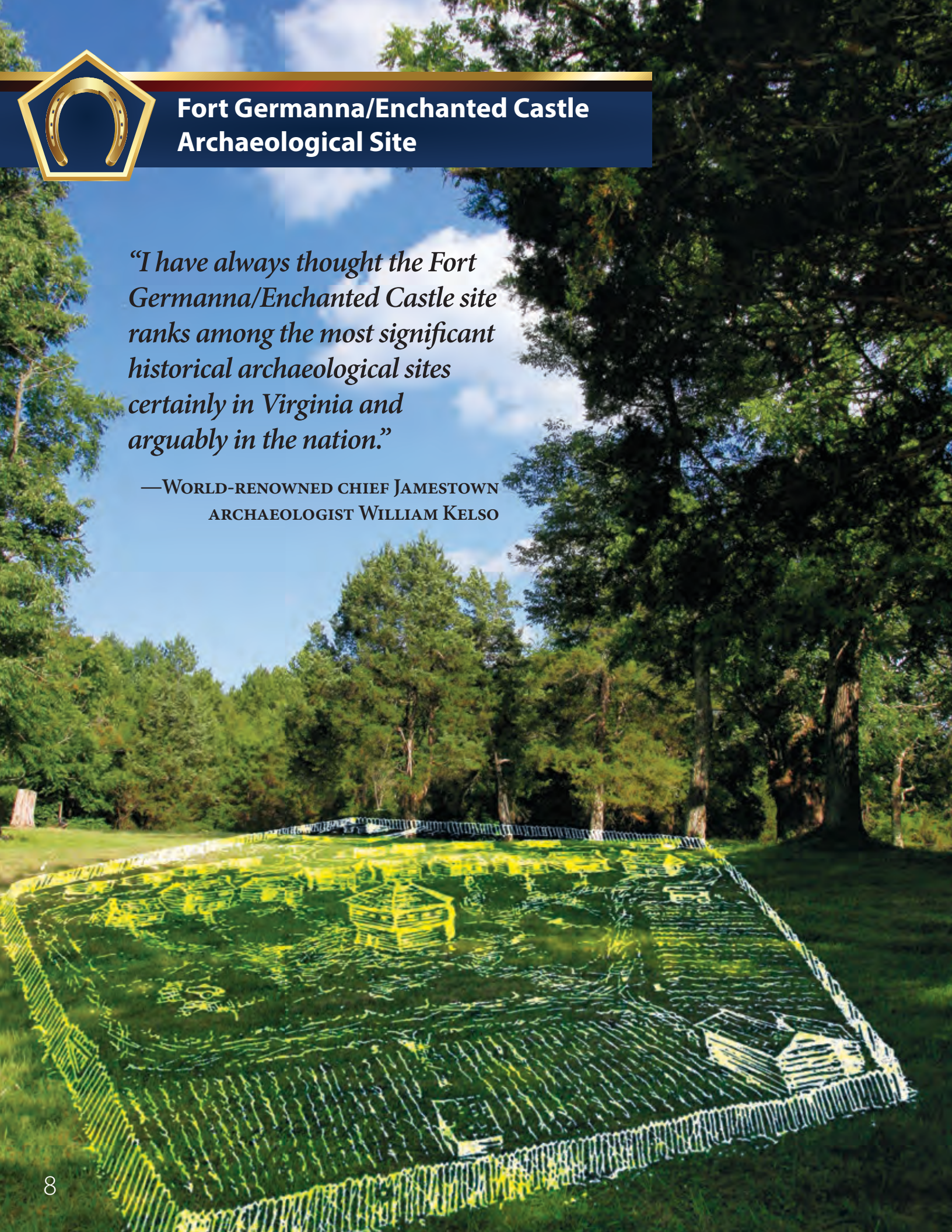
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Fort Germanna/Enchanted Castle Archaeological Site

*“I have always thought the Fort
Germanna/Enchanted Castle site
ranks among the most significant
historical archaeological sites
certainly in Virginia and
arguably in the nation.”*

—WORLD-RENOWNED CHIEF JAMESTOWN
ARCHAEOLOGIST WILLIAM KELSO



It's an exciting time at the Germanna Foundation as the Fort Germanna / Enchanted Castle archaeological site is being considered by the U.S. Department of Interior for National Historic Landmark status. The Germanna archaeology program is critical to our understanding frontier life in the westernmost settlement of the British Empire in 1714-1717, and will add insight to the process that forged German-speaking subjects of the King into citizens fighting for American independence sixty years later.

Thanks to two generations of persistence, in late 2013 the Germanna Foundation acquired the 62-acre archaeological site which our founding trustees had tried to buy in 1955. In 2014, the Germanna Foundation removed dangerous 20th century structures on the site and employed Dr. Eric Larsen as a full-time staff archaeologist. In 2015 Dr. Larsen stabilized the partially excavated Enchanted Castle site, the home built by Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood on or near Fort Germanna.



Dr. Eric Larsen, Germanna Foundation Archaeologist

In 2016, the Foundation “broke ground” on its own research program: excavations to define better the 1714 Fort Germanna began with the help of four hired interns under the direction of Dr. Eric Larsen and nine Virginia Commonwealth University Students under the supervision of Dr. Bernard Means. These were the first new excavations on the site in over 20 years.

The Germanna Foundation is continuing that endeavor by hiring another group of interns for a second season of excavations, and again we are welcoming the participation of students at Virginia Commonwealth University. Sustained support of the Germanna archaeology program will help facilitate the process of employing more archaeological staff, purchasing needed equipment, ensuring the site's protection and security, providing for more students and interns, and supporting the project's communications and administrative needs.





Hitt Archaeology Center

The construction of the Hitt Archaeology Center (generously supported by Germanna Trustee Emeritus Russell Hitt) will allow us the space to process and catalog the artifacts discovered at the Fort Germanna site. Once properly organized and contextually exhibited, visitors will engage the tangible evidence and new interpretations with which to explore and learn more about the lives created by the early Germanna colonists once they arrived in Virginia.

By advancing our archaeological program over the next 10 years, we hope to have dedicated archaeological staff continuing to work on Germanna sites. The additional findings—the artifacts unearthed—will prompt new questions. Staff archaeologists can promote Germanna's findings, giving presentations around the country on all the discoveries. With the progression of the archaeological program and lab, we will be able to showcase the physical products of Germanna colonists and be able to make tangible and emotional connections with items they would have used on a daily basis. 🏠





Germana archaeology
interns from the 2016
and 2017 seasons



Sample artifacts found during 2016 season

- a. Broken slate from the roof of Spotswood's Mansion (note the arrow pointing to part of a punched nail hole that once allowed the slate to be attached to the roof)
- b. A piece of a broken wine bottle
- c. A rim sherd from a Staffordshire Slipware platter dating to the early 1700s
- d. Three fragments of tobacco pipe stems made from clay
- e. A hand wrought nail (you can see the strike marks from the blacksmith's hammer as the nail was forged)
- f. A sherd of stoneware common to the 18th century
- g. A twisted piece of drawn out lead used to hold panes of glass together for windows



Brawdus Martin Fort Germanna Visitor Center / Memorial Garden

The Brawdus Martin Fort Germanna Visitor Center is the hub for all things Germanna. Our recently installed interpretive panels invite new visitors to learn how the early Germanna colonists arrived in Virginia. Seasoned visitors often make a bee-line to conduct genealogical research in the Evelyn C. Martin Library by searching out copies of primary documents and secondary sources in the Germanna Foundation's focused collections.

After the orientation at the Visitor Center, visitors can stroll leisurely to our Memorial Garden and see monuments honoring the founding families of Germanna, and stone pavers that pay tribute to members of the Germanna community. Soon, we will install new outdoor interpretive panels in strategic locations around the Visitor Center and Memorial Garden to allow visitors unfamiliar with Germanna to have a clear understanding of what the Germanna Foundation is and what it represents.



Over the next 10 years, we plan to increase our staff to coordinate volunteers across the country, create programming, and provide additional research to strengthen our genealogical projects. An education specialist will create educational programs at the Fort Germanna Visitor Center, Fort Germanna/Enchanted Castle, and Salubria for both children and adults using the cultural and natural resources available to us. A research historian will locate and collect other colonial records pertaining to Germanna, look into early county records, locate specific documents, and provide our genealogical library with rich primary source materials. The combination of hiring an education specialist and research historian will not only assist with creating a better understanding of our Germanna heritage among descendants, but also to educate a national audience as well. ◆





Siegen Forest / Hiking Trails

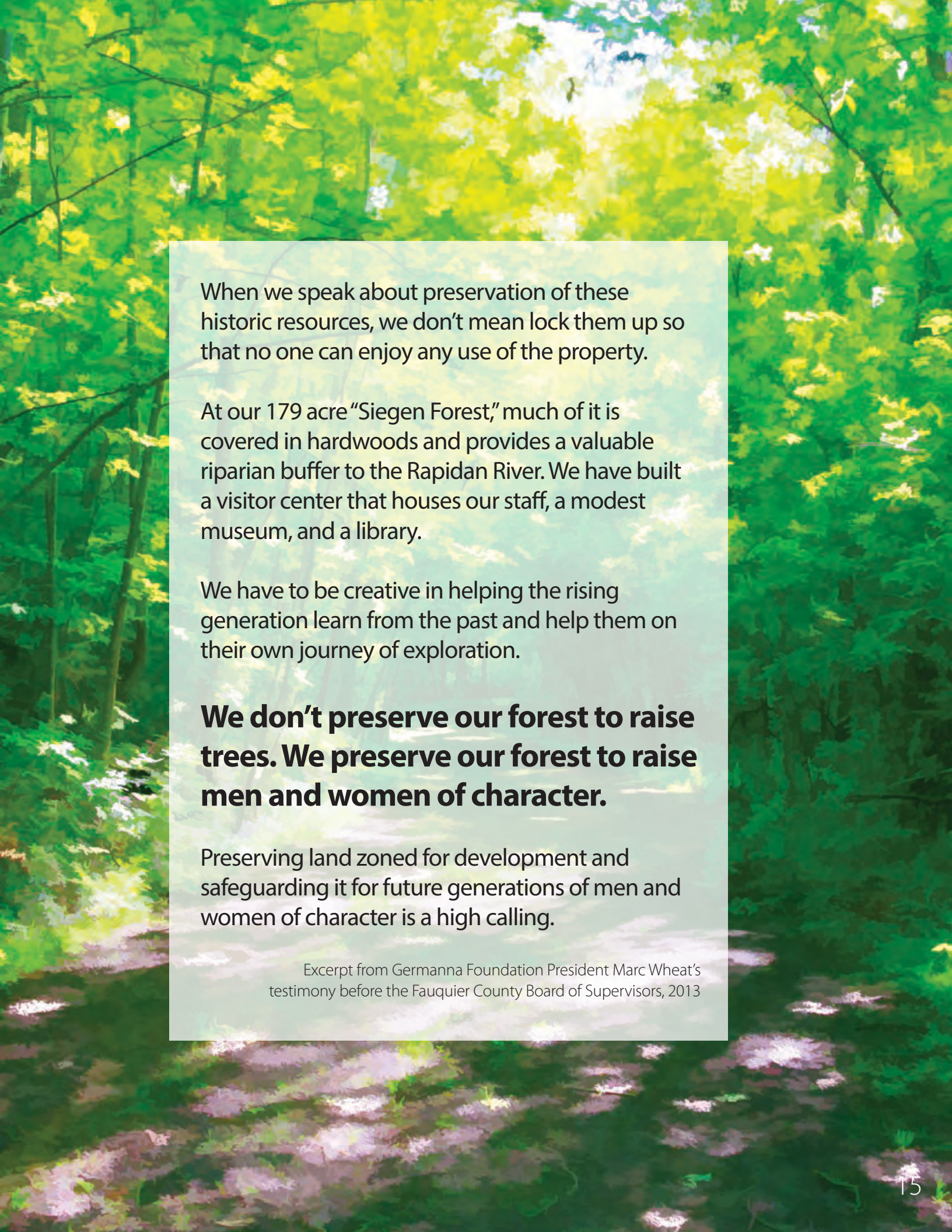


The Siegen Forest trails provide a unique opportunity to walk in the footsteps of history and explore Virginia's natural beauty.

In the near future, we plan to promote broader access to the trails and canoe launch, publish new trail guides, and erect additional outdoor signage. The interpretation of the trails will allow visitors to pinpoint prominent stops while hiking, such as the "Speaker's Platform" where early Germanna reunions were held, as well as Civil War-era sites and memorial trees.

Hundreds of geocachers have looked for, and found, more than a dozen geocaches that are hidden and accessible along the Red and Blue trails. Two of these geocaches are maintained by a Germanna Foundation trustee. 📍





When we speak about preservation of these historic resources, we don't mean lock them up so that no one can enjoy any use of the property.

At our 179 acre "Siegen Forest," much of it is covered in hardwoods and provides a valuable riparian buffer to the Rapidan River. We have built a visitor center that houses our staff, a modest museum, and a library.

We have to be creative in helping the rising generation learn from the past and help them on their own journey of exploration.

We don't preserve our forest to raise trees. We preserve our forest to raise men and women of character.

Preserving land zoned for development and safeguarding it for future generations of men and women of character is a high calling.

Excerpt from Germanna Foundation President Marc Wheat's testimony before the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors, 2013



Salubria Manor



Have you ever taken a step into a historic house and felt transported back in time? That's the feeling someone gets by stepping into historic Salubria. Built circa 1757, its soft pastel walls and large seated windows allow visitors to get a taste of true colonial Georgian architecture.

Salubria provides a stunning backdrop for holding a beautiful vintage wedding ceremony and reception, business meeting, family reunion picnic, or corporate retreat. Newlyweds can have their photos taken inside the elegant mansion and create a memory that will last forever.

Salubria was built by Reverend John Thompson for his wife, Butler Brayne, widow of former Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood. The house was later owned by James Hansbrough who named it Salubria.

As recently as 2013, repair work was completed to damage Salubria sustained after the 2011 earthquake, but there is more to be done to preserve Salubria. Reconstruction to the second floor walls, doors, windows, and ceiling will enhance the visitor experience

Another critical element to maximizing Salubria to its fullest potential is the development of a regular touring schedule. Volunteer tour guides, establishing interpretive panels and hard copy materials and proper signage with tour hours, can create a wonderful interpretive experience for visitors from all around the world.

Salubria is an architectural gem and within the next 10 years, it can serve not only as a wedding destination, but also as a tourism site that combines decades of history to tell a unified story of love and patriotism. ♦





Building Community



The Germanna Foundation is a family of families. Since its founding in 1956, the Germanna Foundation has continued to build relationships through kinship and scholarship to the ends of the earth.

We deepen our relationships with the American public by connecting their personal, local, and regional story ties to that of Germanna and its place in our Nation's history. Reaching across the Atlantic Ocean to partner with heritage and historical societies, we increase awareness among the local community at sites associated with the ancestors of Germanna colonists.

Over time, disseminating the heritage of Germanna to a broader audience will help the Germanna Foundation identify and inspire scholars to conduct research on various aspects of the Germanna settlement and its families. Our goal is to award competitive grants to underwrite the expenses associated with masters' theses or doctoral dissertations, with the objective of publishing Germanna research in peer-reviewed journals.

Connecting the fast-growing science of genetics with the study of Germanna families, the Germanna DNA Project (according to project leader Glen H. Cress, formerly of Mission Control during the Apollo space program), is going "gangbusters." "I get about 100 email notices a day for people submitting their DNA," says Cress. "It's going pretty strong." Presently, Germanna descendants are able to submit their DNA and match to other members. Within the next decade, Cress said he would like to combine DNA matches to the Germanna Foundation Descendant database. Cress is excited about the prospect that if our archaeology programs discover the remains of some of the early Germanna colonists, we could attempt to match DNA from the remains to families living today, which would allow us to connect Germanna families to a named Germanna colonist. ♦





A Message from the Board

As the Germanna Foundation celebrates its 60th anniversary, the Germanna Foundation Board of Trustees wants to thank our many donors and supporters who have sustained us for the last six decades. Without your generosity we wouldn't be where we are today.

As the Germanna Foundation grows and improves over the next ten years, we will continue to carefully steward our resources and partnerships. **Only you can make our work possible**, and we encourage you to take part in the Germanna Foundation's planned giving program.

We believe that taking part in the Germanna Foundation's planned giving program is a prudent strategy to help the Germanna legacy thrive for future generations. Here are a few examples as to why being a part of Germanna's planned giving program is import to us:



J. Marc Wheat, President

Marc and his wife Marie know that their planned gift to the Germanna Foundation will guide future explorers to a fixed place in America where their family's story began, the westernmost settlement in British colonial America where daily life was lived in German. They are grateful that the Germanna Foundation has for more than 60 years preserved the lands, published the histories, and convened the family of families to renew the community of friendships forged 300 years ago. "In all my years of researching my family's contributions to America, I've never seen a poem in a will. But I have put a few lines from T.S. Eliot in mine that I've long thought captures the essence of Germanna:"



WE SHALL NOT CEASE FROM EXPLORATION
AND THE END OF ALL OUR EXPLORING
WILL BE TO ARRIVE WHERE WE STARTED
AND KNOW THE PLACE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

T.S. ELIOT



Katharine Brown, First Vice President



Since Katharine was a museum director and taught in a small college, she knows the importance of planned giving to the fiscal health of non-profit organizations that depend upon the support of individuals. According to Brown, a key idea about planned giving is that it is not only for the very wealthy.

“I worked in the non-profit world, so I have not accumulated a vast fortune to leave to my children, grandchildren and to institutions whose missions are important. From my time spent in the world of non-profits, I know the importance of planned gifts and have included Germanna in my estate planning.”

All members can consider including Germanna in their estate planning, whether that estate is large or small. Every planned gift—an annuity, a bequest, a life insurance policy or other—helps to strengthen the institution. Hundreds of modest planned gifts invested will grow over time into significant endowments that support the mission and enable the institution to grow.

Raymond "Skip" Poole

Skip Poole is a Germanna descendant (2nd colony) through his mother's side, who descended from the Wilhoits, Weavers, Garrs, and John/Abraham/Cave/Michael/"Big Mike" Clore lineage. Skip appreciates family history so much so he and his wife Joy named their daughter "Meighan Clore;" Meighan has given the name "Clore" to each of her three daughters.



Skip and his family have taken further steps to ensure their family legacy: "Because the Germanna legacy is so important to me and my family, I decided it was also important to ensure I included Germanna in my estate planning to help sustain the Foundation's work for future generations."

Skip has attended the Foundation's annual reunions regularly since 1997, and he became a Foundation trustee and served as Treasurer from 2005 to 2013. He is an active geocacher and helps maintain the Germanna Foundation trails.





Planned Giving and Our Germanna Legacy Society

When Ernst Flender gave oil stock in 1956 so that we could buy 270 acres of the Germanna Settlement, he could not have foreseen what his gift would do over the course of 60 years. Your planned gift to the Germanna Foundation will have a meaningful impact for generations to come. Legacy giving does not require a large income or vast estate. Legacy giving only requires a thoughtful intention to make a difference by identifying the Germanna Foundation in your will or estate plan.



About our Legacy Society

Those who remember the Germanna Foundation through a will, trust, designation or other planned gift, are invited to join in the Germanna Legacy Society. Too often, these gifts are unrecognized because we are unaware of these special gifts until the donor has passed away. The Germanna Legacy Society provides a way to recognize and thank donors during their lifetimes, and ensure that your wishes are properly documented.

Involvement in the Legacy Society gives you the opportunity to enjoy the company of others who, like yourself, care about leaving a legacy to protect and strengthen this 300 year-old community.

You may choose to remain anonymous in your philanthropy. However, participation in the Legacy Society can be an inspirational experience, and may encourage others to look toward the future and how they too may have an enduring impact on the causes they care about. Only a statement of intent to leave a gift to the Germanna Foundation is required. No documentation of gift amount or type is necessary. Germanna Legacy Society members may designate the use of the distributions from their future gifts, or may leave the distributions to the discretion of our Board of Trustees. A Germanna Legacy Society gift may be used to establish a new fund or may be added to any of the Germanna Foundation's existing funds.



GERMANNA
FOUNDATION

PRESERVING
THE PAST
AND
EDUCATING
THE NEXT
GENERATION

Benefits of Legacy Giving

Germanna colonists came to America to plant their families on American soil. We are most grateful for that legacy gift 300 years later. Legacy giving offers us a way to demonstrate gratitude to our forbearers and love for generations yet unborn.

Benefits of joining the Germanna Legacy Society include:

- A relationship with the Germanna Foundation and other donors during your lifetime.
- A role in determining how your legacy gift will be used, and how it can encourage others.
- Satisfaction in knowing your legacy will make a difference to the 300 year-old Germanna family of families
- Special recognition in newsletters and annual reports, unless anonymity is desired.
- Invitation to the Board of Trustees Reception in July and other special donor events.
- Some planned gifts can reduce your tax burden during your lifetime, such as gifts of appreciated securities, just as Ernst Flender did in launching the Germanna Foundation in 1956.

Ways to Give to the Germanna Foundation

◆ ANNUAL IRA GIFT

Each calendar year, you can reduce your taxes by making a gift from your IRA to Germanna. If you are 70 1/2 or older you can contribute up to \$100,000 annually. Your contribution will count towards your annual required minimum withdrawal.

◆ CASH

Cash gifts are the most common form of charitable gifts because they are simple and easy to deliver and may result in a charitable tax deduction for the year given. You can choose to make a one-time cash gift and/or fulfill pledges on an annual, semi-annual, or quarterly basis.

◆ SECURITIES

The Foundation accepts stocks or other securities as donations. By contributing a long-term appreciated stock or other security you may avoid capital gains taxes while taking a charitable deduction.



◆ TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

These gifts are a great way to honor and pay tribute to an individual or celebrate an occasion, such as an anniversary, birthday or new family member. The Foundation informs the honoree (or their family) of the gift with a note (amount is kept confidential) showing that you care not only about them, but also about the future of your community.

Planned or Deferred Gifts

◆ BEQUESTS

Bequests are outright gifts to the Foundation through a will or trust. For your IRA, 401(k), 403(b) \life insurance or bank account contact your custodian, insurer or bank and designate Germanna Foundation as a full, partial or contingent beneficiary. Charitable bequests to the Foundation can also be included when executing a new will or added to an existing will through a codicil. You may leave an unrestricted or restricted bequest of cash, property, or a portion or the entire residue of your estate. Contact the Foundation for further information or assistance

◆ LIFE INSURANCE

Gifts of life insurance allow a donor to provide for beneficiaries, achieve substantial tax savings and make a larger gift than might otherwise have been possible.

◆ REAL ESTATE

Gifts of appreciated real estate such as a home, vacation property, or undeveloped land may be accepted. Gifts of this nature may allow a donor to avoid tax liability.

◆ RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

By naming the Germanna Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement account, you maintain lifetime control of these assets which pass to the Foundation upon your death. Your estate may be able to avoid certain income and estate taxes.

All of the above is not intended as legal or tax advice. Prior to making a charitable gift you are advised to consult your attorney, accountant, and/or other financial professional for advice with respect to legal and tax-related matters.

For additional information, please go to: GermannaLegacy.org.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

For the last three years, the Germanna Foundation has received the highest evaluation by an established auditor, Keiter, Inc., of Richmond, VA. They are being engaged through 2019 to conduct an annual independent review of the Foundation's financial records and to provide tax services, a requirement for some grants-making organizations, and to ensure accountability to our donors and members. Keiter audits Preservation Virginia and the Virginia Historical Society, among other leading historical, preservation, and non-profit organizations.



Through planned giving, we can continue to explore and to preserve historic Salubria. We can enlarge our archaeological staff to expand the Germanna Archaeology program. We can create interpretation along the Siegen Forest Trails and increase our programming for children and young adults with an education specialist at the Fort Germanna Visitor Center. We can form strong partnerships with other organizations, both local and international. Your investment in the Germanna Foundation can generate a legacy that will last forever.

Thank you,

The Germanna Foundation Board of Trustees



From the 1962 Germanna Reunion book: "The imposing 'Martin line' recalls its past, accounts for its present and anticipates its future." Mr. and Mrs. James E. Martin are on the left.



JW Hanson and Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna were guests of Dr. John Manahan at the 1968 Germanna Reunion.



Ann Green Baise, Trustee

Our family has been involved with the Foundation for 60 years, and my grandparents signed the deed to the property where the Fort Germanna Visitor Center now stands. My grandfather, Edgar P. Martin, was a trustee and was succeeded by my uncle, James E. Martin. Now I have the honor of serving as a trustee.

I recall the annual Sunday picnic and meetings as it was a command attendance in our family. No one was excused, and my grandmother made sure ample food was available for all. Those hot afternoons with the adults in hats and Sunday attire were memorable. The year "Anastasia" attended was rife with "is she really Anastasia or the pretender." Despite the heat, the crowd always seemed large and joyful.

My cousin David Brown and his wife Maryanne, who is also a descendent from her family, now participate with me at the reunions. So we have gone full circle from being children playing in the shade to adults learning and enjoying the reunions.



Ann



Thank You for your loyal support

Your donations and service help Germanna to:

- Fund Archaeological research at Fort Germanna.
- Conduct an annual summer archaeology program with Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Welcome visitors to our library and museum at the Fort Germanna Visitor Center
- Maintain Salubria and preserve Salubria
- Host supporters at our Annual Reunion and Germany Trip

Did you know?

- Membership fees account for 10% of our annual budget. These fees cover only the costs of our quarterly newsletter and website.
- The remainder is funded by your generous donations.

Please consider committing to a monthly charitable donation to Germanna and include a bequest to Germanna in your will and estate plans.

**RIGHT: The Last Will and
Testament of Germanna
Descendant Peter Hitt**

In the name of God Amen I Peter Hitt of the County of Fauquier
and Commonwealth Virginia, being advanced in life but of perfect
Senses and Memory Thanks be to Almighty God for the same. do make
and Ordain this my last Will and Testament in Manner and form
following. Viz. I bequeath my precious and immortal Soul to
Almighty God who gave it, in full hope of pardon and remissi-
on of all sins and transgressions thro the merits and Mediation of my
Blessed Saviour and redeemer Jesus Christ and my Body I desire may
be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named
as to such worldly Estate wherewith God hath blessed me, I dispose
of the same in Manner following (to wit,

Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife, Sarah Hitt, during her
natural life for her support, all the Lands I possess in the
County of Fauquier except a Lease of Two hundred Acres heretofore
given to my son Ruben Hitt but not yet conveyed, also one
Negro Woman, Pender and her Daughter Sarah. p/Brooks, also
Henry, Peter, George and Bob. also four horses choice of my
stock and my Wagon and Gear and also the plantation
side, all the Stock of horned Cattle that may be on my Estate
at my Death - also Twenty sheep choice of my flock
also Twenty head of Pigs choice of my stock and all
my Household and Kitchen Furniture for and during her
natural life only -

Item. I give to my son Nimrod Hitt after the death of his
mother the Land I now live on which came by my De-
-thor and choice of two Negroes at the death of his mother
also one Bed furniture, and cow & calf two Ewes & Lambs
and sow and pig. which I am properly the Nimrod shall
will to whom he pleases should he live longer than his mother
but should he decease before his mother in that case it
is my will that the aforesaid property willed to him be
equally divided among my other Children or their represen-
-tatives

Item. I give and bequeath to the Heirs of Peter Hitt lawfully
begotten of his Body the Land I bought of Ruben Martin



Why Having the Germanna Foundation in Your Will Matters

I am Judy Mahanes, long-time member of the Germanna Foundation, participant in two Foundation sponsored trips to Germany, first cousin of Patricia (Patty) Thomas, and executor of her estate. Although Patty and I are first cousins on genealogy charts, we were more like sisters. It was my responsibility and desire to do much more at her passing than just handle the legal matters.

Patricia Anne Thomas was born July 22, 1955 and died on June 5, 2011, after a very brief illness. Her passing was so sudden that everyone who knew her well was stunned. She went with me on the 2008 Germanna trip to Germany.

Sometime back in the fall of 2012, I got a phone call from Germanna Foundation staff expressing gratitude for a check they had just received from the estate of Patricia Anne Thomas. The check was sizeable and it just arrived almost out of the blue. In retrospect, I'll call it a medium sized unrestricted bequest that landed at the Germanna Foundation at a perfect time.



Among Patty's Germanna heritage are her great grandparents, Thomas Jefferson Weaver and Annie Frances Hoffman Weaver. Grandma and Grandpa Weaver lived in Madison County, Virginia their whole lives. Thomas Jefferson Weaver descended from Peter Weaver who was part of the Second Colony and an early member of Hebron Church. Annie Frances Hoffman is a descendant of John Hoffman of the First Colony. Add the names of other relatives—Folger, Kaifer, Carpenter, Kerker, Utz, Finks, for instance—and you have quite a Germanna heritage. The fact that Patty knew relatively little about relatives on her Dad's side made all these maternal kin really special to her. She kept a painting of Hebron church in her house. Another special memory was having her photograph taken


while she stood in front of John Hoffman's house in Eisern. Traveling to Germany meant so much to Patty, and she wanted to go again.

Unfortunately, that was not to be. In the spring of 2011, she began experiencing elusive pain. She checked herself into the hospital where one of her doctors figured out that untreatable cancer had attacked her lungs. She died less than a week later. One of my jobs was to find her will, take it to the hospital for her to review, and then track down her lawyer to have it updated. Amazingly, we got the will rewritten, signed, and witnessed. Her final instructions included several specific bequests to individuals and a list of organizations to receive shares of the balance in the estate. She loved animals and she loved plants and gardening so some money went in those directions. But she also loved her Germanna heritage and happily included the Foundation as a beneficiary.

I heartily endorse remembering the Germanna Foundation in your will (I have listed it in mine), but please don't wait until the last day to do it! Patty retained the strength to sign her final will, but I heard that the lawyer had to give her several rest breaks in the process of reviewing it. Adding the Germanna Foundation to your will is easy, and it is a powerful way to help the Foundation preserve and honor the past and pave the way for future generations to learn about the contributions of our remarkable forebears. Patty and I never had the chance to discuss how we'd like the Foundation to use her gift, but I firmly believe that she would have supported me when I said, ***"Find the Fort!"***

Judith G. Mahanes

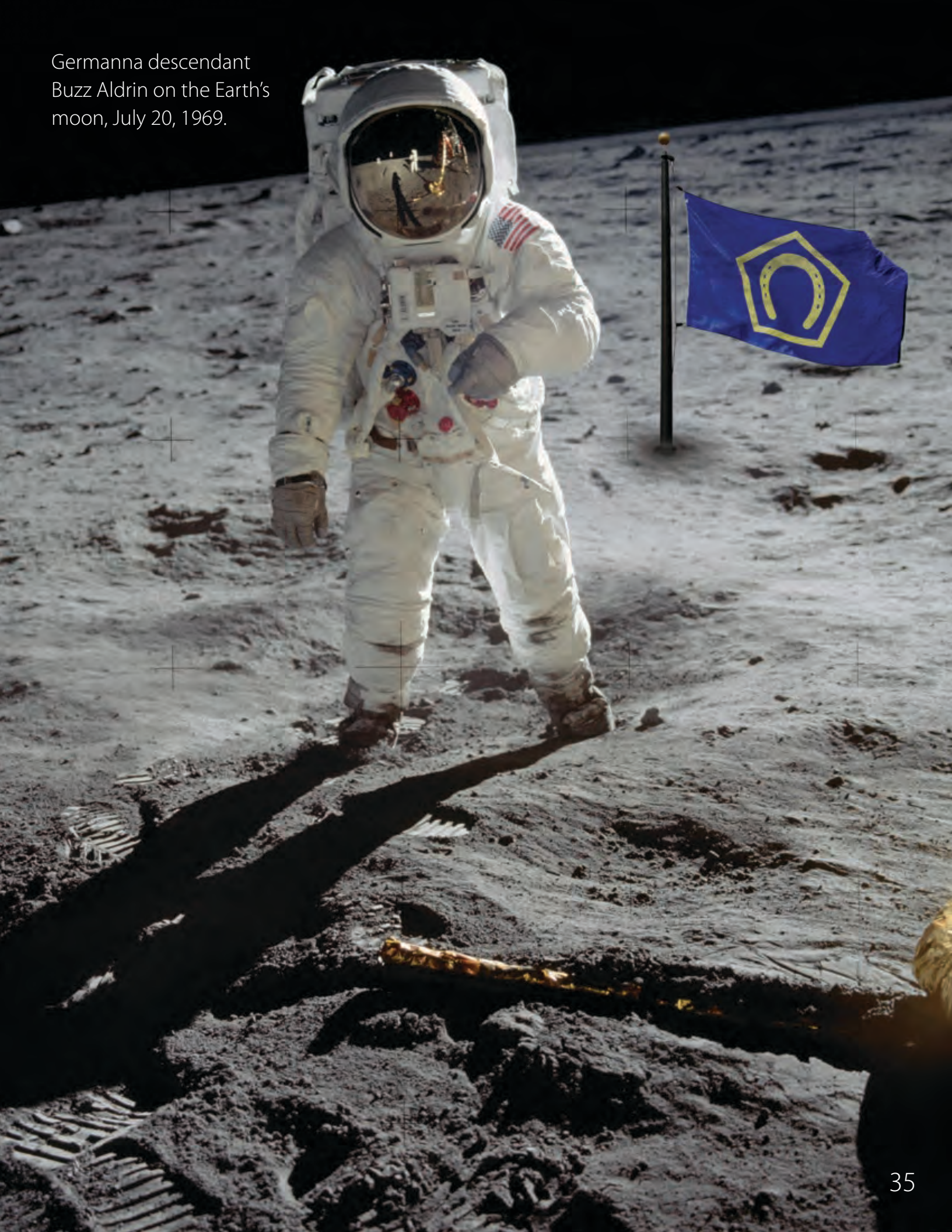




Apollo 11 Astronaut Buzz Aldrin's genealogy shows his family tree back to the Germanna colony's founding in 1714.

"I was pleased to meet my moonwalking distant cousin, and I reminded him that his explorer genes can be traced back to those intrepid German ancestors of ours, who – while not traveling as far as the moon – displayed the same questing spirit and the use of the best technologies to plant our civilization on this frontier as he did for us on the moon." —Germanna Foundation President Marc Wheat

Germanna descendant
Buzz Aldrin on the Earth's
moon, July 20, 1969.



W W W . G E R M A N N A . O R G



SIC JUVAT TRANSCENDERE MONTES
(Thus it is delightful to cross the mountains)





GERMANNA FOUNDATION

The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc.

2062 GERMANNA HIGHWAY (P.O. BOX 279) | LOCUST GROVE, VIRGINIA 22508

540-423-1700 | FOUNDATION@GERMANNA.ORG | WWW.GERMANNA.ORG

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of God Amen I Peter Hitt of the County of Staff
and Commonwealth Virginia, being advanced in life but of perfect
sense and Memory Thanks be to Almighty God for the same. do make
and Ordain this my last will and Testament in Manner and form
following. (Wiz) I bequeath my precious and immortal Soul to
Almighty God who gave it, in full hope of pardon and remission
of all sins and transgressions thro' the merits and Mediation of my
blest Saviour and redeemer Jesus Christ and my Body I desire may
be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named
as to such worldly Estate wherewith God hath blessed me, I dispose
of the same in Manner following (to wit).

Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife, Sarah Hitt, during her