

Schilling-Courier



Descendants of the Burgmann Heinrich Schilling von Lahnstein who died in 1221

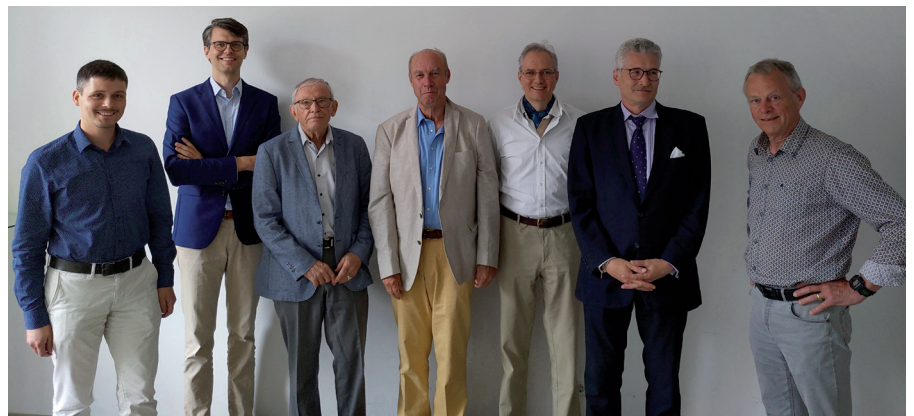
News of the Schilling Association e.V. with annual report 2020

Family association with new board

Family reunion to start again in Lahnstein on 3 June 2022

This year's General Meeting of the Schilling Association on 26 June was a very unusual event, but one that heralded a new era for the family association. Because of Corona, only two regular members and one guest came to Frankfurt in addition to the executive board and advisory board, where the association met at the main station in the Station Lounge. As a result of the pandemic, the family reunion 2020 and then also 2021 had already been cancelled. In 2017, at the last reunion in Köngen near Stuttgart, 113 cousins were present. According to the association's statutes, the general meeting is independent of the number of participants.

The main topic of the meeting was the election of the new executive board and advisory board. The previous executive board had announced its resignation for reasons of age: The chairman, Helmuth Baron von Schilling (83), the vice-chairman, Frank Schilling (76) and the managing director and treasurer, Hans



fr. l. Eric Bawor, Cornelius von Tülff, Helmuth, Hans and Martin v.S., Christian and Ralph SvC. Frank Schilling is missing.

Baron von Schilling (78). All three had been in office for over 20 years and were now running for the advisory board.

With one abstention, those present unanimously elected the previous advisory board member Christian Freiherr Schilling von Canstatt as the new chairman. With the same result, the previous advisory board member Prof. Dr. Martin Baron von Schilling was elected vice-chairman and Ralph Freiherr Schilling von Canstatt was elected managing director and treasurer. Ralph is the son of the long-time head

of the association, Heinz SvC.

Christian is the fourth chairman since the association was re-established after the Second World War in 1954. The first chairman was Andreas Schilling, a great-grandson of the sculptor Johannes Schilling, the second chairman from 1965 to 1999 was Heinz SvC and the third was Helmuth vS (1999-2021).

In addition to the three previous members of the Executive Board, Hans, Frank and Helmuth, the previous advisory board member Cornelius von Tülff (youth) and Eric Bawor (family research) were

elected as advisory board members.

At a virtual board meeting on 2 October, another important decision was made: the next official family reunion is to be held again in Lahnstein from 3 to 5 June 2022 after the relaxation of the Corona restrictions, and the unofficial one in Rüdesheim until 7 June. The programme is the same as planned for 2020/21.

On 3.6. arrival at the „Wyndham Garden“ Hotel. On the following morning a guided tour of Lahneck Castle, in the afternoon a Rhine cruise with coffee and cake and dinner on the ship are planned. On Sunday morning, the general meeting of the family association will take place, and in the afternoon, the special programme will start: bus trip on the traces of the so-called Rhineland branch with side trips to places where Schilling epitaphs can be admired. Then either drive home or, after another overnight stay the next day, drive to Rüdesheim with a visit to the famous Niederwald Monument by Johannes Schilling. Unlike in the 20/21 programme, we want to end this excursion after only one overnight stay at the Hotel Felsenkeller in Rüdesheim.

The detailed programme with registration forms will be sent out by the end of the year.

During the term of office of the previous board, seven family reunions were organised in a wide variety of locations. Before that, the family reunions were mainly held in Mainz at the magnificent Kupferberg Terrassen, as the then chairman Heinz was co-owner of the Kupferberg Sektkellerei (winery making sparkling wines). In 1999 we were in Tallinn/Reval in Estonia on the trail of the eastern branch with an additional programme in St. Petersburg, in 2002 in Freiburg and Heitersheim with an additional programme in Strasbourg and Weißenburg (Wissembourg) in France, where Schillings (western branch) had lived 500 years ago. In 2005 we went to Mittweida, the birthplace of Johannes Schilling, with an additional programme in Prague.

A special event in 2008 was the family reunion in Williamsburg in Virginia (USA), where the first Schilling v. Canstatt emigrated some 150 years ago, additional programme in Washington. Three years later, we met in Hamburg to visit architectural monuments by Johannes Schilling and to commemorate Albert Schilling, who as mayor had been patron of St. Peter's Church from 1464. The additional programme was an interesting trip to Berlin. In 2014

there was another trip abroad to Wroclaw (now Poland), where the first Schilling from Lahnstein probably arrived in the 14th century. An additional programme was the trip via the former concentration camp Auschwitz to Krakow. And finally, the last family reunion so far in 2017 took place in Köngen near Stuttgart and this time we walked in the footsteps of the southern branch. The additional programme: trip to Lake Constance.

Almost all family reunions were attended by more than 100 participants.

Helmuth von Schilling

Attention: New account number! See financial report p.

Schilling Courier

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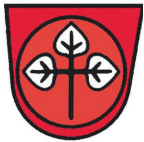
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The board 2002 in Düsseldorf, fr. l.: Hubertus v.S., Elisabeth Reinicke, Hans v.S., Christan SvC, Helmuth v.S., Reinhard Sch., Frank Sch and Heinz SvC.

From the family branches



Western Branch

Where will our Saint stay?

The sarcophagus with Karl Maria Schilling still rests in Belgium

What will happen to a holy Schilling from the House of Norway of our family, 114 years after his death: Where to with Karl Maria Schilling (1835-1907)? He was a priest of the religious community of St. Paul (Barnabites) in the Belgian town of Mouscron and was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1968 as well as honoured with the title „Venerable Servant of God“. His body is currently still resting in the „Chapelle du Père Schilling“.

But unfortunately, the Barnabites have stopped pastoral care in Mouscron. The Sacré Coeur Church has been deconsecrated and the future of Father Schilling's Sepulchre Chapel is no longer secure. According to our information, the Bishop of Oslo is now trying to have the sarcophagus with our family saint transferred to his birthplace. Allegedly, however, the city of Mouscron refuses. The Düsseldorf parish of Sankt Lambertus has also shown interest.

Carl Maria Halfdan Schilling was born on 9 June 1835 in Christiania/Oslo. His father Gottlieb Christopher Adolph Schilling served as a cavalry officer in the Swedish army, Norway had not yet gained its independence from Stockholm at that time.

When the boy was ten years old, his mother died. Karl was placed in the care of his grandmother and attended the cathedral school in

Oslo, where his talent for painting became apparent at an early age. At the age of 15 already he received private lessons from a painter in Oslo, and at the age of 18 he began studying at the famous Düsseldorf Academy of Painting.

The young man was tall, slim and of handsome appearance, so that he was soon nicknamed „the handsome Norwegian“. With his friendly nature, he easily made contact with his fellow painters, such as the Achenbach brothers, Müller, Ittenbach and others. He also maintained intensive contact with the Eitel family in Düsseldorf, and for a while he even thought he would marry one of the family's daughters.

But Karl Maria had other inclinations. Through his friendships, he met the famous nun Emilie Schneider, and she awakened in him the desire to become Roman Catholic. With a heavy heart, his father gave his permission. After his studies, the young painter maintained a studio in Düsseldorf, but also lived for longer periods in Norway, where his brother was a hunting warden in the Finnmarken (northern parts of the country). At the same time, however, the desire to serve as a priest of God grew in him.

When he set off by boat for his novitiate in Aubigny-sur-Nère in France in June 1868, he symbolically threw his brush and



*Karl Maria Schilling as a religious priest of the Barnabites.
Below in younger years*



palette into the sea. In France he studied theology and joined the priestly community of St. Paul. When the French state expelled the priests, Charles Marie went first to Monza and seven years later to Mouscron, where the priestly community found a new field of work in the pastoral care of the working poor in Hainaut, Belgium.

Although he spoke French poorly, Charles Marie was soon a sought-after confessor. He prayed with the suffering and

comforted them. Soon the faithful considered him a saint and sought his advice continually. During the great smallpox epidemic at the beginning of the 20th century, he prayed with a mother who had come to him because she thought her son had just died. Schilling sent the mother home with the words: „Your son is alive, God told me so!“ At home, the mother found her son conscious again and, contrary to all expectations, he recovered completely surprisingly quickly.

The faithful in Mouscron remember this event to this day. That is why, even after the death of Father Schilling, they come to the grave on 2 January to call on God for help in many different ways. Schilling had collapsed in the confessional in the summer



The burial chapel next to the Sacré Coeur Church



The Sacré Coeur Church

of 1906 and died almost a year later on 2 January 1907.

Because of this rush, the body was finally exhumed and buried first in the Sacré Coeur Church and then in the Chapelle du Père Schilling. The deathbed and some things from the possession of our canonised priest are also there.

Bernd Schilling
Helmuth von Schilling
Wikipedia



Flowers and cards of gratitude from the faithful



Southern Branch

No Landing of the Dragon

“In Heitersheim the attack of the Chinese dragon was successfully repelled.” The Middle Kingdom does not want to participate financially in the purchase of the impressive historic Maltese Castle after all. At any rate this is what Zsolt Pekker, the chairman of the “Maltese Castle Citizens’ Initiative” said delightedly about the new development. The citizens’ initiative had always protested against the sale and had campaigned for a public use of the building, which is now possible again in many ways. This is at least what Zsolt Pekker, the chairman of the citizens’ initiative “Maltese Castle” declared, pleased with the new development. The Schilling Association has also become a member of the citizens’ initiative. After all Georg Schilling v. Canstatt resided in the castle. Georg was appointed Grand Prior of the Knights of the German Tongue of the Order of Saint John by Emperor Karl V in 1546.

As reported in detail in the previous two issues of the Schilling Courier, the current owner, the Order of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent de Paul in Freiburg wants to sell the property. The Chinese businessman Wang Jiapeng, supported by the former publisher of the “Badische Zeitung”, Christian Hodeige, came forward as the prospective buyer. The investors wanted to establish an international private school for 350 students in the building. The partners from China, who were already school boards there, had to close their school because of Corona, Hodeige now said.

And he adds that the pandemic is slowing down the Heitersheim project and affecting the situation of international boarding schools as a whole. Partners had to close their schools at running expenses.

Moreover, the former publisher refers to the current political climate, which is not exactly conducive to such a project, and which is now being instrumentalised by the citizens’ initiative. He said that the protesters had created an atmosphere that denied a friendly welcome to future students. Keyword: welcoming culture.

The local council in Heitersheim had already tried to prevent the private school plans in October 2019. But an association “Schule im Schloss” enforced that a referendum was held on February 2, 2020. Citizens were to decide whether the council should be repealed. And the majority of voters voted “yes” (55%), saying “yes” to the private school. Many Heitersheimers think that without the influence of his old newspaper and other media by Hodeige the decision would hardly have turned out this way.

But now the “yes” to private school is obsolete. The citizens’ initiative says: fortunately. The chairman points out that initiator Wang Jiapeng has a seat in the People’s Congress in Beijing, the sham parliament in the increasingly totalitarian giant empire. Pekker emphasizes: For many people it appeared that the Chinese engagement in Heitersheim was about the establishment of a secure base in



the south of Germany as well as about indoctrination of students.

The extent of Chinese influence in Germany is shown, among other things, by the impact on the new 5 G mobile communications standard or on the port in Duisburg, the end point of the new Silk Road.

The Order is now looking for a new buyer, but maintains that all of the 41 Sisters of Mercy now still living in the house will have to move to Freiburg by the end of 2022/beginning of 2023.

Märkische Allgemeine Zeitung
Helmuth von Schilling



Eastern Branch

A Historic Baptism

Commemorating an event 800 years ago in Estonia



Participants in the historic baptism in front of the church in Järva Jaani. On the left Archbishop Urmas Viilma, next to him Pastor Katrin Melder

Last summer the church of St. Johannes in Estonia (Järva Jaani), the former patronal church of two ancestral homes of the eastern branch of our family, commemorated a momentous day: 800 years ago, in 1220, the first baptism took place in the Estonian village, according to a chronicle by the Latvian historian Hendrik. Supposedly Latvian priests had set out to spread Christianity in St. Johannes, then Keitis. And 800 years later, this event was solemnly commemorated. In the presence of the Estonian Archbishop Urmas Viilma, six children of the parish were baptised (see photo). The times 800 years ago in Estonia were quite wild and turbulent. The Pope had called for a crusade in 1199 to bring Christianity to the Baltic pagans with the help of the Order of the Brothers of the Sword. Riga became an episcopal seat in

1201, but Bishop Albert soon saw himself forced to ask the Danes for help. They landed in Lyndise in 1219, destroyed the Estonian fortress and founded Dänenburg (today Reval/Tallinn).

But soon the conflicts began between the Danes, the Order of the Brothers of the Sword and the Bishop. Moreover, the country was shaken by an Estonian uprising, which, however, was mainly directed against the Danes. Finally, the Teutonic Order, united with the Brothers of the Sword, gained the upper hand in the region.

The Order conquered the north of the country and ordered the baptism of the Estonians, including those living in today's St. Johannes. Through baptism, the subjects were to be forced into obedience to the Christian church. The baptized

had certain obligations, but also personal freedoms, so they were even allowed to carry weapons.

The church St. Johannes, which has been written about several times in the Schilling Courier, was built as a fortified church in the late 13th or early 14th century, there were still lots of wars in this area at that time. This is why there is a war refugee defence room in the church.

Now times are peaceful again, and one thinks in reverence at St. Johannes of the long-ago warlike time when the first baptism took place.

Last year there were a total of 14 baptisms at St. Johannes. And the church continued to be restored. After completion of the winter church, the main staircase of the church and five windows of the church tower have also been renewed. This year, the restoration of the outer wall of the tower will begin.

The restorations, which are financially supported by the Schilling Association, are mainly due to the tireless activities of Pastor Katrin-Helena Melder, who has been in office since 2003.

On the south side of the church is the burial ground of the Schilling family with the epitaph for Carl Gebhard, the first Schilling in the Baltic province of Estonia.

Helmuth von Schilling

Interesting New Members

From Pojulen (east) and the Züllichau branch (west)

The family association has admitted highly interesting new members at the beginning of the year. On the one hand, Ruta Furmonaviciene, born in Lithuania and living in Great Britain, whose mother was a née Baronesse v. Schilling, and on the other hand Gregor Schilling with his wife Doerthe. Ruta belongs to the eastern branch and specifically to the House of Pojulen, which was previously considered extinct. Gregor belongs to the Züllichau line of the western branch, which was previously represented in the association only by one married couple.

Matthias Georg von Schilling (1654-1717) had acquired the Pojulen estate in Lithuania. Actually, the family lived in the German Order state of Courland since the 16th century. However, when in 1561 - after the end of the

Order - Poland, which was united with Lithuania at that time - came into the possession of Courland, the Courlanders were able to acquire land beyond the border of Poland in Lithuania. A grandson of Matthias, Carl Gebhard (1719-1779), is the ancestor of the Estonian branch of the Schilling family. Until now we thought that only the descendants of Carl Gebhard flourished as branches of the Eastern lineage all over the world. This is now obsolete.

The Pojulen-Schillings reflect the eventful history of Lithuania and Poland. After the first Polish partition in 1772, Russia annexed Lithuania. Ruta's great-granduncle Stanislaw-Ludwig (1819-1895) supported an uprising against Russia in 1863/64 and was exiled to Siberia. When Lithuania became independent again in 1918 after the First World War, Ruta's



Hermann von Mohrenschild, great grandfather of Gregor Schilling'

grandfather Sigismund (1896-1946) served in the Lithuanian Air Force and was even awarded the Independence Medal. After the Soviet Union annexed Lithuania in 1939, he fought for the country's independence, but was arrested in 1945 and died in the Soviet Gulac prison and labour camp.

A great uncle of Ruta, Stanislaus v. Schilling (1885-1962), was Lithuanian minister several times and even vice-president and was depicted on a postage stamp. In 1941, the Soviets deported him to a penal camp as well. He was released in 1961, seriously ill, and died a year later.

After the First World War part of the family lived in Poland. A great-nephew of Ruta was killed in the Russian-Polish war in 1920, a nephew took part in the Warsaw Uprising against the German occupation in 1944 and died in the Mauthausen concentration camp.

Ruta's parents still live in Lithuania, where Ruta was born. She moved to England after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1995, studied medicine in Nottingham and now works as an immunologist at De Montfort University in Leister. She is married, has a



From left: Ruta Furmonaviciene with husband, daughter Grazina, Ruta's grandmother and her son-in-law.

Leister. She is married, has a daughter and two grandchildren.

The history of the family of Gregor Schilling is equally interesting. The ancestors of the western line had settled in Breslau in the 14th century, coming from the Rhineland. The first Schilling to move from Breslau to Züllichau in the north of what was then Silesia was Georg Schilling (1501-1598). Züllichau used to be a centre of the cloth-making trade and Georg, like all his descendants, was a master cloth-maker and tailor.

Gregor's great-grandfather Karl Adolph (1842-1924) moved to Berlin, where he worked as a secret medical councillor. Dr. Karl Rudolf Schilling (1882-1946) lived as a general practitioner in Berlin and married Dagmar von Mohrenschildt, born in 1886 on the Soinitz estate in Estonia, in Stockholm in 1914. It is particularly interesting to note that the grandmother of our previous chairman Helmuth from the eastern branch is also a born Mohrenschildt. Furthermore, Maria von Mohrenschildt-



Podbrezie Manor, 1790-1864 family property in Lithuania



Soinitz Manor in Estonia 1846, property of the v. Mohrenschildts

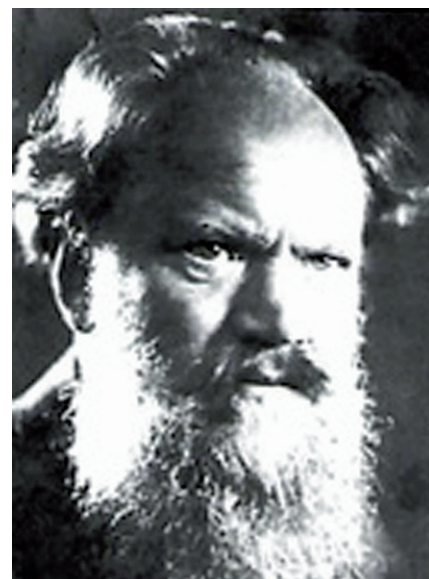
Ströhmborg is a second cousin of Gregor (his grandmother was a sister of Maria's father), was a member of our association.

Gregor thus also belongs to the eastern branch of our family association.

Helmuth von Schilling



Stasys Silingas (right) on a stamp



Stasys Silingas

In the end he was restless

We had left our painter in the year of the plague and now, with the outbreak of the 17th century, we return to him again. Adams' everyday life at this time appears before us like a colourful picture. In his comfortable house in Freiberg children's laughter and crying rose up and down, followed by admonitions from the housewife. Behind bright windows on the upper floor, the light penetrated far into the room during some hours of the day, and during this time the painter must have sat there and created quite a number of smaller and larger works of art. The children, especially the son of the same name, had to help their father mix colours, do small colourings and, above all,

pay attention to how the precise movement of the hand resulted in an accurate brushstroke on the canvas. We see the two Adams travelling to persons who had commissioned paintings in the surrounding countryside, and surely the elder will have shown his later successor in the then still virgin nature what an artist's eye must capture, how light and shadow work, and that the greatest masterpiece is God's creation. We can imagine Sara buying pigments and dyes for her husband in the pharmacies of the mountain town or looking for new engravings from Flanders on the market. Contrary to widespread conviction, the early modern middle-class woman was by no



Adam's residence in Freiberg

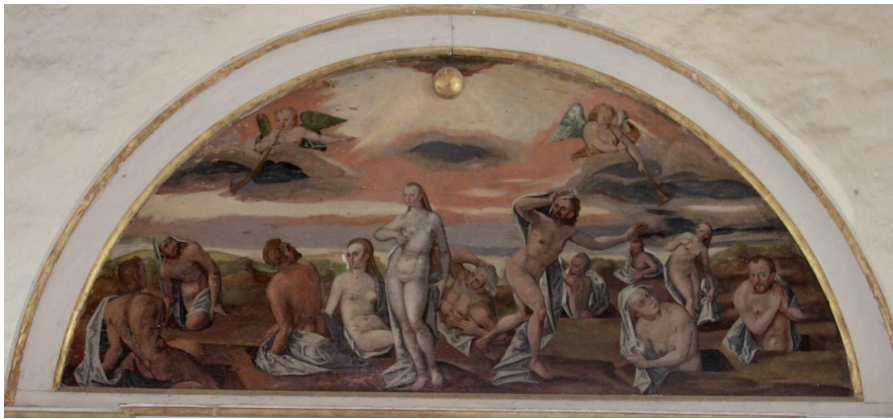
means reduced to cooking and raising children. Depending on her skills and the type of activity, the wife was rather intensively involved in her husband's business and can be considered "employed" in today's view.

Some women even succeeded in building up their own business, as the example of the well-known entrepreneur Barbara Uthmann shows in those days. Unlike some other artists' wives, Sara did not work as a craftswoman herself, but there is evidence in the Freiberg court book that she represented Adam in business matters when he was absent and was an important support for her husband, who was often away. In the early years she was possibly supported in her own household by her mother-in-law and sister-in-law, the proximity between their homes at least suggests this.

The 17th century was a difficult period that left little peace for the contemporary. For Adam, the first decade already meant trial, failure



View of the ceiling painting of 1594/95 in Geitheim near Leipzig, Adam's masterpiece



Painted altar in Mühlberg: Resurrection of the Dead, 1414

and a new beginning. There is hardly any evidence of orders. In 1602, together with other Freiberg painters, he travelled to the residence in Dresden and carried out repairs to the sgraffiti and frescoes in the palace courtyard, the splendour of which can be seen today in the reconstructions of the post-reunification period. In terms of craftsmanship, Adam had two essential skills: the art of portraiture and his long-standing experience in façade design, which required the master to be free from giddiness and daring, which by no means all masters of his trade were capable of offering, as records of this castle renovation reveal. Perhaps Adam also dreamed of an appointment as court painter, and occasional engagements did indeed follow. However, the great success failed to materialise. As early as 1606, his business got into financial difficulties, which continued in 1607 and 1608. Finally, his creditors forced him to give up the house in Freiberg and, with it his livelihood. The family had to start over again. As was the case around 1592 and 1599, it was Sara's family who provided Adam

with a new perspective.

After 1608, Adam was therefore able to establish his workshop in Großenhain. In addition to family support, one factor in particular seemed to guarantee a secure future: Unlike Freiberg, there was no competition worth mentioning in Großenhain! In fact, in the years that followed, Adam transformed himself from a bankrupt to a respected and respectable citizen. Unfortunately, with his departure from Freiberg information is very thin. The town burned down several times and with it a large part of the works produced by the Shilling workshop, which was continued by his son Adam and the sons of the latter until 1722, and almost the entire archival record before 1744.

At least the church records have survived. They describe the great hardships that the town and our family had to endure during the Thirty Years' War, and of epidemics that broke out again and again, especially the plague. Sara fell victim to one of these plague waves in 1626. No wonder we do not find any works for the late period of our painter's life that we can attribute to him.

This lack of findings is more than symbolic for the loss of this woman, who for Adam meant the basis of his own work. In addition, orders were hard to come by at home. Between plundered and burnt villages and churches, there were hardly any financial means left for external adornment. It is precisely the last church book entry for Adam that reveals how the man who had grown old tried to cope with this situation.

Like the mercenaries of that time, he travelled after possible orders, always in search of places that were spared by the war or were given a break. He travelled more and further than probably ever before in his life, until his own body collapsed under the strain of these hardships.

The news of his death, which occurred in Hamburg in March 1637, did not become known in Großenhain before the autumn of that year. The funeral book notes how the bells dedicated a last, a melancholy greeting to our master painter. Probably painted by him is a very high-quality altar in nearby Mühlberg on the Elbe, which is crowned by the representation of the resurrection of the dead in the silence of a cemetery chapel. It is a worthy memorial to Adam Schilling himself, whose grave which was far away from his home has not been preserved.

Eric Bawor

A Schilling in Afghanistan

Bundeswehr deployment from 10.02.-21.08.2020

For more than 25 years, a soldier in the Bundeswehr has been expected to take part in missions all over the world within the framework of mandated foreign missions. Eventually last year, I did six months of service with the Resolute Support Mission (RSM) in Afghanistan. My stay in the Hindu Kush was special, as it was precisely during this period that a high number of violent and warlike conflicts took place. In addition, of course, the German conditions associated with Corona and the experience of how a society that has to cope with far greater challenges in its own country is dealing with the pandemic. And then there was the signing of the peace agreement between the US (then President Trump) and representatives of the Taliban.

During my deployment, I was assigned as the adjutant to the commander of Train Advise and Assist Commands North (TAAC-N). Here, as the first contact for all soldiers, I was responsible for all scheduling and travel planning for the commander and everything in TAAC-N that concerned the commander. In addition, I personally accompanied him on all trips and was present at almost all meetings. This gave me a detailed insight into the operation from the perspective of the TAAC-N command.

My daily routine at Camp MARMAL was actually very much alike on all days. Except for Friday and Sunday, when I generally had the mornings free and did not go into the office until noon,

my day usually started at 7 am.

From 7:30 am onwards, situation updates on what had happened during the night, planning briefings on what was planned for the day, and internal discussions in various groups started. It was not unusual for us to sit in meetings until 9 am, sometimes even 10 am. Afterwards, I had time to prepare trips, make phone calls or prepare other things for the afternoon or the following days. A similar marathon of meetings took place in the evenings from about 6 pm onwards, where the events of the day were summarised and discussed, new assignments given or existing tasks adjusted. My day very rarely ended before 10 pm. For the time between meetings in the morning and in the evening, various trips were planned. Generally, the commander used to travel with me, the personal protection team and the language mediator 3-4 times a week.

These trips served firstly to visit the German soldiers in the additional camps in Maimanah and Kunduz, secondly to establish personal contacts at the headquarters in Kabul and thirdly to establish a presence in the area within the 9 provinces in the north. In my view, the latter was the main focus, as the commander wanted to establish a personal connection with the people in charge in the provinces. Besides Maimanah, Kunduz and Kabul, I saw 5 other provinces in the north during day operations.

In the following I would like to give my personal opinion about the RS-mission. Basically, I think the



Matthias von Schilling in the CH-53 transport helicopter

hasty withdrawal of all Western troops is wrong. Afghanistan is an extremely fragile and unstable country, which without Western support is likely to fall back into old civil war-like conditions.

In my view, sustainable success would only have been possible with an increased troop presence in order to spread out over a larger area and support the Afghan security forces where they need it most. In the meantime the Taliban have taken control again.

However, this view is written from a purely military perspective. Essentially, the question that must be asked here is how much risk Germany wants to take. A larger troop presence in the area would of course significantly increase the risk of wounded and killed soldiers. It is obvious that this aspect does not bring additional votes to the political actors in today's post-heroic society. After all, in the 20 years of the German mission in Afghanistan, 59 members of the Bundeswehr have already lost their lives.

Matthias von Schilling
Bundeswehr Hauptmann

A tombstone tells...

Who was Knight Vladimir T. von Schilling-Singalewycz?

Our association member Hans Bulling recently sent an email to the chairman with photos of a grave he had discovered in Bezau Vorarlberg/Austria. The gravestone reads: Wladimir Theodor Ritter v. Schilling-Singalewycz, above is a coat of arms with three lime leaves, i.e. the coat of arms of the western branch.

An enquiry with the parish priest, Armin Fleisch, revealed the life story of this Schilling and his tragic death. The historian of the municipality, Erwin Feldkirchen, had published the following article in 2010, here in extracts with slight additions to the text.

Dr. jur. Wladimir Theodor Ritter von Schilling-Singalewycz was born on 13 January 1875 in Moskalowka in the district of Kossow in Galicia (then Austria/Hungary, today Ukraine). His ancestors came from Alsace. In Weißenburg/Wissembourg, you can still admire the linden leaf coat of arms on the keystone in the left aisle of the parish church of St. Johannes. A Weißenburg Schilling, probably

Jobst, had already sought his fortune in the east in the 16th century and settled in Galicia. Before that the family had allegedly been raised to the rank of imperial knights by the Bavarian Duke Maximilian I. This was later supplemented by a Polish confirmation of nobility. Hence presumably the name affix Singalewycz.

Dr. Ritter von Schilling-Singalewycz was a district judge in Przemyślany (also Galicia) and in the years 1913 to 1916 a member of the Imperial Council and in the Imperial and Royal Ministry of Public Works in Vienna. After the First World War and the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, the Republic of Western Ukraine was founded in the former Galicia and Ritter v. Schilling was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs. However, the existence of this republic was short-lived.

Later, Ritter v. Schilling worked in a bank in Lemberg (then Poland). However, when the Soviet Union annexed this part of Poland at the beginning of the Second World War and the ethnic Germans were persecuted, he moved to Vienna in 1940 to avoid arrest. When the Soviets approached Vienna at the end of the war, Schilling fled to Bezau with his wife (he had married in 1916) and daughter Maria. His son Roman was serving in the Wehrmacht as a military doctor at the time.

On 6 November 1945, at around 6 pm, a terrible event occurred. A French occupying soldier tried to stop a lorry next to the church in Bezau in order to check it. As



the driver disregarded the sign and did not stop, the soldier fired. In doing so, he hit Schilling, who happened to be passing by, from a distance of 30 metres. The 70-year-old suffered a shattered lower right leg and died a few hours later in the car on the way to the hospital. The dead knight was buried on 12.11.1945 in the local cemetery in Bezau. The costs for the gravestone and the gravesite were paid by the administration of the French occupying power.

Ritter Schilling's widow and daughter moved back to Vienna in 1946. His wife died in Vienna in 1962 and was buried in the Vienna Central Cemetery. Schilling's son Roman established a medical practice near Korneuburg after the war and was the community doctor there until his retirement.



Birthday Schilling Ducats

Letter from Johannes Schilling's great-granddaughter

My great-grandfather's 193rd birthday could not be celebrated this year either, Corona still controls and determines everyday life.

However: The Wonneberger bakery in Mittweida baked 40 Schilling ducats for me - as in previous years. In the „Old Rectory“ museum, busy hands packed five packages with five ducats each and sent them off to: District Administrator Matthias Damm's office, Mayor Ralf Schreiber, Sparkasse Mittweida as well as to the President for Sports Christian Andreis.

Ten pieces remained in the

museum. In an enclosed letter I asked to commemorate the first honorary citizen of Mittweida, Johannes Schilling, on his birthday on 23 June.

This was the first part of the birthday, the second took place, like last year, at Ina and Walter's in Dresden. Sibylle Karsch (Museum Director) and Michael Kreskowsky (Chairman of the Friends) joined us for a coffee hour. Mrs. Karsch reported that the Schilling harp and several works of art by Johannes Schilling have now been restored (see report below).



By the way: In the „Klitzscher Geschichten“, Volume 5, my grandfather Heinrich (Heinar) Schilling, the founder of the Schilling Association is remembered.

Ina Schilling-Nickel

Schilling Harp repaired

Mittweida Museum grateful for substantial funding

In the summer of 2020, the museum „Alte Pfarrhäuser“ in Mittweida submitted a comprehensive funding application to the Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung (East German Savings Banks Foundation) for the Johannes Schilling House in order to be able to implement several projects. In December the museum received the positive funding decision. Due to Corona, however, Prof. Hans-Ferdinand Schramm, chairman of the board of Sparkasse Mittelsachsen (which donates together with the Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung)

could not officially hand it over to the Mayor Ralf Schreiber and the Museum Director Sibylle Karsch until 1 July 2021.

With the help of this generous donation, it was possible to restore the following objects: the „Symphony“ frieze, the sculptures „Germania Seated“, „Queen Carola“, „Wilhelm I“, „Ernst Julius Hähnel“ and the „Schilling Harp“. The busts were cleaned, missing parts (chipping) were added and the colour was repainted in accordance with the original version. On the harp, which Johannes, who had a



close connection to music, constructed himself, some loose wooden joints were strengthened and the missing strings were added. It was deliberately decided to restore the harp so that it could not be played, because we wanted to continue to exhibit it in the museum.

In addition to the restoration of objects, a series of publications on the life and work of Johannes Schilling is planned. The first volume is devoted to thee



Professor Schramm and Sibylle Karsch

„memoirs“. The second volume will revise and supplement the “Catalogue of Holdings”.

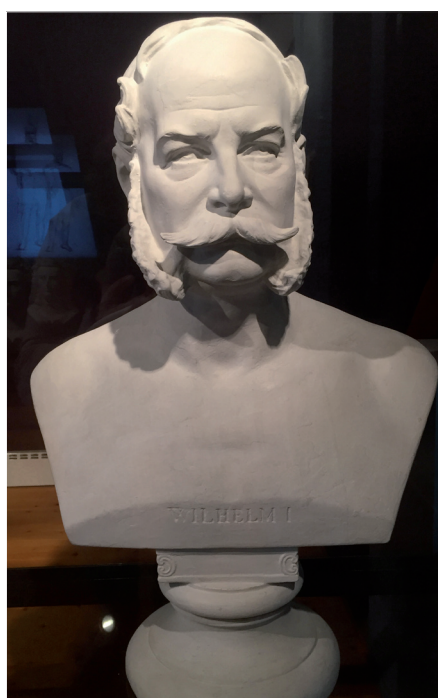
Thanks to the financial support, Johannes Schilling’s legacy can be preserved and researched a little further. For this, the town of Mittweida, the museum and also the Schilling Association are very grateful.
Sibylle Karsch

Mourning for Agnes Maria Schilling

Widow of Reinhard Schilling deceased in Augsburg



Queen Carola of Saxony



Emperor Wilhelm I.

The Family Association mourns the loss of its member: Agnes Maria Schilling née von Buchwald, the widow of our unforgettable long-time board member Reinhard Schilling, passed away in Augsburg on 15 August this year at the age of 82.

Agnes Maria, also called Amei, was a journalist and had been married to Reinhard since 1971. The couple had three children and meanwhile eight grandchildren. Amei was a highly respected figure in Augsburg who was deeply committed to volunteering for the cultural concerns of the city. Many years ago, for example, she founded the Leopold Mozart Music Competition in Augsburg and supported it on an honorary basis. Born in Augsburg, Leopold Mozart (1719-1787) was the father of the world-famous Salzburg musical genius Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. To this day, the Leopold Mozart Music Competition enjoys an outstanding international reputation among young artists and is highly regarded in musical circles. She also succeeded in integrating the Augsburg School

of Music into the university. The University of Augsburg offers Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes in music.

Agnes Maria was also very much involved in the Jewish community and its integration in Augsburg. Her synagogue tours were famous. She also took intensive care of the Jewish cemeteries.

On 10 October 2012, she received the Bavarian Order of Merit, the highest award of the Free State, handed to her by the then Prime Minister Horst Seehofer in the Bavarian State Chancellery in Munich. She was also awarded the Medal of Merit of the City of Augsburg.

The deceased kept in touch with the family association until the end. We will miss her very much and will never forget her.

In a very dignified funeral service in the protestant St. Ulrich’s Church in Augsburg, the family and the city said goodbye to Agnes Maria Schilling with beautiful music and speeches, among others from all eight grandchildren.

Frank Schilling and
Helmuth von Schilling

Farewell with great gratitude

Genealogist Bernd Schilling died in Bonn



Even though he only joined the family association as a pensioner after his service as a teacher, he has helped shape it in recent years. Our cousin Bernd Rainer Schilling (born 28 November 1947 in Bremen) died on 6 October in Bonn. We will remember his special devotions at the last family reunions. These he prepared and performed beautifully with a firm voice and historical facts alongside his musical accompaniment.

He has been very involved in genealogical research and has applied his training in history and German studies to research the western family line and lineage of Lahnstein. His research on the Blessed Bamabite Father Karl Maria Schilling, about which he recently wrote a report with pictures for the Schilling Courier (see p. 3 and 4), will be unforgettable. The Rosa Mystica in Buschhoven near Bonn was also a special concern for Bernd. The figure of the Virgin Mary made of lime wood was found in a rose bush by Knight William von Schilling in 1190. He founded a chapel there and the Schillingkapellen monastery. Due to the turmoil of the Napoleonic Wars, the monastery fell into disrepair, but the statue was hidden and eventually got its new regular

place in nearby Buschhoven, where the Maria Rose Festival is celebrated every year in June. Thus, Bernd has stimulated special research especially among the Catholic Schillings.

Bernd had already contacted the family association in 2004. A student had contacted his then German and history teacher and said that pictures of him could be found in the internet. Paul opened

the website of our association and found the picture of Paul Freiherr Schilling von Canstatt (1786-1837), the famous ethnologist and actual inventor of telegraphic news transmission, who had lived in Russia. Bernd noted: "I actually look relatively similar to Paul. A freak of nature." Is there a genetic relationship and therefore perhaps the likeness? Paul belongs to the southern branch of the family, Bernd probably to the western.

We are sad to have lost such a dedicated family member in Bernd. Bernd was buried on 15 October in Bonn-Beuel with great sympathy from friends and relatives. He is survived by his widow Barbara, three adult children and 3 grandchildren. We will cherish his memory.

Barbara Schilling

Helmuth von Schilling

In the last year of his life Bernd wrote the following poem to comfort us:

Stop crying!
Don't you see
the sun still rises every morning
and the hour of youthful creation begins anew,
your part in it graces you to be.

Do not cry,
the moon makes its regular orbit in the sky.
The full disc changes from day to day,
diminishing part by part until it is nothing,
to return day by day to its full glow.
Thus, it divides the year into months
and shows the change of things,
in which you take part.

Stop crying!
Look at the twinkling stars in the sky.
Star differs from star in glory.
They tell us of worlds unknown.