Pennsylvania Germans and the Revolution

November 13 & 14, 2026

An interdisciplinary conference exploring Pennsylvania German experiences in the era of the Revolution and beyond.

Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center, Kutztown University

Co-sponsored by the German Society of Pennsylvania and part of America 250 PA Berks County.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2026
Academic Forum Room 102, Lytle Lane, Kutztown University

6:30 PM-7:00 PM- Keynote Presentation: Patrick J. Donmoyer
Patriots, Saints, Rascals, and Vagabonds: Pennsylvania German Leadership in the Era of the Revolution

7:00 PM-8:00 PM - Community Discussion

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026
Academic Forum, Room 102, Lytle Lane, Kutztown University

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM - David Hunsicker
"Political Mobilization Among the Pennsylvania Germans in Western Northampton (today's Lehigh) County."

8:45 AM - 9:30 AM - Steve Nolt
"We Find No Freedom … in Anything by which Men's Lives are Destroyed or Hurt": Pennsylvania German Peace Churches and the American Revolution

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM Break

9:45 AM – 10:30 AM - Friederike Baer
Strangers in a Strange War: German Soldiers in the American Revolution

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM - Maria Sturm
Participant, Witness, Bystander, Opponent? The German Society of Pennsylvania at the Time of the Revolution & Beyond

11:15 AM – Noon - Michael Gabriel
New Pennsylvania Germans: Johannes Schwalm and 'Hessian' Prisoners who Remained in America.

Noon – 1:15 LUNCH

1:15 PM – 2:00 PM - Mark Louden
Pennsylvania Germans and the Spirit of '76.

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM - Josh Brown
Hessians in Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Art and Lore

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM - Jennifer Schlegel
After the Declaration but before Emancipation: The Christiana Riot and Pennsylvania German Politics.

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM- Bill Donner
Pennsylvania German Perspectives on the American Revolution at the Centennial, Bicentennial, and Semiquincentennial

4:15 PM - 5:00 PM - Q&A and Open Discussion

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: *Free registration is required, space is limited!*

Name_____ Phone_____ Email _____

Address_____

☐ Attending in person ☐ Attending by Zoom

☐ Optional Saturday Lunch Registration: $30.00
PA Dutch Lunch Menu includes sausage, sauerkraut, potato filling, succotash, shoofly pie

To Regiser call 610-683-1589 or email heritage@kutztown.edu,or fill out this form and mail to:
Heritage Center, Attn: PA German Futures Conference, 15155 Kutztown Road, Kutztown, PA 19530
******All registrations must be received by phone, email, or mail by November 5. Payments for Lunch ticket can be paid at the door.***
Please Make Checks for Lunch Reservation Payable to "*Kutztown University*"***