



**South Central
Pennsylvania**
Genealogical Society

Our Name's The Game

www.scpgs.org

Monthly Newsletter Vol. 42 No. 5 March/April 2017

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, May 7, 2017

Dating Old Photographs

This month's meeting will be held at the Historical Society Museum, 250 East Market Street, York. A brief business meeting will begin at 2:15 PM and the program will immediately follow at approximately 2:30 PM.

Attaching faces to names is not easy for genealogists. Jan has a large collection of family photos inherited from his parents and obtained over the years from relatives. As luck would have it, the vast majority of these images were labeled by his mother. He will share some of the photos from his collection and try to interpret them. Dating photos and extracting stories from them puts flesh on the bones our ancestors. Our speaker, Jan Barnhart is retired from 31 years in corporate finance. Starting as a bookkeeper at Hanover Direct, a mail order company, he advanced to Assistant to the Director of Credit specializing in credit card fraud and loss prevention. His interest in genealogy and history began as a child when older family members would tell stories about their ancestors. "Decoration Day" trips to cemeteries to place flowers on family graves further piqued his interest. Who were those people whose names were carved into the headstones? As a result of over 50 years of research Jan has over 20,000 names in his family history data base.

Sunday, June 4, 2017

Jumping the Pond 2.0: "Take me back to the Fatherland," researching your German ancestors in Europe

This month's meeting will be held at the Historical Society Museum, 250 East Market Street, York. A brief business meeting will begin at 2:15 PM and the program will immediately follow at approximately 2:30 PM.

This presentation will examine various sources and strategies for finding the Heimat (hometown) of your German ancestors. The presentation will further explore how to proceed once you have located the place of origin. Available church, civil and emigration records will be discussed, some of which are completely online, while others are only available in German archives or on site in the town or village. Rickard Konkel will be the speaker.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

The South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society welcomes and values your continued membership. Renewing your membership will help us continue to provide services such as special publications and research assistance in the York and Adams County area. Unless you are a life member, your membership will expire on June 30, 2017 and you will not receive membership benefits beyond that date if you do not renew.

To renew your membership in SCPGS for the fiscal year 2017-2018, please promptly mail your payment with the renewal notice included in this newsletter. Please return the entire page. Life members can disregard the renewal form.

Our newsletter is offered via email if you so desire. To receive the newsletter via email, please submit your request along with your email address to ... scpgswebsite@wildblue.net.

From the President

Jonathan Stayer

Volunteers are the unsung heroes and lifeblood of any community organization, and the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society is no exception. The SCPGS has no paid staff. The programs and publications that you enjoy are the results of the dedication of a group of hard-working volunteers, particularly your board members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their service.

Vice President Richard Konkel lines up speakers and oversees our programming. He also has presented talks to us on a number of topics. Treasurer Margaret Burg manages our finances, helps to coordinate conferences, stays on top of membership, coordinates our publications sales, and is our “go-to” person when we need food catered for an event. Secretary Jerry Smith records minutes for both the general membership meetings and board meetings, and he helps to staff our information and sales table at conferences.

Corresponding Secretary Becky Anstine responds to genealogical inquires, assists with the shipping of publications, and serves on our genealogy conference committees. She has compiled a number of our Bible records publications, and she has served as a speaker on basic genealogy and internet genealogy topics. Barb Rudy, our Director of Special Projects, graciously agrees to serve as our nominating committee each year, helps with every aspect of our programs, and is one of the York County History Center library's most faithful volunteers.

Our newsletter, our special publications and our website would not be produced without Cindy Hartman, Director of Publications. She often must take a “diamond in the rough” and turn it into a product that is accessible and presentable. She helps us to stay on track with the publishing schedule for our special publications. Her investigations into our printing and mailing expenses enabled us to select different vendors who can meet our needs at less cost. She also has prepared revised drafts of documents such as our by-laws and our policies, making the job of implementing changes much easier for the board.

SCPGS meetings and programs are publicized by Mardella Breneman, Director of Public Relations, who also works wherever needed for special events. Directors-At-Large Tom Gibson and Frank Grove have provided valuable input into our operations and have assisted with the planning and operation of genealogy conferences. They also have connected us

to local chapters of lineage organizations such as the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Finally, but certainly not least, is our York County History Center representative, librarian Lila Fourhman-Shaull. Her contributions to the SCPGS are so numerous and significant that I cannot list them all. She opens, closes and sets up the YCHC for our meetings and conferences, she has been one of our speakers, she helps to plan and run our events, she marshals the resources of the YCHC to assist our endeavors and promote our programs, and so much more.

Won't you join this fine group of volunteers? We are always looking for individuals to serve as board members, write articles for the newsletter, compile and edit material for special publications, and staff our information/sales table at conferences. If you are interested in serving your genealogical society in any of these capacities, please contact us today!

Thank you volunteers!

Researching Family in Pennsylvania

Summer Genealogy Course

31 July – 4 August 2017

Historical Society of Pennsylvania

1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Researching Family in Pennsylvania is an intensive, week-long course exploring the records and repositories available for family history research in the Keystone State. The curriculum brings together renowned scholars and genealogists well-versed in the formation and development of Pennsylvania from the colonial era to the modern age.

Presentations include: Creating PA: The Wars that Made the Keystone State; Using County Deeds in PA Research; PA Record Resource Gems and Database Treasures; Courting the Keystone State: Key Court Records of PA; PA State Land Records Research; Researching and Navigating Resources Along the Delaware River; 18th Century Taxes and Rural Genealogy; 19th and 20th Century Directories and Urban Genealogy; PA Germans and German Church Records; PA Revolutionary War Research.

For more information or to register visit www.hsp.org/RFIPA.

An 1849 Kreutz Creek Petition

submitted by Jonathan Stayer, Supervisor of
Reference Services, Pennsylvania State Archives

Found in Folder 59, Carton 25, 73rd Session, Senate File (series #7.78); Senate; Record Group 7, Records of the General Assembly; Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg is a "Petition of the Trustees and Members of the Congregations of the Kreutz Creek Church in Hellam Township for a law to authorize the Trustees thereof to sell real estate." Although the petition itself is undated, the filing notation on the document indicates that State Senator Philip Smyser presented it to the Pennsylvania Senate on January 4, 1849, so it must have been drafted towards the end of 1848. The "Kreutz Creek Church" was the structure in which the Lutheran and German Reformed congregations of Hellam worshipped until each later constructed its own building in the borough. The petition was successful, for on February 5, 1849, the General Assembly passed Act No. 24 "To authorize the trustees of the congregations of Kreutz Creek church, in Hellam township, York county, to sell certain real estate" (Laws of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Passed at the Session of 1849, pp. 28-29). Transcribed below, this interesting document was signed by a number of well-known families in the Hellam area.

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met:

The petition of the Trustees and Members of the Congregations of Kreutz Creek Church, in Hellam township, York county, respectfully sheweth:

That the Dwelling House on the Glebe of said Church is dilapidated, and that it is necessary to build a new House; that said Church has on funds wherewith to build a new House; that a portion of the lands of said Church could be sold advantageously; that it is the desire of the Trustees and Members of the Congregations of the Church that a portion of the lands of the Church be sold for the purpose of building a new house: Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable Bodies to enact a law conferring on the Trustees of said Church authority to sell seventeen acres of the real estate of the Church, and to apply the proceeds to the erection of a new Dwelling House on the remaining lands of the Church.

And they will pray, & c.

Adam Bahn. Trustee		Henry Sultzbach
Samuel Keller Trustee		Henry Liebhart
John Dietz	Henry Bahn	Henry Grove
George Dietz	George Lehman	David Bahn
Philip Blessing	Samuel Rudy	John Arnold
Adam Cormeny	Jacob Weltzhoffer	Fred Sultzbach
Joseph Dietz		Jaob [sic] Lehman
Jacob Sultzbach	Jacob Bahn	Samuel Bahn
		Henry Welshoffer

[With the exception of the name of George Cormeny, the signatures on the reverse side appear in one column, but are presented in three columns below to save space.]

Daniel Tyson	George Dietz	Henry Risinger
Andrew Frree [sic] tyson	Frederick Dietz	John Blessing
Michael Rudy	Peter Dietz	Samuel Bahn
Henry Rudy	Elias Dietz	Joseph Sultzbach
Henry Blessing	Jacob Dietz	George Cormeny
Ely Emig	Peter Dietz Jun	
Jacob Risinger	Daniel Dietz	

Paths to Freedom: A Regional Underground Railroad Symposium

by Rebecca Anstine

On March 31st and April 1st, the York County History Center hosted the symposium. Friday evening featured Scott Mingus, a local Civil War author and expert, speaking on events that led up to and shaped the Underground Railroad. The first slaves arrived in Jamestown in 1619 and in New England as early as 1645. With the arrival of the Quakers in the late 1600's, slavery came to Pennsylvania. By the 1700's, Quakers felt the owning slaves was against their religion and worked to have it abolished in Pennsylvania – the Gradual Emancipation Act was passed in 1780 and with that slavery slowly came to an end. Scott explained how the close ties between Maryland and Pennsylvania were affected by the differences in attitudes, laws and culture between the two states. He showed how the geography between the states influenced the various directions that the Underground Railroad traveled. Scott's recently published "The Ground Swallowed Them Up: Slavery and the Underground Railroad in York County, Pennsylvania" inspired this symposium.

Saturday, April 1st, was a daylong event. Dr. Ted Sickler served as moderator – helping to make the transition from one speaker to the next and posing questions. Scott Mingus was the first speaker. Following Friday's session, he went more in depth about the slave catchers and safe houses in York County. He was followed by Cooper Wingert, whose latest book, "The Underground Railroad in South Central Pennsylvania", discusses the dangers of crossing Cumberland County by runaway slaves, Dickinson College's involvement with the movement. (Cooper has written ten books and is currently a student at Dickinson College). Cooper and Scott's books are both well written and researched books for anyone interested in learning more.

Debra Sandoe McCauslin talked about slave kidnappings and slave ads in the Gettysburg newspapers. She discussed the safe houses and conductors in that area. Debra also talked about "Yellow Hill Cemetery" and the work that has been done to clean up and identify individuals that are buried there.

Milt Diggins represented Cecil County, Maryland. He has been active in identifying two Underground Railroad sites for the National Park Service's program. He has also written a book on "Stealing Freedom Along the Mason-Dixon Line: Thomas McCreary, the Notorious Slave Catcher from Maryland". Many escapees used Cecil County as an escape route to

Philadelphia by going through Cecil County and into Delaware.

Iris Leigh Barnes talked about how Harford County has been overlooked as an Underground Railroad. Iris helped to get the birthplace of Margaret Morgan (Supreme Court Case of Prigg vs Pennsylvania) included on the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. She is working to identify conductors, safe houses and freedom seekers who came through Harford County.

Randy Harris spoke about the importance of preserving sites and stories. There are many identified sites throughout the seven counties talked about by the speakers. These sites are disappearing because of property neglect, lack of awareness and indifference on the part of government officials. His topic was timely because of the recent demolition permit that has been filed by a local developer for "Hybla" or the "Mifflin House" – the home of Jonathan and Susannah Wright Mifflin. The Mifflin's with Susannah's brother, William Wright, were among the first Quakers in the area to assist freedom seekers. The property was also part of the Civil War battle at Wrightsville. Randy emphasized the importance of becoming involved in the preservation of the important property.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Leroy Hopkins who spoke about the importance of telling the story of the freedom seekers and the enclaves that were along both sides of the river and their importance in local history. Dr. Hopkins has researched his own family lines and continues to be active in local African American Historical Societies.

The event was attended by over 100 people and many commented on the vast knowledge of the speakers and how much they had learned about the local Underground Railroads. Many people are unaware of the roll of the Underground Railroad in York and surrounding counties and hopefully this symposium will encourage the attendees to continue to learn about this era of history and perhaps contribute to the knowledge of this time period.

Saturday, May 6	9 am to 3 pm
Washington DC Family History Center Annual Conference, 10000 Stoneybrook Dr, Kensington, MD	
This year's theme is "Records and Repositories: Genealogical Treasures at the Library of Congress"	
Registration is limited so check their website for more information, www.wdcfhc.org/Conference/	
This conference is presented FREE OF CHARGE.	

Tales of Long Ago: A Very Early Sale of Kreutz Creek Land

from *The News*, a newsletter of the Kreutz Creek Charge of the Reformed Church; October/November 1928, Vol. XI No. 10/11

In our Kreutz Creek History, on page 25, can be seen an action of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, introduced by Frederick Sultzbach, then a member, enabling Kreutz Creek Church to sell land. This action was passed February 5, 1849. Through the kindness of Mrs. Elmer E. Frey, living near Valley Inn, the Pastor came into possession of a document which shows that a similar action was taken by the same Legislature for an ancestor of the man who introduced the bill of 1849. "This bill was passed, February 26, 1799. And the man receiving the land thus sold, containing thirteen acres and thirty-seven perches, was a Henry Sultzbach. Let the old document tell its own story as follows:

"TO ALL PEOPLE to whom these presents shall come, Martin Gartner and Jacob Woeltzhoffer senior, both of Hellam Township in the County of York and State of Pennsylvania, Trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed Congregations of Creutzcreek Church Send Greeting.

WEAREAS the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, hath passed an Act bearing date the twenty-sixth day of February in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and ninety nine, entitled,

An Act empowering Certain Trustees therein named, to sell and dispose of part of a certain Tract of land, situate in Hellam Township in the County of York and State of Pennsylvania — and to appropriate the monies arising from such a sale for the purposes therein mentioned.

And in said Act nominated and appointed the said Martin Gartner and Jacob Woeltzhoffer senior, Trustees, to sell and make sufficient and lawful assurance and conveyance to the purchasers thereof, as in and by the said in part recited Act, relation being thereunto had more fully and at large may appear.

NOW KNOW YE that the said Martin Gartner and Jacob Woeltzhoffer senior, for and in consideration of the sum of One hundred and Seventy-three pounds nine shillings and ten pence, Lawful money of Pennsylvania, to them in hand well and truly paid by Henry Sultzbach of Hellam Township aforesaid, at and before the ensembling and delivery hereof, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge and thereof acquit and forever discharge the said Henry Sultzbach, his heirs, Executors and Administrators by

these presents, etc.

Then follows the defining of the limits of the plot bought, which names as adjacent owners, John Kauffman, "the said Congregation of Creutzcreek Church" and Henry Kindig.

In brackets we have the notation which connects it with the original Penn grant, which is of interest to us and reads as follows:

"It being a part of a larger Tract, Containing fifty-seven acres and one hundred and fourteen perches, and the usual allowance for roads, etc., Surveyed by Virtue and in pursuance of a Warrant bearing date the twenty-ninth day of January in the year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, Granted to them, the said Martin Gartner and Jacob Woeltzhoffer, senior, in Trust, for the Joint use of the Lutheran and Reformed Congregations of Creutzcreek Church aforesaid."

Notice the phrase "Joint use of the Lutheran and Reformed Congregations of Creutzcreek Church aforesaid." The omission of the word "Reformed" in the survey of February 22, 1799, called forth an interesting document which will appear later in these Tales. In this document the Lutheran Trustees release one-half of their rights to the Reformed trustees, who were legally deprived of their rights by omission of the name "Reformed" in the 1799 survey. But it was not until April 12, 1826, that the Reformed Trustees were legally restored to their half.

The above document was signed by the two Trustees, Martin Gardner and Jacob Woeltzhoffer, in the presence of Conrad Laub. The Justice of the Peace was Andrew Billmeyer; and the Recorder of Deeds J. Barnitz who recorded the document, July 24, 1799.

An Old Kreutz Creek Release

If you will refer to page 21 of our Kreutz Creek History, you will see a cut of the Survey of Jacob Spangler, under John Forsythe, dated February 22, 1799. The survey shows a draft which reads: "Creutz Creek Church Land, Contg. 57a. 114 P. &c."

This survey was made as it states, "In pursuance of a Warrant for 50 a. Granted to Martin Schultz, Jacob Weltzhoffer, Henry Smith and George Ament in trust to and for the use of the German Lutheran Congregation, in Hellam Township, bearing date the 27th day of October, A. D. 1746."

You will notice there is no reference to the Reformed Congregation at all. In the Penn Warrant, issued

October 27, 1746, to which the survey refers, and which can be seen on page 18 of our History, the phrase, "Reformed Lutheran Dutch Congregation" is used. This evidently is meant to be one congregation, although there were two congregations from the beginning, as the quotations in Chapter III of our History show conclusively. And as the history of the two congregations runs side by side, with different pastors and activities, down to the present.

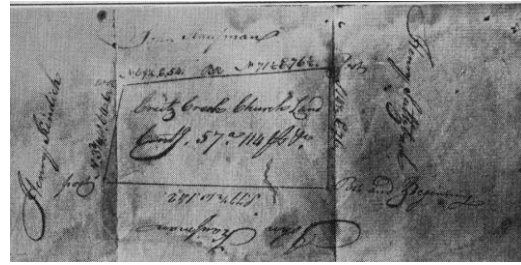
This mistake of the old days was rectified April 13, 1826, by Release, which shall be one of our Tales this month. We are indebted to Mrs. Elmer E. Frey, for the gift of this old Deed of Release. This document was no doubt drawn up in the occasion of the recording of the Deed, as is shown on page 25 of our History, dated June 2, 1825. On page 24, of the History, occurs the expression, "in trust and to the only proper use and behoof, of the Congregations of Kreutz Creek forever." Here the two congregations are recognized. The trustees of the two Congregations are also named and they are the same as appear in the Release one year later.

We shall now quote parts of the Release and let it tell its own story, which is one of the most interesting chapters of Kreutz Creek Church:

"TO ALL PEOPLE to whom these Presents shall come, John Blessing, Simon Fries and Lorentz Fisher, all of the Township of Hellam, in the County of York and State of Pennsylvania, Trustees of the German Lutheran Congregation of Kreis-Creek Church, send Greeting:

"WHEREAS, John Penn and William Penn, Esquires, by Thomas Cadwalader, of the City of Philadelphia, Esquire, their Attorney, duly constituted and appointed, by their Indenture or Patent bearing Date the second Day of June, in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Twenty-five, under their Hands and Seals duly executed and acknowledged, for the consideration therein mentioned, did grant and confirm unto the said John Blessing, Simon Fries and Lorentz Fisher, in Trust for the reformed Lutheran Congregation of Kreis Creek Church, all that certain Tract, Piece or Parcel of Land, situated, lying and being within the lines of Survey of the Manor of Springetsbury, in the Township of Hellam and County of York aforesaid, bounded, limited and described as follows, viz. (We shall omit the boundaries).

"Containing Forty-four Acres and one hundred and thrity-three Perches of Land and the usual Allowance for Highways, &c. To hold the same to their Heirs and Successors, in Trust for the Use of the



Congregations of Kreis Creek Church forever, as in and by said recited Deed or Patent, recorded at York in the Office for recording Deeds in and for the

County of York, in Book H. H. H., Page 465, &c. Relation being thereunto had more fully and at large may appear.

"AND WHEREAS an equal Share of the Purchase Money and Interest, has been paid by the Trustees of the german Reformed Congregation of Kreis creek Church, the Title of the above mentioned and described Tract or Parcel of Land with the Appurtenances should, and of right ought to have been vested in the Trustees of the Joint Reformed and Lutheran Congregations, of the said Kreis creek Church, to hold the same as Tenants in Common.

"NOW KNOW YE, that the said John Blessing, Simon Fries and Lorentz Fisher, in Order to preserve Peace and Amity, and to prevent Disputes at any Time hereafter, for and in consideration of the sum of one Dollar lawful Money of the United States, to them in Hand paid by Jacob Weltzhoffer, Jacob Libhart and Conrad Dietz, Trustees of the German Reformed Congregation of the said Kreis creek Church, at and before Ensealing and Delivery hereof, the Receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge, and thereof acquit and forever discharge, the said Jacob Libhart, Jacob Weltzhoffer, and Conrad Dietz, by these Presents, HAVE and each and every one of them HAVE remised, released and forever quitclaimed, and by these Presents DO and each and every one of them DOTH remise, release and forever quitclaim unto the said Jacob Weltzhoffer, Jacob Libhart and Conrad Dietz, their Heirs and Successors, in Trust for the Use of the german Reformed Congregation of Kresicreek Church.

"All that the one Moiety or equal undivided half Part, of and in the above mentioned and described Tract, Piece or Parcel of Land, and Buildings thereon erected, in actual Possession and seisin of the said Congregation now being. etc."

The document is signed in the presence of Jacob Fries and Joseph Welshans, the latter being the Justice of the Peace. It was recorded in Book III, page 113, April 24, 1826, Jacob B. Wentz being Recorder.

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**OUR NAME'S THE GAME
SCPGS INC.
P.O. BOX 1824
YORK, PA 17405-1824**

DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY

RENEWAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Now is the time to renew your membership for the fiscal year July 2017 to June 2018. Any member, who does NOT PAY their dues by September 1st will automatically be dropped from the mailing list and there will be an additional fee assessed to cover the postage for back copies of our newsletter and any special publications. Please return this notice with your renewal and note any address correction.

Please make check payable to SCPGS (in US funds *only*) and mail to

South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, PO Box 1824, York, PA 17405-1824.

Name _____

Street Address / Box # _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Please send a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) with your payment if you desire a membership card.

\$ 25.00	REGULAR MEMBERSHIP
\$ 30.00	FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
\$ 500.00	LIFE MEMBERSHIP (individual <i>only</i>)
\$ 750.00	FAMILY LIFE MEMBERSHIP (husband & wife <i>only</i>)