



Germanna

Newsletter of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia

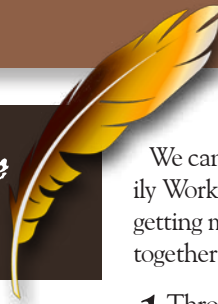
Springtime in Germanna

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Presidents Message
J. Marc Wheat



Get More From Your Membership

With the 300th anniversary of Fort Germanna coming up in just a few years, let me encourage you to use this remaining time wisely by connecting with distant cousins who share your passion in preserving the legacy of your family's experiences of three centuries of freedom in America.

Volkmar Klein came to Germanna from Berlin to walk the same ground his constituents did in 1714, as the first Europeans in the Piedmont of Virginia. As he spoke to a standing-room-only gathering of Germanna descendants and their friends at our Visitor Center, he was backed by a display case of the genealogies of those colonists who carved a great Nation out of a wilderness.

It is the legacy of those families that drive the Germanna Foundation forward. We have staff to help us achieve our goals, but fundamentally we are a member-supported, volunteer-driven organization that relies on your stewardship of time and money to make exciting things happen.

We can link you up to your cousins through your Germanna Family Working Group, and I want to challenge you to think big about getting more from your membership by considering what we can do together:

1 Through the hard work of our volunteers, we have continued to hold, and have considerably expanded the seminar sessions at the Germanna Foundation Annual Conference and Reunion so that many topics relating to the Reformed, Lutheran, and Little Fork waves of colonization are presented, as well as some general topics to sharpen genealogical skills.

2 We are developing databases of Germanna soldiers in the American Revolution and the Civil War. How about one to identify the first descendant of your immigrant ancestor who settled in each State?

3 We conduct two tours at each Conference and Reunion to take people to the areas in which their ancestors lived in 18th century Virginia, including the chance to visit private homes that had belonged to Germanna people. What if we identified early farms and home places of the colonists, and asked the present owners to preserve them through conservation easements?

4 We have operated eight successive summer tours to Germany (with a 9th filled and ready to go in June) to visit the villages of the ancestors, with special opportunities to meet with local historical and genealogical specialists, to get into the churches where marriages & baptisms occurred and see the actual original ancestral records, and occasionally to meet cousins from lines that remained

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The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) charity founded in 1956. Its purpose is to preserve and make known the history of the Virginia Germanna Colonies, their operations under the patronage of Alexander Spotswood, his residence and activities at Germanna and in the surrounding area.

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- Barbara Price
- Al Welch

in Germany. Why not encourage these cousins to share their genealogies with us for a transatlantic history of the branches of our families?

5 We have published three large format Germanna Record volumes of genealogy and family history in the past 5 years at considerable investment of funds raised by the Germanna Foundation—close to \$10,000 for each book. The Blankenbaker book is a general history of the entire second colony and each of its families, with photo ties to their villages in Germany and Austria. The Clore book and the Yager book (spearheaded by Cathi Clore Frost) are outstanding detailed and documented four-and five-generation genealogies focusing on the Lutherans who arrived at Germanna in 1717. We have a study of the Hitt family in the works, but it will be three years before it is published. We have attempted to get people to coordinate the gathering of material for genealogies similar to Clore & Yager on the Aylor, Broyles, Haeger, Kemper, and Utz families, but have not had great success in getting these projects near completion. This is a huge undertaking and not many persons have the time, patience and skill to do it. This is an ideal project spread across many researchers through a Germanna Family Working Group.

6 We have a website with a message board where people can post queries and make connections with others who share their lines, with news about the foundation and opportunities to order genealogy and other books, with a special section for members only with new research posted on family and Germanna-related matters, and with easy opportunity to sign up for the Reunion and for trips. If your Family Group has ideas on how to increase the quality of our website, let us know at foundation@germanna.org.

7 We have expanded the newsletter into an attractive and interesting publication, and have been able to include in it not only brief news items, but some one-page more in depth articles about families or sites. Germanna Family Working Groups would be excellent sources of interesting articles, with responsibility for drafting articles spread among the researchers.

8 We have encouraged investigation of the Martin cemetery site in Germantown (Fauquier County) in the hopes that if a thorough investigation were carried out and possibly even some DNA testing done, it would yield some helpful genealogical information. We are urging the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors to preserve part of Germantown as a park.

9 John Howard, our volunteer coordinator has worked long and hard in the library to get our material in better order for accessing, and we continue to build our genealogical files as material is donated. He is recovering now from open heart surgery, and we need volunteers to continue his work. Pray for his recovery and for volunteers to step forward! We have many dedicated and talented members, and they are generous in sharing their discoveries with other researchers (and future generations!) through the Germanna Foundation. One dedicated member spent part of her HONEYMOON in England researching her ancestor, Butler Brayne Spotswood Thompson, the lady of Salubria. Now that is dedication!

Let us know if you would like to be part of the leadership team of your Germanna Family Working Group by emailing the Germanna Foundation at foundation@germanna.org. Tell us which family or families you would like to concentrate on, and we will match you with your cousins to help preserve your heritage for generations to come. ■

Fritz Bottenberg, 1935-2011

Fritz Bottenberg

August 8, 1935 – January 30, 2011

The Germanna community was saddened by news of the death of Fritz Bottenberg, a Rector descendant from Trupbach and strong friend of the Germanna Foundation, after a long battle with cancer. He was buried in the nearby village of Seelbach.

Each June since 2003, when the Germanna group arrived in Trupbach, Fritz was on hand to greet us, along with members of the Heimatverein.

Fritz had grown up in the Richter / Rector house in the village, which went by the name of "Uhrmeiersch." That is Platt Deutsch dialect for "clockmaker's house," because Christoph Richter, father of Germanna emigrant John Jacob Rector, was a clockmaker.

Fritz remembered seeing the house burned in the closing days of World War II, one of the few historic houses destroyed in the picturesque village.

Fritz always invited our group for a tour through the historic timber frame house with its attached barn where he and his brother Theo lived. Then he took the group up the hill to see the surviving

stone entryway floor of the Richter house and showed us a large photograph of the house taken around 1910.

Rector descendants always posed for a photo with their Cousin Fritz. In 2006, Fritz donated a portion of that stone entry floor to the Germanna Foundation, where it may be seen in our Brawdus Martin Visitor Center.

In 2005 Fritz visited Germanna for our Reunion in July, along with two other Trupbachers with close ties to Germanna families, Rudi Schneider, who plays in the brass quartet that welcomes us to the town, and the late Dieter Ohrendorf, who shared his excellent genealogical research on Trupbach families that emigrated in 1713 with the foundation.

Memorial contributions for Fritz may be made to the Germanna Foundation, and condolence cards may be sent to his brother, Theo Bottenberg, Trupbacher Strasse 49, 57072 Siegen, GERMANY. ■



Executive Director's Notes

Dr. Frank Turnage



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On behalf of the Foundation and personally, I express sincere gratitude for the commitment and generosity of all of the donors who responded to President Marc's year-end appeal letter. If you did not have the opportunity to contribute yet, it is not too late.

The Foundation depends on the financial support of its members to publish and distribute this newsletter and to meet basic management and operating costs. It's never too exciting to think of having to pay maintenance, utilities, postage, and supplies bills, but it is essential to sustain the Foundation. Check www.germanna.org for a list of needs recently identified.

You can designate your contributions for various areas and programs of the Foundation. There are various ways, in addition to direct cash gifts, to contribute to the Foundation. The transfer of securities may offer tax benefits for the donor since generally capital gains tax can be avoided while the donor receives full charitable credit for the value of instruments at the time they are donated.

Gifts of real estate and remembering the Foundation in your estate planning are additional options through which you can support the perpetuity of your Germanna Heritage. Please consult with your tax advisor when planning your gifts. There are numerous ways, in addition to financial support, in which you and your family members can contribute to Germanna Heritage.

Cornwell Martin, a long-standing and faithful Germanna Foundation member, recently shared with me comments from the *Dutchess County, NY, Genealogical Society Newsletter* pointing out the need to plan for the preservation of family collections of manuscripts and photographs so they will not end up in a landfill should there be no family member to protect such records and the legacies of our ancestors. Often one does not place adequate value and attention on the irreplaceable documents handed down and treasured over generations.



■ **Plan a visit to Germanna this year.** The Annual Reunion and Conference (July 15 -17) provides a unique opportunity to celebrate your ancestry, meet cousins, and renew friendships while relaxing and enjoying yourself.



■ **New library acquisition:** "The Family History of Joan Yager Rhodes of Howard County, Indiana" authored and donated by Virginia Rhodes Nuta.



■ **Intern Opportunities:** The Foundation is seeking 3rd and 4th year undergraduates, and graduate students for internships. Interns will have a variety of experiences related to the heritage of the 1714 and 1717 Germanna immigrants, including genealogy research, historic preservation, the Germanna Museum, the Salubria mansion (c. 1757), and the annual historical conference and reunion.

Depending on the student's field of study and interests, it may be

possible to meet certain academic requirements, contingent upon approval by the college or university where the student is studying. Internships are an opportunity for growth in knowledge and personal satisfaction. Interns are accepted as volunteers and are not employees of the Foundation. For more information, contact me. A letter of application, resume, and two letters of reference are required of applicants.



■ **Best wishes to John Howard** who oversees the docent volunteer program. He is recovering from by-pass surgery and hopes to return to work soon.



■ **Call for Volunteers:** Currently the Germanna Visitor Center has only six regular volunteers. If you reside nearby, do you have one or more days a month (Tue.-Sat., 1-5 p.m.) when you can serve as a docent and assist with other needs?

Can you work from your home assisting with genealogical research and responding to inquiries from individuals who are seeking information about their Germanna ancestors?

Can you volunteer to assist with special projects, events, and functions such as maintaining the Memorial Garden, helping with clean up at the Visitor Center and/or Salubria? Docents are also needed for Salubria.

If you are not already among our volunteers, please sign up, letting us know what you wish to help with. Over the course of the year, there are numerous opportunities such as staffing Germanna information tables and exhibits at local festivals, street fairs, and heritage observances. Please contact me.



■ **Contributions are requested for the 2011 annual auction.** The banquet and auction gala during the annual reunion and conference weekend is a major annual fund-raiser for the Foundation. All proceeds are used to support the programs to research and preserve the history and genealogy of Germanna ancestors.



■ **Auction items are needed.** Vacation accommodations and trips, antiques, historic artifacts, objects of art, miscellaneous merchandise, restaurant dinners or privately hosted dinner parties are examples of some of the items that have been auctioned successfully in the past.



■ **Charitable sponsorships are needed** to defray annual reunion and conference expenses. Businesses and individuals can become sponsors at various levels from \$10,000 to as little as \$100. Sponsors will be listed in the program and acknowledged with signs. Levels of \$2,500 or more will be announced during the event. Mail checks to The Germanna Foundation and indicate the name to be used for sponsor recognition. ■

German Legislator Visits Germanna

By Clint Schemmer
Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star

An Old World lawmaker says he's intrigued by bits of the past he saw in the New World during a visit to Orange County the weekend of February 5-6, 2011.

Volkmar Klein, a member of the German parliament who represents the Siegerland in the German Bundestag, explored the area that emigrants from his district settled nearly 300 years ago.

Traveling with Rüdiger Lentz, executive director of the German-American Heritage Museum in Washington, Klein visited Fort Germanna, the log stockade his constituents' ancestors built in 1714.

The German colonists, skilled in mining and metalworking, provided the brains and brawn for royal Gov. Alexander Spotswood's iron-making industry in the British colony.

Klein and Lentz took part in a public forum at the Brawdus Martin Germanna Visitor Center next to Germanna Community College's Locust Grove campus on State Route 3. Operated by the nonprofit Germanna Foundation, the center interprets the region's extensive German-American history.

"It's really exciting to be with you and learn about the people who left my area in Germany, came here and played a role in creating America," Klein told a standing-room-only audience of about 100 people.

Klein, Lentz and foundation President Marc Wheat held an hourlong round-table discussion, fielding questions from those present. The conversation was televised on "Germanna Today," a program of cable Channel 21 in Culpeper.

After touring the foundation's property, which includes a tract named the Siegen Forest after the woodlands in his district, Klein said he was moved by the experience.



Volkmar Klein poses with former U.S. Ambassador Helen Marie Taylor and Germanna Foundation President Marc Wheat.



"It's really exciting to be with you and learn about the people who left my area in Germany, came here and played a role in creating America."

—Volkmar Klein

Germany's state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

His Siegen-Wittgenstein district, home to 300,000 people, has the highest ratio—64%—of forested land of any such spot in Germany, Klein noted. And yet is a highly productive industrial area as well. The Germanna colonists were miners and ironworkers from Siegen's villages. Today, high-tech metalworking makes Siegerland Germany's biggest export hub.

Now, in an intensely competitive global marketplace, it is even more important to encourage strong trans-Atlantic ties, Klein said.

"We have many shared values. We believe in the dignity and the freedom of any individual," he said. "And we are friends." ■



German legislator Volkmar Klein visits Fort Germanna, settled by his countrymen in the 1700s.



Tony Beal, a structural engineer, and Jimmy Price, a brick-and-mortar specialist, inspect the chimney of Salubria in Culpeper for a report on needed preservation work.

Important Discoveries in Salubria's Attic

By Clint Schemmer, *Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star*

In historical research, one good find makes for a rare day of discovery. But a half-hour on March 3, 2011 at Salubria, the mid-18th-century Culpeper County home built for the widow of Colonial Gov. Alexander Spotswood, brought several full-fledged eureka moments for people investigating the structure.

"Wow! This hip shingle is the kind of Rosetta Stone that you look for," historical craftsman Peter Post exclaimed as Kevin Simmons handed him a long, narrow piece of wood he found in a dark, dusty corner of the mansion's attic.

It's unusual enough that such an original piece survives from a circa-1757 building that was re-roofed many times.

But in addition to the hip shingle with a hand-wrought, blacksmith-made rose-head nail still embedded in it, they found the two bevel-cut shingles that sat on either side of it. A mouse nest yielded a colorful piece of early wallpaper and its ceiling border, and a fragment of paper with quill-and-ink writing.

Such small clues are crucial to hopes of stabilizing and restoring one of Colonial Virginia's grande dames.

"This is just like what was found at Montpelier," said Post, who put a historically accurate cypress-shingle roof on President James Madison's Orange County home during its \$24 million restoration,

informed by a similar fragment. "This is the kind of evidence you dream of. There's probably no telling what you can find up here with a little sleuthing around."

When Post and Simmons descended from the attic and showed the items to Kathy Ellis, a trustee of the nonprofit that owns Salubria, her mouth dropped open and then a big smile lit up her face.

Douglas Harnsberger, an architect and veteran of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, was also excited. Harnsberger, Post and masonry expert Jimmy Price visited Salubria yesterday to inspect its roof and masonry, and advise the foundation on care of the structure.

Hoisted 50 feet into the air aboard a cherry-picker's bucket, Price and Post took a close look at Salubria from a vantage point that few have had in its 250-year history. The home sits on a rise off State Route 3 just east of Stevensburg.

"These experts' advice is crucial," said Ellis, a board member of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies. "The foundation views itself as the steward of the property, and we want Salubria to be standing for many generations to come." Price and Post are considered "two of the best in their business," she said.

"This is the kind of evidence you dream of. There's probably no telling what you can find up here with a little sleuthing around."

—Historical Craftsman Peter Post

Their inspection, done in concert with Harnsberger and tradesmen from HITT Contracting of Falls Church, will determine the condition of Salubria's roof, walls and chimneys, recommend preservation measures and provide ballpark cost estimates.

Price's Virginia Lime Works in Madison Heights has done restoration work for the White House, the University of Virginia, Monticello and Poplar Forest, Thomas Jefferson's retreat near Lynchburg.

Peter Post Restoration in Richmond just finished roofing outbuildings at Mount Vernon and Gunston Hall, founding father George Mason's home on the Potomac River, as well as major exhibit work at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

All of the experts provided their time and expertise for free. Harnsberger drove four hours from his home near Philadelphia, leaving before dawn, to volunteer.

The foundation, which was given Salubria in 2000 by its last private owner, the Grayson family, recently formed a committee to research the building's history and architecture to help determine how best to save it for future generations.

Last year, working with a leading British expert in timber tree-ring dating, the foundation determined the house was built between 1753 and 1757, slightly later than most had thought. It is a rare, nearly pristine example of a mid-18th-century Georgian home, bearing much of its original interior woodwork.



One of the original shingles from the historic home's early days which was recently found in the attic at Salubria.



A piece of original wallpaper from Salubria.

Calder Loth, the dean of Virginia's architectural historians, has said the house is especially significant as "a document of Colonial-period artistry."

Its interior paneling, Loth wrote in the fourth edition of the Virginia Landmarks Register, is "some of the finest and best preserved in the mid-Atlantic region."

Salubria was built by the Rev. John Thompson for his wife, Butler Brayne Spotswood. She was the widow of the Colonial governor, who brought the first German settlers to the Virginia frontier, forged an iron-making industry and built one of the grandest homes in the land, which visitor William Byrd II waggishly dubbed the "Enchanted Castle."

Thompson's home is "a close cousin" of Montpelier, which was built a few years later, said Harnsberger, principal of Historic Architecture LLC, which has offices in Richmond and Swarthmore, Pa. A U.Va. graduate, he is descended from one of the Germanna Colony settlers. The brickwork of the two houses bears some distinct similarities.

"Not many people know about Salubria, because it was in private hands until recently," he said. "It is a hidden gem of the Piedmont Georgian style. Very few homes in the Piedmont were of this quality, just a handful."

"This is very exciting. We have been very fortunate," Harnsberger said of yesterday's discoveries. "This is the start of what will be a long process." ■

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Treasures from the Attic

- A hip shingle with a hand-wrought, blacksmith-made rose-head nail still embedded in it
- Two bevel-cut shingles that sat on either side of the above shingle
- A colorful piece of early wallpaper and its ceiling border
- A fragment of paper with quill-and-ink writing



A Quilt and Textile Exhibit at Salubria, April 30 & May 1, 2011

By Kathy Ellis and Marty Moon

Is genealogy only done on paper? A court house deed room is not the only place to learn about our Germanna heritage. At the end of this month, we will have the opportunity to learn about our heritage in a very different way, told to us through Germanna quilts and textiles.

Many of our Germanna ancestors would not have had the leisure time or, possibly, the education to write diaries and letters. Their only legacy to us may be the work of their hands.

For women, this legacy was often textiles, lovingly and beautifully made for their families. This is a part of our Germanna heritage that you will never find in a genealogy database. Each stitch tells us the story of those hands from long ago.

Marty Moon, a respected quilter, quilt teacher and lecturer with 33 years of experience in the textile field, is organizing a quilt and textile exhibit entitled A TEXTILE LEGACY to benefit Salubria's preservation fund.

The exhibit, open to the public, will be held at Salubria 10 AM until 4 PM, Saturday, April 30 & Sunday May 1, 2011.

Marty has also made and donated a 50" x 50" quilt/wall hanging for an opportunity-drawing. Made of reproduction cotton fabrics from the late 18th century, it is both hand pieced and hand quilted.

Tickets for this quilt will be sold, and the winner will be selected at Germanna's Annual Conference & Reunion Banquet July 16, 2011. Our welcoming quilt, on view in Salubria's hall, will be a Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt top made of brilliantly colored silk hexagons. Owned by the Grayson Family at Salubria, it has been stored at the Visitors' Center since its donation several years ago.

A recent appraisal considers it to be a wonderful example of early English paper pieced blocks. The tiny hexagon paper patterns are

made from letters and envelopes from the early-to-mid 1800's with the print still very legible. Also to be shown are antique quilts made by Germanna descendants, including examples made by Clore, Crigler, Spilman, and Fishback hands, in Salubria's first floor rooms.

An 1882 Christmas crazy quilt from the Rector family, owned by Katharine Brown, will also be displayed. These quilts will be shown as residents at Salubria would have viewed them-- in lovely natural lighting.

In addition to these beautiful and unique quilts, examples of children's clothing from the last quarter of the 19th century from Rector and Spilman families will be displayed.

Marty says, "It is rare to have the privilege of seeing old quilts of the caliber of those that will be displayed in this exhibition outside of a museum. It is obvious that the families who own the quilts in this exhibition have treasured them and taken excellent care of them. I hope that everyone attending the exhibition enjoys the eye candy (all the textiles), the mansion and gardens and a day in the country."

Plan to support this wonderful textile exhibit unique to Germanna. You can purchase an entrance ticket for \$15 and an opportunity-drawing ticket for the new quilt for \$10 from the website. The entrance ticket includes both the quilt exhibit and a tour of the house and grounds. You do not need to be present at the July 16 Banquet/ auction drawing to win the new quilt made by Marty Moon.

To volunteer to help during the exhibit, email clifton@vabb.com. For additional information, to purchase tickets, or to get driving directions, visit www.germanna.org/node/443 or call 540-423-1700 between 1 and 5 pm. ■

"It is rare to have the privilege of seeing old quilts of the caliber of those that will be displayed in this exhibition outside of a museum."

—Quilter Marty Moon





The Quilt and Textiles Exhibit at Salubria will take place Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 which includes both the quilt exhibit and a tour of the house and grounds. A drawing for a new quilt made by Marty Moon is \$10. For information, to purchase tickets, or to get driving directions, visit <http://www.germanna.org/node/443> or call 540-937-4519 or 540-423-1700 between 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm. To volunteer to help during the exhibit, email clifton@vabb.com.

The Historic Gardens of *Salubria*

Under the Garden Club of Virginia's 2010 William D. Rieley Fellowship, scholar of landscape architecture, Sonia Brenner (UVA MLA 2010), spent 3 months researching the garden and landscape at Salubria. The following is a summary of her fascinating report, *SALUBRIA: AN INTERPRETATION OF ITS GARDEN AND LANDSCAPE HERITAGE*, which can be read in its entirety at the Visitors Center.—
Kathy Ellis

Will Rieley and
Sonia Brenner discuss
Salubria's falling gardens.

Gov. Spotswood's attention was drawn to the Rappahannock River region because it was an area as yet unclaimed by wealthy planters, and sizeable iron deposits were found there in 1712.

With a skilled business eye, Spotswood intended to dominate the local fur trade, defend the frontier, and increase his own power and wealth through agriculture and industry.

Over time Spotswood amassed about 83,000 acres in the western Piedmont and Shenandoah Valley, part of which he designated Spotsylvania County in 1720.

When Governor Spotswood moved to Fort Germanna, he brought into Piedmont Virginia his aristocratic tastes, rooted in England and Tidewater Virginia.

When he married and brought his bride, Butler Brayne Spotswood, to the site today known as the "Enchanted Castle," he brought her to an elegant home suitable for a lady of her social standing.

As he had done at the Governor's Palace, Spotswood designed and built a falling garden with three terraces adjacent to the house, establishing a commanding view over the Rappahannock River and surrounding landscape.

Spotswood died in 1740, and his widow married the Rev. John Thompson two years later. Although there is no proof, it is probable that John and Butler Thompson began plans for the falling garden at Salubria at the same time they planned the house's construction.

The falling garden (see 5th bullet on opposite page) was a status symbol strongly associated with Virginia plantations, and may have appealed to the Thompsons as they constructed their grand house.

Practically speaking, soil removed during excavation of a new basement was often used to form the slopes and terraces of such a garden, and Thompson owned the labor force necessary to carry out such a large scale earthwork.



Falling gardens were very popular throughout Virginia. "In fact, terraced falls were so admired in Fredericksburg, that in 1777, eight lots were for sale with the notation that four were already 'well improved with a good falling garden.'" (*Virginia Gazette* May 2, 1777 and Feb. 5, 1780)

In nice weather, a guest at Salubria would have arrived by horse or coach, entered the north door, and had an expansive view through the open south door onto the terrace and the falling gardens with soft breezes bringing the scent of flowers. While the north landscape was visually impressive to an arriving guest, the south side was the more intimate, private side of the house, used for entertaining.

Salubria's falling garden, located just beyond the south terrace, has three constructed terraces, separated by two built slopes, imperfectly aligned with the main axis of the house.

Over the centuries, the slopes have been worn down somewhat by erosion. Originally, the falling garden would likely have held visually pleasing plantings of flowers but also useful vegetables and herbs for household use.

Other falling gardens around Virginia include those at the Governor's Palace in Colonial Williamsburg (c 1716), Dan's Hill, Danville, Carter's Grove, Sabine Hall, Kingsmill, Charles Carroll Garden Annapolis MD, Monpelier, Woodberry Forest, Chatham, Federal Hill, Stratford Hall, Menokin, many more. Fall Hill, the Fredericksburg



home built by John and Butler Thompson's descendants ca 1790, also had falling gardens.

Falling gardens and the great house of Salubria were only one piece of a much larger working plantation complex. Many outbuildings, barns, ice house, slave quarters, would have all been included but, today, are undocumented and remain to be explored.

Later alterations to the landscape include the establishment of the Grayson family graveyard at the south end of the middle terrace in the 19th century. This changed the tone of the gardens from a social center to one of memorial.

Then, in 1955, Mr. and Mrs. George Harrison hired Alden Hopkins to initiate a landscape design for their intended move to Salubria. Hopkins established a formal plan for the boxwood ring and many trees that we know around Salubria today. ■

Sonia's research incorporated the entire site of Salubria, aerial mapping, the study of antique photographs and documents, and gathering oral history. Additionally, as so often happens, Salubria has enchanted Sonia and inspired her to continue her independent research into falling gardens, an "understudied subject that has a lot of potential."

From "Early American Gardens" blog:

<http://americangardenhistory.blogspot.com/2009/01/american-terraced-gardens.html>

"As the 18th century dawned, American colonists were growing richer & found themselves with enough free time to think about designing the grounds around themselves to project their new wealth & power. The gentry began to employ professional gardeners who often planned for land on one side of their employer's house to become a falling garden.



"Many well-to-do homeowners intentionally chose their home sites on naturally sloping ground or on the bank of a river. They intended to plant level grassy (or more intricate) garden areas as part of a series of terraced falls or graduations with sloping turf fronts & sides. Often when the dwelling house was newly built, the earth, clay, & rubbish removed for cellars & foundations were used to shape the terraced falls. Hills were intentionally cut into slopes & flats where owners & guests could walk.

"Visitors would usually approach the formal entrance to a house by a flat carriage way. Guests asked to stay for a while, often would be invited to take a walk in the terraced garden on the opposite side of the home. People usually walked between these flat levels by means of grass ramps. Each individual descent was referred to as a fall. Gentry owners showcased their genteel taste in gardening on these terraces, which served as their stage to those passing by or visiting. . . ." ■



Salubria follows many of the principles of country place design as described by Arthur Shurcliff in "The Gardens of the Governor's Palace, Williamsburg." Among the rules still visible today:

- ✦ Build on good high land, well drained, not too far from river transportation.
- ✦ If the site is not adjacent to a river, it should look directly toward a fine cross country view.
- ✦ The site of a place should have straight vista of approach, not too steep or undulating to prohibit a long straight driveway.
- ✦ Site should be built across both vistas mentioned above (river/countryside and approach).
- ✦ Site should have ample level ground around house for a symmetrically placed front yard and back yard, both should be large. If you can't make them level, you may break them into a series of terraces or "falls" to make flat symmetrical surfaces.
- ✦ Yards should be square or rectangular. If rectangular, make yard twice as long as they are wide. Or, use ratio of two to three, or three to four.
- ✦ Gardens should be placed either on the axis of the retired side of the house or symmetrically each side of the house axis, or asymmetrically at one end of house.

Germanna 2011 Reunion Schedule

☞ Friday, 15 July 2011

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Registration, Best Western, Culpeper

9:00 am – 4:00 pm: *Choose Tour*

- First Colony Tour, Best Western, Culpeper
- Second Colony Tour, Best Western, Culpeper
- Civil War Tour, Best Western, Culpeper

6:00 pm – ? : BBQ at Salubria

☞ Saturday, 16 July 2011

8:15 am – 3:45 pm: Camp Salubria, Salubria

8:30 am – 3:30 pm: Historical and Genealogical Conference, GCC, Daniel Technology Center

8:30 am – 9:00 am: Social Hour

9:00 am – 9:40 am: Roll Call and Welcome Session

9:50 am – 10:40 am: **SESSION I**

- John Blankenbaker – *Why Did They Come?*
- Don Tharpe – *The War Between the States in Fauquier*
- Karen Jensen – *How to Succeed in Correlation Without Really Trying*

10:40 am – 11:00 am: Morning Break

11:00 am – 11:50 am: **SESSION II**

- Karen Becker – “... zur Decke unserer Bloese ...”: *Clothing of our German Ancestors*
- Mike Gorman – *Through the Lens: A Photographic Journey of Civil War Richmond*
- Maxine Weaver Crane – *How to Write YOUR Story*

11:50 am – 12:55 pm: Lunch

12:55 pm – 1:10 pm: **SPECIAL SESSION**

- Dr. Katharine Brown – *Travels with Germanna*

1:20 pm – 2:10 pm: **SESSION III**

- John Blankenbaker – *Who Were the Other Germannians?*
- Clark B. Hall – *The Battle of Brandy Station*
- Karen Jensen – *New at FamilySearch.org*

2:10 pm – 2:30 pm: Afternoon Break

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm: Jim Flanagan – *The Battle of Kelly's Ford*

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm: Annual Meeting and Closing Session

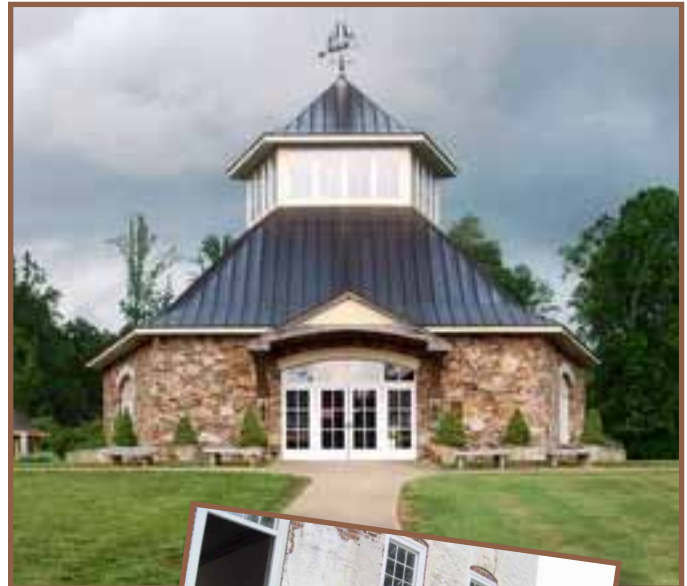
5:00 pm – 9:30 pm: Banquet and Auction, The Inn at Kelly's Ford

☞ Sunday, 17 July 2011

9:00 am – 1:00 pm: Tours of Fort Germanna / Enchanted Castle Archaeological Site, Germanna Visitor Center

10:00 am: Worship Service, Cloister, Germanna Visitor Center

Please refer to the separate mailing you have received with the detailed conference schedule and with the registration form. Register early in order to take advantage of the lower Early Bird Special rates! Go to www.GERMANNA.org for the latest information.



Reunion Auction Features Themed Baskets

"A-Tisket A-Tasket, a Green and Yellow Basket" is familiar as a 19th century child's rhyme and as an Ella Fitzgerald song. For Germanna members, it will become familiar as a theme for the 2011 auction for Reunion. Themed baskets will be a feature of this year's auction offerings.

Your Events Committee is soliciting baskets that can be offered at the Silent Auction and by the Auctioneer. We hope dozens of Germanna members will put on their thinking caps and come up with a theme for a basket, and then provide the contents to fill that basket.

Do you like to garden? How about making up a "Garden Lover's Basket" with items such as seeds, bulbs, a gardening book, some garden gadgets or small tools?

Are you a birdwatcher? You could put together a perfect "Bird Lover's Basket" with a small bird house or bird feeder, a bird book, a little bag of thistle seeds.

And how about a "Genealogy Basket" for grown-up beginners and another for kids? Think of all the interesting materials you could put in one of these.

Do you live in Texas? How about a "Lone Star Special Basket" with Texan items? Louisiana resident? You could put together a terrific "Cajun Basket" or "Jazz Basket."

Single Auction Items Sought Too!

A week at your beach house or your condo in Florida, or your cabin in the woods in Michigan are wonderful items to offer for the annual Germanna auction at Reunion. These vacation specials are some of our best sellers and boost the value of the auction as a fund-raiser.

Your Auction Committee urges you to think of some larger ticket items such as these that YOU could contribute, OR that you could solicit as a contribution from a business in your community.

Special services are also a wonderful contribution. Are you an excellent genealogical researcher? You could offer several hours of your services at a library, such as the LDS library in Salt Lake City, or the DAR Library in Washington, or the Library of Virginia in Richmond where you customarily work.

Do you have one of those fantastic sewing machines that will monogram? You could offer to monogram a set of towels or sheets, or even shirts that the lucky buyer of your services would send you.

Are you a whiz at Photoshop? You could offer to do restoration work on old photographs.

Are you a calligrapher? You could offer to address wedding or 50th anniversary bash invitations.

The Germanna Foundation is a 502(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions are deductible on your federal income tax to the extent allowed by law. Contributors will be provided with a proper letter to meet IRS requirements. To donate, contact us through our website, www.germanna.org or e-mail the auction coordinator at klbrown@cfw.com. Deadline is June 1. ■

State-themed baskets could include a weekend at a resort hotel that you get contributed, or tours of some museums in your state. They could feature specialty foods made in your state.

And how about a "Wine Lover's Basket" or "Afternoon Tea Basket?" And in this Sesquicentennial year, how about a "Civil War Fan Basket"?

These are just a few ideas to get your brain waves going. If you can bring a finished basket with you to Reunion, that would be wonderful. But, if you can't, please just get the basket contents to us by mail and your Auction Committee will pack them into an attractive basket. We can even turn tickets to a Redskins Game into a basket offering!

Please e-mail your Auction committee, either on the Germanna website, or to coordinator Katharine Brown at klbrown@cfw.com to let us know what your Auction contribution will be. We must know by June 1 in order to plan for the baskets and to make up an auction

program. The sooner you let us know what your basket—or your single item contribution—will be, the better we can plan! ■



► Auction Idea List

Baskets With a Theme

- Garden Lover's
- Bird Lover's
- Genealogy
- State-themed
- Wine Lover's
- Afternoon Tea
- Civil War Fan
- Sports Fan
- Movie Night
- Art Supplies
- Italian Dinner
- Book Lover's
- Beach Time
- BBQ Lover's
- Candles
- Car Lover's
- Dogs or Cats
- Chocoholic
- Cowboys
- Crafters
- Fisherman
- Mystery Lover's

Other Auction Items

- Week at beach house or condo
- Weekend at your cabin in the woods
- Genealogy research services
- Monogram items
- Calligraphy
- Photoshop photo restoration

To donate, contact us through our website, www.germanna.org or e-mail the auction coordinator at klbrown@cfw.com.

Make Your Next Visit to Virginia a Special One!



Guest Cottage at Salubria
Available for overnight stays,
receptions and meetings.

Contact
Melissa Hook
540-423-1700
or
mhook@
germanna.org

Germanna Foundation members in good standing may rent the Guest Cottage at Salubria for overnight stays, receptions, or meetings. Consider staying there while vacationing in Virginia or attending the July 2011 Reunion.

There are 2 bedrooms (one with double bed; the second has 2 twins) and two baths, a kitchenette, and quiet seclusion. No meals are included; there is no television. \$150 per night for two guests, \$25 additional charge for each person over two. No smoking. Contact Melissa Hook 540-423-1700 or mhook@germanna.org for details and reservations. A credit card must be used to hold the reservation. If you wish to stay in the Cottage during Reunion, there is a 3-night minimum stay.

Germanna Foundation Mission Statement

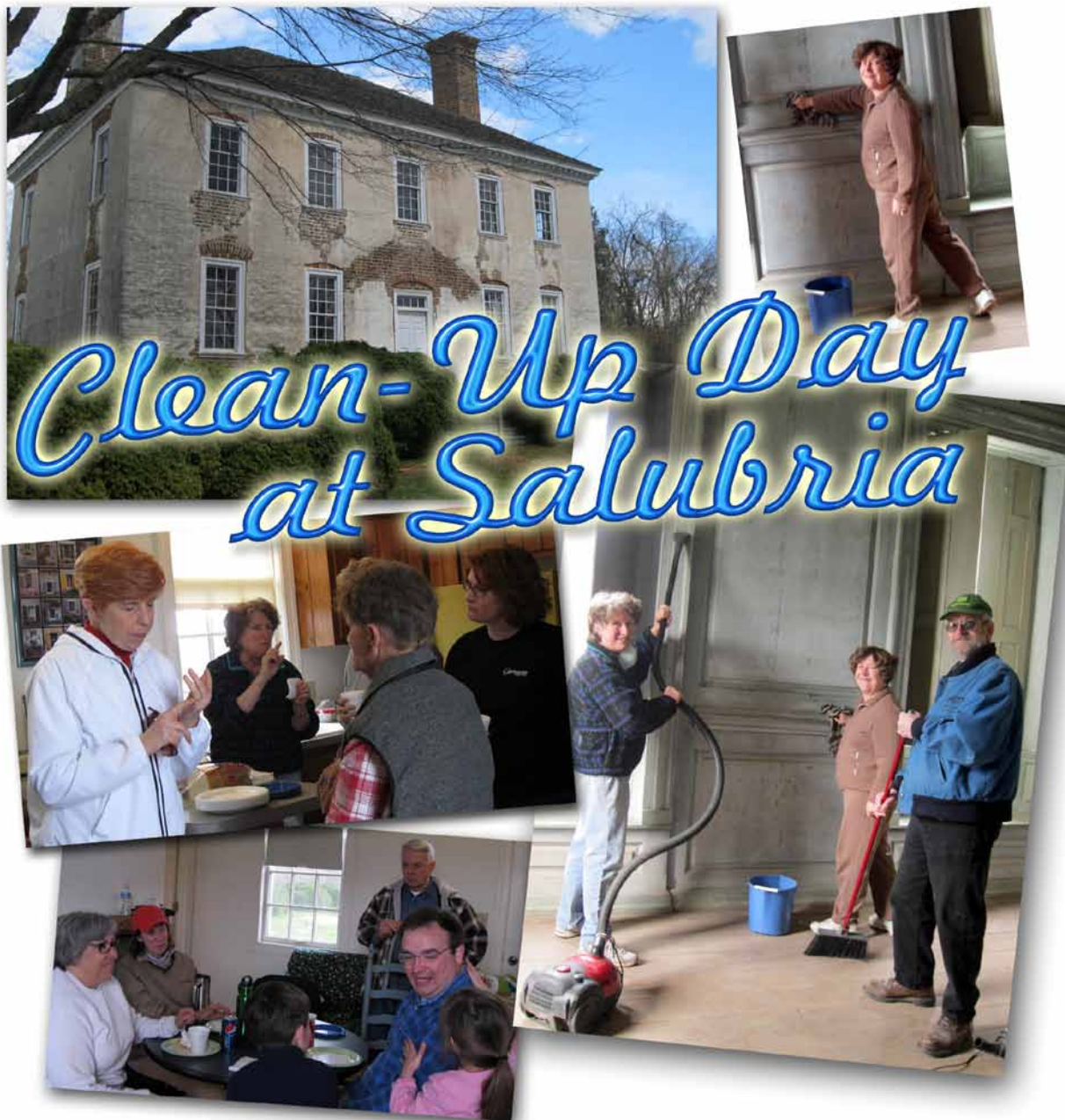
The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization) was chartered in 1956 to preserve the heritage of the earliest organized settlements of Germans in colonial Virginia in 1714 and 1717, augmented with additional infusions of immigrants in the 1730s and 1740s. Originally settled in a frontier fort under the auspices of Virginia's colonial Lt. Governor, Alexander Spotswood, the members of the immigrant groups later moved to the present counties of Fauquier, Culpeper, and Madison and played important roles in the settlement and development of those areas. The Germanna Foundation's four-fold mission is designed to preserve the early German-American heritage that began in colonial Virginia through lively programs of:

1. Land conservation;
2. Preservation of historic structures, sites, and cemeteries;
3. Education of the general public as well as the tens of thousands of descendants of those early settlers, and
4. The development of strong international relations with counterparts in Germany.



WWW.GERMANNA.ORG





On Saturday, April 2, 2011, Germanna Foundation members worked at Salubria to spruce up the Foundation's colonial mansion "Salubria" for many visitors coming on April 16 as part of Culpeper Remembrance Days and the April 30-May 1 quilt show.

Preserving Our Land

By J. Marc Wheat

The following prepared testimony was presented on April 15, 2011 before the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors in Warrenton, Virginia, under the agenda item "A Work Session Regarding Germantown with Marc Wheat, President, Germanna Foundation." Thanks to the financial and volunteer support of the members of the Germanna Foundation, the Foundation can safeguard our fragile heritage wherever it is threatened.

Chairman Graham, distinguished members of the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors, I am Marc Wheat, here today in my capacity as president of the Germanna Foundation to thank Fauquier County for recently recognizing portions of the Germantown settlement as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

I thought in light of this recognition it would be good time to begin a regular dialogue regarding mutual goals for documenting and preserving this unique element of Virginia heritage located in Southern Fauquier County.

The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc. was chartered in 1956 to preserve the heritage of the earliest organized settlements of Germans in colonial Virginia in 1714 and 1717 under the auspices of Lt. Gov. Spotswood.

The Germanna Foundation owns Salubria, the home of Governor Spotswood's widow and ancestral home of Robert E. Lee, located in Culpeper County; the cemetery of Revolutionary War veteran Peter Hitt in Northern Fauquier County; and 179 acres of the original settlement at Germanna in Orange County called "Siegen Forest."

The Germanna Foundation promotes the linkages with Fauquier County to our members, and often conducts programs to make Fauquier residents aware of their heritage through the colonists at Germantown.

Germanna Foundation Trustee Paula Johnson represents us on Fauquier County's Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee, and we are regular participants in Heritage Days.

During our annual homecoming during the third weekend of July, we bring bus tours to the John Marshall birthplace, and lunch here in Warrenton or at wineries on land that once belonged to Germanna's people.

We have hosted several events here in Warrenton, most recently two lectures on the character of Robert E. Lee.

The colony of Germans settling at Germanna in 1717 was Lutheran. They resettled in what is now Madison County and built the famous Hebron Lutheran Church in 1740, where they played an important role in the adoption of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The 1714 colony comprised 42 people (I descend from ten of them) of the Reformed faith, and we know from contemporary documents that they taught theology to their young people by means of the Heidelberg Catechism. It is this small group of faithful people who removed to modern-day Fauquier County and formed a tightly-knit community called Germantown by about 1721.

At this little settlement were families bearing the names of Brumback, Coons, Fishback, Haeger, Hitt, Hoffman, Holtzclaw, Kemper, Martin, Rector, Spillman, and Weaver.

Descendants of this first European settlement in what is now Fauquier County included noteworthy pioneers in American history:

- Members of Fauquier's Black Horse Cavalry and Mosby's Rangers;
- Founders of the Republic of West Florida, the Republic of Texas, and the Republic of California; and
- Five State governors: James S. Conway, Elias N. Conway, Henry Massie Rector, William Fishback, and James Lawson Kemper. Kemper was a governor of Virginia, famous for being the Confederate general wounded in Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg.

If I could ask you to refer to Woodford Hackley's map of Germantown that we include in Germantown Revived (Germanna Record Number 2), note that the village was laid out in long, narrow 100 acre strips that were probably allocated among the family heads by lot. What is fascinating is to examine aerial photography of Germantown, and see that tree lines of today along property lines correspond to the same property lines neatly laid out by German immigrants nearly 300 years ago.

I ask the Board of Supervisors to share our concern regarding the "For Sale-Industrial Zoned Land" signs present south of the railroad tracks on the east side of Midland Road. This area has compound layers of significant history including:

- American Indian settlements
- Lots 1 through 4 of the 18 Germantown settlement tracts of land
- The 250 acre Thomas Marshall farm where Chief Justice John Marshall was born. There is a Fauquier County park at the location of the Thomas Marshall homestead, but there are other colonial Germantown structures yet to be preserved, but with archaeological remains likely evidenced by mid-19th century plats.

The Germanna Foundation would very much like to continue to work with Fauquier County to engage in discussions with the property owner on the advantages of conservation easements or acquisition. We have a close relationship with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Department of Historic Resources, and many private groups that would like to save this important land for future generations.

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. But we have built a visitor center that houses our staff of three, a modest museum, and a library.

We sponsor Boy Scout Troop 199, and have hosted events focused on Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and 4H. 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.

Just such a man who was born in Germantown was John Marshall, our greatest Supreme Court Chief Justice. I commend to your study the report from Fauquier County Parks and Recreation entitled "John Marshall Birthplace Park Visioning Exercise." [Available on the GERMANNA.org website].

Preserving land zoned for industrial development and safeguarding it future generations of men and women of character is a high calling for the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors.

Preserving this land would also do honor to a man buried in Germantown, the Reverend Johann Henrich Haeger, pastor of the Germanna Colony and a native son of the German village of Anzhausen in the Siegerland.

At the age of 69, having already retired from the pastorate due to ill-health, Pastor Haeger made the momentous decision to leave the Siegerland forever in the hope of establishing a new community in America.



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

– J. Marc Wheat

After wintering in England, the hopeful group of Siegerlanders prepared to set sail for America. Undoubtedly, Pastor Haeger administered Holy Communion to his flock, asked God's blessing for the dangerous transatlantic crossing, and prayed that He would prosper their families and their descendants in the New World.

And, God did prosper those who came to America and settled at Germantown.

Could Pastor Haeger, from the little village of Anzhausen, have ever hoped that over 250 years later his descendant, Apollo 11 Astronaut Buzz Aldrin, would remember God's blessings by becoming the first man to take Holy Communion on the surface of the Moon?

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the Germanna Foundation stands at the center of a far-flung community of memory and hope. With members in the United States, Germany, Canada and Australia, the Germanna Foundation keeps green the memory of deeds past to inspire the exploration of tomorrow's New Worlds.

We are enriched more than you know by the support and friendship of the people of Fauquier County across time and space. At our homecoming the Germanna Foundation holds the third weekend of July every year, we remind each other of our mission as interrelated families in the words of one of America's greatest poets, T.S. Eliot, and I would like to share it with you:

*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.*



THE GERMANNA FOUNDATION
 PO BOX 279
 LOCUST GROVE, VA 22508

PHONE: 540-423-1700
 www.germanna.org

Your Name: _____ BEFORE JUNE 1
 Guest Name(s): _____ AFTER JUNE 1

Germanna Annual Conference & Reunion Registration

Early Bird (EB) prices are good until **June 1, 2011** after which Regular Registration (RR) fees go into effect. Register Early!
 Registration for each event is on a first-come; first-served basis and do **SELL OUT**. Cancellations/Refunds not accepted after June 10th

FRIDAY JULY 15 TH EVENTS								SATURDAY JULY 16 TH EVENTS				SUNDAY JULY 17 TH	
Civil War Theme Bus Tour	First Colony Bus Tour	Second Colony Bus Tour	BBQ Dinner Adult	BBQ Dinner Under 13	Camp Sabhria Aged 6-13	Historical Conference & Box Lunch	Banquet & Auction Adult	Banquet & Auction Under 13	Enchanted Castle Site Tour	TOTALS			
\$55 EB \$60 RR	\$55 EB \$60 RR	\$55 EB \$60 RR	\$30 EB \$35 RR	\$15 EB \$20 RR	\$25 EB \$30 RR	\$45 EB \$50 RR	\$50 EB \$55 RR	\$25 EB \$30 RR	\$15 EB \$18 RR				
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										TOTAL DUE			
										\$			
										ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE GERMANNA FOUNDATION			
										\$			
										GRAND TOTAL			
										\$			

To help us determine room assignments, please indicate the sessions you wish to attend. This does not obligate or guarantee your attendance at these sessions.

Session I

- John Blankenbaker – *Why Did They Come?*
- Don Tharpe – *The War Between the States in Fauquier County.*
- Karen Jensen - *How to Succeed in Correlation Without Really Trying.*

Session II

- Karen Becker - "... zur Decke unserer Bloese ...": *Clothing of our German Ancestors.*
- Mike Gorman - *Through the Lens: A Photographic Journey of Civil War Richmond.*
- Maxine Weaver Crane - *How to Write YOUR Story.*

Session III

- John Blankenbaker - *Who Were the Other Germannians?*
- Clark B. Hall – *The Battle of Brandy Station*
- Karen Jensen – *New at FamilySearch.org.*

Ancestor family names will be printed on your name badge and in an attendee family directory. Please provide your ancestor family information by checking below, even if you are a member and/or have attended a previous Germanna Conference & Reunion. You may write in family names not listed below. If you do not provide this information, it will be left blank on your name badge.

- ◇ Amberger/Amberg
- ◇ Fishback/Fischbach
- ◇ Holt/Holdt
- ◇ Spillman/Spielmann
- ◇ Aylor
- ◇ Fisher
- ◇ Holtzclaw
- ◇ Spotswood
- ◇ Blankenbaker
- ◇ Fleischmann
- ◇ Kemper
- ◇ Utz
- ◇ Brombach
- ◇ Haeger/Hager
- ◇ Martin
- ◇ Wayland/Wieland
- ◇ Broyles
- ◇ Hanback/Heimbach
- ◇ Nay
- ◇ Weaver/Weber
- ◇ Carpenter
- ◇ Harnsberger
- ◇ Otterbach/Utterback
- ◇ Wilhoit/Willheit
- ◇ Clore/Klaar
- ◇ Hitt
- ◇ Rector
- ◇ Yager/Yeager
- ◇ Coons/Koontz
- ◇ Hoffman
- ◇ Schmidt
- ◇ Yowell