



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

August 2004

P.O. Box 860477, Plano, TX, 75086-0477

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl>

<http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3>

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Upcoming Events

Saturday Seminars

Genealogy Friends sponsors free seminars the third Saturday of every month from 9:30 to Noon at the Gladys Harrington Library.

October 16, 2004 - Leo Baca will be returning to discuss DNA Research

November 20, 2004 - Learn to publish your genealogy finds on the Internet using Front Page - John Darrouzet

December 18, 2004 - Annual Show and Tell—Show off your findings

April 16, 2005 -All day seminar. Topic to be announced

September 17, 2005 - All day seminar. Topic to be announced

Gen Friends Presents John Humphrey

On Saturday, September 18, 2004, Genealogy Friends presents award-winning author,

John T. Humphrey. John is the current president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society and vice president of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. Mr. Humphrey's principal genealogical publication is the fourteen-volume set of Pennsylvania Births that list more than 170,000 birth in eleven eastern Pennsylvania counties prior to 1800. He has written other books and numerous articles, lectures widely on German and colonial research, and has appeared on national television and public radio. He was the former director of the National Genealogical Society Learning Center. Currently Mr. Humphrey is working on genealogical records created during World War II of interest to researchers in Germany and the United States. Topics will be:

Reconstructing Families on the Colonial Frontier - Records kept during the colonial period can be difficult to find or when they do exist, they are often incomplete causing serious obstacles to research. This lecture explores strategies to get around these obstacles by creatively using data found in the records that do exist.

Researching Pennsylvania Ancestors - If your ancestors are from the keystone state you need to know about Pennsylvania's deeds, warrants, patents, probate and vital records.

Researching German Ancestors: "The Agony and the Ecstasy" - This two hour introduction to German research explores obstacles like language and custom, and it looks at a variety of records kept by Germans both in the U. S. and Germany that will open the way to a rich source of research material.

Cost: Members \$25 and Non-members \$32, after Sept 1st, \$37. Box Lunches from Jason's Deli will be available for \$6.50. They include a sandwich (turkey, ham, or roast beef), chips, a cookie, and a pickle. For more information contact Genealogy

Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts

Be one of the best-dressed genealogists in town. Order your Gen Friends logo t-shirt or sweatshirt now. The shirts have a 3" logo printed on the left chest. Shirts are available in white, natural, or ash gray with a dark green logo.

T-shirts are \$12.00 for toddler through XL and \$14.00 for XXL and XXXL

Sweatshirts are \$17.00 for toddler through XL and \$19.00 for XXL and XXXL

Volunteer Activities

Library Volunteers

Our volunteers are in the library during the day on most days. Check out our web page and the bulletin board for the schedule of volunteers on duty; or call the Reference Desk to inquire 972-461-7175. If you would like to volunteer to work in the library, contact Pat Mitchell.

Volunteers Needed

We need several volunteers to help with all facets of Genealogy Friends activities and events. If you have a talent, extra energy, or are willing to help in any way, please contact us at genfriends@comcast.net. Current Opportunities Include:

- Help is needed to continue to index the 1930 Census for Collin County. The indexes are posted on our web site to enable researchers to more easily find their families. We will provide a CD containing the Census and the format for the Excel or Open Office Spreadsheet where the data is entered.
- Volunteers are needed for all facets of the Lock Ins including refreshments, manning stations, sharing information or experiences, and registration. If you can help contact Joyce Kaplan.

Newsletter Articles

Help keep our newsletter interesting:

Have you found an unusual record during your search?
How did you solve that last really tough problem?
Write an article and submit it to be published in the newsletter. Have you discovered a fantastic web site?

Email it to Barbara Coakley at bjc1620@hotmail.com.

Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	\$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	\$20
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	\$40
Collin County, TX Voter Registration Index 1867	\$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	\$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	\$10
Military Investigations: Red, White & Blue	\$10
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal	\$10

Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column by Brenda Kellow appears in Plano Star Courier, Star Community Newspapers and DFW Community News weekly. The column and an archives of past columns are also available at <http://www.geocities.com/TracingOurRoots>.

Dues Are Due

Get a deal on your dues, pay now for the rest of 2004 and 2005 for \$45.

Regular dues are Single: \$30. Family: \$50. Friend: \$100; Gold: \$500; Platinum: \$1000. We currently have over 70 members.

Please consider **matching funds** if your corporation is a participant. We are a nonprofit organization certified under Section 501 [c] [3] of the Internal Revenue Code.

Web Sites

The VitalSearch State portal provides access to vital records for Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, New York, Oregon, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin. If you can get past all the advertisements the information is there, and most of it free.
<http://www.vitalsearch-worldwide.com/>

Swiss Genealogy on the internet
<http://www.ey.ch/swisgen/home-m.htm>

The International Association of Assessment Offices website is helpful for the US and Canada county assessment databases. Use these sites to look up homes you lived in or those of your ancestors. Most will give you square footage, some layout of the property, and some pictures.
<http://www.iaao.org/1234.html>

In 1855 Yellow Fever hit Virginia. The Norfolk Public Library Archives website contains information about the epidemic in Norfolk and Portsmouth from the Richmond papers from July through December and indexes to help you search them.
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/va/yellow-fever/yftoc.html>

Research Buzz is a web site maintained by Tara Calishain who wrote *Official Netscape Guide to Internet Research*. The web site contains information about databases and search engines available. I checked it out one day and there were links to web sites providing Historical Exchange rates and the Theodore Roosevelt Encyclopedia. There is also an archive that can be accessed by category and there is a genealogy category. Check it out.
<http://www.researchbuzz.com/index.shtml>

The Joyner Library at East Carolina University has a web site that contains digitized histories of 29 counties in eastern North Carolina.
<http://www.lib.ecu.edu/ncc/historyfiction>

The Newberry Library in Chicago Atlas of Historical County Boundaries Project has published their first three online maps—California, Virginia and West Virginia.
<http://www.newberry.org/ahcbp/sitefiles>

Check out this site—it includes links to all the state archive websites.
<http://www.sos.state.ga.us/archives/rs/sarl.htm>

Skedaddle is a web site that contains writings about the Civil War including William Clark Quantril, Andersonville

Prison, and the steamer Sultana.
<http://www.pddoc.com/skedaddle/index.html>

The Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee has a web site where you can search for burials.
<http://www.cemeteries.org/genealogy.asp>

Linkpendium is a web site full of links organized by location.
<http://www.linkpendium.com/genealogy/USA/>

The Internet Archive web site is useful for locating web pages when the url is no longer valid. Enter the url and it may have been archived.
<http://www.archive.org>

Thanks to Bill Walton and Lynne Darrouzet for submitting web site information.

History & Genealogy Web Site

Members of Genealogy Friends are contributing to a new web site—History and Genealogy for the Active Researcher located at <http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>.

The goal is to expand the knowledge of those researching in Collin County and North Texas.

Check out the timeline—a daily calendar of events in Collin County through the years.

There is also a biography of Gladys Harrington.

Upcoming Gen Friends Events

Mark your calendars for these exciting upcoming events.

Library Lock Ins	October 29, 2004
	February 11, 2005
	May 13, 2005
	July 8, 2005
	October 28, 2005
Board Meetings	January 18, 2005
	March 15, 2005
	July 19, 2005

Case Study—Michael Schnaiter

In preparation for a recent family reunion I dusted off my research notebook for the Schnaiter family, one I hadn't looked at for a long time. The reunion was in Martinsville, Indiana. Family reunions are a great place to learn things about the family, trade information with cousins, and meet family members.

The first thing I learned was that I had been mispronouncing the family name. It is pronounced Snyder. In German when two vowels are together the second is pronounced. This explained why I kept finding records for a Michael Snyder and nothing for Michael Schnaiter. Fortunately, I had copied some of the Snyder records. I will need to retrace my steps to be sure I got them all.

The second thing I realized was that I had not analyzed the records I located. I should have done this to formulate theories about the family and see what I was missing. After combining what I had with what the others at the reunion provided here is the overdue analysis.

Let me introduce you to Michael Schnaiter. Based on church records from Broggingen, Baden (accessed on the first Gen Friends retreat to Salt Lake City), Michael was the son of Johann Michael Schnaiter and Anna Maria Akermann. The church records go back to Joseph Schnaiter who was born about 1639 in Switzerland and moved to Broggingen sometime before 13 January 1670 when he married Maria Mangel.

Michael married Anna Catharina Markstahler in Broggingen on 28 April 1825. They had 7 children all born in Broggingen—Anna Catharine born 11 November 1827 died 12 July 1830; Caroline Frederike born 26 May 1831; Maria Magdalena (my great-great grandmother) born 5 October 1833; Friederich Wilhelm born 21 September 1836; Maria Barbara born 5 February 1840; Maria Catharine born 30 January 1843; and Anna Maria born 18 February 1845.

In May 1851 Maria Magdalena requested permission to visit the United States. Her travel documents are included in family papers which are now part of the manuscript collection at Southern Illinois University. Thanks to the date on the travel records I was able to find the ship's passenger list. Maria Magdalena, her sister, Caroline Frederike, and their fiancés Gottlieb and Joseph Ziebold (who were brothers) sailed from LeHavre, France to New York City on the ship Samuel Fox which arrived on 25 July 1851.

According to the New York Herald, Morning Edition, the day they landed was "one of the sultriest and most oppressively hot days of the present season." The two couples resided at 103 Liberty, New York City. Gottlieb and Maria Magdalena were married on 5 August 1851 and Joseph and Caroline Frederike on 12 August 1851 at St. Mathew Evangelical Lutheran Church. Family lore says that the couples came to the US to get married because it was so

difficult to marry at this time in Baden. The fact that they married within weeks of landing supports this story.

Michael and the rest of his family requested permission to leave Baden in 1852. Records of their voyage have not yet been found. Family lore says that the families settled in Poughkeepsie, New York. I have not been able to find any record of a Schnaiter or Ziebold in or around Poughkeepsie.

The next records located for the family are in Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio. All of the Schnaiters and related Ziebold families settled there by May 1854 when both Gottlieb Ziebold and Michael Schnaiter filed their declaration of intent to become citizens.

Anna Catharina Markstahler Schnaiter died of Dropsy of the Chest in Chillicothe on 31 August 1857 at the age of 56. The local German Evangelical Church records had been transcribed and were available at the Ross County Genealogy Society Library. Anna was buried in the Western Methodist Cemetery. Unfortunately the cemetery was displaced so a hospital could be built in its location in 1910. Thanks to the local genealogy society transcribing the information from the tombstones before the cemetery was displaced, I know she was buried there.

In September 1959, Gottlieb and Mary Magdalena and their family sold their land and moved to California, Moniteau County, Missouri. They are listed there in the 1860 Census.

There is a marriage record for Michael Snyder and Maria Katharine Ringwalt Ziebold in Chillicothe dated 19 March 1860. Maria was the widow of Daniel Ziebold. Daniel's son John George married Michael's daughter Maria Barbara, therefore it appears the in-laws married. Michael Snyder is listed on the 1860 Census in Chillicothe with Catharine, his wife and a child 12 years old, Catharine Ziebold.

To try to prove that Michael Snyder and Michael Schnaiter are the same person I searched the county and found only one person by that name on the 1860 census. Later records in other locations, that I know are Michael Schnaiter were also recorded as Michael Snyder, therefore, my theory is that they are likely the same person. A further search of church, land and tax records in Ross County could help to solidify this theory.

By 22 September 1866, Michael had relocated to Martinsville, Morgan County, Indiana where he purchased lot number 8 in block 26. Michael paid taxes on this property from 1867 through 1880 when he died. His son, Friederich and daughter Maria Catharine also moved to Martinsville. The remaining children and their families joined Gottlieb and Mary Magdalena in California, Missouri.

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Annual Meeting

The Gen Friends Annual Meeting will be held Monday night, October 18th at Texas Land and Cattle Company located at 3945 Central Expressway (southbound service road juts south of Legacy), Plano, TX 75023. Phone Number 972-578-8707.

We will meet at 6:30 for drinks and we will order dinner off the regular menu at 7 p.m.

Gen Friends 3rd Annual Research Retreat

Mark your calendars. The 3rd Annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah will be January 30 to February 6, 2005.

Research in the largest genealogy library in the United States with your colleagues. Assistance will be available from veteran researchers. We have had a great time the last two years. Everyone returned with new information about ancestors. Plan on joining us.

Watch our web site for more details http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl/retreat_slc.htm

Collin County Historic Photographs Web Site

Members of GenFriends are contributing photographs of Collin County to the newest Gen Friends web site <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3>. The web site now contains over 2,400 photographs. Categories include Cemeteries,

Churches, Schools, People, Places, and Tombstones. If you would like to contribute photos of Collin County subjects, contact Joy at jfarrgo@comcast.net.

Book Exchange

Genealogy Friends would like to exchange Collin County books with books from other societies.

If you have an area or society you would like us to try and exchange with, please contact Joy Gough at jfarrgo@comcast.net.

Case Study Continued

(Continued from page 4)

On the 1870 Indiana Census Michael is listed in Martinsville with his wife Caroline, who was born in Prussia. This presents a problem since the last marriage located for Michael was to Catharine who was definitely from Baden. A search of a marriage records database for Indiana resulted in a marriage on 4 July 1866 for Michael Snyder and Caroline Miller in Hamilton, a neighboring county.

Caroline died in 1877 and is buried in Hilldale Cemetery in Martinsville, with a number of other Schaniter family members.

This presents the questions, is this Michael Snyder our Michael? Did Catharine die and Michael marry for a third time?

In order to determine this more research will need to be completed. Here is what I know so far:

- There are no entries for Michael Snyder in Hamilton County Indiana on the 1860 or 1870 Censuses.
- Caroline Miller is listed with her husband James Miller on the 1860 Census in Hamilton County.
- There is no James Miller listed on the 1870 Census in Hamilton County.
- Caroline's birth date is listed on her tombstone as 1799 and her age is listed as 59 and her birthplace is Prussia on the 1860 Census.
- Catharine was born in Broggingen, Baden on 16 December 1802.
- Unfortunately there are no extant state census records for the appropriate counties in Indiana or Ohio.

Based on what is known so far, it is possible that Michael married a third time in Hamilton County. However, there are more records that need to be searched.:

- Are there death or probate records for James Miller?
- Is there a death record for Catharine Ziebold Schnaiter in Ross County, Ohio or in Hamilton or Morgan Counties Indiana?
- Are there land records in Chillicothe for Michael Snyder? Is so, is there a dower release for his wife when the property was sold?
- Are there property tax records for Michael Snyder in Chillicothe?
- Obtain the original marriage record for the entry in the Indiana marriage record database.
- Check church records in Hamilton County for the marriage of Michael Snyder and Caroline Miller.
- Check baptism records for Michael's grandchildren to

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Education Opportunities

2004

July 12-Aug 30, Genealogy I, Lynne M. Darrouzet, JD, CGRS will be teaching at Collin County Community College on Monday nights from 6:30 - 9 pm.

September 8-11, "Legends Live Forever - Researching the Past for Future Generations" FGS 2004 Conference will be held in Austin, Texas. Topics include oral history, writing your family story, using social history in genealogy, foreign research, immigration and naturalization, Texas and the southwest. The conference hotel will be the Hilton Conference Center. To sign up for the conference e-zine send a message to ezine@fgs.org. More information is available at the FGS web site <http://www.fgs.org>.

September 17-19, The Texas State Hispanic Genealogy Conference celebrates its 25th Anniversary. This years confernece is hosted by the Victoria Hispanic Genalogy and Histroical Society of Texas in Victgoria, Texas. Speakers include Professor Armando Alonzo, Ana Carolina Castillo Crimm, Joel Rene Escobar, Professor Isreal Cavasos-Garza, Michael Salins, Dr Andres Tijerine, and Homero S Vera. Information is available at <http://www.tisd.net/~dcano/vhghost.htm>

October 7-9, POINT (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together) holds its national conference in Kansas City, Missouri. For more information: <http://www.point-pointers.net/CONF2004.htm>.

October 10-16, The British Institute presented by the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History in Salt Lake City. More information is available on their web site <http://www.isbgfh.org>. Classes are Understanding Canadian Records and Genealogical Resources by Claire Smith-Burns. English Research The Adventure Begins by Anne Wuehler, and British Isles Research Solving Problems and Research Strategies by Sherry Irvine.

October 30, Oklahoma, Tahlequah, The Cherokee National Historical Society, Inc. announces a fall workshop "Preserving Your Family Photographs." For more information, see the society's Web site <http://www.cherokeeheritage.org> or e-mail genealogy@cherokeeheritage.org.

2005

January 20-22, National Genealogy Society presents "Warm Up Your Research" in Phoenix, Arizona. Speakers include Elizabeth Shown Mills, Tom Jones, and J. Mark Lowe. An online registration form will be available soon on the NGS web site <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/edutripsphoenix.htm>

February 5, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Claire Mire Bettag.

March 5, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Emily Croom.

April 2, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Dr. Thomas W Jones.

June 1-4, National Genealogy Society Conference in the States and Gentech will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

June 9-11, Palatines to America National Conference Fort Wayne, Indiana will be held at the Hilton Hotel and Grand Wayne Convention Center. The program will include German, American and Internet research subjects.

September 7-10, Federation of Genealogy Societies National Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah

Case Study Continued

(Continued from page 5)

see if he and/or his spouse are listed as sponsors.

On the 1880 Census Michael is living with his son, Friederick and his family in Martinsville. Michael died 17 November 1880 and is buried in Burkes Addition Cemetery in California, Missouri. One of the cousins at the reunion provided me with a picture of the tombstone.

Family lore claims that he was visiting his daughters there when he passed away. I have not located probate records in either Martinsville or California for Michael. His son Fredericke and daughter Catharina sold his lot in Martinsville to William Taylor on 29 July 1881.

Lessons to be learned:

Don't make assumptions—If I had researched the pronunciation of the name Schnaiter it would have saved me double checking records.

Records may be located anywhere—the manuscript collection that contained Mary Magdalena's travel papers was located in Carbondale, Illinois, while she lived in California, Missouri.

Check the Genealogy Societies in the areas you are searching—They are great sources of information. In this case, the transcriptions of the church records and the cemetery are not available any where else.

Analyze what you have—Writing a research report will assist you in organizing what you have found, will point out holes in your research and point you to next steps for your research.

Form Hypotheses— In order to prove that different records were generated by the same person, it is necessary to form a hypothesis and then analyze what you know and don't know to determine if you have enough evidence to prove the hypothesis is correct.

Attend Family Reunions— Take time to get to know your living relatives. They might be able to provide valuable clues for your research, or better yet, they might also be doing research on your family.

Hopefully, this story of my family has helped you learn something you can apply to your own research.

Migration Project Web Site

The Migrations Project is to develop a database of the migrations of persons and make it available. It also maintains links to state migration databases. The databases are built on information provided by individual researchers. Ownership of that data remains with the individual who provided it.

Searches can be performed on location or name. There is also an advanced search feature. Search results include name, lifespan, and place of origin. There are links on the search results to more information that can help you determine if the person is the ancestor you are looking for.

You can submit information about your families to the database. Instructions can be found on the web site under "NEW FAQ for Using Migrations! Please click here before submitting your relatives!" link. You can also help by becoming a host for a state or county. Information about becoming a host for a county or state may also be found under the "NEW FAQ" link.

If some of your forebears have gotten lost or been temporarily misplaced, you should visit this website. They just might have been found by another researcher and added to the Migrations Project database.

Visit www.migrations.org.