

THE HEADSTONE

Vol. I

October 2023

Issue X

Well, we have officially moved from summer to fall. Here in Dutch Hollow the “unofficial” move was around the 15th of September when the thermometer finally discovered the 40s once again for overnight lows. Quite refreshing after a hot and very dry summer. We are still above average here for rainfall year-to-date, but it all came early in the year and in copious amounts. The four to six weeks between those downpours have taken their toll, however.

As for the cemetery, plans for the fall include cutting several damaged/diseased trees that I can get down safely by myself, clear the top 40' X 40' X 40' triangle that makes up the remainder of the graveyard that has not been grubbed, and set some markers at the unmarked graves discovered using cadaver dogs & ground penetrating radar. I would like to have everything ready for fencing by April but that will really depend on how many trees I can get down safely and of course, the finances. Professional tree removal is so expensive, if we go that route to take the trees out, there will be no money left for fence. So, it will be an economical balancing act as we move forward on those two “must do” projects in the future. It will all work out if patience prevails on my part.

One thing that I will really, really, try to get done this fall is a sign for the cemetery. I plan to have a rough draft layout in next month's newsletter, and I will ask that you take a serious look at that and share your thoughts. I am very amenable to making changes. I will attempt to secure Old Shepard Woodworking in Spottswood, Virginia (Carlton Truxell) to make the sign.

On the research side of things, Grace Bannon, who lives in Illinois, has been working very hard behind the scenes on the genealogy side of things of those buried in Dutch Hollow. Grace is the wife of Tom, my 6th cousin 1 X removed. Johannes Fulwider and Catharine Hull Fulwider, buried in Dutch Hollow with headstones inscribed in German text, are his 5g grandparents.

Grace was kind enough to document their October 4, 2022, visit to Dutch Hollow in the March 2023 newsletter. A great story if you have not read it yet. Grace has gotten to a point in her most recent research that she is willing to allow her work

to be published in this month's newsletter. I have prefaced her chartwork with a short narrative that she has put together explaining how and why this particular project came to be. As you study the chart, I am sure you will marvel at how sophisticated the information really is and the hours that she spent doing this.

It is easy to research a bunch of folks, learn how they are related, both biologically and socially, but it is another thing to put so much information into a chart that the reader can follow. Grace has accomplished this in my opinion. It is not made to be taken in all at once, but rather studied. If, for example, there is someone in your ancestral line that is in this chart, you can see just how others, some buried at Dutch Hollow, some not, are "related" to your ancestor.

The whole premise of my application to the National Park Service to get Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places has been the religious, ethnic, social, and biological relationships that each person buried there shared. That is a big part of what Grace has attempted to demonstrate in her work. Well done Grace and thank you so much for being kind enough to share your hard work with those of us that truly appreciate it.

Viewing the chart is enhanced by increasing the document size on your computer. Most computer applications will allow for a 500% increase which is not necessary, but a little larger text than what is set by the page size makes studying the diagram much easier. For our wonderful members, the narrative and the chart have both been uploaded to the website in the Library / Archives section under the "Unpublished Documents" tab and it can be enlarged there as well. The colors that Grace describes in her narrative to delineate relationships are purer and sharper on the website than in the newsletter. Yet another benefit of membership!

Looking for Connections

Why do people decide to be buried in a certain location? People are often buried where they lived, or near relations. Perhaps they were just passing through when the ultimate event happened, and they are laid to rest far from their kin and home. Generally, a cemetery is a peek into a community. As I walk cemeteries to find ancestors, I can't get the scene in Our Town out of my head. The dead sitting by their tombstones talking to each other, an unseen community that is an extension of the living community.

I tracked my husband's immigrant ancestor to Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery (DHHC). Ulrich Fulwider's tombstone has yet to be found but it is very possible that he lies there somewhere near his son, Johannes. As I look through all the information that Glenn Hanger has compiled, I wondered at the connections between the people in the cemetery.

To understand information, I put it in a variety of different forms – lists, diagrams, graphs. I took the largest digital piece of paper I could find and added names and connecting lines. I started with the earliest members of the Fulwider, Wehrle, Hanger and Lotts families. Then an obsession took over and I tried to add all those documented in the DHHC to see how they were connected to each other. Most notably missing are the Hills, to whom I can't find any connection. In the two sections of persons born 1790-1824 and 1825-1860 there are many connections, and it can get quite difficult to follow.

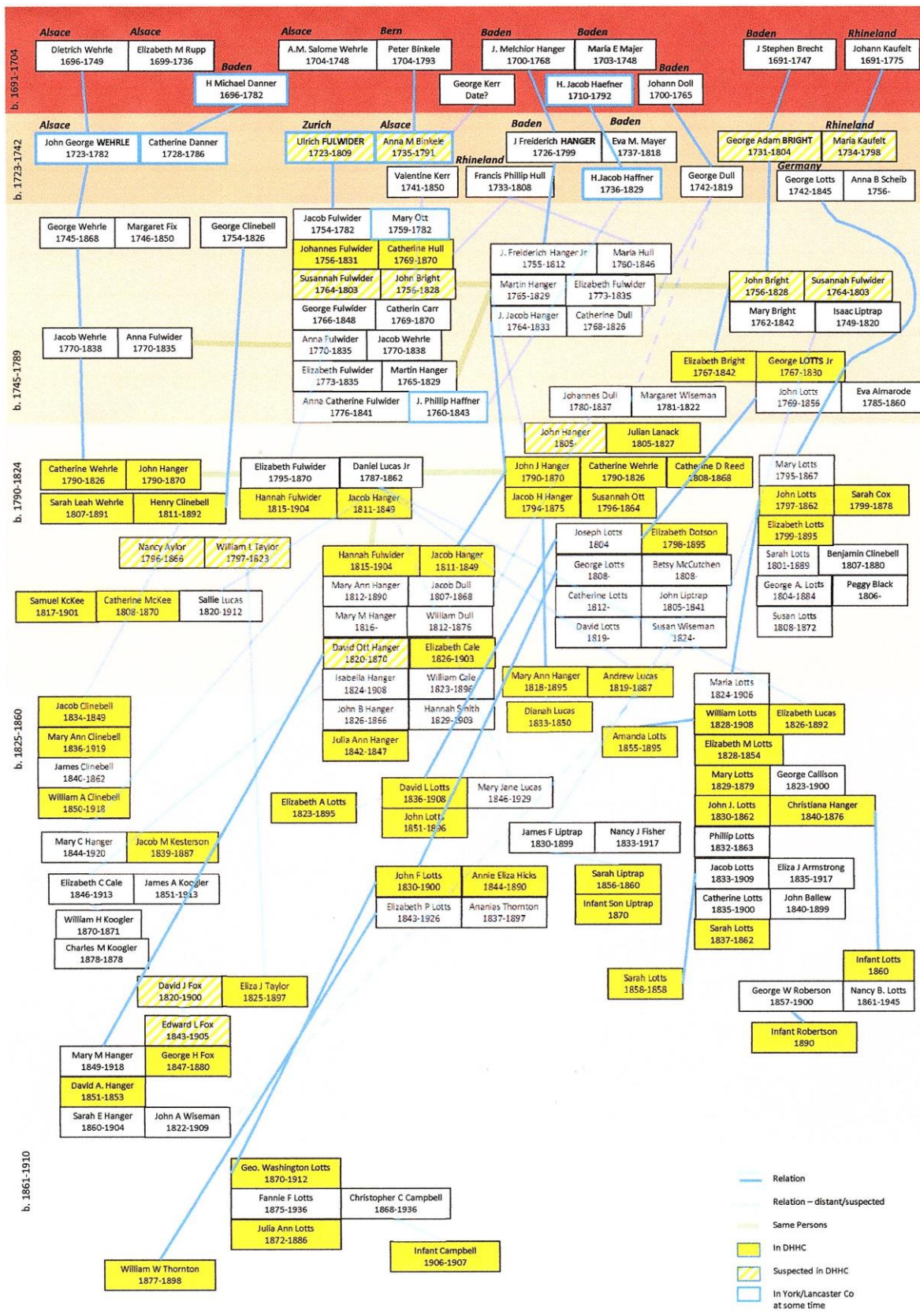
How the Diagram is Organized

I used information from the DHHC web site, Find A Grave, and FamilySearch. I tried not to make assumptions beyond the information. This cannot be a perfect document and I welcome corrections. From top to bottom of the diagram the ranges of birthdates are in the horizontal line. An attempt was made to keep families in a vertical line. Married couple's boxes are side by side and sibling's boxes are stacked on top of each other. Blue lines designate the relation of parent to child and a dashed blue line designates a possible relationship or distant relationship such as grandparent. Not all children are listed for a family, only those with some connections to another family or are buried in DHHC. For spatial reasons, some couples are repeated in the diagram and their positions are connected with a green line. These are John Hanger and Catherine Wehrle, Jacob Wehrle and Anna Fulwider, Martin Hanger and Elizabeth Fulwider, and John Bright and Susannah Fulwider. Those people who I found in Codorus Township have boxes lined in blue.

What I Learned

I knew that the Fulwidors and Wehrles had been neighbors in Codorus Township, York County, Pennsylvania and had moved to the area in the late 1770s-1780s. I found the Danner and Hafner families living in Codorus Township whose children married into the Fulwider and Wehrle families. I did not find any other families that had moved from Codorus, but many of the families originate somewhere in Pennsylvania. I found that most of the immigrant ancestors of those in DHHC were born from 1699 to the early 1700's. These immigrants came from German speaking areas such as Alsace in France, Baden, and Rhineland in the area of Germany, Zurich, and Bern in Switzerland. Many of these immigrated between 1740-1754 with a few as early as 1727-1736. The only Fulwider to stay in Dutch Hollow was Ulrich's son Johannes and perhaps George, but his daughters and granddaughters are married to men named Hanger, Wehrle, Lucas. As the list of persons in DHHC shows there are many Lotts and Hangers and the diagram shows how these are connected to the Hangers, Fulwidors, Clinebells, Liptraps and Lucases.

When information is presented in a different form new revelations can be discovered. I hope that this has helped those with an interest in Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery. I look forward to those discoveries.

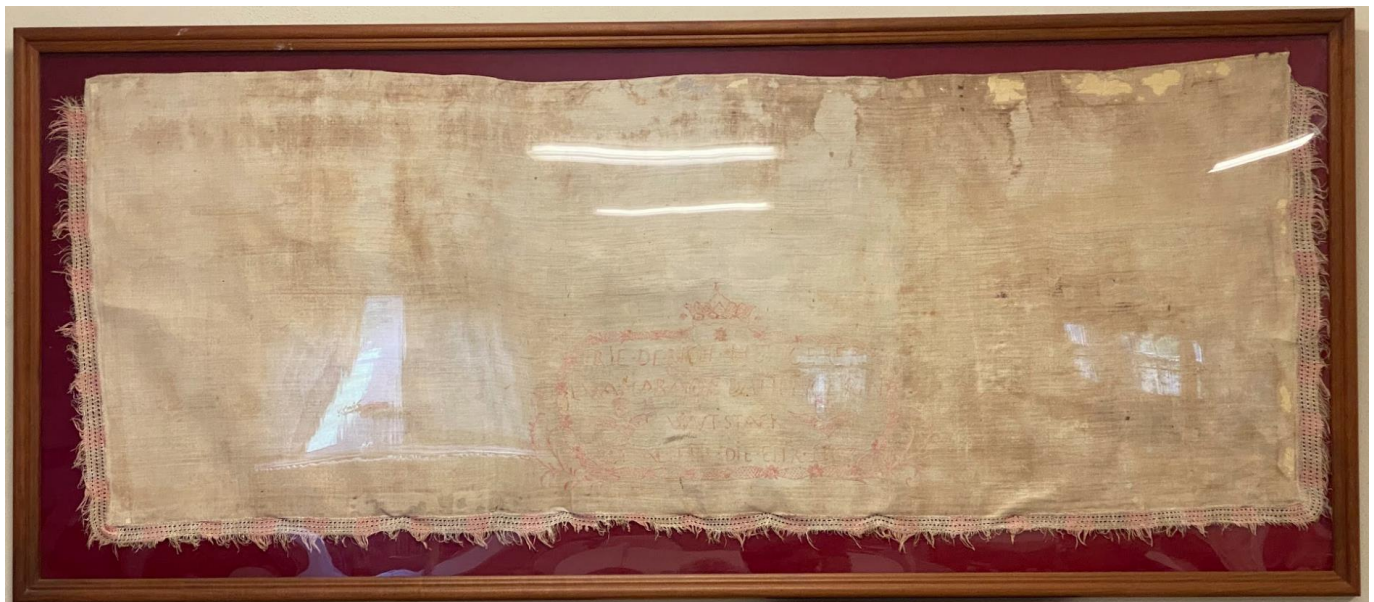


In addition to Grace's hard work, Marie Sproul has been putting together some wonderful research. On the Monday after the Descendants of Johann Frederick Hanger family reunion, Marie and her family travelled to Woodstock, Virginia, and there at the Emanuel Lutheran Church, photographed what has come to be called an altar cloth. If any of the older photographs that have been taken over the years of the piece are correct, it may have been used to cover the Communion table. Regardless, Marie took the picture below and has included some background information which I have also included.

I [Marie] discovered the existence of the cloth last summer when I was doing some research in the EMU library and came across Peggy Joyner's book, *Frederich & Peter Hanger of Virginia: 1740 Immigrants Some ancestors & Descendants.*"

This is what she [Peggy] wrote about it:

Frederich Hanger's name is also a matter of history in Woodstock, the county seat of Shenandoah County. Jacob Miller of Woodstock donated lots 140 and 141 to Martin Fulse, Frederich Dellinger and Frederich Hanger for the Lutheran congregation to "Erect and Build a Church thereon and a schoolhouse if necessary" on 6 Nov. 1764. This church is Emanuel's Church. An altar cloth embroidered in German was donated by Eva and Frederich. The translation, "Friederich Hengerer, Eva Maragreda Hengerin, Woodstock To God Alone the Glory 1767. Klaus Wust, author of The Virginia Germans, commented in 1975, "The Woodstock Lutheran Church has a tablecloth that was a wedding gift to Friederich Hengerer and Eva Margreda Hengerin in 1767. It has been labeled altar cloth in recent years but is actually nothing but a typical wedding gift for a young couple and the embroideries are very much like the fraktur designs."



Marie goes on to discuss the current state of storage/display of the piece, now over 250 years old.

Even if it was originally "nothing but a typical wedding gift," the church definitely used it as an alter cloth since then. They now have it framed behind plexi-glass (groan) hanging on a wall under fluorescent lighting across from windows (major groan!). To say the least, the cloth is deteriorating rapidly in need of some serious tender loving care if it is to survive much longer. I'm wondering if either of you know someone I can talk to about how to better preserve the piece. My sister and I would like talk to the church and see if they will let us have it repaired and put into some kind of archival frame as a donation to the church. If you know of anyone who does this kind of thing, please let me know.

I am working on finding a contact in Shenandoah County that might be able to help the church (and us all) with proper preservation procedures, but in the meantime, if any of you all have a contact up that way, please let me or Marie know.

Below is a much older picture of the same cloth.¹



ALTAR CLOTH AND COMMUNION SERVICES

FRIEDERICH · **HENGERER.**
EVA MARAGREDA HENGERIN
∞ WVTSTACK ∞
GOTT · ALEIN · DIE · EHR · 1767.

¹ <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/156543342/person/422366144682/media/c65a4ca4-d4dc-4410-abec-0271a2169393?usePUBJs=true>

Kathleen Brown translated the wording for me and sent the following on August 22, 2023.

This is a FANTASTIC piece of folk art!

Where is it today? I hope it has survived.

It is a wonderful very early example of both Germanizing English and Anglicizing German.

Friederich Hengerer

Frederick Hanger (surname spelling suggests the original name was either Henger OR Hanger with an umlaut or e: Haenger--both pronounced as a short "e", not a short "a" as in Hanger today.

Eva Margareda Hengerin

Eva Margaretha Henger (his wife) the "in" is a feminine ending for the married surname of a woman / wife Spelling her name with a "d" in place of the normal German "th" is an attempt at the English sound of the word.

Wut. stack

Woodstock. Germans have trouble sounding "w" in English because it is pronounced as the English "v." (The German "v" is pronounced like the English "f.")

Gott Allein Die Ehre 1767

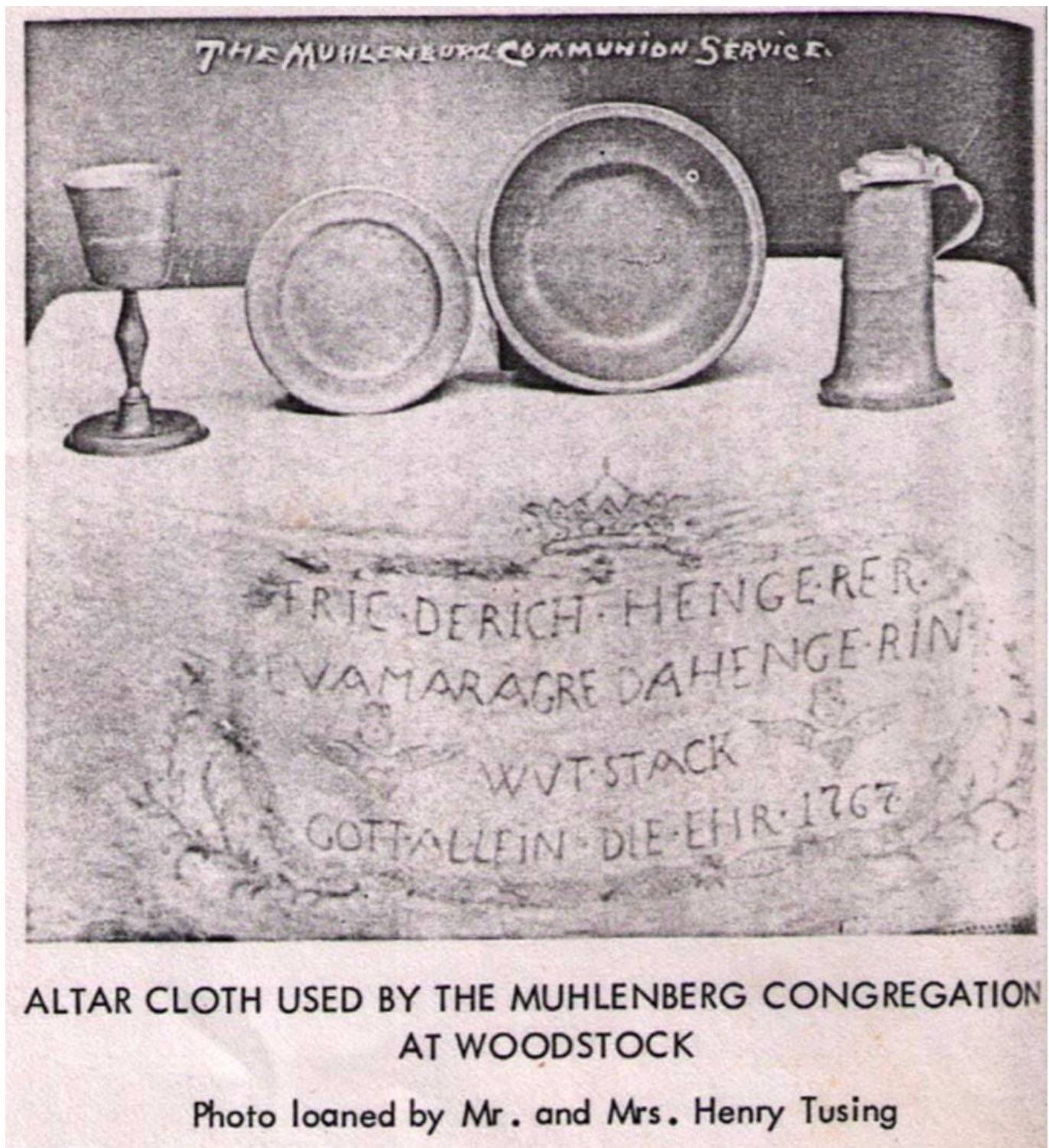
God alone the honor 1767

In more typical English church language, this would probably be phrased "Glory be to God" or in the hymn words, "To God be the glory"

What a treasure! I am so glad you asked me about it. If you don't object, Glenn, I would like to use this photo in a PowerPoint talk about the faiths of the early Valley settlers that I am giving in Lexington in a couple of weeks.

Thanks, Katharine

And still yet, one more photo of the cloth with a little more detail. I do not know the origins of this photograph beyond what is printed beneath it, nor do I recall where I got the copy. Please forgive the absence of citation.



As the newsletter comes to a close for this month, I will give yet one more opinion. Take it as just that. Peggy Joyner wrote in her book that Klaus Wust, author of *The Virginia Germans*, commented in 1975, "The Woodstock Lutheran Church has a tablecloth that was a wedding gift to Friederich Hengerer and Eva Margreda Hengerin in 1767. It has been labeled altar cloth in recent years but is actually nothing but a typical wedding gift for a young couple and the embroideries are very much like the fraktur designs."

My Research indicates that Frederick & Eva were married in 1753 and that they had seven children before 1767. (the date on the tapestry) I will pass on accepting Klaus Wurst's conclusions that it was a wedding gift, at least for them. Further evidence will be presented in next month's newsletter regarding Woodstock and the Lutheran Church there and the reader can then draw their own conclusions.

A few of the things slated to be featured in next month's newsletter!

- More information about Woodstock and the town lots that were purchased by Frederick & Peter Hanger!
- The migration of Johann Melchoir Hanger in Germany by Marie Sproul

Website Updates: Members Section

In The Library / Archives Section

Ship Passenger Lists 1727-1754 - 15 Total

Unpublished Documents - 8 Total

Published Documents - 10 Total -

Life in Dutch Hollow - 92 Total

Obituaries & Death Notices - 411 (Still several hundred to go)

Lucas-Fix Private Collection 109 Total

NEW! Department of Historical Resources Augusta County Archaeological Site Surveys - 13

DHH Cemetery Forensics, Etc. - JUST ADDED! Preliminary Findings of Ground Penetrating Radar for lower 35 feet of Cemetery and GPS of entire cemetery

Coming Soon:

Elijah Jacob Hanger Private Collection (Approximately 450 files to be uploaded as time permits)

In The Focused Research Section

18 Files (40+ more to be researched, formatted, and uploaded as time permits)

Four of the *Blood of Our Blood* books have been sold, leaving one available. If you or someone you know wants one, it might be wise to get it before it is gone!

As for this month's genealogy cartoon humor², take it from a retired law enforcement officer, it probably won't help much!

Now if the officer were to ask something like, "just who was your 3g grandfather, because my great grandfather used to talk about some neighbors of his with the same last name," you're golden, and he might even throw in a get out of jail free card to boot!



"You obviously have no idea whose great-great-great granddaughter you're ticketing!"

Last but not least, I am in the final stages of editing and completing forms for the National Register of Historic Places & Virginia Landmarks Register. We are tentatively scheduled for the December Hearing process in Richmond, Virginia!

Until next month, Blessings & Happy Trails.

Glenn Hanger

President, Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery