



GROW Quarterly Newsletter

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

Volume 11 Issue 1

October - November - December 2011

Message from the President



Roger Haas, President

GROW reached its 10th year milestone on 18 August 2011. It was primarily the passion by the late Clifford Haberman who energized the founders, of which he was the main bulwark. His wife, Jan, has been a significant supporter and integral part of the success of our second West Coast GRHS Chapter. Many over the past 10 years, such as the Directors, Officers, Committee Members, and the countless members who have volunteered substantial hours were honored in our last Special edition GROW Newsletter and also those who attended the 10th Anniversary Picnic on the 28th August.

That said, an organization can only continue to grow and be effective through the involvement of younger generations. And this fact is particularly linked to our mission: to carry on our ancestors' tradition and share their culture and heritage. The picnic attendees evidenced some youthful interest to carry on. Let us all extend ourselves to court, encourage, and engage them in the programs and leadership to ensure the future of GROW.

Aside from people, we need facilities and accommodations. To that end, we have been blessed and bountifully rewarded. Even with no bank account, Solid Rock Community church accommodated us for three years and the German American Society (GAS) has more than met our needs for seven years. While GAS was forced to sell their Deutsches Haus to Portland Community College, they have rented Bethany Lutheran Church and are subsidizing our rental cost almost \$350 p/month. A new facility will

be acquired shortly and GROW has been invited to be part of GAS's charitable benevolence.

As we enter the next decade, we need to ask "Who are we as a group?" Do we have a Ceremony, a remembrance/honor of what was? Or do we have a Renaissance? Are all Germans from Russia in America going to ban together and resurrect and/or promote the culture of our forefathers? The GRHS and AHSGR will have a joint Convention in Minneapolis, MN in 2013! Are the Volga Germans and the Black Sea Germans going to merge? Are the Germans from Russia from the Dakota different than those from other states? How different are the Germans from Germany compared to the Germans from Russia regions? Our students taking German classes in high school and college are getting their culture, tradition and history from German teachers from Germany and not from Germans from Russia. Pieces of our culture that endure longer are our cooking, holiday customs, ceremonies, worshipping, dancing etc. Do we want to amplify or emphasize those traditions?

Other questions we should ask: do you want to be

Continued on page 2.

Inside This Issue

<i>What it was Like</i>	2
<i>Genealogy Forum</i>	3
<i>Brief Comments from Eric Schmaltz</i>	4
<i>Picnic and 10th Anniversary Celebration</i>	5-7
<i>GRHS Convention Report</i>	7-8
<i>Board of Directors</i>	9
<i>Book Review</i>	9
<i>GROW Library Notice</i>	9
<i>Calendar</i>	10
<i>The Genealogical Forum of Oregon</i>	11
<i>Fall Genealogy Workshop</i>	11
<i>Open letter from HFGR president</i>	12

What it was Like

I am a lousy genealogist, undisciplined and impatient with detail. Sometimes I figure I already know enough cousins. What grabs my attention, however, is deciphering how it was: I try to imagine, for example, what it was like for my great-grandparents' family those first few years on the unbroken prairie near Artas, Dakota Territory.



Ronald Schauer

Two books, both by Seattle authors, tell some of the stories of our heritage. The first, *The Children's Blizzard*, follows the path of an 1888 storm in the upper midwest, while *The Worst Hard Times* details the years of the 1930s dust bowl. Each describes extraordinary events based in the vagaries of weather.

David Laskin, a New York native, has lived in Seattle since 1993. Prior to writing *The Children's Blizzard*, he authored two books and several articles on weather, and it is understandable that *The Children's Blizzard* would tell its tragic stories on the platform of the state of weather forecasting in that era.

The result of an immense Arctic cold front colliding with moist warm air rising from the Gulf of Mexico, the 1888 storm moved from southeast Alberta through Montana, Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, and into Wisconsin before dissipating. Under the influence of the Gulf system, the midwest experienced a warming on January 11 and, as the storm formed and progressed on January 12, temperatures plummeted and visibility dropped to zero.

We learn from Laskin that the forecast was timely and accurate. The path of the storm was predicted and its speed of movement plotted. The tragedy was based in the lack of a communication system to warn the population of what was imminent. Many of the 235 deaths occurred among scattered farm families whose children attended small, stand alone rural schools, much like the schools some of us attended. As the storm roared in, many of those who attempted to get back to their homes perished. Laskin tells in detail the stories of children lost in whiteout conditions, of others seeking shelter in haystacks, and of heroic rescues.

Timothy Egan, author of *The Worst Hard Time*, is a Seattle native, and a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist with the New York Times. In an interview, Egan gave his reason for writing the book, "To me, there was an urgency to get this story now because the last of the people who lived through those dark years are in their final days. It's their story, and I didn't want

them to take this narrative of horror and persistence to the grave."

Egan followed the experiences of several individuals and families from Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas. Throughout the book, he returns to them and their determination to survive the endless storms, dust, winds, life-sapping deprivation, and psychological depression. Despite heroic efforts to protect home and family, the dust always found a way in, destroying lungs along with the will to survive.

The stories are powerful and touching, but Egan also peers into the farming practices that left the land stripped of its protective grasslands, and tells of a local newspaper owner who preached a gospel of cheerful optimism right to the day he bolted and ran. The efforts of government, both helpful and harmful, are also scrutinized in the narrative. Hugh Bennett, Franklin Roosevelt's point man for the recovery work, is singled out for his forward and ecologically minded response to the land disaster.

I expect many GROW members have read one or both of these expertly crafted studies. Besides being tragic tales, each demonstrates the stubborn resolve and strength of the generations before us.

Timothy Egan, *The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (2006)

David Laskin, *The Children's Blizzard*, Harper Collins (2004)

President's Message, cont.

part of a culture or pursue your family genealogical ancestry? Looking at DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), a very successful organization of many years, it requires your identification of your ancestry to the American Revolution. GRHS/GROW are different in that they are dedicated to discovering information of our ancestors, collecting, preserving, and disseminating the same to the offspring (descendants) about the German settlers' history, culture, and genealogy living in the Russian Empire. Do you want be an exclusive or an inclusive organization?

Do you want to hold on to the customs of the past or just want to know about them? Do you want to know the mother tongue: German, speaking it, hearing it in speech, music or song? Do you want to remember the mistakes, lessons, values, the rewards of our great heroes? How about the heirlooms, the architecture in building root cellars, churches, great

Continued on page 3.

Genealogy Forum

GROW - The First Ten Years

Germans from Russia, Oregon and Washington (GROW), a chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) with headquarters in Bismark, ND, was organized in August 2001.

Prior to this there was an Oregon Chapter of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR), with headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska, that met in Portland. While both GRHS and AHSGR deal with descendants of Germans who lived in all parts of Russia, GRHS places more emphases on those from the Black Sea area—the ones who settled in the Dakotas, AHSGR places more emphases on those from the Volga area. Since many of the Germans from Russia in the Portland area had ties to the Dakotas and the Black Sea Germans, they were more interested in GRHS.

Since it was not possible to have one chapter affiliated with two national organizations it was decided to split off from the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR and form a new chapter under GRHS. Clifford Haberman contacted GRHS headquarters to obtain the required paperwork and lead out in the work of collecting the signatures of GRHS members who wished to join the new chapter. He was assisted by Roger Haas and Oscar Geiszler. They collected 48 signatures, more than enough to form the chapter. The forms were submitted to GRHS in May 2001 and approved.

The organizational meeting was held 18 August 2001 with 22 members present. A Board of Directors was elected. The board consisting of Walter Aman, Oscar Geiszler, Gayla Gray, Roger Haas, Clifford Haberman, Douglas Henn, Leonard Kopp, Margaret Rehwalt and Cecil Reinke, then elected Oscar Geiszler President, Leonard Kopp Vice President, Gayla Gray Secretary, and Margaret Rehwalt Treasurer. These officers served for one year and the next year Roger Haas was elected President, Roy Schnaible Vice President, Ed Weber Secretary and Sharon Voeller Treasurer. All but one of these officers served for multiple year terms. Roger Haas has continued as president to this day.

In its early years GROW met in the Solid Rock Baptist Church in Clackamas. While it provided a place to meet, there was no place for storage, and GROW was developing a library which had to be moved in and out every meeting. In 2004, GROW became a sister club of the German American Society and was



Harold Lang, PhD

able to use its facilities, the Deutsches Haus, 7901 SE Division. This provided a nice meeting room and a small room for a library and storage. In 2010 the Duetsches Haus was sold to Portland Community College. GROW's last meeting at the Duetsches House was 15 May 2011. To provide temporary quarters, the German American Society has rented Bethany Lutheran church at 37th and Skidmore. This gives GROW a meeting place and a room for a library, which is shared with a church activity. GROW held it's first meeting there on 26 June 2011. Over the years the average meeting attendance has been fairly consistent with attendance ranging from 30-60 each meeting.

One of the highlights of GROW's first ten years, was hosting the 2006 GRHS national convention at the Airport Holiday Inn in Portland. Many members of GROW were involved in making it an outstanding convention.

Another major activity was the production of the GROW Cookbook in 2010. The idea of a cookbook originated with Janice Prunier the editor of the GROW Newsletter. Many members contributed recipes and stories and Janice served as editor and producer of the book with Arlene Maston the promoter/contact person in the Portland area and Alice Summers handled the distribution. The book was unique in that with each recipe there was a story about the recipe and/or the submitter and a picture of the submitter, recipe originator or other family members. The first printing sold out and a second revised edition has been printed.

President's Message, cont.

craftsmen, etc. How interested are you in those? Our past programs have used the German language in some songs, the Lord's Prayer and some German dialogs. This has been good, but an introduction of some German (funny) story(ies), poem(s), humor or a word/phrase meaning may help the attendees to appreciate and learn more of the German tradition and language. This will also bring about a varied program. Then the mission of the ancestors' passions and hopes will more likely be preserved. Our younger generations utilize and search the internet, belong to clubs, and are in schools and colleges. Therefore, what can we do to key in on our younger generation? Your ideas and thoughts are encouraged and would be really appreciated. You can call me at 503-659-8248 or rahaas@haasfamily.us THANK YOU!

Brief Comments on German-Russian Heritage Societies and Special Collections in the Americas

Since the 1960s and 1970s, the Germans from Russia in the Americas have made a more conscious effort to preserve their traditional heritage and memory, but now as proud, loyal and productive citizens of their respective countries in the Western Hemisphere. It is interesting that in general it was the children and grandchildren of the immigrants who made this decision—people who had already become relatively successful and safely integrated into the cultural and political mainstream.



**By Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz,
Associate Professor of
History, Northwestern
Oklahoma State Uni-
versity in Alva**

By this time, many of them were middle-aged or older, and they now possessed the necessary economic and social resources to preserve at least part of their traditional heritage. This trend appeared among numerous ethnic groups and minorities following this period after the Vietnam War and the Watergate Scandal, but the German-Russians have stood out in recent years with their intense fascination with genealogy and heritage preservation. Especially with the recent rise of the “digital village” called the Internet, they have established closer contacts with fellow German from Russia groups in Latin America and those once behind the Iron Curtain. Since the early 1990s, tour groups from North America to Germany and the former USSR have even been organized as well.

As early as the 1920s, during the American famine relief efforts in Soviet Russia, educated members and activists within the German-Russian community on both sides of the Atlantic called for establishing ethnic associations, including Volga German intellectual and Stalin victim Peter Sinner (1879-1935), but not until the “ethnic renaissance” of the post-1960s did they manage to create two international heritage societies in North America—the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR) in 1968 and the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) in 1971. AHSGR membership today is

around 4,000, and over 2,000 in the GRHS. Most of their members come from the United States and Canada.

Similarly, in 1975, on the 100th anniversary of the first migrations to the country, the Volga Germans of Argentina began to organize their own ethnic association. The current president of the Association of the Descendants of Volga Germans in Argentina (*Asociación Argentina de Descendientes de Alemanes del Volga*), Isabel Kessler, has been working to create an actual federation out of the 18 branches that now comprise the association. The idea is that such an official federation would be the only way to maintain and promote their ethnic heritage. More recently, the North and South American heritage groups for German-Russians have been contacting each other, and some of their early collaboration includes inviting guest speakers and translating publications, but stronger cultural bridges remain necessary to preserve and promote their heritages to a wider audience.

One of the great challenges these heritage societies face is the changing demographic of those who still more or less identify with the traditional ethnic identity. It might become the case in the next decade that special collections at academic institutions, sometimes receiving assistance from the heritage societies and their local chapters, will assume more responsibility and possess greater resources and capabilities to help preserve the heritage over the long haul. In the past few decades, a number of special collections and archives have appeared at state universities and even private colleges across North America. The first to appear was the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection at the North Dakota State University Libraries in Fargo (1978). The GRHS was instrumental in helping establish the Fargo special collection. Later on, the Dr. Sidney Heitman Germans from Russia Collection at Colorado State University in Fort Collins (1993) and the Center for Volga German Studies (CVGS) at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon (2008), also were established.

The many accomplishments of our heritage societies and special collections should make us quite proud. Indeed, it is one of our duties to carry on these wonderful traditions in the twenty-first century and beyond.

Picnic & 10th Anniversary Celebration

What a delightful summer day we had on Sunday 29th August at the Happy Valley Park! It was a nice covered area with trees and foliage to keep us cool with the adjacent baseball field, volley ball area, horse-shoe pits, kids' playground and walking trails all around the park to view the many beautiful homes in the area. The Anniversary/Picnic was a huge success!



Jan Haberman

We are thankful to have had Lola and Darwin Weber of Longview, Washington and Jan's friend, Cheri Elder, to help with their cars to bring three loads of supplies for the picnic. When they arrived, there was a nice welcoming committee ready to help unload and set up everything.

Allen and Nancy White were there with a hand truck in their van and coolers for beverages and coffee. They brought three 6 foot tables to set the food on; Sharon, Bill and Katherine Bell, Oscar Geiszler, Harold and Violet Lang, Jeanette McDermid, Charlotte Bohlman and Cherie Elder were also there to help. Thank you so very much! I hope that I didn't leave anyone out.

Harold Lang said prayer; low and behold Roger and Roberta came flying in on two wheels after driving 25 hours to get there. So now, everything was complete. We had a turnout of 39 people in spite of the weathermen predicting higher temperatures, which did keep some from coming. Sorry, you missed a good time!

Everybody enjoyed everyone's food. GROW furnished the placesettings and beverages in addition to a lovely decorated cake celebrating GROW's 10th anniversary.

Harold Lang did a nice job of telling the history

and accomplishments of GROW. He had made certificates and handed out to people who were charter members and other plaques to those who have helped GROW what it has become today.

I accepted the Charter Certificate for my husband Cliff which brought tears to my eyes. I wish he could have lived to see this happen as he was very dedicated to GROW.

Roger handed \$1.00 bills to everyone as well as \$5.00 bills to thank the members for attending. This means that you have received your GROW dues back for the year and yes, save it for next year, Okay!!

So sorry that Charlotte Bohlman went home to her cat; she was bitten on the ankle and it swelled up bad enough for her to go to Providence hospital for four days. She is home again and doing nicely.

Thank you everyone for making this a successful picnic. We hope we can reserve the park again next year.

I hope to see all of you at our September 25 Chapter Meeting at Bethany Lutheran Church 2 pm.

Your Vice President, Jan Haberman



GROW 10th Anniversary cake.



Jane Radtke, Lola Weber, Darci Weber, Nancy White, Allen White, Angelica Liharik, Arlene Maston, Peggy Perkins, Oscar Geiszler

Picnic & 10th Anniversary Celebration, cont.



Nancy White, Allen White, Kay Carey



Oscar Geiszler, Jan Haberman, Cherie Elder, Nancy White, Bill Glenn



Angelica Liharik, Roger Haas, Reante Berry, Arlene Maston, Peggy Perkins



Peggy Perkins, Angelica Liharik, Renate Berry, Katherine Bell, Violet Lang, Nancy White, Allen White



Oscar Geiszler, Harold Lang. Harold presenting recognition to Oscar as one of the founders of GROW.



Roger Haas, Harold Lang. Harold presenting recognition to Roger as one of the founders of GROW



Jan Haberman accepting posthumous recognition for her husband, Cliff Haberman, as a founder of GROW. Presented by Harold Lang

Picnic & 10th Anniversary Celebration, cont.



Vivian Messenger, Ell Schiermeister,
Nina Schiermeister



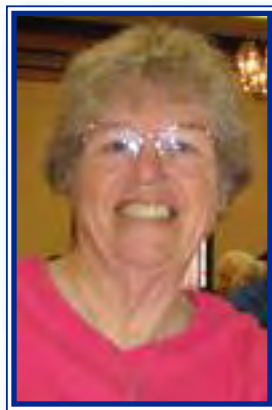
Sharon Bell, Bill Glenn



Ruby Cook, Roberta Haas

2011 GRHS National Convention

Early Wednesday morning, July 20th 2011, Sharon and I left Portland by car, towing my tear drop trailer and stopping for gas and one tourist fruit stand along the way to Spokane, Washington. We registered and set up camp at KOA Kampground in Spokane Valley about eight miles east of Spokane and then headed to the Davenport Hotel, GRHS convention headquarters, to register there.



Katherine Bell

After a quick look at the beautiful Davenport Hotel we headed back to KOA, stopping for a bite to eat and a few groceries. I was glad to have Sharon to do the driving back and forth as the freeway was being worked on. At night the highway crew would change the driving lanes which made for some interesting observations about safety issues compared to how ODOT manages freeway repairs. (Sharon works for ODOT.) But the traffic moved smoothly if somewhat slowly at times.

The KOA Kampground is a ways off the freeway but there are two sets of train tracks so nights were a bit noisy. Should anyone choose to stay there, bring some earplugs. I have been there before so I knew how it would be and I have my mp3 player with old time radio shows to lull me to sleep. At 7 pm, for a small sum, giant scoops of ice cream are available. The restrooms are clean if somewhat tired looking.

Thursday morning we peeked into the Library for

a quick look at books and materials for sale and the tired looking boxes filled with books to research and to greet Rachel, Betty and others. Then it was off to the opening ceremony in the Grand Pennington room. It started with the presentation of colors by a superb Air Force Honor Guard and welcome by dignitaries and opening GRHS business meeting.

Adjustments had to be made as some of the presenters as well as President Don Ehreth were having transportation difficulties Thursday morning. I had already marked my program for the workshops I wanted to attend so I missed one of the presentations namely by James Gessele but I did get to speak with him briefly and brought home the book he translated, *"Bessarabia, German Colonists on the Black Sea"* by Ute Schmidt. We have a connection in that



Davenport Hotel, Spokane, WA.

Continued on page 8.

2011 GRHS National Convention, cont.

he knows my first cousin Ron Schatz in Mercer, ND. This was the second time I have heard Anna Fischer "Cry out of Russia". It is a very emotional presentation and unlike some who experienced the horrors of



Air Force Honor Guard, Official Opening Ceremony.

war and communism she wants us to not forget. Sharon and I were at the same dinner table with Anna, her two daughters and her long time friend Thursday. Now, Valerie had told us at opening that feedback was welcomed but no complaints about the cost of the meals, please. Well, I don't think we could complain about this one. Besides being very efficiently and quickly served we were served a wonderfully extravagant plate of three sausages cradling a large scoop of flavorful mashed potatoes and small peas to give color outside the circle of sausages. Most of us couldn't eat all the delicious sausage so asked for doggy bags. I made some comment about taking some to feed dogs at the camp and suddenly everyone started giving me their sausages. We stopped on the way back to camp for ice for the meat and ended up having sausages for breakfast and taking some



Inland Northwest Chapter performing *Fractured Fairy Tales*.

home to Portland on Sunday. I think we may have all felt a little guilty of this excess. I still chuckle thinking about it.

Convention is a time to research and to listen to other's research. In three days there is an opportunity to listen to at least eleven presentations. That is more than we can do in one year in our local group. It can be a little overwhelming taking in this wealth of information and it serves as inspiration to read more.

Convention is entertaining as well. What fun to hear the "Riders of the Rockin' B Ranch"; Ladies and Gentleman, Damen und Herr, two violins and piano; Concordia Choir, Oom Pa's and Ma's, and others. Then there was the Inland NW chapter's presentation of "A Fractured Fairy Tale, Cinderella'. Well, that was a way to show case the chapter which put on a great convention. Del and Sharon Beck sing-a-long is a chance to practice singing in German.

It is also a time to recognize and encourage research by the youth, a time to renew acquaintances and make new ones, perhaps to even meet a rela-



Sharon Bell-Glenn presenting GROW banner.

tive for the first time.

Saturday evening, as the music played and people danced to the Oom Pa's and Ma's, GRHS president Don Enreth went about the hall shaking hands and greeting everyone pausing with me to pass on greetings to Roger upon return home to Oregon.

Sunday morning Sharon and I attended the non-denominational service and then back to KOA to pack up and drive home. The weather suddenly turned very hot. Thankfully, the RAV4 is air conditioned. The trip back to Portland was smooth. We did pass by the overturned east bound tanker on I-84 thankful that no other vehicles seem to be involved, just stopped.

Katherine Bell

Book Review

James T. Gessele translated
Ute Schmidt's book

Bessarabia, German Colonists on the Black Sea

The cover and the book's heft invites one to immediately explore its contents.

Having just played the board game, "Colonists of Deutschenfeld" with the Bell-Glenn family I was struck by how the book and game complimented each other. Both help

us to understand what our ancestors experienced as colonists. Slowly life in the colonies improves but then there are setbacks too.

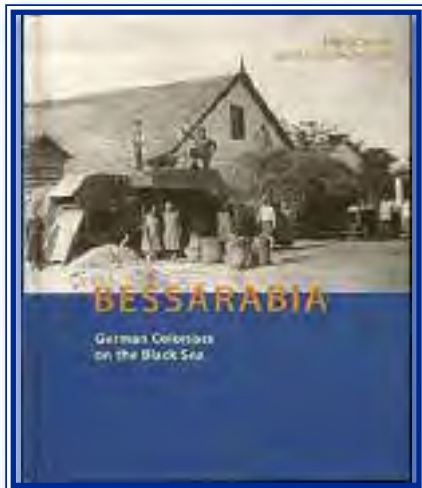
Other books have much of the same information but here in a highly readable format is the history of the Bessarabian Germans. There are many pictures—old and as recent as 2003.

There are maps, a chronological table from 7th century BC to 2007; a bibliography; name index; gazetteer and concordance.

I would recommend text to add to any library.

The member price through GRHS is \$60 plus postage.

Katherine Bell



LIBRARY NOTICE

We are going to be verifying the GROW library records and it would be helpful to have all the checked out books returned.

Most of the book that are checked out have been out for a long time and are overdue.

Please help us by returning the books so we will not have to call you.

2010-11 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: 2013

Jan Haberman, Vice President/ Sunshine Chair & Calling Asst.

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

Jeanette McDermid, Secretary/Library Specialist

327 SE Elliot Ave (503) 666-6939
Gresham, OR 97080-7726 toadlilyunique@comcast.net
Term ends: 2013

Adi Hartfeil, Treasurer-Membership

4230 S Tera Vista Ct (503) 636-2272
West Linn, OR 97068 abhartfeil@q.com
Term ends: 2014

Arlene Maston

8202 NE Going St. (503) 255-5493
Portland, OR 97220-4860 amaston@aol.com
Term ends: 2012

Oscar Geiszler, Fundraising

803 5th Ave. (503) 656-1802
Oregon City, OR 97045 oscarandlorraine@msn.com
Term ends: 2013

Ell Schiermeister

12010 SE McGillivray (360) 253-2499
Vancouver, WA 98683 Term ends: 2014

Harold Lang, Membership Recruiter/Calling Chair

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: 2014

Sharon Bell, Alternate #1 - Set-Up Chair

126 NE 86th Ave. (503) 254-2583
Portland, OR 97220 bellglen@teleport.com
Term ends: 2011



Maxine Daily, Director Emeritus

In Memory—Clifford Haberman, Director Emeritus

Robert Majhor, Director Emeritus

Ed Weber, Director Emeritus

GROW 2011 Quarterly Calendar

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



NEW LOCATION!

Chapter Meetings are held at:
Bethany Lutheran Church Basement
4330 NE 37th Ave., Portland, OR
Doors open at 1 pm
Meeting starts at 2 pm until about 5 pm

From the north take 42nd Avenue to Prescott
From the south take 33rd Avenue to Prescott

From the east at 82nd take Prescott to 37th Avenue then south one block
From the west at MLK Blvd. take Prescott to 37th then south one block

Entrance to the basement is from the south parking lot on Skidmore

Chapter Meetings

25 September - GRHS Convention Reports

23 October - Renate Berry

20 November - Dale Eisler

Fundraising Opportunities— At No Cost To You!!

- Electronic Newsletters. Receive your newsletters via email, and save GROW in postage costs. 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.
- * **Family Heritage Recipe Book** - \$12.50 at Chapter Meeting or add \$4.00 s/h for mailing. Call 503-659-8248, rahaas@q.com

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon

The GFO (The Genealogical Forum of Oregon) has relocated to 11th SE Division Suite B18, Portland. A Grand Opening Celebration is from Sept. 10-Oct. 8 and is allowing non-members special privileges.

GFO's research library contains 32,000 volumes as well as special collections. It is the largest genealogy library between Seattle and San Francisco. There are resources for all 50 states and many countries.

There are monthly German Interest Group Meetings with Free Entry the first Saturday of each month 1-3 pm (check website for exceptions).

To be on the mailing list, interested members should contact Carolyn Bergeron.

What a wonderful way to share and make connections.

GFO Contact Info:

www.gfo.org
 (503) 963-1932
 email: gfoinfo@hotmail.com
 Facebook: GFO

FALL GENEALOGY WORKSHOP FINDING YOUR ANCESTORS IN GERMANY

The ancestors of all Germans from Russia originally came from Germany. This workshop deals with German records prior to 1900.

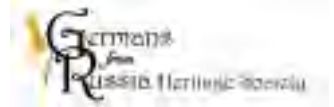
Meets at the
 Sunnyside Seventh-day Adventist Church
 10501 SE Market Street, Portland
 (Just east of the Adventist Medical Center)

**At 7:00 pm every other Monday in room 20
 Sept 26, Oct 10, 24, Nov 14, 28, Dec 12**

For further information and instructions on how to get to the church and how to get in, contact Harold Lang, hvlang@msn.com or 503-251-2948



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 \$50.00 • 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

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 or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

Dear President Haas,

On behalf of HFGR, I extend congratulations to GROW on its 10th anniversary. This milestone is especially meaningful in the fact that GROW continues to be a very active chapter of GRHS. In the face of other chapters ceasing to exist, or at the very least, barely hanging on, GROW remains vibrant and meaningful to its members. This is due in no small part to current and past officers and members.

HFGR wishes GROW a growing future, one which continues to provide its members with a place to come to enjoy the comraderie of other like minded GR's.

Peace,

Ted J. Becker, President

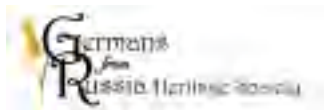
Heritage Foundation for Germans from Russia

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS WELCOMED!

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

**Janice Prunier, Editor
1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201
jcprunier@comcast.net**

***Deadline for next issue is
December 1, 2011.***



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue
Portland, OR 97222