

Publication Notes

The BCGS issues a two-part publication each quarter. The first part is the **Newsletter**, which contains news, activities, acquisitions, events, and information of general interest and assistance to members. Part two is the **Notebook**, which focuses specifically on genealogy research.

In this Issue...

President's Message	1
Eastern European Interest Group.....	2
Refreshment schedule.....	2
Mark Your Calendar.....	2
Thank You Speakers.....	3
New Members.....	3
The Martin Collection.....	4
Library Acquisitions.....	4
Saint Mary's Industrial School.....	6

Board of Directors Elected Officers

President

David A. Powell

410-627-0980

dapowell54@gmail.com

Vice-President

Jim Cross

301-706-9543

jcross3@gmail.com

Treasurer

Gregory Burton

410-591-7407

gburton.mobile@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Vacant

Corresponding Secretary

Ken Zimmerman

410-750-9315

ken@familythreadsgenealogy.com

Baltimore County Genealogical Society

Covering the Baltimore Metro Area and the State of Maryland

Quarterly Newsletter—June 1, 2026



President's Message

Our society is off to an excellent year thanks to all our volunteers. We had some difficult weather to contend with during the past few months but we are beyond that now and moving forward. Thanks to **Cecelia Wright**, **Armand Kinslow**, and **Bob Greiner** for their presentations in March, April, and May. Check our web site out for future events, and come join us. Don't forget to bring some goodies for our refreshment table at our Sunday meetings.



President Dave Powell

We continue to provide new and valuable help with your genealogical research. Beside the many books and documents in our library, there are extensive databases of information both on our web site and on the computers in the library. These databases are always being actively used and are very helpful in advancing your research. Our library hours are listed on our website and there are always informative volunteers to help you out when you come.

In addition, opportunities to buy a book from our book sale table or select something from our free table can enhance your knowledge in building your family tree.

As always, we are in need of volunteers to help with a number of different things, indexing records, setting up the refreshment table at meetings, assisting with greeting folks at our Sunday meetings or filling one the vacancies on the board. If you are interested in helping just let me or **Greg Burton** know and we can find the right fit for you.

If you see **Dan** or **Liz Phelan** at any time, thank them for their efforts in putting this newsletter together, and also thank **Jim Cross** for his efforts in distributing the paper copies of the newsletter.

Eastern European Interest Group

by Anne Wieliczko



Eastern Europe comprises countries spanning from the Baltic states to the Balkans, generally including Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Romania, Bulgaria, and nations in Central Europe like Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary.

The Eastern European Interest Group is a subgroup of the genealogical society, and was founded about 30 years ago by the late Dottie Aleshire. She and several others who had roots in Eastern Europe wanted a venue to connect with people who were researching ancestors from less well-known countries. The group meets monthly to share resources, learn more about the countries of Eastern Europe, and help each other with research problems.

Since the group's beginning, we are now on our fourth chairperson (myself). We have a fairly steady core group of attendees, many of whose primary focus is Polish research. However, we also have members whose research interests encompass several other countries in that region. We welcome anyone who wishes to learn more about genealogy in Eastern Europe.

For the past 2 to 3 years, our members have given educational presentations during the monthly meetings. Some of the topics have included aspects of Polish history, how to self-publish your research, using maps and city directories to locate where one's ancestors lived in East Baltimore, Slavic languages, and an overview of Belarus. In addition, members have presented their family trees, and made photo shows of their overseas trips. **Tony**

Monczewski, one of our long-time members, goes to Poland almost every summer and returns with numerous photos. In September, he will give a presentation of highlights and photos from his trip, as well as discuss Ostrow Lednicki, where the founder of Poland had a fortified settlement.

We meet at 11:45 a.m. on the same Sundays as the society's meetings. Besides the educational presentations, we also have time for discussion and socialization. We welcome anyone who wishes to join us.

Remember! Refreshment Schedule

To help ensure an ample supply of refreshments for our meetings, we request that members contribute munchies and snacks by adhering to the schedule below (but feel free to bring items even when it is not your turn). Please take home your leftovers, & be sure to collect your container if it is reusable.

Directions: Members with a last name beginning with the letters on the left are asked to bring a refreshment item to share for the months indicated.

Member Last Name Initial	Monthly Meeting
A, B, C, D	January & May
E, F, G, H	February & June
I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R	March & October
S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z,	April & September
Everyone	November

Mark Your Calendar!

Sunday, June 28 No Meeting—Research Day 12-4 p.m.

July & August—No meeting; however, the library will be open on the regular research days—the 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month & the 2nd Sat. of the month from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for research.

Murphy's Law—Your great grandfather's newspaper obituary states that he died leaving no issue of record.

Committee Chairs

Librarian

Lorraine Gordon
lgordon0557@verizon.net

Assistant Librarian & Historian

Carol L. Porter
410-665-8769

Newsletter & Notebook Editors

Dan & Liz Phelan
410-377-9001
djpphelan@gmail.com

Publications and Sales

Elaine Obbink Zimmerman
410-750-9315
elaine@familythreadsgenealogy.com

Old Defenders Project

George A. Bausman Jr.
410-661-0538
gabjrl@msn.com

Cemetery Records

Lance McPherson
lmcpherson@hotmail.com

Circulation Manager

Jim Cross
Phone: 301-706-9543
jcross3@gmail.com

Vertical File

Barbara Henry
blhfamilly@gmail.com

Computer Users

Herb Frantz
Phone: 410-236-3103
hrfrantz3@gmail.com

Eastern European Interest Group

Ann Wieliczko wieliczav@yahoo.com

Web page & Facebook Manager

Stephen A. Conner
info@baltimoregenealogysociety.org

Refreshments

Vacant

New Members

The BCGS welcomes the following new members listed here with the family surnames they are researching. If you need to contact a member regarding any surnames being researched, contact our librarian, **Lorraine Gordon**.

Thank You Speakers!

Cecilia Wright-Irish History in Baltimore

Thanks go out to our March 22 speaker, Cecilia Wright, President of the Irish American Museum that is located just one block north of the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore. The museum showcases the homes built around 1840 that housed the workers of the Railroad, many of whom were Irish. She described the history of the family that resided in the house where the museum now sits, the efforts to research the genealogy of that Feeley family, and the efforts to restore the old houses back to their original condition.

Armand Kinslow—Researching Military History of a Family's Ancestors

We appreciated the great talk by Armand Kinslow on April 26 about his family's efforts to research the military records of their ancestors. Unknown to them when they started researching their genealogy, they had ancestors that had fought in every major American war back to, and including the Revolutionary War. He described military research techniques, and the book he wrote about the stories "They Will Not Be Forgotten."

May Speaker Rescheduled

Our May 23rd meeting had to be cancelled because of construction around the building that closed our entrance. The scheduled speaker for that meeting, **Bob Greiner**, will give his presentation at our **September 27th meeting**. His talk will be about *Reclaim the Records* (RTR), a private organization founded in 2015, that obtained, and published online, Maryland available vital records from the Maryland State Archives.

NEW MEMBER NAME SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED

LAST	FIRST				
Burton	George & Cathy	Burton	Esome	Kennard	Taylor
Haebler	Jean	Haebler	Brandt	Panzer	Trompeter
Kiel	William				
Privitera	Joseph	Smith	Vetri	Privitera	Balbo
Renner	Walter	Williams	Gallion		
Rose	Bess	Rose	Jones	Kelty	Adler
Scheurich	Thomas D	Scheurich	Devereaux	Petzold	
Wagner	James	Wagner	Lewis	Lutz	Winkler
White	Lynn K.				
Brown	David	Brown	Bamhill	Cooke	
Spangler	Pamela	Hamilton	Wolbert	Hurd	
Shifler	Marcie	Francis	Blakely	Emge	

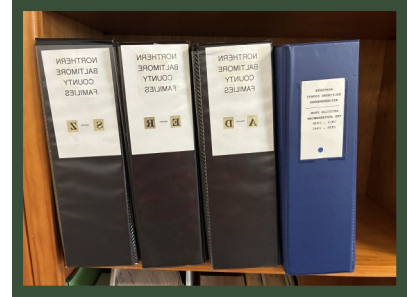
Murphy's Law — The town clerk to whom you wrote for the information sends you a long handwritten letter which is totally illegible.

The Gerald L. Martin Collection



Martin Collection of index cards

Gerald 'Jerry' Martin (1942-2009) was a legendary track coach at Perry Hall High School and an avid genealogist and history buff. He concentrated his research on families of northern Baltimore County and southern York County, Pennsylvania. He spent years reading each roll of microfilm at different branches of the Baltimore County Libraries printing any notices of death, marriages, anniversaries, etc., then pasting these onto separate 3x5 index cards and sorted by the person's or family's name.



Martin Collection of Family binders

These small newspapers often do not show up in the typical newspapers that are searchable online. He compiled over **10,000 of these index cards**. This collection covers at least 6 local county newspapers with dates between 1820 and 1981 (although there are many missing issues). The newspapers involved include, but are not limited to: Baltimore County Advocate, Maryland Journal, Union News, Baltimore County Democrat, Democrat and Journal, and The Jeffersonian.

He also compiled a set of **three large binders** with documents about families from northern Baltimore.

Upon his death, his family donated these archives to the library at the BCGS, and they can be used for research on any of our library days.

BCGS Library Acquisitions, Dec. 2023-Dec. 2025

GUIDES TO RESEARCH:

Black Genealogy, How to Discover Your Own Family's Roots and Trace Your Ancestors Back Through an Eventful Past, Even to a Specific African Kingdom; Charles L. Blockson

Finding Our Fathers, A guidebook to Jewish Genealogy, Dan Rottenberg

War of 1812 Genealogy; George K. Schweitzer, Ph. D., Sc.D. (Donated by Carol Porter, 2/24)

BALTIMORE CITY AND COUNTY

A Monument to Good Intentions. The Story of the Maryland Penitentiary, 1804-1995; Wallace Shugg (Donated by the Estate of Elizabeth Schindler, 10/24)

Images of America, Fort Howard; David B. Lari (Society purchase 01/25)

Parkville History Memories; Forrest Gesswein; Greater Parkville Community Council History Committee

Parkville History Memories; The History Committee of The Great Parkville Community Council, 2005-2007 (Donated by Patricia Marani 03/19)

Picking, Packing and Shucking. The Migrant Experience of Baltimore's Polish Community; Thomas L. Hollowak (Society purchase 06/25)

Record of Interments of Saint Peter the Apostle Cemetery. 1300 Moreland Avenue, Baltimore, MD with Lot Locations; Nelson E. Franke

(Continued on p. 5)

BCGS Library Acquisitions, Dec. 2023-Dec. 2025

(Continued from p.4)

Baltimore Streets, Wards, Precincts, Congressional, Legislative, and Councilmanic Districts Hotels & Apartments; Property of Board of Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore City

The Firehouse Laddies. The Baltimore City Fire Department at The Turn of The Century; Mark Mannon [circa 1900] (Donated by Carol Porter, 2/24)

Twentieth Century Baltimore; A Native Son's Casual History of the City on the Patapsco; Jack Burkert (Society purchase 06/25)

MARYLAND

Civil War Maryland. Stories from the Old Line State; Richard P. Cox. (Donated from the Estate of Elizabeth Schindler, 09/24)

Maryland Biographical Sketch Index. Volume One. An Index to over 10,500 biographical sketches contained in thirty-three Maryland local histories; Samuel M. Andrusko (Donated by F. Brennan Harrington, 02/24)

ALLEGANY COUNTY

The Civil War Era in Cumberland, Maryland and Nearby Keyser, West Virginia, 1861-1865; Harold L. Scott, Sr. (Donated by the Estate of Elizabeth Schindler, 10/24)

CECIL COUNTY

Cecil County, Maryland, 1608-1850, As Seen by Some Visitors and Several Essays on Local History, Collected by G.E. Gifford, Jr. (Donated by Greg Burton 03/24)

HARFORD COUNTY

Historical Sketches of Harford County, Maryland; Samuel Mason, Jr. (Donated from the Estate of Elizabeth Schindler, 10/24)

Farm Directory 1771-2024 Harford County, Maryland; Henry C. Peden, Jr. (Society purchase 6/25)

GARRETT COUNTY

The Bloomington Story. American Revolution Bicentennial; The Town of Bloomington.

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY

Laurel at 150--Celebrate Our History Anticipate Our future 50 Years of Laurel, Maryland History; Kevin Leonard, Richard Friend with Peter Lewnes (Donated by Lorraine Gordon from the Estate of Dorothy Hess)

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

Tombstones of Queen Anne's County, Maryland, Volume One; Upper Shore Genealogical Society of Maryland (Donated by Greg Burton, 02/24)

OTHER STATES

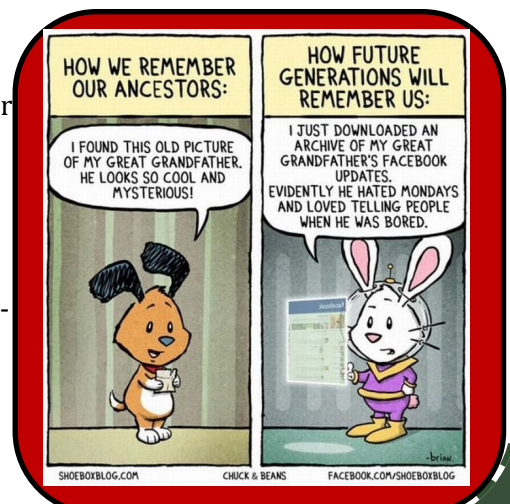
DELAWARE

Colonial Families of Delaware Volume 10; Ralph and Catherine Beverly (Donated by Herb Frantz 06/25)

Speaker?

*One of the highlights of our meetings is exposure to new information and techniques that broaden our genealogy research skills and knowledge. Toward that end, we are always looking for speakers for our meetings to help with that. If you have an expertise to share, or know of someone who might be interested in speaking to our group for an hour, please contact Vice President **Jim Cross**.*

Murphy's Law— None of the pictures in your recently deceased grandmother's photo album have names written on them.



BCGS Library Acquisitions, Dec. 2023-Dec. 2025

(Continued from p. 5)

MAPS

1862 Map of Carroll County, MD; Simon J. Martinet (Donated by Carol Porter, 02/24)

1876 Composite Map of Peach Bottom Township, York County, PA and Northern Harford Co., MD (Donated by the Estate of Patricia Czerniewski 12/23)

1948—Plat of Lauradale—9th District Baltimore County (Donated by Mary Wilson 12/23)

7th District Baltimore County Original Settlers and Their Land; Drawn by George Horvath (Donated 12/23)

Atlas of Baltimore, MD and Environs, Volume 2; G/N Hopkins, C.E. 1877 (Donated by George Weidley 10/24)

Catonsville and Environs; Designed and Illustrated by Miki Leaman (Donated by Carol Porter 02/24)

Most Holy Redeemer Cemetery, Baltimore, Section Maps REFERENCE ONLY

FAMILY HISTORIES AND GENEALOGIES

CHOATE—Choate Family of Baltimore County, Maryland; J.C. Phillips

MARTIN-HORICH—They Were Strong and Good. A History of the Martin and Horich Clans; Charlie Horich, edited by Andy Barth 06/25)

NICKLAS-LITTLE, Nicklas-Little Family History (Donated by Sharon Pearce 02/24)

RIESSLER-ZELLHOFER—Riessler-Zellhofere Family Genealogy (Donated by Becky Forman 12/23)

TREDWAY—History of the Tredway Family; William T. Tredway (Donated by the Estate of Elizabeth Schindler 10/24)

FOREIGN RESEARCH—GERMANY

Ahnentafels. Ancestral Charts for Families of German Heritage. Volume 1; Mid Atlantic Germanic Society (Donated by Greg Burton 10/24)

Saint Mary's Industrial School For Boys (1866-1950)

Saint Mary's Industrial School for Boys was opened in (then) Baltimore County at Wilkens & Caton Avenues in 1866 by the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The school served as both an orphanage & boarding school for boys. The curriculum included academic classes, religious education, sports, and work in industrial areas. In 1902, a young boy named George Herman Ruth, later known as "The Babe," was committed to St. Mary's by his parents. He learned the game of baseball at St. Mary's under the tutelage of Brother Matthias and became one of St. Mary's most notable alumni. After the school closed, it evolved into the Cardinal Gibbons High School.



During that time, diseases took the lives of many young children. The boys who died while enrolled at the school were buried in a large unmarked plot at the nearby New Cathedral Cemetery. Also buried in the plot were a few workers who had lived at the school, some alumni of this school, and also a few from the St. James Home for Boys. That plot includes roughly 92 burials from those two schools.

Current staff of the New Cathedral Cemetery are trying to raise funds to design and place a monument on the plot. Research has been ongoing regarding each burial in the plot. Perhaps one of them may be one of your missing relatives? For anyone interested in helping research or raise funds for this effort, contact **Dan Phelan** of the BCGS or **Tammy Mellema** of the cemetery staff.