

GROW Newsletter

Germans From Russia of Oregon and SW Washington
Area chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)

Volume 2 Issue 2

January-February-March 2003

Message from the Executive Director

By Roger Haas

What an exciting productive three months GROW has experienced; our GROW family has increased to 251. The Bismarck Dakota Pioneer is the next largest Chapter with 183. Compared to it, our members are widely scattered primarily in Oregon and Washington with a member each in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota. We should be encouraged and continue to invite others to become members who are in our circle of acquaintance or contacts. Our newsletter is our focal point for sharing our German-Russia culture and pride so please submit your articles (see page 11) for publication. Everyone will be a winner.

The 32nd GRHS Convention in Bismarck, August 8-11, was well attended by approximately 700. It was a huge success with programs and workshops that were of such excellent quality that it was difficult to be selective. GRHS registered 652 and others attended events and functions such as the Dedication of the new Home of Record without signing in. Al Fiest, President, and Jan Huber Stangl, Vice President, were elected to preside along with the other continuing officers. We congratulate them, wish them well, and will support their endeavor to lead our National for the coming year(s).

One major Bylaw change, approved by vote at the Convention, will affect members as of January 1, 2003, as follows: All annual dues-paying members, please consider changing to a LIFE membership no later than December 31, 2002, because the annual National dues will increase from \$30 to \$40 per year and the LIFE memberships will increase from \$500 to \$650. Through the end of 2002, five installment payments can be made of \$100 each year. It doesn't take much of a math wizard to calculate that it only takes a few years to realize the savings in purchasing a LIFE certificate versus paying many years at the increased \$10 annual dues. Now is an excellent time to consider LIFE memberships for yourself, your children, grandchildren, siblings, and/or friend(s). Give them a gift of love which they will appreciate for their lifetimes.

Thanks to members who support GROW by utilizing your Alberstons Scan card which gives from 2-5% rebate for each purchase that you make and by patronizing SCRIP merchants which adds to the GROW treasury without costing you a penny. (See related story on page 10).

For those of you who can arrange your schedule to attend our Portland General Meetings (see pages 2 and 12), I assure you that you will not be disappointed. We hope to see you there!

Inside This Issue

	Page
Annual Membership Drive	2
2003 Calendar of Events	2
Carrying On Tradition by The Miller Family	2
What a Beautiful Site!	3
Favorite Web Sites, German TV	3
Early History of Grandparents by Shirley Nitschke	
John & Bertha (Herrmann) Klundt	4
Johannes & Maria (Stadel) Elhard	5
Heimat: A Book Review by Lola Weber	5
The GROW Research Library	5
Haas Root Cellar by Roger Haas	6
A Genealogy Poem	6
Photo ID for Geraldine Gander	6
German-Russian Household Hint	6
Geschichte und Kultur: Prayer Before Meals	7
Sprache: Greetings, Wishes, Congratulations	7
Leute: Dr. Karl Stumpp	7
Zuhause: Winter Recipes, Adapted For Today	7
Kunst und Gewerbe: Folk Remedies	7
Und So Weiter . . .	
Conventions, Workshops, Travel Opportunities	8
Farmer's Quiz/Cook's Quiz	8
A German Expression	8
Dues Reminder	8
Family News	
Obituaries, Translations, Tongue Twister	9
Photo ID for Earnie Moran	9
Children Named After Saints	9
South Dakota Ancestors	9
The Sunshine Gals	9
GROW Chapter Business	
Board of Directors, Committee Chairs	10
General Chapter Information	10
GRHS Presentation to Haas Family	10
GRHS Application, Publication Information	11
GROW Meeting Dates/Times/Locations	12

Annual Membership Drive

As GROW commences its second full year since being chartered, it can look back and see that it has grown from 16 members to 253 families to the largest of the GRHS affiliate chapters. It also has the largest responsibility to serve about 60% of its members who live outside of the Portland area. The GROW quarterly newsletter and the chapter meeting summaries have been our "tie that binds" our membership together.

GROW volunteers have been amazing and much appreciated, coming forward and offering to help in unanticipated ways. If you have a talent and/or desire to help in some way, don't hesitate to make that known to anyone of our Board members (contact information on page 10).

One of the largest of our goals this year is retention of our German-Russian membership. It is a well-known fact that any organization that does not grow, stagnates and over time ceases to exist. Members themselves have the challenge of inviting others who have an interest and passion for our German-Russian heritage and culture to become GROW members.

Many of our members belong to GRHS, and we encourage that membership; however, that is not a requirement for membership in our Chapter. GROW membership costs only \$5 and gives you a quarterly newsletter, contact with other German-Russian descendants, and opportunities for fellowship. If you have not yet renewed your annual membership, please mail your check by the deadline, January 1, 2003.

Sharon Voeller, Treasurer

17064 SE Wiley Way, Milwaukie, OR 97267
voellerp@worldstar.com



Meal Preparation, A Family Tradition

*Left-to-Right: Carolyn Miller-Bixel,
Olivia Hall, Rachel Miller, Tara Miller,
and Jessica Hall.*

The 1983 Miller family portrait is in the background.

2003 Calendar of Events

January 26

John Rudnick will speak on the topic "Old News Is Good News." This will give us an insight into newspaper research and an idea of what you might find in your research.

February 23

Dr. William Wiest will share about his tour of Mennonite churches in Paraguay and Brazil.

March 23

"Leave Your Legacy" with speaker Doug Jacobs. Great information on how you might want to leave your life story and that of your ancestry.

The results of the GROW Member Questionnaire for programs for 2003 indicated an interest in archival retrievals; how to use death records, obituaries, cemeteries to find ancestors; Salt Lake City Library. If you know of a possible speaker for these topics, please call Lola Weber (see page 10).

Carrying On Tradition

The daughters and granddaughters of GROW members Harley and Sharon Miller of Chehalis, Washington, featured a German dinner of Kase Knoepfla, Schpaetzla, Gugumera Salat and Kuchen, prepared by daughters of Carolyn Miller-Bixel, an attorney in Bellevue, Washington; Tara Miller, a 2002 graduate of Central Washington University; and Rachel Miller, a graduate student at the University of Edinburgh. Also involved in preparation of this specialty meal were granddaughters Jessica and Olivia Hall, children of the Millers' older daughter, Martha Hall.



Making Kase Knoepfla

*Left-to-Right: Rachel Miller
with nieces Olivia, Maria, and Jessica Hall*

What a Beautiful Site!

Thanks to Bradlee and Jessica Mertz, our GROW Chapter joins the global network with a web site of its own. It is a beautiful site which, upon opening, boldly presents typical scenery of the Oregon/Washington region. The site is very professionally presented and will be maintained complete with photos of our members, news from our Chapter, copies of past newsletters, and other items of interest.

You will have to see it to believe it!

The GROW Web Site
www.grhs.org
Click on **Chapters**
Find our Chapter under **West Coast**

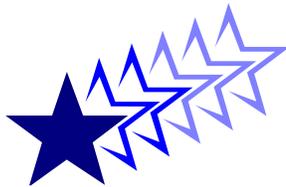
As is true of all Chapter endeavors, this project requires the participation of all of our members. As you find items of interest or have recommendations for additions or changes for the web site, please forward your comments and/or suggestions.

Web Master/Mistress
Bradlee/Jessica Mertz
mertzjb@onid.orst.edu

At this time, we give a special note of thanks to the quality time and effort that Bradlee and Jessica have contributed to create and post this web page.

Our web page is a significant milestone in the continued professionalism that represents our Chapter and to the Chapter's dedication to service to its members. Remember, that this site is for you, the members!

***Congratulations
for
a job well done!***



***Bradlee & Jessica Mertz
2003***

Favorite Web Sites

All sites below begin with <http://www>.

Diseases and epidemics:

homepages.rootsweb.com/~hornbeck/disease.htm
city-net.com/~markd/lists/epidemics.htm
genealogy-quest.com/glossaries/epidemics.html

Letters and correspondence:

Form letters in German
genealogienetz.de/misc/letters/
Genealogy letter translations English to German
puffin.com/puffin/tree/letters.htm

Modern names of locations in Germany, Moldova, Ukraine, and others:

mindspring.com/~gwil/statoids.html

Names in German:

First names: german.miningco.com/homework/
german/library/weekly/aa042699.htm

Surnames: german.miningco.com/homework/
german/library/weekly/aa050399.htm

Pennsylvania Dutch 18th Century nicknames:

kerchner.com/nickname.htm

German names in America:

serve.com/shear/germusa/surnames.htm

Origins of family names:

familychronicle.com/surname.html

Etymology/History of first names:

behindthename.com/

Photos of old villages in Germany bildindex.de

Choose "Orte" and then your village

Telephone Book (Germany) teleauskunft.de

Send us *your* favorite web site today!

Subscribe to German TV

You can subscribe to German TV and receive it by satellite 24 hours a day for only \$15 per month.

Deutsche Welle has an office located in Washington, DC. See details at the bottom of their Web Site Home Page.

For more information (in German language):

Web Site: <http://www.222.germantv.info>

Phone (toll-free): (877) 437-6268

email: germantv@sw.world.de

*Early History of Grandparents:
John and Bertha (Herrmann) Klundt
By Shirley Wegner Nitschke*

Grandfather John Klundt and Grandmother Bertha (Herrmann) Klundt, my husband's maternal side of the family, lived in Rohrbach, South Russia. The phrase "South Russia" is used often. There is no such province, state, government, or other subdivision in Russia. It is a phrase which has come into popular usage, especially in obituaries, and refers to that part of the Ukraine lying immediately north of and adjacent to the Black Sea between the Dniester River on the west and the Dnieper River on the east.

Grandpa John Klundt immigrated to America with his parents in 1884 at the age of five years. The situation was much the same as with many of your grandparents; they never talked about their life in Russia. For this reason, I wrote a novel based on historical data of what life was like for your grandparents and mine on the steppes of Russia.

My husband and I purchased, at public auction, the Klundt two-story six-bedroom house that his Grandpa John Klundt built in 1914 in the village of Alfred, North Dakota. As the years passed, we explored the attic and discovered a few treasures, including a German *Bible* copyright 1912, very well worn, and evidently used frequently.

On one of the pages Grandpa or Grandma wrote the names of their children and birth dates. On another page is the inscription: Jan 7 - 1844 South Russia. This indicates to me that possibly the Bible belonged to Great Grandfather Michael Klundt who lived in South Russia as an early settler.

Another page in the *Bible* evidently was for deaths, listing: Elsie L. Klundt died Jan. 4, 1911. Additional words appear on this page; however, I cannot read the German language. Someday, I hope to have them translated.

Under the eaves of the attic, we found one old porch post which at one time was part of the veranda on the front of the house. This treasure will be part of the restoration of the old house stairway to the upper level.

We also found in the attic several very old suitcases and assume they came with Great Grandpa Michael M. Klundt on their trip across the water to America.

One brother of Michael Klundt did not emigrate to the U.S. They moved to Germany and settled in Hamburg and in the Mecklenburg region of northern Germany.

A letter written from Germany by Gertrude Klundt to family members in America indicated her mother suffered from nervous shock from the bombings of WWII.

In writings three years after the close of WWII, Gertrude states, "It is now, after three horrible, hungry years, somewhat better in Germany, our ration cards allow us a little more of the bare necessities of life."

And in another letter dated 1948, a daughter of Susanna Klundt in Germany wrote to relatives in America. She had three brothers. One was in the German army and the other two in the Russian Zone; all are presumed dead.

Great Grandfather Michael M. Klundt, born in Rohrbach, Russia, in 1845. He had three brothers and one sister. However, in 1884 Michael was the first ever Klundt family to come to America and to settle in Dakota Territory.

John Klundt, my husband's grandfather and son of Michael M. Klundt homesteaded on a farm near Alfred, North Dakota, in 1901 and in 1905 married Bertha Herrmann.



*Wedding photo
of
John & Bertha
Klundt*

Larry's mother, Emma Klundt, married Otto Nitschke; and they settled on various farms in the area. A special treasure we have of Emma is a part of her wedding wreath. It was in an old jewelry box obtained by Larry when the children divided her personal belongings.

Now, for information about my own family, this story continues on page 5

***Early History of Grandparents:
Johannes and Maria (Stadel) Elhard***
By Shirley Wegner Nitschke

My maternal grandfather Johannes Elhard, along with his wife, Maria Stadel, arrived in America on November 15, 1896, and settled in the Alfred, North Dakota, area. Grandpa Elhard obtained his 160 acres from the government; and on part of the land, he built a church and started a cemetery.

Several years ago Larry and I and many other kind folks that had a loved one buried in the Posttal Cemetery cleaned it up. It was a disaster of sorts . . . overgrown weeds, lilac bushes, etc. Today it is beautiful! Three of my uncles and one of my aunts had been interred there but had never had headstones. I contacted all of the immediate relatives and then ordered headstones. Larry helped the undertaker place the stones on the approximate vicinity of their graves, a fitting tribute to be sure.

The church my grandfather built was eventually sold to a local school district and moved to another location on the prairie. Many years later, I was a school teacher in the church my grandfather had built! Small world, is it not?

As a young girl of five years, it was my job to gather eggs from the hen house. On one such occasion, as I stood on a board to reach the nests, a nail was protruding. My foot came down on the nail which came out at the top of my foot! I was screaming and bawling until my brother Goy heard me and located my father. My father, of course, pulled my foot off the nail and carried me to the house. He, most likely, used the words *donner vetter noch a mol**. Until I researched the Germans from Russia, I assumed those words were bad swear words; I now know better. (*Editor's Note: The literal translation is something like "again thunder weather once more," used to "swear" when frustrated or angry.)

Grandma Elhard told my mother to tie a piece of bread around the bottom of my foot and then soak the foot in milk. This remedy was to draw out any poisons as a result of the rusty old nail; however, in this case the remedy did not work.

I awoke the next morning burning up with fever and my folks immediately took me to the emergency room at Trinity Hospital in Jamestown, North Dakota. I was so ill, yet I remember that as I rode up in the elevator on a cart, the nurse administered a shot. As I am

writing this article, you know I survived. I have a scar on top of my foot to prove this incident really happened.

I attended a farm school, along with my two brothers, Roger and Roland, and was the only girl in the school. As a result, the male teacher did not allow me to play outside at recess time with the "rough boys."

Food (as discussed in my book on page 150) enlightens my readers that the very most favorite food of my family is strudels, creamed chicken and gravy, and German kuchen. I can have strudels cooked along with chicken and creamed gravy. I need a full day's notice on the kuchen!

Shirley Wegner Nitschke is an Honorary GROW Member

Heimat: Steppes of Russia
By Shirley M. Nitschke
A Book Review

By Lola Weber

It was last April when Shirley Wegner Nitschke came to our GROW meeting in Portland and shared her book *Heimat* with us. I finally started reading it; and when I did, I could hardly put it down. It told the story of a young girl named Helga. For those of our generation who may not really know a lot about our ancestors' treks from Germany to Russia to America, it is a wonderful insight into what their lives may have been like. I found myself saying—but wait . . . I have more questions . . . I need to know more! The epilogue and updates at the end of the book bring us a history lesson and the reality of what happened to many of the Germans from Russia, especially those who did not come to America. This is a book to share with our children and grandchildren.

The GROW Research Library

GROW appreciates contributions to its Research Library. Members have donated about ten lineal feet of books and journals.

Librarian ***Vivian Messenger*** and staff helpers (see page 10) are setting up a useable library for our membership; however, we do need a storage/meeting place for our research materials. This could be a basement, portable facility, or another option we haven't discussed yet. We invite your suggestions, assistance, and direction in this exciting endeavor—another opportunity to get involved!



Haas Family Root Cellar

By Roger Haas

The construction and use of root cellars played an important role in the existence of Germans from Russia as they settled into their lives in a new country. The Haas Root Cellar was built around 1900 by Georg and Daniel Haas, located approximately 14 miles northwest of Zeeland, North Dakota, and is a prime example of this part of our heritage.

The root cellar is 20 feet long, 10.5 feet wide, and 8.5 feet high constructed underground as a domed, quarried and chiseled, rock-bricked vault room with entrance through a staircase of steps made of in-laid rock approximately 4 feet wide. The Root Cellar seems to be in excellent condition considering a century of weathering in the Dakota climate and lack of maintenance.

A unique aspect of this cellar is that it was lighted by a 6-volt wind charger built on the center of the house roof built in the early 1920s. The current owner purchased the property in 1946 from Benjamin Haas, grandson of George Haas and son of Daniel Haas, the builders of the cellar. Of additional interest on this property, is evidence of the original sod house built in about 1884, later a wood-framed summer kitchen, followed by the family residence of 1920 in the vicinity of the Root Cellar.

As a great grandson and grandson of the cellar artitects/builders, I want to preserve this underground-enclosed cave as a monument to the past culture of Germans from Russia. Courtney Woehlhoff, the current owner, has given the Haas Family permission to visit and restore the underground structure for its historical significance, and the preservation of the Haas Root Cellar has attracted the interest of the North Dakota Historical Society and others active in the preservation of our German-Russian culture. Application is being made to list this historic site for the Federal Historic Registry.



***In the
Haas Root Cellar
(August 12, 2002)***

***Left to Right:
Kevin Kaster,
Daniel Kaster,
Roberta Haas,
Roger Haas,
Stephen Kaster.***

A Genealogy Poem

Anonymous Poet

*I saw a duck the other day.
It had the feet of my Aunt Faye.
Then it walked, was heading South.
It waddled like my Uncle Ralph.*

*And when it turned, I must propose.
Its bill was formed like Aunt Jane's nose.
I thought, "Oh, no" It's just my luck,
Someday I'll look just like a duck."*

*I sobbed to Mom about my fears,
And she said, "Honey, dry your tears.
You look like me, so walk with pride.
Those folks are all from Daddy's side."*

Submitted by Sharon Voeller

Do you know these ladies?



If you can identify these ladies, please contact:

Geraldine Gander
14926 SE Lowell Ln.
Sherwood, OR 97140

email:
neatfamily@aol.com

A German-Russian Household Hint

To make a blanket warm, cleaned cherry pits were saved and sewn inside flannel. These were put into a warmed oven before going to bed.

The cherry pits retained heat for several hours and kept many a child from freezing in the cold uninsulated homes.

Prayer Before Meals

German history and culture is rich with religious rites and ceremonies. One tradition that is familiar to many of our German-Russian families is prayer before a meal, and here is one example:

Lass uns, Herr, beim Trinken, Essen
Deiner Guete nicht vergessen!
Teil' uns Deine Liebe aus,
Fuell mit Frieden Herz und Haus. Amen



Let us, Lord, in drinking and eating
Not forget your goodness!
Distribute your love to us,
Fill with peace every heart and house. Amen

This offering of a prayer and its translation was submitted by **Horst W. Gutsche**. Does your family have a tradition or prayer to share? If so, please send it to your Editor (see page 11).

Sprache

Language

Birthday Greetings

Alles Gute . . . Best wishes . . .
Herzlichen Glückwunsch . . . Congratulations . . .
. . . zum Geburtstag! . . . on your birthday!
Alles Gute zum Geburtstag! Happy Birthday!

Get Well Wishes

Gute Besserung! Get well soon!
Gute Genesung! Have a speedy recovery!

Congratulations

Alles Gute . . . Best wishes . . .
Gratulation . . . Congratulations . . .
Herzlichen Glückwunsch . . . Congratulations . . .
. . . zum neuen Beruf! . . . on your new job!
. . . zur Beförderung! . . . on your promotion
(Do not use . . . zur Promotion!)
. . . zur Pensionierung! . . . on your retirement!

Leute

People

Dr. Karl Stumpp

Dr. Karl Stumpp was born in 1896 in the village of Alexanderhilf near Odessa. Later, his doctoral dissertation in Tübingen focused on the German colonies of the Black Sea region; and he devoted his life to research in the history and people of the German Colonies in Russia. He compiled data on thousands of German families in Russia and has the well-deserved title of **the patriarch of the German-Russians**. It is his research that forms the genealogical foundation of many of our German-Russian ancestors today.

Butter Balls

By Lois Klaus, Portland, Oregon

1 loaf bread, dried and crumbled
(Easily crumbled in a food processor)
1 t. salt ½ t. allspice
4 eggs, beaten 1 c. milk
½ lb. melted butter or margarine
Put all ingredients, except milk, in a bowl and mix well. Add milk a little at a time so the bread mixture is moistened but not soggy. Make into balls the size of a walnut. Put enough balls into plastic bags for desired use and freeze. When making chicken soup, add the butter balls at the end, and boil just a minute or two. This makes about 6 dozen butter balls.

German Beerocks

By Donna Wallender, Medford, Oregon

Donna says this recipe comes from German-Russians (Volga) in Fresno, California and that they use this spelling from the Russian *Pirozhki*.

Thaw 2 loaves of frozen bread dough. Cut each loaf into 6-8 pieces and roll to approximately 4- x 6-inch pieces. Put approximately 2 large tablespoons of filling on dough pieces and fold and seal edges. Place on greased cookie sheet, let rise 15 minutes, and bake at 375° for 15-20 minutes until browned.

Filling

4 c. shredded cabbage 1¼ lbs. hamburger
¾ c. chopped onion salt and pepper
Brown hamburger and onions, drain off fat. Season to taste. Add cabbage, cover skillet and steam until cabbage is limp. Do not brown. Mix well and cool slightly before using on dough. Makes 12-16 Beerocks.

**Kunst
und Gewerbe**

**Arts
and Crafts**

Folk Remedies

Folk remedies (some would say **art**; some would say **craft**) resulted from faith and intuition of our German-Russian ancestors who rarely, if ever, saw a medical doctor. Some remedies persevere to today; some are now considered absurd. Here are a few of them - you decide:

Rheumatism: Carry a raw potato in your pocket until it has dried up and crumbles.

Diarrhea: Drink hot milk

Athlete's Foot: Soak feet 3-4 times in a solution of 1 part formaldehyde to 20 parts warm water

Und so weiter And so forth

Plan Ahead

33rd Annual GRHS Convention

September 4-7, 2003
Ramkota Inn
2111 LaCrosse Street
PO Box 1795
Rapid City, SD 57709-1795
Phone (605) 343-8550
For more information:
<http://www.grhs.org/convention.html>
Phone: (701) 223-6167

AHSGR Convention

(American Historical Society of Germans from Russia)
June 18-22, 2003
For more information:
<http://www.ahsgr.org>
Phone: (402) 474-3363
FAX: (402) 474-7229

FEEFHS Convention

(Federation of East European Family History Societies)
For more information:
<http://www.feefhs.org/conf>
Kalile Mehr, Convention Chair
mehrkb@ldschurch.org

Farmer's Quiz

What do you call a farmer on a half-sized farm, a farm of 15 Morgen?

Ein Halbbauer

What is a Morgen?

The amount of land that one man and an ox can plow in one morning

Ernest Thode's German English Genealogical Dictionary

Dues Reminder

Dues for both GRHS and for GROW are due on January 1, 2003. Your dues must be received by GRHS by February to continue receiving the *Heritage Review Journal* and the *GRHS Newsletter*. Your dues must also be received by GROW to receive the next edition of the *GROW Newsletter*.

Don't delay - Pay today!

Cook's Quiz

Is German chocolate cake German?

In 1852 Sam German, an employee of Baker's Chocolate Company (Kraft Foods/General Foods), developed a bar of sweet baking chocolate. It was named Baker's German's Sweet Chocolate. The first printed recipe using Baker's German's Sweet Chocolate as an ingredient was printed in a Dallas newspaper in 1857. The name of the popular cake recipe was shortened to German Chocolate Cake. German Chocolate Cake was not invented in Germany but was named after the inventor of the chocolate ingredient used in it, Sam German.

**Ukraine-Germany Tour
Schneider, LLC**

Spring tour: May 20 to June 4, 2003
Fall tour: September 16 to October 1, 2003
These 16-day tours give you an opportunity to visit your ancestral villages as well as provide an educational and cultural experience.

For more information:
<http://www.members.rushmore.com/~ukrainetours>
Robert R. Schneider
1649 N. 3rd St., Spearfish, SD 57783
Phone: (605) 722-7712
email: rschneider@rushmore.com

**German-Russian Heritage
Tour to Germany**

June 12-22, 2003 - From \$1,800 per person
Deadline for sign-up: February 15, 2003

Germans from Russia who want to visit their "German Roots" will travel to the Vogelsburg region in the state of Hessen, Germany, as well as short stays in Bremerhaven and Hamburg, Germany.

For more information:
G. D. Reifschneider Tour Company
4120 Little Crown Ln., Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Phone: (719) 576-3444
email: GaryDReif@aol.com

A German Expression

A commentary on the common experiences of our ancestors:



Er machte gute Miene zum Bösen Spiel.

He made the best out of a bad situation.

Family News

Please submit news about your German-Russian family and friends to share with others of our GROW family. See page 11 for details on submitting photos, articles, and other information.

Obituary

Joseph H. Herrle died November 12, 2002, a victim of cancer. He was 84 years old. He was a Portland area native, a Navy pilot, and a successful business entrepreneur. In 1944 he married **Hilde Grasmick**, who died in 1998. He is survived by his sisters, four children, and six grandchildren. He was a cousin of Agnes Herrle's deceased husband. A detailed obituary appeared in *The Sunday Oregonian*, Nov. 17, 2002.

Children Named After Saints

Children have often been named after recognized Catholic saints. Examples of such names are

Kunigunda	Eleutherius
Kilianus	Polycarpus
Sixtus	Eudoxia
Dionys	Hieronymous
Urbanus	Blaisius

Here is an excellent web site for solving the mystery if you have encountered such names in your family research:

<http://www.saints.catholic.org/stsindex.html>

German Tongue Twister

(Deutscher Zungenbrecher)

Zehn Ziegen zogen zehn Zentner Zucker zum Zoo.
(Ten goats pulled ten pounds of sugar to the zoo.)

South Dakota Ancestors?

If you have ancestors who settled in South Dakota, the State Archives has South Dakota state census cards available. They are in the process of filming so you may wish to see if they are available for your county via inter-library loan.

The 1885 and 1895 state census are only available for some counties. The 1905, 1915, 1925, 1935, and 1945 records are on cards so you can search them if you are going to Pierre or check this web site to see the progress of filming for these cards:

<http://www.sdhistory.org>

Do you know these people?



The man sitting is **Whilhel Müller**, born 13 February 1853, Kulm, Bessarabia, Russia.

The woman sitting is **Maria Knöll**, born 20 September 1853, Tarutino, Russia.

Do you know the names of any of the individuals on the back row? If so, please contact:

Earnie Moran at diannam@nwi.net

Need Translations?

Do you need German translated to English or English translated to German? At the web site below, you type up to 150 words at a time and get a translation instantly. Translations are available in many languages.

<http://www.world.Altavista.com>

This is an excellent tool for communicating with relatives, friends, and other translations.

The Sunshine Gals

If you know of any illnesses, marriages, births, deaths, anniversaries, or other news about members, contact:



Agnes Herrle at (503) 236-5642
1914 SE Harold St., Portland, OR 97202-4935

or

Amelia Lybarger at (503) 648-1058
655 SE Washington St., Hillsboro, OR 97123

You can help *The Sunshine Gals* save costs for GROW by making computer greeting cards and/or donating funds to Agnes for postage.

GROW Board of Directors

Roger Haas, President/Liaison

8618 SE 36th Ave., Portland OR 97222

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Roy Schnaible, Vice President

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(503) 636-5541 gourmetir@aol.com

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Sharon Voeller, Treasurer

17064 SE Wiley Way, Milwaukie, OR 97267

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8110 SE Madison, Portland, OR 97215

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(360) 423-8359 hunter1@kalama.com

For information on Board of Director meetings and activities, see page 12.

Help GROW At No Cost To You!

Electronic Newsletters save GROW over \$40 per issue in postage. To receive your newsletter electronically, contact Jessica Mertz (see Committees, this page).

SCRIP and Other Fundraisers earned \$128.20, reported Roy Schnaible at the November meeting. Scrip purchases earn a commission on sales of certificates for over 80 participating merchants, including grocery stores, restaurants, national chain stores, car washes, etc. Scrip is the same as cash and makes ideal gifts, an easy way to support GROW financially without costing a penny. For more information, contact Roy Schnaible (see Board of Directors above).

Albertsons Scan Cards presented by 44 members as they paid for their groceries earned \$38.70 for our Chapter last quarter and costs members nothing. To get a scan card, contact Roger Haas (see Board of Directors above).

GROW Committee Chairs

Until June 30, 2003

Calling

Oscar Geiszler Oscargeiszler@aol.com

Hospitality/Greeting

Jan Haberman (503) 252-5480

Collection/Research&Genealogical Assistance

Doris Seibert (503) 651-2394 / (541) 563-3114

Library

Vivian Messenger (503) 574-2271

Evelyn Gatlin, Glen Gumeringer, Carrie Lippincott,

Doris Seibert, Alice Summers

Membership

Cliff Haberman (503) 252-5480

Newsletter

Velma Jesser DrVJH@yahoo.com

Programs

Lola Weber weberd@easystreet.com

Refreshments

Roberta Haas(503) 659-8248

Ilene Schnaible (503) 623-5529

Ann Gumeringer and Lorraine Geiszler

Special Interests/Obituaries

Sharon Voeller voellerp@worldstar.com

Sunshine Gals

Agnes Herrle(503) 236-5642

Amelia Lybarger (503) 648-1058

Web Master/Mistress

Bradlee & Jessica Mertz (503) 667-7953

solandmoon@hotmail.com

Need a GROW Name Tag?

Name tags help you get to know other members at GROW activities and help others put your face with your name. Name tags cost \$5.50. Contact:

Leona Koth at (503) 538-3447

or email her at lvkoth@aol.com

Home of Record Presentation

The ancient scribe of Ecclesiastes said, "Some there be who have no memorial, who are perished as though they had never been." Native American people told one another, "A people without history is like the wind on the buffalo grass." Hundreds of people, but especially you, Mr. Haas, have seen to it that we have a Home of Record of our German pioneers.

Statement by **Dr. Leo Neifer** as **Arvina Goehring** presented the President's Award and this wall hanging to **Roger and Roberta Haas** at the 2002 GRHS Convention in honor of their Generous Cash Gift to the GRHS Home of Record Building Project.

(See photo in previous GROW newsletter)



GROW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GERMANS from RUSSIA of OREGON and Southwest WASHINGTON (GROW)

Year(s) of Membership _____ Circle appropriately: NEW RENEW

NAME (Print) _____ Birth Month (optional): _____

ADDRESS _____ Anniversary Date (optional): _____

CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

PHONE NO. () _____ E-Mail Address _____

Name of my ancestral village(s) _____

My family surnames _____

Enclosed is my remittance of \$ _____ Membership fees are due annually on January 1.

GROW NEWSLETTER/OPERATION DONATION minimum \$5

GRHS Membership \$40 GRHS LIFE (\$100 per year) \$650
(LIFE membership fees may be paid installments of not less than \$100.)

Names of adults in household desiring membership cards _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **GROW** - US Currency
Mail to: **Roger Haas, 8618 SE 36th Avenue, Portland, OR 97222**

GROW Publication Information

The GROW newsletter is a quarterly publication. Receiving your GROW newsletter and other communications electronically as an Adobe pdf file will save GROW printing and mailing costs and you receive the newsletters immediately. (Adobe Acrobat Reader is available as a free download on the Internet at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.) You can also forward the electronic newsletter to friends and family as a way of introducing them to GRHS and to our GROW Chapter. Email DrVJH@yahoo.com if you would like to receive the GROW newsletter in the future electronically. All submitted materials should include a statement that gives permission for use in the newsletter. Pictures are welcome as we have a scanner to digitize images and output is done on a graphics printer. Please provide a SASE for materials that need to be returned. Articles and materials for publication as well as ideas and suggestions for improvements to this newsletter should be addressed to the Editor:

Velma Jesser, PO Box 4909, Sunriver, OR 97707 or email DrVJH@yahoo.com

The Next Newsletter . . .

This is *your* newsletter; the sharing of information by members is what makes it yours. Consider sending contributions to your editor; for example, short clips from something you've read, a German-Russian custom, an interesting website, a family photo or document, a question for other members, publicity for an upcoming event, genealogy tips and tricks, an article you have written about your family, etc. The next quarterly newsletter will, of course, highlight *your* contributions.

Let us hear from you!

GROW Newsletter Deadlines: September 1, December 1, March 1, June 1

2003 Meeting Dates and Events

Chapter Meeting Dates

Meetings begin at 2 p.m. **Solid Rock Baptist Church**

January 26	April 27
February 23	May 25
March 23	June 22

For program information, see page 2

Board Meeting Dates

Meetings begin at 1 p.m. **All members welcome!**

Libbie's Restaurant

11056 SE Main St., Milwaukie, Oregon

January 15	April 16
February 19	May 21
March 19	June 18

GROW Newsletter Deadlines

September 1, December 1, March 1, June 1

Directions to Solid Rock Baptist Church

From I-205 heading South take the Johnson Creek Blvd. Exit (#16). Turn right onto Johnson Creek Blvd. Turn left onto SE Fuller Rd. And then left onto SE Battin Rd.

From I-205 heading North Take the Johnson Creek Blvd. Exit (#16) and stay straight to go onto the ramp. Turn left onto Johnson Creek Blvd. Turn left onto SE Fuller Rd and then left onto SE Battin Rd.

Solid Rock Baptist Church
8510 SE Battin Rd.
Portland, Oregon



Happy New Year - 2003!



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

Dr. Velma Jesser, Editor
GROW Chapter
PO Box 4909
Sunriver, OR 97707-4909