



The Special Collections Division of the Akron-Summit County Public Library and the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society present

Discovering Your German Ancestors

Featuring James M. Beidler

Saturday, August 22, 2015, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
Main Library Auditorium, 60 South High Street, Akron, Ohio 44326

Program Schedule:

- 9:30 – 9:45** Introductions
- 9:45 – 10:45** Contrasting German Migrations:
18th Century vs. 19th Century Waves
- 10:45 – 11:00** Break
- 11:00 – 12:00** Zigzagging Through German Church Records
- 12:00 – 1:00** Lunch on your own
- 1:00 – 2:00** German Research Online
- 2:00 – 2:15** Break
- 2:15 – 3:15** German for Genealogists
- 3:15 – 3:30** Break
- 3:30 – 4:30** Success Story:
Finding a European Village of Origin

The program is free and open to the public, and parking is free in the High-Market Parking Deck. To sign-up or for more information, contact the Special Collections Division at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org. Visit us on the web at <http://sc.akronlibrary.org/>.

James M. Beidler writes “Roots & Branches,” an award-winning weekly newspaper column on genealogy that is the only syndicated feature on that topic in Pennsylvania. He is also a columnist for German Life magazine and is editor of Der Kurier, the quarterly journal of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society. He is also an instructor for the online Family Tree University.



Currently working on a German genealogy guide slated for publication in 2014, he was President of the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors from 2010 to 2012, and is the former Executive Director for the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. He served as national co-chairman for the 2008 Federation of Genealogical Societies conference in Philadelphia.

Beidler is also frequent contributor to other periodicals ranging from scholarly journals such as The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine to popular-interest magazines such as Ancestry and Family Tree Magazine. He also wrote the chapter on genealogy for Pennsylvania: A History of the Commonwealth, published jointly by the Penn State Press and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

As a lecturer, he was a part of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council’s acclaimed Commonwealth Speakers program from 2002 to 2009, and has been a presenter at numerous conferences. He sits on the selection committee for the Pennsylvania Newspaper Project and (until recently) Pennsylvania’s State Historic Records Advisory Board.

He is an Enrolled Agent and Senior Tax Advisor for an H&R Block franchise and previously was a copy editor for 15 years for The Patriot-News newspaper in Harrisburg, PA. Beidler was born in Reading, PA, and raised in nearby Berks County, where he currently resides. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Hofstra University in Long Island, NY, with a BA in political science in 1982.



**Akron-Summit County
Public Library**

330-643-9030

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