



# GROW Quarterly Newsletter

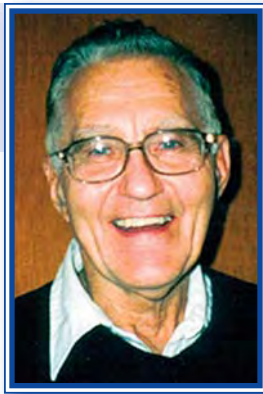
Area Chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)

Volume 8 Issue 4

July - August - September 2009

## Message from the President

As GROW enters its eighth year as a GRHS Chapter, it has been a very stable, incrementally growing, and providing different services to its members. To provide a little background to the newer members, I'll provide a little history and perhaps continue



**Roger Haas, President**

it in subsequent newsletter issues reciting different officers who have served GROW over the eight years.

The 2001 GRHS Convention approved the GROW application which had approximately 50 signers. Robert Schuh brought the Charter to Portland. The first Chapter meeting 18 August 2001 was held at the Solid Rock Baptist Church with 18 paid Family members.

Oscar Geiszler, a co-founder, was elected as a Director and became our first GROW President. He resigned as President at the 24 Mar 2002 Chapter Meeting as the doctor ordered. He has continued as a Director at large to the present. Co-founder Cliff Haberman and Roger Haas also were elected at that same meeting as GROW Directors and remained active in different degrees up thru today.

Cliff Haberman served as a Director until he retired in 2005. He then became a Director Emeritus. His spouse, Jan Haberman, also a Director, since 2002 continues to represent the Haberman family as a Director to the present.

Roger Haas, a GROW Director, was elected as the first GRHS Director representing GROW. He continues in that position today. In addition, following Oscar's resignation, Roger was elected as the second GROW President at the 28 April '02 Chapter Meeting and has continued in that role since that date.

GROW was graciously received and accommodated at Solid Rock Baptist Church near I-205 and Johnson Creek Blvd. until October 2004. We commenced our meetings in their dining room, but outgrew that as our attendance increased. We subsequently used the sanctuary.

We were never charged rent but donated \$25 for each chapter meeting in the beginning and as we occupied the sanctuary, we gifted \$35. The big disadvantage was the lack of storage of any sort including our library books and materials. We had to haul every item in and box up each time and take home.

On Oct 17, 2004, we relocated to our present location at the Deutsches Haus, a former Retirement Home at 7901 SE Division, Portland. Our first meeting was with Honorary German Consul, Guenther Hoffmann, as our Presenter. We were accommodated with a small bedroom size room for housing our library books, cafeteria supplies, banners, our GROW

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## Ed's Corner

As I'm writing this Corner Portland is celebrating their Rose Festival. We have just finished the events of Memorial Day and my thoughts went back to my Army days at the end of World War II in Europe.

After VE day, May 8, 1945, the 1254th Engineer Combat Battalion was in Hildesheim, Germany where we were occupied in taking an inventory of captured German military and industrial equipment. On May 26 the 1254th Engineer Combat Battalion was sent back to the Normandy Peninsula where we were destined to be sent to the South Pacific, however this was cancelled and our Engineer Battalion participated in the restoration and occupation of Germany.

I didn't keep a diary when I was serving in the U S Army, but my mother and a sister kept all of the letters I sent home. They are a pretty good description of the hardships and price paid for freedom.

On Memorial Day, 2009, the *Oregonian* newspaper had a story about the United States Military cemeteries in the Normandy Peninsula area of France. The story related that there still are over 200,000 graves of American military in this area. In May, June and July of 1945 the cemeteries were complete with graves, wooden crosses, and were being planted with grass and would eventually have granite gravestones. I was involved in surveying the cemeteries for the U S Geodetic Survey Department

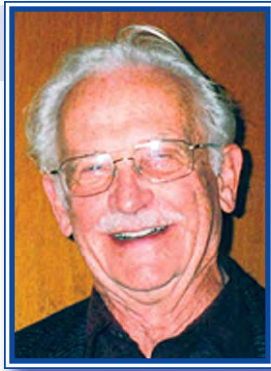
Here is a copy of a letter to my sister and her husband dated Coutainville, France 15 June 1945.

*Right now I'm learning how to do land surveying and the Army is allowing me to assist in surveying eleven U S Cemeteries.*

*When my outfit moved from Germany to the Normandy Peninsula in France, I thought South Pacific here we come. When we arrived in St. Mere Eglise Army Authorities told us we were now to serve as garrison soldiers and do a little cleaning up in France. Garrison soldiers did they say? The funniest garrison soldiers I've ever seen. We moved from comfortable houses in Germany right into pup tents in a pasture in France. Well, it didn't last long when the whole battalion moved to a nice resort hotel on the other side of the Normandy peninsula. This is some hotel it is right on the sea with a nice beach at our back door.*

*Not having radios or reconnaissance work to do, the S-2, our section leader decided to make surveyors out of the reconnaissance men. He did have orders from Army Headquarters to survey eleven American Military Cemeteries. Working as a surveyor, at the present time is my job.*

*It certainly brings the cost of war close to hand when you work in the cemeteries and see row on row, in acre after*



Ed Weber

*acre of cemeteries all containing the only visible evidence that once used to be an American Citizen. The cemetery we are now working on has 2,500 military buried there, and it's a small cemetery at that. The other ten have 5,000 plus graves.*

Here is a copy of a letter to my mother dated Coutainville, France 24 June, 1945. One comment before you read the letter. When I went home on furlough the Army provided ration coupons for sugar, gasoline and some clothing. The five pounds of sugar was for a family of five and had to be managed by my mother for canning fruit, making jam and regular table use.

*Dear Mother and all,*

*Sunday again, its also just a year and a day ago that I joined the 1254th. That's the longest I've ever stayed in one outfit. I've just finished a good chicken dinner so I'll sit down and write you a letter.*

*The sugar must be getting pretty short at home if they only allow you 5 pounds a month. But still the food shortage isn't as bad there as it is here. There are a bunch of French people that come around every time we eat just to pick up scraps of that might be left over. There is one dirty little boy that stands in the doorway of the mess hall meeting each fellow as he goes out to wash his mess gear. If there even is so much as a small piece of breadcrumb he reaches for it and then just gobbles it down.*

*But as far as the Army goes we eat well. About the only complaints you hear are about dried eggs, powdered milk and dehydrated potatoes. Personally I think there isn't anything to complain about. The fellows wouldn't be happy if they couldn't complain a little bit. We did have a treat this morning. We had some honest to goodness corn flakes, "Post Toasties." The last time I had corn flakes was in England and then they were some flat tasting stuff the English made.*

After completing the mapping of Cemeteries in the Normandy Peninsula, France our survey crews moved to Belgium where we surveyed another large group of cemeteries in Belgium where "The Battle of the Bulge" occurred. This was the last large offense of the Ger-

*Continued on page 3.*

## USCIS Begins Transfer of A-Files

*by Joyce West*

U S Citizenship and Immigration Services and the National Archives and Records Administration has set a formal schedule for the transfer of alien registration files (A-files) for permanent retention in the national archives. Archival processing of approximately 135,000 files could be completed by next summer and available for public access.

More information is available at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) or contact Joyce at [jcwest91014@comcast.net](mailto:jcwest91014@comcast.net)

man Army.

After I was back home in the United States I learned that two of the cemeteries I helped survey contained the graves of two personal friends. One was a family friend from our church who often was in our home and the other was a classmate in high school.

One more quote from a letter to my mother dated 15 July 1945.

*Dear Mother and all,*

*Well after a week being away I'm finally back here in Coutainville again I spent all week in St. Mere Eglise. We had to survey a German Cemetery near there and it was too far to drive back and forth every day. The German Cemetery near there near there is the largest one I've seen yet. There are 37 plots with 200 graves in each plot that's 7400 Germans who are buried there.*

The American Graves Registration Service did the

burying and were responsible not only for the United States and our Allies burial but also the German dead.  
**Freedom is not cheap!**

That's it from Ed's Corner

## President's Message, cont.

street signs, etc. What a big improvement! We have donated \$40 for each Chapter meeting.

As you, the excellent members, have donated books, periodicals, journals, etc., we have become overcrowded, do not have sufficient room for reading or moving about to accommodate persons to ingress and egress, look, read, etc. Efforts have been made to attempt to obtain extra space for making our library more accommodating. This was accomplished by our negotiations with the German American Society and with volunteers of our GROW Board to double our size from 229 sq ft to 558 sq ft.

We took out a non-bearing wall and finished the removed voids. This renovation will be finished by the 28 June Chapter Meeting. Kurt Radtke and yours truly commenced the activity, the Board approved the action, and Ell Schiermeister, Oscar Geiszler, and Roger Haas enacted the construction & finish assignments. Kurt has indicated a desire to move the library to room 71 & 73 adjacent to the entry hallway. This is just one of the advancements GROW has made over the past eight years.

There are some special persons who need to be remembered. Glen Gumeringer was the first Librarian along with Vivian Messenger, who was willing to serve as the Head Librarian. Glen was be the chief worker and Vivian was the Administrator. They worked well as a team.

Kurt Radtke picked up and put things in order and on the shelves, etc., but Jeanette McDermid really utilized the Library of Congress systematized order and indexed to put the books and materials into subject, author and title with taped identification on the spines.

It seemed that our library was at a standstill for awhile, but donations were being made and it is beginning to look more like a "real" library. MANY, MANY, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU CONTRIBUTORS. This has been a team effort.

We are not through yet. We should have a copier, a computer, printer and a lot of other amenities, but we move economically and depend entirely on donations and volunteers. Arlene Maston donated a 4-drawer steel filing cabinet. You can see what helpful hands can do! Stop by and see what has and can further happen.

Roger

# 8th Annual GROW PICNIC

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2009**

**12:00 PM -3:00 PM**

(SERVING TIME WILL BE AT 12:30 PM)

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS  
FOR A DAY OF FUN AND ENJOY THE FOOD  
OF OUR GREAT ETHNIC COOKS**

**DEUTES HAUS**

**7901 SE DIVISION, PORTLAND, OR**

**DIRECTIONS:**

**Coming from I-105 South**, take Exit 19 Ramp and turn W 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. Go West on Division to 7901.

**BRING YOUR FAVORITE COLD OR HOT DISH,  
SALAD OR DESSERT AND TABLECLOTH  
AND TABLE SETTINGS WITH SERVING SPOON.**

Please bring your favorite beverage.

**Coffee and paper plates will be provided.**

**BRING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT  
OR A FAVORITE GAME**

*We would be most appreciative if you would be able to help setup before and/or clean up after the picnic.*



## Remember Us: Letters from Stalin's Gulag (1930-1937)

by Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz,  
Northwestern Oklahoma State  
University in Alva



Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz

In conjunction with the Cultural Heritage Lecture Series, the Department of Social Sciences at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva is pleased to present "Germans From Russia in Oklahoma: A Lasting Influence on Communities of the Great Plains" on Thursday, October 8, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. Depending on availability, the special event will be held either at Herod Hall or the Ranger Room on the NWOSU Alva campus.

Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, Assistant Professor of History at NWOSU Alva, will open the evening with an overview of Germans from Russia history and migratory patterns, and more specifically the group's arrival in Oklahoma after the 1880s.

Featured presenter Dr. Ruth Derksen-Siemens will then discuss the amazing odyssey of one Russian Mennonite family, the Regehrs, whose 463 letters from Stalin's Gulag made their way to a tiny prairie town in Canada between 1930 and 1937. A short documentary film, "Through the Red Gate," based on her Gulag letters book will follow the presentation. The two-hour event is free to the public.

Dr. Derksen-Siemens is a first-generation Canadian of Russian Mennonite descent born in Vancouver. She teaches Rhetoric and Writing at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Her Ph.D. at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom investigated this body of Gulag letters, the largest international collection of its kind ever to be authenticated.

The story of the Regehr family letters compels Oklahomans and others to ask whether more such

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**Dr. Ruth Derksen-Siemens to  
Speak at Northwestern Oklahoma  
State University in Alva on  
Thursday, October 8, 2009, at 7:00 PM**

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letters remain hidden and forgotten in attics and basements across the prairies. As a father pleaded for his family imprisoned in Stalin's Gulag, "Remember us as we remember you." Though heart-wrenching, the Gulag accounts are also filled with hope and endurance, calling on us to prevent such things from ever happening again.

Please contact Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, Department of Social Sciences, NWOSU Alva, for more information at [ejschmaltz@nwsu.edu](mailto:ejschmaltz@nwsu.edu) or 580-327-8526. Dr. Derksen-Siemens's website is found at <http://www.gulagletters.com/>

## Historical Newspapers 1880-1922 Free Online

by Allyn Brosz

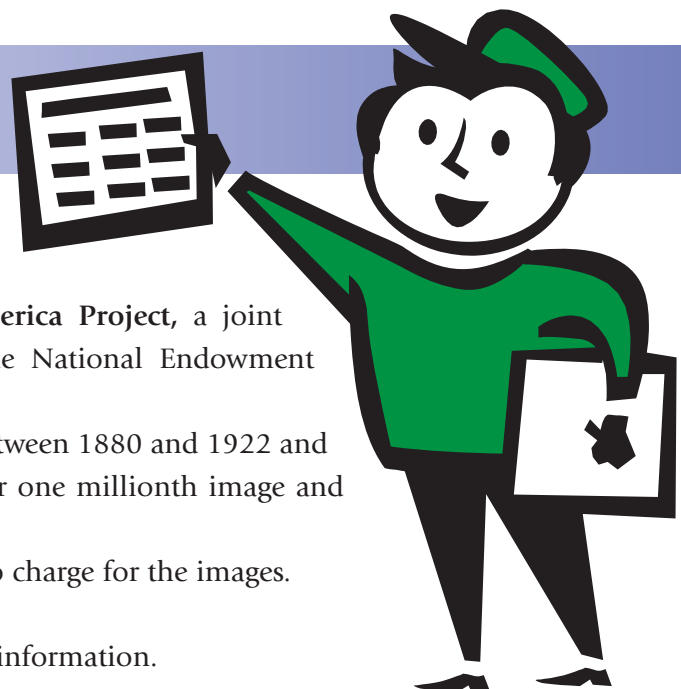
A story in the *Washington Post* Style Section on 17 June 2009 features the **Chronicling America Project**, a joint venture of the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

They are digitizing historical newspapers published between 1880 and 1922 and putting them online for free. Yesterday they posted their one millionth image and hopes to eventually post 20 million images.

Newspapers from 15 states are now on-line. There's no charge for the images.

The site is <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

I tried it this morning and got several useful pieces of information.



## GROW Directors and Alternates 2009-2010



photo taken by Katherine Bell

**Front Row: Oscar Geiszler, Leona Hix, Arlene Maston, and Charlotte Bohlman. Back Row: Roger Haas, Jan Haberman, Kurt Radtke, Harold Lang, Sharon Bell and Ell Schiermeister. Not Pictured: Jeanette McDermid and Alice Summers**

## German Activities in Portland

### Soccer Game

USL-1 club Portland Timbers will be playing an exhibition match with Bayern Munich II, the reserve team of the Bavarian giant Bayern Munich.

The match will be played July 2, 7pm at PGE Park in Portland and will feature some of Germany's top young talent.

For tickets go to :  
[www.portlandtimbers.com/tickets/exhibitinfo/](http://www.portlandtimbers.com/tickets/exhibitinfo/)  
[www.ticketmaster.com/event/0F004296BADB768E](http://www.ticketmaster.com/event/0F004296BADB768E)

### Jerichow

The Hollywood Theater on 4122 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, OR, (503) 281-4215 is going to show the movie *Jerichow*, in German with subtitles beginning June 26. [www.cinemaguild.com/jerichow](http://www.cinemaguild.com/jerichow)

*Directed by: Christian Petzold*  
*Germany, 89 min.*

Jerichow, a small town in an impoverished region of northeastern Germany, is the setting for an unusual thriller about three people who find themselves at a fortuitous crossroads.

Following his mother's death, Thomas, a former soldier who has been dishonorably discharged, returns to his hometown to settle her affairs. He has inherited her decaying house and decides to renovate it while looking for a job.

One afternoon, Thomas meets Ali, a brash Turkish immigrant who drives his car into a river. When the

police show up, Thomas takes the rap for the drunken man. As both a sign of gratitude and of guilt, Ali offers Thomas a job as his driver and assistant in the operation of his chain of snack bars.

But when Thomas meets Laura, Ali's restless, beautiful wife, sparks begin to fly. Soon, the two hatch a plan to do away with the abusive Ali. With more than a nod to Billy Wilder's *Double Indemnity* and the films of Alfred Hitchcock, director Petzold (*Yella*) has crafted a twisting story of deception, greed and lust that will keep the audience guessing until the very end.

*Dear GROW Members,*

*I have attempted to provide a simple service to GROW members since I joined this fine organization. I will translate German into English without guaranteeing complete satisfaction. I have a difficult time with the gothic alphabet, and my knowledge of the Russian alphabet is limited. Some documents received lately were written up to 200 years ago and they were not typed on a typewriter. I have a hard time deciphering these, so instead of guessing incorrectly, I would rather skip these attempts. I don't want to mix translating with guessing.*

*I hope you have patience and a clear understanding of my predicament. I do not charge for translations, but a reasonable donation to the GROW treasury is appreciated by our Board of Directors.*

*Thanks, Kurt Radtke*



## Request for Information

*by LaVonne Segmiller Sticka*

**M**y name is LaVonne Segmiller Sticka. My grandfather and his wife, Conrad and Suzanna (Wilhelm) Segmiller, and my great grandfather and his wife, Ludwig and Christina (Haab) Segmiller (all Germans from Russia) came to the United States in the early 1900s from the areas of Sulz and Landau.

Conrad arrived in 1892 where they homesteaded in Regent, Hettinger County, North Dakota and Ludwig in 1904, homesteading in Marshall, Dunn County, North Dakota. Conrad had 13 brothers and sisters. I'm trying to find out the names of those siblings and information concerning them. I know he had a sister, Maryann Hutzenbueler, nee Segmiller, and brothers named Joseph and Eugene. The brother, Adam, DOB Feb. 2, 1882, filed for naturalization in North Dakota and, subsequently left for Montana. No one knows anything further about him. I'd very

much like to have information about him—his life/death/family.

Additionally, I'm interested in finding out where my great grandfather, Ludwig Segmiller is buried. He was listed on the 1910 Federal Census in North Dakota, and on the 1915 State Census out of Hettinger County. He was not on the 1920 Federal Census. There is no death certificate on record, no funeral home records or church records of his death that I can find. I know he sold his homestead in Dunn County and moved to Regent with Conrad, and his wife Christina is buried in Regent.

If anyone can help me find out where Ludwig is buried I would certainly appreciate it. I'm hoping someone has an old family obituary mentioning the family name and maybe even a first name.

I can be reached at 406-962-9164 or by letter at 3924 US Highway 310, Joliet, MT 59041.

## Four Cousins Travel to Ukraine

*by Kurt Radtke*

**R**ecently, four cousins took a short trip to the Ukraine and one of them, Kurt Radtke, came to the following conclusion:

Conditions in Wolynia in the Ukraine and other parts of Russia with a German population became untenable following the introduction of compulsory military service in the 1880s, and the ruination of most German schools and restricting religious activities.

My observation: Under communism, which lasted almost 75 years, the progressive German colonist farmers were eliminated through forced evacuation or starvation; the middle class merchants and financiers, mostly Jewish, were removed by antihalation or forced emigration (with help from occupying German and Romanian forces and local Ukrainian nationals); and political leaders, clergymen, intellectuals, scientists, teachers, journalists, anyone who could have contributed to the welfare of the Soviet Union became expendable.

There exists a vacuum in the Ukraine now, noticeable in the absence of any concerted agricultural activity. What little merchant activity is conducted today is in the capable hands of foreign investors and entrepreneurs.

Secondary education, journalism, religious activity is a century behind the European West. The Ukrainian population, in order to achieve equal status and recognition in the West, will have to abandon mistrust of non-Ukrainians, embrace the attempts by the West to incorporate the Ukrainians into an integrated European Union. It is never too



**Hans Radtke, Siegfried Decker, Arnold Stebner and Kurt Radtke in Ostrog, Ukraine, 5 May 2009.**

late to try.

Some progress is noticeable in the larger cities. The banks are German or Austrian. Department stores are mostly British and French. Gas stations are Polish or Swedish. There is not much Russian influence in the western part of Ukraine. Orthodox churches are reopening; also the Catholic. There is not much protestant activity.

What have I (we) learned from our trip? Our ancestors were damned lucky to get out of the Ukraine when they did. Siberia gets pretty cold in the winter and Kazakhstan gets unbearable hot.

## Historic Photos

### Snow Township Baseball Team

The sport of baseball turned into a favorite pastime among Germans from Russia immigrants assimilating into mainstream American society. In the early 1920s, the entire Snow Township baseball team was composed solely of members of the Hummel and Vetter families of McLean County, North Dakota. The Hummels and Veters were German Lutherans from Bessarabia who came to the United States in 1902. The Vetter homestead even built its own regulation-size baseball diamond, where it hosted competitive games for two summers.

*Photo courtesy of Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, Alva, OK.*



### Hummel Farm

The Gottlieb Hummel family posing on their farmstead in McLean County, North Dakota, circa 1920s. Many of these German Lutheran immigrants from Bessarabia seemed to be wearing their Sunday best on this particular day.

*Photo courtesy of Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, Alva, OK.*



Germans from Russia immigrant John Schmaltz (1879-1951) working behind his Meat Market (Fleischhandlung) counter in Strasburg, North Dakota, circa September 1934.

*Photo courtesy of Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, Alva, OK*

## German Biscuits



*by Alice Summers*

I got this recipe out of an old cookbook I found at a garage sale. It makes the best biscuits I have ever had because I do not like the heavy soda taste in most biscuits or their heavy texture.

These take a while to bake but are easy to mix up.

1 pkg yeast	1 tsp soda
1/4 cup warm water	3 tsp baking powder
2 cups buttermilk	1 tsp salt
1/2 shortening	5 cups flour

Mix the same as you would for making bread.  
Drop on baking sheet or roll into ball and bake 375 until done.



## GROW Chapter Meeting Summary - 31 May 2009

**D**r. Hans Radtke, Kurt Radtke, & Arnold Stebner shared their unique experiences in April & May traveling with their rental car with their cousin in Germany to their ancestral villages and other places of interest in Russia and Germany. Thank you for a great program and your donated books and literature to our library.

Our Chapter meeting was special in several other ways. First, the welcome sunshine, the colorful array of blooming flowers/ shrubbery were a couple of motivating forces to enjoy activity away from home. 41 members delighted us with their fellowship, refreshments, and excitement.

Genealogist Susan & Jim Baird always provide an additional hue of positive encouragement. Susan's installation of the newly elected directors with the combining of the Board, identifying the Officers, and including the alternates, into a photo opt was exceptional and enjoyable. Thank you, Susan, for a job well done. The different color "lights" were worthy inspiring symbols for the installed directors.

Marcine Herinck also gifted a box of candy to Director Emeritus Ed Weber for continual exceptional service in calling GROW members, serving as our song leader, leading in our flag salute and Vater Unser. Thank You, Marcine, for your thoughtfulness and Ed also for your outstanding Newsletter "Ed's Corner".

Our GROW Library continues to incrementally change and improve. Kurt & Roger have been inquiring of the German American Society about expanding our library/storage space. The Society gave us the option of doubling our space near the rear hallway entry (the Coat Room). The GROW Board voted the 26 May to accept the offer and take out the non-bearing wall partition of two rooms. On the 2nd June, Ell Schiermeister, Oscar Geiszler, & Roger Haas have executed that job. We now have 458 sq ft vs. 229 sq. ft and hope to have the library moved before our June Chapter Meeting. Thank you, Ell and Oscar, for your assistance & expertise.

Our members were generous in purchasing 27 documentary "Other Holocausts" DVDs for a total of \$135. This documentary DVD is the production of our Speakers: Ell Schiermeister, Arnold Stebner, & Kurt Radtke. It was moderated by Roger Haas and organized by Kurt Radtke. The Videographer was Joni Jundt and the Film Editor was Robert Schauer. Additional Participants involved in Other Holocausts were Chris Rebman, Ed Weber, & Jakob Schauer. This DVD is not to be reproduced without written permission from GROW. The cost is \$5.00 for Members and \$10. for non-members. It is an excellent production for passing down the holocaust history to the chil-

### 2008-09 GROW Board of Directors

**Roger Haas, President/GRHS Director Rep**

8618 SE 36th Ave. (503) 659-8248  
Portland, OR 97222 rahaas@haasfamily.us  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Jan Haberman, 1st Vice President**

8110 SE Madison (503) 252-5480  
Portland, OR 97215 haberman988@msn.com  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Kurt Radtke, 2nd Vice President, Programs**

20023 Quinalt Dr. (503) 518-8181  
Oregon City, OR 970458 *Term ends: 2012*

**Jeanette McDermid, Secretary/Library Specialist**

327 SE Elliot Ave (503) 666-6939  
Gresham, OR 97080-7726 toadlilyunique@comcast.net  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Arlene Maston, Treasurer - Membership**

8202 NE Going St. (503) 255-5493  
Portland, OR 97220-4860 amaston@aol.com  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Oscar Geiszler, Fundraising**

803 5th Ave. (503) 656-1802  
Oregon City, OR 97045 oscarandlorraine@msn.com  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Alice Summers, Social Chair**

130 SE 155th Place (503) 775-9929  
Portland, OR 97233 sewsum4u@msn.com  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Harold Lang, Membership Recruiter**

410 NE 114th Ave. (503) 251-2948  
Portland, OR 97220 hvlang@msn.com  
*Term ends: 2012*

**Leona Koth Hix, Name Badge Chair/Greeter**

2704 Haworth Ave. (503) 538-4508  
Newberg, OR 97132-1918 JWHIX@comcast.net  
*Term ends: 2011*

**Ell Schiermeister, Alternate #1**

12010 SE McGillivray (360) 253-2499  
Vancouver, WA 98683 *Term ends: 2010*

**Sharon Bell, Alternate #2 - Set-Up Chair**

126 NE 86th Ave. (503) 254-2583  
Portland, OR 97220 bellglen@teleport.com  
*Term ends: 2010*

**Charlotte Bohlman, Alternate #3 - Kitchen Asst.**

3747 SE 154th Ave. (503) 761-8767  
Portland, OR 97236 *Term ends: 2010*



**Maxine Daily, Director Emeritus**  
**Clifford Haberman, Director Emeritus**  
**Robert Majhor, Director Emeritus**  
**Ed Weber, Director Emeritus**



## Chapter Meeting Summary, cont.

dren & grandchildren; this history could sooner or later be erased as fictitious. You can secure a copy of the DVD by writing to princessbride92@comcast.net or calling Joni Jundt 360-210-4129 or calling Roger Haas at 503-659-8248. There will be a shipping/handling charge of \$3.00 or you can pick up a copy at the Chapter Meeting the 28 June. I just can't say enough good about this creative compilation of the involved speakers!

Our attendees were also benevolent in giving \$49 to the Building Use Fund and for raffles in the amount \$24. Speaking of the latter, the raffle donors were: Marcine Herinck, Katherine Lobb, Lola Weber, Rosalie Schachterle and a couple not recorded. Door price winner was Katherine Bell. Raffle winners were: June Larsen, Vivian Messenger, Sharon Bell, Jan Haberman, Marcine Herinck, and Susan Baird. Congratulations, winners!

While we share about pleasurable things, we honored those with birthdays in April: Jan Haberman, Roger Haas, Ed Weber, and Gail Wilhelm. Then for Leona & John Hix, we celebrated with them their 4 yr May anniversary. Thanks for sharing and here's a wish for many more to come.

It is also in order to remember you who have been turning in your Copier & Printer Ink cartridges to Oscar Geiszler. He turned in \$43. for your recyclable exhausted cartridges. Thank you, Oscar. Also thanks to each of you for turning in to me your Albertson's scan numbers to provide additional funds to GROW up to 4 cents for every dollar you purchase

While we are remembering special persons, we think of Co-Founder Cliff Haberman, who is chronically ill, Alice Summers' daughter Kelly, who has a serious infection and Tracie who has a medical issue. Can we keep these dear people and their care givers in our prayers? Thank you!

Our GROW Logo T-Shirts are about sold out. We have one XL short sleeve and another one claimed at this time. Thanks, Jeanette and Alice, for your good ideas.

Our refreshments seem to be getting better and more plentiful. Thanks to all of you who are contributing: Rosalie Schachterle, Arlene Maston, Kay Carey, June Larsen, Harold/Violet Lang, Helen Carlton, Jane Radtke, Katherine Bell, Roberta Haas, Charlotte Bohlman, Barbara Nelsen, Vivian Messenger, and Vivian Messenger. They were all scrumptious and you could tell by how little was left over. The coffee made by Jane Radtke. By the way Arlene, thank you for bringing coffee to add to our stock:) The pink lemonade also hit the spot!

A successful Chapter meeting would not be complete without mentioning the helpers. Charlotte is Roberta's "right hand" in the kitchen. Others also at her side were Jane Radtke, Leona Hix, Rosalie

Schachterle, Arlene Maston, Marcine Herinck and Kay Carey.

The closing hymn "So nimm denn meine Hände" with all holding hands is such a beautiful way of closing our Chapter meeting with Ed Weber leading and Vivian Messenger accompanying us!

Thank you for a good meeting, your presence, and good Fellowship. We have two member's memorials since the last July's GRHS Convention that Katherine Bell will be presenting in the 2009 Convention Memorial Service in September at Rapid City, SD. Are there other members that we are not aware of? Please share with me at rahaas@haassfamily.us or call me at 503-659-8248. Thank you.

## Black Hills Chapter to Host 2009 GRHS Convention

September 9-13 in Rapid City, SD

The Thursday night program will feature local artist Jim Van Nuys who will tell us about the Presidential statues you see in downtown Rapid City. He has personally created several of them. Clyde Bauman who becomes Mylo Hatzenbuler, the North Dakota farm boy of German-Russian descent, is a professional entertainer. Larisa Levchenko, an archives director from Ukraine will be here—and that is just the start.

The Opening Ceremony will be held at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, earlier than past conventions. Gerard Baker, Superintendent at Mt. Rushmore, will be our keynote speaker.

Our staff of presenters represents a wide variety of topics and talents. You will have at least four categories of choices in every workshop time slot. There will be history, genealogy, human interest and special topics to choose from.

Be sure to participate in the sing-a-long sessions and spend time in Heritage Hall, an area of interesting displays provided by chapters, RIGs, groups, families and individuals.

We are looking forward to meeting the Hoffman sisters, Alexandra and Elizabeth, who were awarded the 2008 titles of Miss South Dakota and Miss South Dakota Teen. They have been invited to present the Essay Contest Awards at the Saturday, 12 September, uncheon.

The food events will feature buffets using the "make your own meal" approach. The only sit-down dinner will be the Saturday evening banquet.

More information can be found at the convention link is on the GRHS website at [www.grhs.org](http://www.grhs.org)

# GROW 2009 Quarterly Calendar

J U L Y 2 0 0 9						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

A U G U S T 2 0 0 9						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 GROW PICNIC	31					

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 0 9						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Newsletter Deadline	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Board Meeting	23	24	25	26
27 Chapter Meeting	28	29	30			



**Chapter Meetings are held at:  
Deutches 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 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.**

## Chapter Meetings

**NO MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST**

**GROW PICNIC - August 30 • 11 am - 3 pm**

**28 September - Convention & Reunion Reports**

**25 October - To Be Announced**

**22 November - To Be Announced**

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

- Electronic Newsletters. Receive your newsletters via email, and save GROW in postage costs. Thank You!
- Albertsons Preferred Savings Cards - Contact **Roger Haas** for more information. Thank You!

### 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 **Cathy Lobb** 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 the GROW logo.

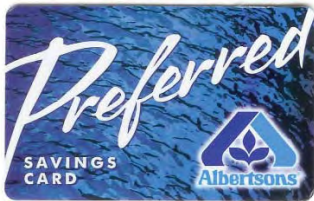
# GROW FUNDRAISER

GROW has partnered with Valley View Evangelical Church (VV) since 18 Dec 2001 and has earned

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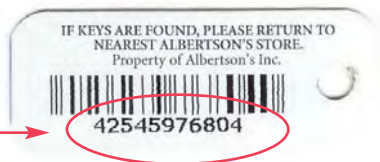
Call 503-659-8248

or write to:

[rahaas@haasfamily.us](mailto:rahaas@haasfamily.us)

With Your Name & Preferred Savings Card Number

**PSC #  
IS UNDER  
BARCODE**



# Share Your Stories!

Research requested for Germans from Russia in Portland in the early years.

Where did they live?  
What were their customs?  
Where did they go to school, work, or church?

We have received this request from an individual out of the area. If you would like to take this on, it would be great information to put in the newsletter as well.

Please contact: Lola M Weber, 106 Victoria St, Longview, WA 98632, or call 360-423-8359 or email: [hunter6806@msn.com](mailto:hunter6806@msn.com)



## 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: Arlene Maston, 8202 NE Going St., Portland, OR 97220-4860**

**Please send email updates and address corrections to Arlene Maston - [amaston@aol.com](mailto:amaston@aol.com)**

#### 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: [icprunier@comcast.net](mailto:icprunier@comcast.net) or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201



**Center for Volga German Studies**  
at Concordia University Is looking  
for all issues of:

**GRHS Heritage Review**  
**GRHS Der Stammbaum**  
**Volk auf dem Weg**  
(published before Oct 2008)

If you have any or all of the above,  
please bring them to a GROW Chapter Meeting  
or call Roger 503-659-8248.

*Brent Mai, Librarian, Faculty, Staff and  
Students of Concordia University  
thank you for your generous support.*



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# NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS WELCOMED!

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

**Janice Prunier, Editor**  
**1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201**  
**[jcprunier@comcast.net](mailto:jcprunier@comcast.net)**

*Deadline for next issue is Sept. 1, 2009.*



*Germans from Russia Heritage Society*

## **GROW Chapter**

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222