



# GENIE BYTES

Volume 2, Issue 1

Grand Strand Genealogy Club

January 2021

## Message from the Editor

**Bonnie Kishpaugh**

Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Board

Christine Davis, our assistant editor, has returned to Indiana to spend time with her new grandchild. I would like to thank her for the guidance and encouragement she gave me in setting up this newsletter. I wish Chris and her family all the best.

As some of you may know, we have resumed our general meetings via Zoom. At October's meeting, one of our first-time attendees gave us an idea for a recurring series. Take a look at "My Amazing Discovery" in this issue. Please share your ideas with us and we will offer feedback or work with you to write the story.

In the last issue we announced another recurring series, "My Most Unforgettable Ancestor." In this issue we will be introducing someone Ann Hamilton finds unforgettable, Magdalene Voigtländer. Ann benefits from the popularity of Bob Dahlin's article on Eddy Cemetery. Readers were so intrigued by part one of his account of the cemetery's renovation that they didn't want to wait three months for its conclusion. The GSGC Board agreed. Contributors, you need no longer count your words. Concentrate, instead, on telling your tale! ♦

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## Lost and Found: Eddy Lake Cemetery – Part 2 of 2

**Bob Dahlin**

Technical Support, GSGC Board

The Horry County Senior Planner contacted me and the other volunteer with whom I was working on the Cemetery Project. She asked us to inventory Eddy Cemetery, paying particular attention to the depressions that were unmarked. The two women with whom the Planner had earlier toured the cemetery wanted to clear the overgrowth and restore the cemetery as best they could. We made five or six trips to the location in early 2020 and inventoried the graves and depressions.

In addition to contacting the county, the two women notified a local television channel of the find. Eddy Cemetery was featured as a story on *WMBF News* at 6 PM ([www.wmbfnews.com/2020/02/27/we-found-you-horry-county-residents-discover-long-lost-cemetery-with-possible-slave-graves/](http://www.wmbfnews.com/2020/02/27/we-found-you-horry-county-residents-discover-long-lost-cemetery-with-possible-slave-graves/)). Soon, a group of volunteers began removing the overgrown vegetation on the site.

I returned to the site in late August to see what had transpired. The change is remarkable! When we first visited the site, the only thing we could see from the access road was a wall of vegetation. We had to look very carefully to find a path through this wall. Now, all the underbrush and smaller trees have been removed. Only the larger trees remain. You can actually see headstones from the road. One of the volunteers with whom I spoke told me that they found additional headstones we missed during our inventory. It was awesome to see this lost cemetery found and restored!

If you are interested in the Horry County Cemetery Project, you can visit the website at: [www.horrycounty.org/Online-Services/Cemetery](http://www.horrycounty.org/Online-Services/Cemetery). ♦

(If you would like to read the article in its entirety, please go to the Club's website for Part 1 in Genie Bytes' October issue.)

## Introducing... Magdalene Voigtländer

**Ann Hamilton**

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes; Membership, GSGC Board

For German intellectuals, ecclesiastics and nobility, the 16th century is a time of invention, reform and acquisition. By century's end, however, the destiny of the German peasantry—victimized by famine, plague and fealty--is dire. The stage is set for Magdalene Voigtländer's *Act of Ignominy*.

Urban Voigtländer's ½-Huf [10-acre] farm in the Sachsen dorf of Ulrichsbergk is home to his wife Magdalene and their four small children. In failing health for two years, Urban asks his brother Caspar, 25 and an unmarried journeyman, to supervise his farm. Caspar arrives 14 days before his brother dies on September 29th, 1593, and shoulders responsibility for farm and family. He tells Magdalene, 26, that Urban gave his blessing for the two to marry.

Nine weeks after Urban's death, Magdalene hitches horses to a wagon, rides three miles to the market in Döbeln and imbibes. For the next nine months, as her girth increases, Magdalene claims she was "accosted on the open road." On September 21st, 1594, she gives birth to a son.

While Caspar operates the farm and provides for the family, unknown persons question Johann Repscher, bailiff of the lower court in Noßten, about the morality of their cohabitation. Repscher takes Magdalene into custody on April 4th, 1595.

Thenceforward, all expenses for Magdalene and her bodyguard's food, lodging and transportation are recorded down to the last pfennig. The state will have its due.

The defendant is transported 15 miles to Meißen where she undergoes intense questioning by Procuratur Martin Rabener. Magdalene admits that on the night she returned from drinking in Döbeln Caspar fornicated with her. This was the first of six such couplings.

Magdalene testifies that she always believed Caspar would marry her. When she confronts him, however, he admits that marriage is prohibited. She is heartily sorry for fornicating. Nonetheless, her brother-in-law operates the farm. For the sake of her five children, Magdalene petitions the court for mercy.

The investigation concluded; Magdalene is charged.

Because the coupling of Magdalene and Caspar is not a "simple fornicatio" but, under the era's broad definition of the term, an "incestus," the Superior Court in Leipzig must try the case.

Magdalene's codefendant, Caspar, flees. A warrant issued by Repscher to all court administrators in the district for Caspar's arrest produces no sightings. In a letter dated April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1595, Friedrich Wilhelm, Duke of Sachsen, Administrator and Elector of the Sachsen Regime, instructs Johann Repscher to abide by the verdict of Leipzig's lay court.

On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1595, Magdalene is sentenced by Sovereign Edict to flogging in the pillory with a whip, a leather strap or a bundle of birch twigs. Because Magdalene feeds her infant son with breast milk, the beating must be executed without compromising the food source. Life-long banishment from Sachsen follows. The Superior Court concludes, "If someone is seized in the Electorate of Sachsen...that person expects...to endure...serious punishment as a first-time violator of the peace."

Meanwhile, Urban's siblings endeavor to absolve themselves of this inherited farm's substantial indebtedness. Citing Magdalene as an "ignorant peasant" who was imprisoned and would be banished, they seize the farm, 3 horses, 2 hens and a rooster and close its court-sanctioned sale on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1595. Magdalene hoped to gain the plaintiffs' good will by confessing; instead, she gave them the advantage in court.

Magdalene's father, Clement Barth, resident of the nearby village of Dobschütz, intervenes. In letters to both Duke Friedrich Wilhelm and Prince Johann George, Herr Barth acknowledges that because of age and impairment he cannot leave his home, let alone care for five small children. He defends his daughter's character, describes her mistreatment by her husband's siblings, suggests that five innocents may suffer and perish as a result of the verdict and offers monetary restitution for Magdalene's misdeeds. All, to no avail.

And so, Magdalene's tale ends with a last letter of appeal dated October 29<sup>th</sup>, 1596. It ends with a cloud of dust on a sunrise-lit trail to the Sachsen border. In the clank of Groschen and Gulden in Duke Friedrich Wilhelm's coffer. In a family's loss of a fief. In the whimpers of five parentless waifs. ♦

## Magdalene: Sources of Information and Assistance

**DeepL.** Nuanced translator of German to English.

**FamilySearch.org** Digitized Sachsen district court records viewable only at a FHC or Chapin Library. Ninety-five percent of the facts in Magdalene's story come from one court file.

**Family Tree DNA.** Service that tests maternal, paternal or autosomal DNA. Facilitates communication with matches.

**iGenea.** Zurich-based testing service shares DNA results with FTDNA. Connects Europeans and Americans.

**The Main State Archive in Dresden.** Search by village for location and timespan of its court books.

**Charlene Carson.** Past GSGC president, mentor, Family History Center volunteer and Chapin Library reference assistant, Charlene was troubleshooter extraordinaire during research sessions.

**Phyllis Hughes.** The GSGC's resident DNA expert, Phyllis answers members' initial questions by email [[ConsultPAH@aol.com](mailto:ConsultPAH@aol.com)] and will arrange to talk with you by phone or meet with you via Zoom.

**Roland Voigtländer.** A Y-DNA match from 400 years ago, this Sachsen resident transcribed and translated the court records in Magdalene's file. ♦

## My Amazing Discovery!

**Kathy Rebeck**

Member, GSGC

I am a new member of the GSGC, and also belong to the Winding River Genealogy Interest Group of Bolivia, NC. A popular feature of our club's meetings is "Amazing Discoveries." Members enjoy both sharing what they find amazing and hearing about others' discoveries.

This is my amazing discovery which I would like to share with you. I discovered I was a third cousin of Mike Leonard, a retired, Emmy award-winning *NBC* News correspondent, *NYT* best-selling author, filmmaker and public speaker. Our great-grandfathers were brothers. Mike filmed a documentary ([www.thetellingwell.org/crossroads/](http://www.thetellingwell.org/crossroads/)) a few years back on the branch of the family in Ireland that he and I share. I learned about the film from another genealogist cousin in Ireland. So not only did I get introduced to that branch of the family, I got to see its members and hear their story. It was pretty amazing!

Networking with family and fellow genealogists at home and abroad is key to "Amazing Discoveries." ♦

## Featured Websites

This National Records of Scotland site [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/) has more than 100 million church registers, censuses, valuation rolls and

other documents. Access to wills is free (as is searching generally), but other records are pay per view. ♦

**RootsIreland.ie** – The Irish Family History Foundation (IFHF) operates the website and genealogy centers with a goal to create a mega-database of Irish records from local historical societies, clergy, civil authorities, county libraries and government agencies. ♦

## Featured Books

*Angels from The Sky* by Cora Lee Palma-Hayden (Personal stories of World War II heroes of the US Army - 101st Airborne Division - Screaming Eagles, who parachuted to the shores of Normandy, France, with the D-Day Invasion on June 6, 1944. She captures the amazing story of a French farmer who made it his mission to personally locate and visit these heroes and families. It speaks of personal stories of not only the author's brother-in-law, Edward Charles Hayden, who sacrificed his life, but other courageous paratroopers. Researched history and pictorial views of the Normandy region are displayed throughout.) Amazon.com. ♦

*Organize Your Genealogy: Strategies and Solutions for Every Researcher* by Drew Smith ♦

*The Family Tree Irish Genealogy Guide: How to Trace Your Ancestors in Ireland* by Claire Santry ♦

*The Family Tree Scottish Genealogy Guide: How to Trace Your Ancestors in Scotland* by Amanda Epperson ♦

## What Is A DNA Triangle and How Do I Create A Triangulation?

**Phyllis Hughes**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President & Webmaster, GSGC Board

A DNA triangle has three DNA matches. All are connected to each other genetically through segments that all of the matches share with each other. Triangulation is a tool that allows you to build a genetic network of people who are connected genetically to these three people.

The purpose of DNA Triangulation is to identify a shared ancestor or ancestral couple from whom the segment or segments have been inherited. *Family Tree DNA*, *23andMe* and *My Heritage* have chromosome browsers with built-in tools that can be used for triangulation. *GedMatch* has a very extensive -- yet user friendly -- triangulation process. ♦

## Did You Know?

Bonnie Kishpaugh's Tip: When locating an ancestor in church records, look through the entire book. You may find other family members including ones you didn't know existed. ♦

Sandie Houston's Tip: Have you found an x with a circle around it next to a person's name on a census form? That's the person who provided the information. ♦

\*\*Have a tip/tidbit you learned? Please submit to [genieclub2002@gmail.com](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com) – Subject: "Tip/Tidbit." Love to hear it. \*\*

## State Guides

### Kansas

(Source: State Guide Kansas by Taylor, M.A. Originally published in the Jul/Aug 2019/Vol.20, Issue 4, P. 33 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1861

First federal census: 1860

Statewide birth & death records begin: 1911

Statewide marriage records begin: 1913

Public-land state

Counties: 36 in 1855; 105 today (boundaries set in 1893)

Contact for vital records:

Office of Vital Records, Suite 120, Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson St., Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-1400

Website: [www.kdheks.gov/vital](http://www.kdheks.gov/vital) ♦

### Massachusetts

(Source: State Guide Massachusetts by Taylor, M. A. Originally published in the Jul/Aug 2019/Vol.20, Issue 4, P.37 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1788

First federal census: 1790

Statewide birth & death records begin: 1841

Statewide marriage records begin: 1841

State-land state

Counties: 14

Contact for Vital Records:

Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, 150 Mount Vernon St., First Floor, Dorchester, MA 02125, (617) 740-2600

Website: [www.mass.gov/orgs/registry-of-vital-records-and-statistics](http://www.mass.gov/orgs/registry-of-vital-records-and-statistics) ♦

## Dear Miss Genie

Who holds delayed birth certificates for 1873 in Pennsylvania? My grandfather was born in Philadelphia, PA, in July of 1873 but his birth was not registered until September of 1873. There was a

person with the same initial and address born 6 July 1873 but with different parents' first names and spelling of surname (Kane instead of Cain).

I contacted the family's church and found no records there or at the state capital or place of burial. I visited the Philadelphia Archives whose records were in very poor shape. All to no avail. I found records of his older brothers' births in 1861 and 1868.

**Answer:** Pennsylvania did not record any birth in the Commonwealth that occurred before 1906. However, according to Harrisburg's Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, citizens born before 1906 could file for a delayed birth record.

The person whose name and DOB appears on the delayed birth record is the person who applies for it. Maybe your ancestor never applied; therefore, no record exists. If Elwood R. Cain did apply, the information should be in Harrisburg. ♦

\*\*Do you have a question for Miss Genie? Why not send it to her at [genieclub2002@gmail.com](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com) – Subject: "Miss Genie." She would love to hear from you. \*\*

## Mentoring Program

### Sandie Houston

Mentoring Program, GSGC Board

So, you've joined the Grand Strand Genealogy Club and decided to research your ancestors. But, you're stumped on how and where to start. You've come to the right place. The GSGC's members are an amazing group of people with a wealth of knowledge they're willing to share.

Request a mentor. That's all you have to do. Whether you've hit your "brick wall" or, as a beginner, are simply looking for someone to point you in the right direction, we have mentors who are willing to help!

Please contact me, Sandie Houston. I will partner you with a mentor who has expertise in your area of concern. Find the club's website at [www.scgsgc.org](http://www.scgsgc.org). Scroll to the bottom of the home page to "Contact the Grand Strand Genealogy Club." Describe the help you need in the comments section. This will enable me, to whom your email is forwarded, to pair you with the perfect mentor. Expect an email to schedule an opportunity to assist.

Currently, we are using Zoom for mentor sessions. ♦

## Congratulations!

Cheri Passey, past president of The Grand Strand Genealogy Club and its current program chair, is the inaugural Vice President for Society and Organization Management for the National Genealogical Society. Cheri, a professional genealogist, instructor, writer and speaker, owns Carolina Girl Genealogy, LLC, which provides research services as well as instruction and coaching via Genealogy 1-on-1 classes. She is the host of the YouTube genealogy chat show *GenFriends* and is a genealogical researcher, subcontracted by Eagle Investigative Services, Inc., for the US Army Past Conflict Repatriations Branch. Cheri enjoys volunteering and serving the genealogy community. She is a treasurer of GeneaBloggersTRIBE and served as secretary for the Federation of Genealogical Societies before its recent merger with the NGS on 01 Oct 2020. ♦

## Empty Ink Cartridges?

### Susan Perhala

Office Depot Rewards, GSGC Board

When you order online or purchase items in person at Office Depot or Office Max, please use the club's rewards number: 843-907-2534. The club treasury is supported by donations to the Genie Jar at club meetings, by rewards earned through purchases of any merchandise at the businesses referenced above and by recycling of ink cartridges. If you have empty ink cartridges for the club, please call me, Susan Perhala, at 843-907-2534. I'd love to hear from you!

## SOUTH CAROLINA GRAND STRAND GENEALOGY CLUB (SCGSGC)

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Technical Support: Bob Dahlin/Danny Sullivan

Webmasters: Phyllis Hughes, Judy Phillips

\*\*Club T-Shirts (\$10) – See Darla or email the Club at [genieclub2002@gmail.com](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com) to order\*\*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### GSGC MONTHLY MEETINGS

PLACE: VIA ZOOM

TIME: 10 AM

Presentations:

- January 9th: Researching in Digital Libraries – Julie Warren
- February 13th: Find and Use Uncommon Resources in Your Genealogy Research – Lisa Lisson
- March 13th: Did I Get Everything? – Thomas MacEntee
- April 10th: Researching on FamilySearch.org – Robin Foster

(Due to the Coronavirus, Chapin Library has suspended use of their meeting room until further notice; therefore, we are now holding our monthly meetings via Zoom. Please access our Club Website ([www.scgsgc.org](http://www.scgsgc.org)) and/or Chapin Library's Website (<https://chapinlibrary.org/>) for updates.) ♦

### GENEALOGY MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

**National Genealogical Society Annual Family History Conference--Virginia Deep Roots of a Nation** – May 19-22, 2021 - <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org> ♦

**North Hills Genealogists 2021 Spring Conference** - Virtual March 20, 2021 - <https://northhillsgenealogists.org> ♦

\*\*Due to the Coronavirus most if not all meetings/conferences are being held virtually. Please visit [www.conferencekeeper.org](http://www.conferencekeeper.org) for the most complete Calendar and Collection of Genealogy Events on the Internet. This is now your chance to attend a virtual meeting that you might never have gone to due to the distance and cost. \*\*

### MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of each Month 10:00 AM via Zoom

### FAMILYSEARCH AFFILIATE LIBRARY:

Chapin Library

400 14th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

**Email** - [genieclub2002@gmail.com](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com)

**Website** - [www.scgsgc.org](http://www.scgsgc.org)

### GENIE BYTES NEWSLETTER

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Assistant Editor: Ann Hamilton

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**Note:** Please send your questions/suggestions/feedback to [genieclub2002@gmail.com](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com) - Subject: "Newsletter."

► Become involved and shadow a Board member – we welcome your involvement. ◀

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