



# GROW Quarterly Newsletter

Area Chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)

Volume 5 Issue 1

October - November - December 2005

## Message from the President



**Roger Haas, President**

The June Chapter Meeting was interesting and different as was expected. Thomas Johnson and Ron Schauer did not disappoint anyone with their complementary program on grape growing, winemaking, and traveling in Germany through the wine and beer country. Tom, German American Society Board Director and wife Linda have been making wine at their Lake Oswego residence for many years and provided experience and knowledge with pictures to illustrate their expertise. Humorist Ron and wife Patricia, on the other hand, showed pictures of their travels without guides and provided travelers' tips in search of family breweries.

There were 411 Members and friends who came to the 2005 Annual GRHS Convention at Pierre, SD on July 14-16. Our GROW members represented the Chapter well with 22 attending members: Mary Lynn Axtman, Milo Bauder, Chuck/Joy Clark, Bob/Margaret Freeman, Roger/Roberta Haas, Vern/Vangie Heupel, Wanda Hopkins, Valerie Ingram, Harley Miller, Bob Schauer, Roy/Ilene Schnaible, Bob/Dolores Schuh, Paul/Sharon Voeller, Lola Weber and Lorraine Werner. Thank you for attending. The Clarks, Haases, and Schnaibles took several boxes of publicity to advertise the 2006 GRHS convention to be hosted by GROW in Portland in July 12-16. Chuck Clark set up a laptop computer slide show featuring the Pacific NW while the GROW members manned the table and visited with interested members. Thank you, Chuck, for a nice addition to our publicity.

Paul and Sharon honored us by parading the lovely GROW Banner in the Opening Ceremony along with the other Chapters. Most of the GROW members were busy taking in the workshops, and visiting with Chairs of the Pierre Convention Team as to their experiences and suggestions for a successful convention. German American President Kurt Radtke's Granddaughter, Nikki Maher, was

the winner of a \$250. Scholarship along with two trophies for winning in the Youth Essay Contest. Roger accepted those honors in Nikki's absence. He also accepted the Life membership Certificates for Doug Henne and Harvey Golbek. The National Convention is a most worthwhile event where one receives knowledge and makes friends who can be for a life time.

The Aug. 7 Picnic was a pleasant surprise with 48 people enjoying new games, delicious food, more than 10 raffle prizes, etc. Thanks for attending and bringing extra items to be raffled off at our Sept. Chapter meeting. What was extra special was the attendance of the four generations of the Doris & Gene MaGee family. Doris has further put us in contact with her daughter-in-law, Sally Freeman, who works at the Ft. Clatsop Ranger Station and does a dress up routine of the Lewis & Clark Expedition historical. Thank you, Doris. Among others who graced our presence were Leah (Koch) Sauer, Mother of the Year, and her friend of long standing, Ron Subotnick. Also, a GROW Charter member, Vera Porter, was a first time attendee. Maxine Daily's granddaughter, Amanda-Llyn Daily, and friend Janice Neer were among the younger generation. Darwin Weber also came and stayed to enjoy the good food & fellowship.

Sadly, David Martin stayed only for a short time due to the fact that his sister, Mary, passed away the day before. Reuben Geiszler also passed away since our last Newsletter. Let's remember David, Mary, and Reuben's

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## Ed's Corner

In my last Ed's Corner I described a watermelon feed that I attended near Isabel SD during the depression and dust bowl days 70 years ago. Looking back to that time I marvel now on what my parents, the Germans from Russia families and the other residents of the area did to survive. One reason for their survival could be their ancestors set the example of succeeding in establishing German colonies in Russia.



Ed Weber

Even under normal conditions the Dakota country provided harsh living conditions, much like what was found in Russia when the German Colonies were first settled. The two General Stores in Isabel did not have produce sections. You could buy canned vegetables, sacked potatoes and some fresh fruit such as apples. There was some dried fruit available, raisins, prunes and apricots. For fresh vegetables you had to rely on your gardens or what could be grown on the farm. Now I'm going to factor in two more conditions that were present when I lived in the Dakotas and they are Drought and the National Depression.

The worst of the drought occurred in 1934 to 1936. In the region of Isabel the farmers could not put up hay because there was only enough moisture in the spring for the grass to come up, but then it dried and died. The weeds seemed to thrive under desert condition and the tumbleweeds (known in the Isabel area as Russian Thistles) were cut while they were still green and were stacked to be used as hay. Pastures dried up and the U S Government bought up herds of cattle only to shoot them and buried them in large ditches. The cattle were in such poor condition they could not be cut up and given to people in the "bread lines."

Back 70 years ago there were no fast food restaurants, no super market chains, at least not in Isabel, South Dakota. When our family moved from Isabel to Western Washington in 1936, we got acquainted with Safeway Stores, who at that time were strictly small grocery stores. My mother was an excellent cook. She made bread, noodles and pastries. Because the waste water from washing dishes and laundry were used to water our small garden we did have some peas, radishes and green onions. One thing that survives drought is a weed. My mother used to cook us a green leafy dish she called spinach. This was served either as cooked leaf or mixed with eggs and it was called spinach cakes and it was delicious. The main ingredient was not spinach but a broad leafed weed that grew in our yard and often green dandelion leaves.

My mother also seemed to be acquainted with some other weeds growing in the Dakotas that she would occasionally use to brew a tea used to calm upset stomachs. I was too young to pursue exactly what weed this was. I recently checked through the book *"The Glückstalers in*

*New Russia and North America"* and went through a Chapter entitled: "Brauche, Healing and Home Remedies." I couldn't find an illustration of the weed or herb my mother used for her tea. I did make a discovery of information about my Aunt, my Dad's oldest sister, Katherina Weber Reich.

The chapter defines a healer to be called a **Brauchere**. A further definition says "All **Brauchere** believed that their healing gift was the mandate of a higher power in the form of the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Ghost." On page 695 I found this interesting description of a healer's treatment of illnesses: "In the 1960s a rural Wishek, ND, woman remembers making middle-of-the-night journeys with her screaming infants to the Wishek home of Katharine Weber Reich, a well-respected **Brauchere**." The story goes on to tell how my Aunt healed the children. I now realize that my mother probably got her information about using weeds from her sister-in-law.



Here is a photo from my mother's album that portrays my Uncle Adam Reich and Aunt Katherine Reich. The picture was taken in the 1960s and shows my Aunt and Uncle on the back porch of their farm home near Wishek. Notice the broom mounted on the wall of the house where it is readily available for use in brushing snow off shoes and coats.

The Glückstal Colonies Research Association's book, *"The Glückstalers in New Russia and North America"* is available in GROW Chapter library or you can purchase a copy at our GROW Chapter meeting.

That's it from Ed's Corner.

## President's Message, cont.

family in our thoughts and prayers. Also, we need to remember Amelia Lybarger and Del Ussleman who are hurting along with their families. They have been faithful attendees.

While we are eagerly turning our focus/attention on the 2006 Convention, since the Torch has been passed to the GROW team, we want you to reach out to each of the GROW Chairs, Directors, Committee members and Supporters and ask what you can do to help make the 2006 GRHS Convention the best ever. Look in this issue for their telephone numbers and Email addresses to contact them and lend them your hand. It is YOUR Convention, too. While it is months away, you can not start too soon inviting your friends and neighbors to participate. Thank You.

## Renewal of your 2006 GRHS & GROW Dues

Dear Members,

Upon receipt of this Newsletter, which will be around the Oct 1, 2005, you can remit your GRHS dues of \$40.00 and GROW Newsletter Donation of \$5.00 for a total of \$45.00 payable to GROW and mailing to 8618 SE 36th Ave, Portland, OR 97222, as you have and are continuing to find on page 11 of this Newsletter. It is backed by the mailing area for your convenience as to not lose any information.

Upon receipt of your \$45.00, the GRHS dues of \$40.00 will be deposited in the GRHS Bank Account and the \$5.00 will be put into the GROW Bank Account. You will have the convenience of mailing one check to one address and GROW will do the rest. We will record your Status: LIFE, Annual, you address changes, etc. Do complete the application accurately and completely, and GROW will forward any changes to GRHS, Bismarck, ND.

Your Membership Account will not be tardy until after Jan 1, 2006, but doing this immediately upon receipt of this notice, you will put this bill behind you and when you receive an announcement from the GRHS office around the latter part of October, you know you have completed the task for both GRHS and GROW. No reminders of delinquent dues will be made until 2006. The GRHS News/Journal will not be received in the first quarter of 2006 unless your dues are fully paid.

Thank you in advance for helping your GROW Chapter and GRHS National be financially sound and capable of providing the service that you are expecting. We really appreciate your membership and you being part of the GRHS/GROW family.

Sincerely,  
Roger Haas, President

## EWZ Help Available for 2006 Convention Workshop

by Tom Stangl

Basically all we need to know is if any of their family members stayed in Russia, and if family members or descendants may have been alive in the 1940s to be involved in the evacuation of the Germans from Russia by the German Army.

We would need to know:

1. surnames;
2. the names of common relatives, such as parents or grandparents;
3. and what village(s) in which they might have been living ca 1942-1944.

4. to find sisters who stayed behind, indicate their married surname if known.

Nearly every G-R family who emigrated had brothers, or sisters who stayed behind. These are the folks for whom we would be looking. Since most emigrations to America occurred in the late 1800s to early 1900s, those who stayed behind would likely be recorded as the parents or grandparents of persons living in the 1940s.

If we are given such information, we would look for the family members in the EWZ records at National Archives II. If we find anything, as we have for past workshops, Jan would incorporate their family story(ies) into our presentation.

## What is EWZ?

By Elli Wise

*Beresan District Odessa Newsletter*

Volume 9 Issue 2 October 2004

EWZ (Einwanderungszentralstelle) Immigration (control) center (*The many returning immigrants generated many forms. This short article will explain some of the forms as they relate to Germans returning to Poland and Germany during World War II. I hope to be able to explain as to what the re-settlers had to undergo in order to become German Citizens again.*)

The EWZ microfilms contain applications for German Citizenship during the years 1939 through 1945.

The emigrants were re-settled into Germany and other areas under German control like Warthegau or Wartheland. Only ethnic Germans were originally wanted. (Some early re-settlers were put on land the Polish were ousted from – that is what my grandmother told me – and toward the end of the war when the Russian's were closing in, those re-settlers had to also flee from these second

homes they had.)

Germans who wanted to remain in Russia were forced to leave Russia because of the hatred of Russians against Germans...and if captured while on a trek moving toward Germany, many were killed or sent to labor camps in Siberia and other similar places. Entire families of Poland re-settlers died while trying to cross frozen waterways in winter when the ice broke when they found the bridges jammed or destroyed, as the Russians were moving close. Other families died from the air raid or illnesses, and had to be left behind on the frozen ground without proper burials.

Perhaps many of these German re-settlers were included in the concentration camp transactions that took place.

All re-settlers were "geschleusst" (processed – actually the word "geschleusst" cannot be accurately translated and it appears to have been a thorough evaluation). The

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*Continued on page 5.*

# 2006 Convention...Status Report

by *Lola Weber*

There are still many opportunities to become involved in YOUR convention! Please take a look at the different categories available and consider becoming involved. The more us who are involved, the greater success the 2006 Convention will be.

On Aug. 21 the GROW Convention Chairs held a planning meeting and the following is a summary:

## REGISTRATION

- Use Excel spreadsheets to track
- Need computer(s) on site
- Need printer(s) (to make changes, print name tags etc)
- Need to have GREETERS
- List Volunteers
- Map to the convention site

## CONVENTION BOOKLETS

Convention

- Add note pages
- Index (table of contents)
- Map of convention site
- Font/style of print
- Include overview GRHS to Pacific NW

## WORSHIP/MEMORIAL

- Include Catholic Church location/ times of services

## TOURS

- Need PA system for announcements
- Include information on tours in registration
- Include options

## WELCOMING (OPENING)

### CEREMONY

- Flags – US, Canada, Washington, Oregon
- Parade of banners  
Introduce the flags  
(description of chapter & flag)
- Color Guard
- Speaker(s): (heritage/immigration?)

## LIBRARY

- Internet connection(s)
- NEED VOLUNTEERS to help people with the library research
- GROW Representative
- Copier(s) NEED VOLUNTEERS
- VILLAGE COORDINATORS: need signs and schedule

## WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

- Those contacted & responded yes are on the list of pre-registration sheet
- Follow up contact with these speakers to solicit name of presentation/equipment needed etc.
- Contact for more speakers continues.
- Possible recording of presenters to be looked into.
- Rooms (capacity): Salon A (150), Salon B (150), Salon C (150), Salon D (150, Mt. Adams (75), Mt. Hood (40), Mt. St. Helens (40), Cascade Room (40)

## FOOD

- Food tickets (\$)
- Choices of foods
- Berry Cobbler/ ticket \$??

## FACILITIES

- Decorations
- Vendors
- GROW table

## ENTERTAINMENT

- Thurs. – lunch ?
- Thurs. – banquet

- Fri. – lunch (German School)
- Fri. – break
- Fri. – banquet
- Sat. – lunch
- Sat. – break
- Sat. – banquet
- Dance
- Movies?

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

- Organized/more structure
- Pianist/Organist (grand piano?)
- Candlelight

## PUBLICITY

- Convention items (deadlines?)
- Tours
- Signage

## SPEAKER HOSTS

- Make certain that all is set up for the speaker (podium, table, microphone, screen, glass of water, etc.)  
Introduce the speaker, remain during presentation to provide assistance as needed for the speaker.

## OTHER

- Quilt Raffle
- Gifts from Chapters

## 2006 GRHS Convention Committee Members

Program Chair:

Entertainment Assistant/Directors:

Memorial Assistant/Director:

Tours Assistant/Director:

Convention Booklet Assistant/Director:

Booklet Mailing Assistant/Director:

Registration Chair:

Registrar Assistant/Director:

Registrar Assistant/Director:

Registrar Assistants:

Publicity Chair:

Publicity Assistant/Director:

Publicity Assistant to Paul Voeller:

Publicity Assistant to Paul Voeller:

Publicity Assistant/Director:

Facility/Food Chair:

Equipment Assistant/Director:

Space Arrangement Assistant/ Director:

Convention Treasurer:

Assistant/Director: Raffles:

Convention: Tracker, Scheduler:

**Lola Weber**

**Vivian Messenger & Glen Gumeringer**

**Dr. Harley Miller**

**Paul Voeller, Jenice Gibson**

Set-Up to Print - **Jan Prunier**

**Jan Haberman**

**Chuck Clark, Excel Registration**

Format Engineer

**Alice Summers**

Incoming Mail Registrations,

Name Badge Maker

**Geri Gander, Leona Hix, Ron & Pat Schauer**

**Roger Haas**

**Paul Voeller-**

State & National Advertising

**Bob Schauer** -Web Addresses/Updates

**Willy Horner** – Dispatcher

**Joanne Pfau, et.al.**

**Maxine Daily, Jan Prunier**

Create Posters, et.al. local publicity -

**Roy & Ilene Schnaible**

**Betty Thatcher**

**Ed Weber**

## What is EWZ? (cont.)

re-settlers had to undergo thorough examinations to determine their health, their personal appearance... and so on. They had to fill out forms to prove their German origin. – There appeared to be some discrimination against people of certain background in faith or those with handicaps - (You may now and then find correspondence referencing such).

When the emigrants (re-settlers) reached their camp of destination – they may have had to wait weeks or months before they were to appear for the Durchschleussung as to where in the German Reich they would be infiltrated.

While indexing I came across an interesting form, which started out with, the below regulation: “All re-settlers over age 14 are required to fill out certain forms. In addition they need to bring all available certificates, Russian passports, Ukrainian ID’s, ID’s of German origin list (Volklist). Birth and baptism records, marriage records.”

Each re-settler of the age of 14 had to write his or her own Lebenslauf (in German or in Russian), which was basically, their life’s story.

The following items were to be filled in: Surname, first name, birth date, birth place, last place of residence, name of parents, their birth and death dates. Also there was a section for the Lebenslauf to be written on.

They were to bring these filled out forms and all other documents on the “Stichtag” – effective day or deadline for the Durchschleussung.

Many German re-settlers emigrated to other countries or if they were captured by the Russians, they were sent back to Russia or even to Siberia to work in labor camps.

For many reasons – like instances stated above, these EWZ records may be the only information we have available on many families during the WWII era. Without these records we may not ever know what happened to our families. Certainly we may never know what happened to many who were lost during that time and no trace of them is being found. However, having these documents available to us can help us thread our families together, even though we may never know what happened to some of them. My own grandfather is still among the missing. He was recruited from Romania, where he had emigrated to from the Ukraine, to fight in WWII for the German army, while his wife and children were re-settled to Poland. His last short letter to his family was in April of 1945. He was stationed near Stettin at the Elbe River. There has been no trace found of what may have happened to him. He is still missing...

Toward the end of WWII with Germany losing the war – many records were seized by the United States and later microfilmed. The original records have since been returned to Germany. The EWZ collection is part of that collection. There are other collections like the ‘Koblentz files’, the ‘Library of Congress’ collection, and the DAI films.

We are currently indexing the following EWZ series:

EWZ50 - Former Soviet Union (Russia, Odessa, Beresan, Crimea, etc.) [There are 843 rolls of which about

half have been indexed.]

EWZ51 – Romania (includes Russia, Bukovina, Bessarabia, Dobrudscha) [there are 700 rolls – and to date only a fraction (30) have been indexed].

EWZ57 -E/G Kartei (index cards – E (Einwanderung) Emigration and G Gesundheit) Health cards [there are 1964 rolls (17 indexed)] these are also available at LDS. [Under different film numbers.]

EWZ58 - Stammblaetter (family group sheets) - data by application numbers. There are 742 Rolls (19 indexed). These are also available at LDS. [Under different film numbers] [The 57 and 58 series should be included when researching the 50 and 51 series – because all series may not have the information that may be found within other series.]

The EWZ 50 and 51 series contain the forms ‘Stammblatt’ (pedigrees/family group charts) and can reflect 3 to 4 generations depending on the memory of the applicant. The Stammblatt gives the father and mother, parents of both, grandparents of both and the children. Usually the grandparents do not have birth dates, and in some cases neither do parents or spouses. However, the Stammblatt are usually documented in reverse and may reveal missing data on the spouse’s Stammblatt. In addition you may find Stammblaetter on the parents, even grandparents or the children. This widens the scope of the data and it is possible to find information with birth dates going back to the 1800’s.

Other forms like ‘Personalblatt’ provide similar information.

The Stammblatt and Personalblatt forms indicate the status of single, married, widowed, etc.– with dates – if known.

The researcher can find information whether the persons were living, deceased, shot, verschleppt [taken away], verbannt [banished], missing, serving as soldiers, last place of residence etc.

There are forms called ‘Feststellung der Deutschstaemmigkeit’ [determination of German origin] - a Family tree that shows ancestry (no dates) as to whether the persons are ethnic Germans or mixed nationalities.

Other forms are health records, descriptions of the person, history of places lived in, their belongings, social status, etc.

In a lot of instances you may find photographs of individuals.

We find forms called Einbuergerungsantraege’ (citizenship applications) ‘Abschrift der Einbuergerungsurkunde’ (copy of citizenship certificate), the ‘Lebenslauf’ (history of life) ‘Hitler Jugend Umsiedler Personalkarte’ (Hitler Youth re-settler passport), ‘Volkstums Ausweis’, (Russian, Rumanian, etc., or German passports) and other correspondence.

Most forms do have dates as to when they were processed, may give new ID numbers, old EWZ numbers, and may indicate to which ‘Herd’ (head of household) a

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*Continued on page 8.*

## Good Samaritans Travel to Peru

by Harley Miller, MD

The following is an article I wrote for the "openline" a newspaper we send to the 120 employees on our three campuses every two weeks to help keep the organization congealed.

In the following—Steve Chavez is a CPA and our chief financial officer for *Steck Medical and Woodland Estates Retirement Center*. His mother is a Hochstetter from ND. His wife is a Krueger from ND. His dad, a native of Peru, was an acquaintance of mine at Union College.

This was the 14th annual, consecutive trip in which the Chehalis/Centralia Maranatha group has participated. The first one being in the Dominican Republic where 25 churches were built in a 10 week period. Our fearless leader Philip Becker a German Russian has led on every one of those trips. Sharon and I have been on five. Our kids have been on several of them. Maranatha is a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church that builds schools, churches, orphanages, etc. Peru is the current country of focus, as well as India where we have committed to the building of 1000 churches and schools.

Very early on the morning of February 23 Sharon and I headed for Sea-Tac where we met 25 others from Chehalis and Centralia area, including Steve Chavez and his mother. Our destination was Wichenzau, Peru a poverty stricken suburb of Trujillo, a city of 2,000,000. Our flight took us to Atlanta, and then after another six hour flight we arrived in Lima where we met several other friends and relatives of various members of the group and we boarded a luxury bus at 2:00 am for an eight hour trip north to Trujillo. After arriving we rested for a short time in the nicely designed and well constructed hotel, built by Germans, which was operated manana style (sometimes cold water, sometimes hot water, sometimes no water). Our meals were prepared at the hotel by individuals of the group directed by Steve Shannon of Centralia. The food was good and no one became ill. We had corporate morning and evening devotions in the secure courtyard of this hotel.

After a short rest we went to the site of the church we were to build. Since the project was under the auspices of Maranatha a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church the local organization had poured the slab. The construction portion of the project was headed by Bob Foss of Centralia and the block laying crew worked a few hours on Friday. Steve Chavez became an expert block layer (true to his calling, he also counted all the blocks).

Being well taught by our alma mater (Loma Linda University School of Medicine) to minister to the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of our being, Drs. Simon Elloway, Tim Guthrie and I along with my wife (a nursing and MPH graduate as well as former teacher at LLU), and Beverly Elloway planned our non-construction part of the project. The three physicians along with interpreters held

clinics in the local school while Sharon and Beverly did cooking demonstrations and nutrition lectures in the home of a local church elder and his wife. The people were very appreciative of our efforts and the medication we supplied, some of which we purchased in Wichenzau. All of us physicians were initially puzzled at the common complaints of leg pain and foot pain and a burning feeling in the legs and feet. Since there is no vitamin fortified or whole grain bread or brown rice to be purchased we concluded these symptoms were due to thiamine deficiency. We distributed vitamins and anti-parasite medicine to a large percentage of the patients.

The church was completed by midweek and other lesser construction projects were done, including the building of an adobe wall for the perimeter of another church. Such is needed because if someone camps on a property for 24 hours it is impossible to remove them because of squatters rights. On one occasion Pastor Rodriguez took me to the site where another Maranatha group was preparing to build a church and where there was room for the construction of a school, as I had inquired about availability of parochial schools (there are currently already three in the area). As we drove into the site he showed me where squatters had recently settled. Predictably, I took a video of the situation. On our way out of the development we were met by a large group of the squatters throwing stones at us, apparently thinking we were government officials planning to evict them.

On Saturday all of us Maranatha volunteers as well as the local members crowded into the newly constructed church for services as Dr. Tim Guthrie preached through an interpreter (Pastor Vargas whom our group had met in the Dominican Republic on a number of occasions). In late afternoon we regathered for a farewell but had to be out of the area before dark as it is dangerous for caucasians to be present there after daylight.

On Sunday morning we left very early by bus for Lima. Some stayed in Lima for a few days while others of us went to Cuzco at 12,700 feet above sea level and from there we took a five hour train/bus ride to Machu Picchu to view the ancient Inca ruins. At Cuzco we met, surprisingly, fellow Maranatha builders from Helsinki, some of whom Sharon and I had met in Helsinki the previous July. As we left for Lima and home a group of 100 Maranatha builders were arriving to build two churches in the Cuzco area.

The trip was tiring but without exception we all felt blessed to be able to meet and be of benefit to needy humans of another culture. It was an opportunity for all of us to reprogram our 'chips' and appreciate our land of opportunity and plenty, as well as the legacy of a good work ethic our forbears left for us.

# June 26 Chapter Meeting Presentations: Traveling and Winemaking

by Bob Schauer

At the June 26 Chapter meeting, we had the pleasure of two very different, yet enjoyable presentations.

First, Ron Schauer gave a talk on traveling in Germany, next Tom and Linda Johnson talked about winemaking. If you were unable to make this meeting, you missed something very special.

## Traveling with Ron and Pat Schauer

If you come to the GROW Chapter meetings, you will often see members Ron Schauer and his wife Pat. Both Ron and Pat live in Longview and are retired, giving them plenty of time for traveling, which they appear to thoroughly enjoy doing.

Ron started his talk by admonishing Pat, who was also there at the meeting. He asked her not to interrupt if she found some fact to be incorrect, as according to Ron, he was making it all up anyway. Ron's humor was in full display. In fact, the most memorable part of Ron's presentation was how he poked fun at himself, his wife, the mishaps he suffered, and traveling in general.

They especially enjoy traveling in Germany, where Ron recounted several stories of travel plans gone awry, only to find a way to enjoy whatever came their way. It seems that Ron (and probably Pat) have a way of making the best of any situation, and appear to be especially well suited for traveling.

Currently Ron and Pat are planning another trip to Germany. Pat mentioned this trip will be special as they will be in Germany for the Christmas Holidays, and will be able to see first hand how Germans enjoy this time of year. Maybe we can convince Ron to give us another presentation telling us of this adventure.

## Winemaking with Tom and Linda Johnson

After Ron Schauer's presentation, we were treated to a much different style of presentation. Tom Johnson, and

his wife Linda, who live in Lake Oswego, came to their first GROW meeting and gave a very interesting fact-filled discussion on winemaking. Tom and Linda inherited wine making equipment from Linda's family and decided to make best use of it. Linda's family is Italian and she appears to be from a long line of winemakers (Ron has Scandinavian background and he noted that his family did not engage in winemaking, as far as he knew).

The Johnsons grow grapes (pinot noir variety) at their Lake Oswego home. They make wine out of these, and from the grapes they purchase from growers in Oregon and California. We learned that the timing on the harvest of the

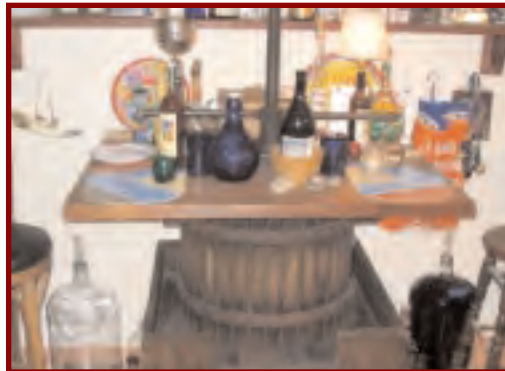
grapes is critical. The natural sugars must be just right. Tom noted that farmers often did this by actually tasting the grapes. Today, many winemakers use sophisticated measuring devices that determine the amount of sugar in the grape.

Next, they use their own grape crusher to mash up the grapes. From there, the juices are collected, heated, and strained. Ingredients, including sugar, yeast, and other additives, are added. The fluids are further fermented and strained in a series of steps (hopefully this summarizes most of the basics!) and then poured into bottles.

The Johnsons have no formal training in winemaking. Tom stated he learned by trial and error. You basically know only when you drink the wine at the end whether it was a success. Annually, they make about 25 gallons of wine. They drink a lot of it



**Wines and other knickknacks  
on a wine barrel table in  
The Johnson's wine room.**



**Old grape crusher.**

*Continued on page 8.*

## Traveling & Winemaking (cont.)



**Newer grape crusher in The Johnson's backyard next to the grapes —it appears Linda is doing some picking.**

themselves, and give some away to family and friends.

We hope the Johnsons can come back and visit us at future GROW meetings. They are always welcome - and we would not mind if they brought along a few samples...

## What is EWZ (cont.)

person belongs to, and so on. Many forms, like the Stamblatt and Personalblatt are typed and easy to read - one does not need to know the German language fluently.

The copy of Citizenship certificate for a family will show birth dates and birthplaces and current residence of the head of household. It only shows the wife's maiden name and no birth date unless the certificate is issued to a widow. It does show the children's birth dates and birthplaces. For a single person's certificate the information is date of birth, birthplace, and current residence.

And - not in all cases will there be a Citizenship Certificate. It is possible that Citizenship was refused or that the particular document was not among the collected documents or the person had died was taken away, banished or even may have chosen to remain in Russia.

For the EWZ 50 and 51 series, NARA (National Archives) guides reflect the names of the person appearing on the first and last record on each microfilm. This may not always identify if a person of interest can be found on a film because a person could appear on a different film because of variants in spelling of the surname, or they may not be included at all.

When we build indexes, we use the forms, which have the most pertinent information. Usually the Stamblatt or the Personalblatt and on occasion, if these forms are missing, we use the Citizenship certificate or the

## GROW Committee Chairs

*\*Board of Directors Member contact info on page 9.*

<b>Calling</b> .....	*Oscar Geiszler
<b>Car Pooling</b> .....	*Oscar Geiszler
	Glenn Gumeringer (360) 573-6453
	Bob Majhor (503) 648-5781
<b>Hospitality/Greeting</b> .....	*Jan Haberman
<b>Collection/Research &amp; Genealogical Assistance</b>	
	Bob Schauer (360) 687-1905 - bschaue@pacifier.com
<b>Library</b> .....	Carrie Lippincott; Alice Summers
	Vivian Messenger (503) 574-2271 - cvmesseng@hotmail.com
	Evelyn Gatlin, Glen Gumeringer - amggum@aol.com
<b>Membership</b> .....	*Geri Gander
<b>Newsletter</b> .....	Jan Prunier - janice.prunier@verizon.net
	Chuck Clark, labeler; Alice Summers, printing, mailing
<b>Programs</b> .....	Paul Voeller, Roger Haas
<b>Refreshments</b> .....	Roberta Haas (503) 659-8248
	Lorraine Geiszler; Ann Gumeringer; Jane Radtke;
	Rosalie Schachterle; Paula Pfau
<b>Pictorial Scrapbook</b> .....	*Maxine Daily
<b>Special Interests/Obituaries</b> .....	*Jan Haberman
<b>Sunshine Gals</b> .....	Amelia Lybarger (503) 648-1058
	655 SE Washington St., Hillsboro, OR 97123; *Jan Haberman
<b>Volunteer Coordinators</b> .....	*Robert Mahjor
	Dennis Levi (360) 699-4884
<b>Website</b> .....	Dean & Jan Prunier

## GROW 2006 Convention Chairs

<b>Entertainment:</b> .....	Vivian Messenger
<b>Equipment:</b> .....	Bob Majhor
<b>Food &amp; Facilities:</b> .....	Ilene/Roy Schnaible
<b>Programs:</b> .....	Lola Weber
<b>Memorial Service:</b> .....	Dr Harley Miller
<b>Publicity:</b> .....	Roger Haas
<b>Registration:</b> .....	Jan Haberman
<b>Tracker/Recorder:</b> .....	Ed Weber
<b>Treasurer:</b> .....	Betty Thatcher

Lebenslauf (which is a hand-written "life story" of the applicant) and sometimes contains birth data on family members.

The purpose of indexing these EWZ records is to lead the researcher to the films and frames for a certain individual.

Our criteria for this indexing project has been to only include persons for whom a birth date is given.



# Adventures from Japan

by Terry Wagemann

As a child growing up I was accustomed to hearing my parents, grandparents and most of my relatives speaking German whenever they got together. They did this to reconnect with each other and to share their common heritage.

When I was four years old, we moved to Portland, Oregon, in search of better employment opportunities. We would usually make the trek from Portland back to South Dakota every other summer by car. In South Dakota, it was almost like being in another world as everyone we visited spoke German to one another. Everyone, except my generation. We were not taught the language. As a result, I began studying German in junior high school and continued off and on throughout high school and college. My goal was to someday visit Germany and maybe live there.

After college I traveled to Europe and to Germany. I felt comfortable in Germany. Upon returning home, I began looking for work that could take me to Germany. In Portland, there were no jobs for young college graduates with intermediate German language ability. There were lots of jobs for young college graduates to go to Japan to teach English. Wanting to be involved in international business, I took a job in Japan.

While there, I met a man who was a butcher by day and ran a small restaurant at night. He spoke no English. I spoke no Japanese. We soon discovered that we both spoke some German as he learned his butcher trade in Germany as a young man. So, for two years, we communicated in German in a small town in northern Japan.

The Japan bug caught me and I eventually married a Japanese woman. Our intent is to immerse our children in the Japanese culture with German sprinklings. Our boys are proud of their German heritage and enjoy German events around Oregon.

For now, we are living in Japan with my Japanese father-in-law. The family life here is somewhat similar to traditional the German family life where extended families live together and take care of one another. We do plan a future trip to Germany to expose the children firsthand to their German culture as it is an important part of their heritage.

*Ed. Note: To learn more of The Wagemann's experiences in Japan look at their blog:*

<http://terryandmio.blogspot.com>



**Terry and Mio Wagemann's home in Japan.**

## GROW Board of Directors

### Roger Haas, President/Liaison

8618 SE 36th Ave. (503) 659-8248  
Portland, OR 97222 rahaas@haasfamily.us  
Term ends: 2007

### Jan Haberman, Vice President

8110 SE Madison (503) 252-5480  
Portland, OR 97215 haberman988@msn.com  
Term ends: 2008

### Edwin Weber, Secretary

16660 SW Monterey Lane (503) 639-4798  
King City, OR 97224 weberd@easystreet.com  
Term ends: 2006

### Alice Summers, Treasurer

130 SE 155th Place (503) 775-9929  
Portland, OR 97233 sewsum4u@msn.com  
Term ends: 2008

### Roy Schnaible

3801 Calaroga Dr. (503) 636-5541  
West Linn, OR 97068 gourmetir@aol.com  
Term ends: 2008

### Maxine Daily, Publicity

454 NE 69th Ave (503) 253-8388  
Portland, OR 97213-5504 max\_627@msn.com  
Term ends: 2006

### Geraldine Gander, Membership

14926 SE Lowell Lane (503) 625-3070  
Sherwood, OR 97140-7014 neatfamily@verizon.net  
Term ends: 2007

### Oscar Geiszler, Fundraising

803 5th Ave (503) 656-1802  
Oregon City, OR 97045 oscarandlorraine@msn.com  
Term ends: 2007

### Robert Majhor

23985 W. Baseline Rd. (503) 648-5781  
Hillsboro, OR 97123-6937 rgmajhor@pacifier.com  
Term ends: 2006

## Fundraising Opportunities— At No Cost To You!!

- Electronic Newsletters. Receive your newsletters via email, and save GROW in postage costs.
- Albertson's Scan Cards - Contact **Roger Haas** for your card if you don't already have one.

### Other Opportunities to Help...

- **Oscar Geiszler** is recycling inkjet and laser cartridges. Bring your empty cartridges to Chapter Meetings or contact Oscar directly. He can also help you receive approximately 50% discount on refilled cartridges.
- Visit **Alice Summers** before/after the Chapter Meetings to view the fascinating collection of books, audio CDs, videos, etc. that are available for sale. Also take a look at the tote bags, key chains and magnets, all with GROW logo.

# GROW 2005 Quarterly Calendar

O C T O B E R 2 0 0 5						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Board Meeting	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Chapter Meeting	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween					
N O V E M B E R 2 0 0 5						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Board Meeting	10	11 Veteran's Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 Chapter Meeting	28	29	30			
D E C E M B E R 2 0 0 5						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Newsletter Deadline	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Board Meeting	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30	

Chapter Meetings are held at:

Deutesches Haus

7901 SE Division, Portland, OR

Doors open at 1:00 pm

Meeting starts at 2:00 pm until about 5:00 pm

Coming from I-205 South take Exit 19 Ramp and turn West on Powell Blvd to 82nd Ave.

Go .5 mile North to Division St., then turn left and go to 7901.

Coming from I-205 North take Exit 19 Ramp onto Division St. Go West on Division to 7901.

**25 September 2005** Convention Reports from Attendees, and 2006 Convention needs and Special Kuchen Refreshment planned.

**23 October 2005** Will feature YOU and me. How much do you know about the GROW members? Probably very little. This will be an opportunity to share something about YOU that others do not know. A way of getting to know each other better. This undoubtedly will be very informative.

**27 November 2005** Lewis & Clark Presentation — Ft. Clatsop Ranger by Sally Freeman.

## Bertha Regina (Knodel) Remmick

One of our members Jacqueline Beach lost her sister, Bertha Regina Remmick Sept. 14, 2005 at 93 years young. Funeral was Monday, Sept. 19 at 11:00 am, St. John Lutheran Church in Portland, OR.

Bertha Regina Knodel was born June 6-1912 in Streeter, ND. She moved to Portland in 1942 and was a homemaker and a member of the church for 50 years. In 1930 she married Edward J. Remmick, he died in 1992.

Survivors include her sons: Douglas and Delton; daughters, DeElda Martin, Delphine Repp and Joyce Huckey; sisters, Jacqueline Beach and Sara Sommerfield; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Remembrances to her church. Arrangements by Hustad Funeral Home.

## Newsletter Submissions Welcomed!

Please send articles, photos, stories, anecdotes, recipes, etc. to:

Janice Prunier, Editor

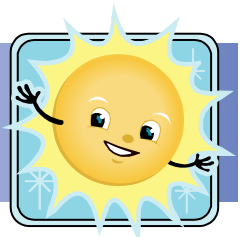
1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

janice.prunier@verizon.net

Deadline for next issue is Dec. 1, 2005.

# Sunshine News

by Jan Haberman



Our prayers go out to Amelia Lybarger on her continuing situation and we hope to see her smiling face at our meetings soon.

Helen Majhor is still recuperating from her stroke. She was at our last meeting, so great to see her. Hang in there gal!

Lorraine Geiszler had surgery Monday Sept. 19. Our prayers and thoughts are with her for a quick recovery.

Alice Summers is home from a knee replacement and is doing quite well & hope to see her soon at the meetings

Paul Voeller is under the weather and under doctor's care. Hope to see him up & about soon—our thoughts are with you.

Del Usselman is still under the weather. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Hang in there my friend.



## Chapter Vests Available

If you haven't ordered your chapter vest yet, call Maxine Daily, 503-253-8388

or see her at the next Chapter Meeting

where samples will be available to try on for size.

They are \$12.95 with the GROW logo or \$9.95 without.



## GROW Membership Application

Germans from Russia Oregon and Washington



Years of Membership \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

Birth Month (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Month (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of ancestral village(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Family surnames \_\_\_\_\_

Names of adults in household desiring membership cards \_\_\_\_\_

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

### GROW Newsletter/Operation Donation (minimum \$5.00)

GRHS Membership \$40.00 • GRHS Lifetime Membership \$650.00 (\$130.00 per year)

**Make checks payable to GROW - US Currency Only • Mail to: Roger Haas, 8618 SE 36th Avenue, Portland, OR 97222**

**Please send email updates and address corrections to Geri Gander - neatfamily@verizon.net**

**GROW Quarterly Newsletter Deadlines: September 1 • December 1 • March 1 • June 1**

All submissions are welcome. If you would like any materials returned, please include a SASE.

Send articles to: janice.prunier@verizon.net or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

# Family and Holiday Traditions

by Jan Prunier

The holiday season will soon be here and it reminds me of all of the reasons to be thankful for so many things in my life.

My younger daughter and her son Erik moved up to Everett to be closer to us and she recently had a beautiful baby girl. She named her Ellamae after my grandma who was a very important part of our lives. Grandma's been gone for a long time now, but she will always live on in our hearts. My daughter has had a lot of challenges this year and is fighting a lot of battles, but she is a strong, wonderful young woman and I know she will prevail. I thank her for allowing us the opportunity to help her through her trials and for giving us grandchildren who are such joys.

I'm thankful for a wonderful husband who has been so much strength and support for me through the surgeries I've had in the last year.

I'm thankful for my older daughter Sayra who is always so joyful and supportive and for my son who is one of the most special people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing.

I'm thankful for my parents (Clyde and Maxine Daily) for their continued love and support, and for all of the wonderful friends I have.

I'm thankful for my brother Mike who has been such a terrific support and good friend.

The Pumpkin Pie recipe is from my Mom's files and has been apart of our family traditions for a very long time.

God Bless and enjoy. Happy Holidays!



## Our Pumpkin Pie

*I'm not sure where Mom got this recipe, but it's been a Thanksgiving and Christmas tradition for as long as I can remember.*

### Blend together:

1-1/3 cups brown sugar  
2 tsp. cinnamon  
2 tsp. ginger (I don't use it)  
1 tsp. salt

### Add:

4 eggs, well beaten  
1 can #2½ pumpkin  
1 can evaporated milk  
2/3 cup orange juice

Pour into 2 prepared pie crusts, bake 10 minutes at 450 degrees, lower heat to 350 degrees and bake 45 to 50 minutes.

### Mom's Note:

I have found that adding a little fresh orange juice to a lot of different fruit baking foods adds a little taste that very often can't place.



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

### GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222