

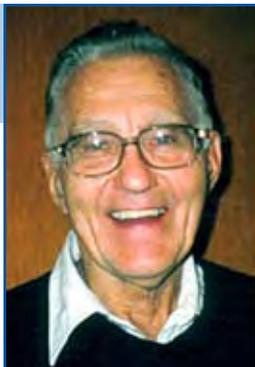
# GROW QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 12, Issue 3

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## Message from the President



Spring is here with the longer days and Daylight Saving Time that commenced on the 10th of March. It is great to bid the colder nights, "adios" for another year and welcome the sunny warmer days. Some bushes, as heather, are blooming and buds of trees and shrubs are exhibited everywhere.

This excitement of a burst of energy is also in our bones; garden work and yard get into full swing. Also, our new GROW permanent home with GAS (German American Society) becomes closer to completion and after almost two years of being unable to use our Library, it will become a reality to have wifi and the use of our books, periodicals, etc. The almost 3 million plus dollar remodel, also will be thrilling: to see the new walls up and get painted, new floors being replaced besides the elevator being installed as soon as the power company puts in new and larger electric service. It will be a first class renovation with a dedication of the facility a date unannounced sometime hopefully in April. Further, look for the GROW Brick in the new courtyard entry with the engraved lettering of: GROW - GERMANS FROM RUSSIA OR/WASH 2001, DEUTSCHER STAMM. This brick will be alongside those of the other five associated clubs.

Your membership is an encouragement to others as you share and invite others to discuss your common ancestral history, genealogy, German foods, music, activities, travels, reunions, Conventions, Heritage Review articles and other interests. We have 116 renewals. Have you paid 2013 dues to Treasurer, Adi Hartfeil? Thank you! If you are not getting the quarterly Newsletter, the monthly Chapter Meeting Summaries and Announcements, please let me know rahaas@

haasfamily.us or 503-659-8248.

I found the March 2013 GRHS Heritage Review, one of the most interesting journals. On page 12 under German-Russian Foods and Russian Words which was a continuation from the previous edition, named foods from our earlier lives such as Gwetchekucha (kuchen with prunes in it), Welchkornbrot (corn bread), Huenersupp (chicken soup with homemade noodles), etc. The Establishment of Community Church Schools in the South Russia German Colonies, 1804-1904. Eric Schmaltz and the Contributors should be applauded for scholarship and very interesting articles.

We haven't done this at our Chapter meetings, but we had great success with Dr. Timothy Janzen leading the Ancestral Village gatherings at our Portland 2006 GROW-GRHS Convention. Kaye Kuntz-Igoa, who had a terrific Power-Point Reunion presentation at our February Chapter Meeting also suggested a GROW Chapter Ancestral Village/RIG (Regional Interest) Gathering!

Kaye looked over the GROW roster and found about eight different villages representing our mem-

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# Flexible Flyer

by Ronald Schauer

The farm was twelve miles east of Napoleon, a mostly easy drive. All but the last 1.5 miles of road was well maintained. Highway 34 between Napoleon and Gackle was cleared usually within a day of a snowstorm. The county road intersecting with 34 and the road to the farm was open within another several days. The problem was that last mile and a half: The two-rut prairie road would drift shut with hard packed snow and could be impassible for weeks. Sometimes when they were running out of food or coal, the parents would worry and dad would take the Case tractor and try to break a path through the snow.



Al and Ronny, didn't concern themselves with being snowed in. The boys had plenty to do and were good at amusing themselves. They walked to school anyway and could follow a path that was mostly swept clean of snow by the blizzard wind. And both knew, the same weather that isolated the farm behind the blocked road often created awesome sledding conditions.

Across a rambling wetland stood the farm where cousin Allen lived. Typically, prairie lakes grew and shrank, dependent as they were on snow runoff. In high precipitation years, it was a real lake with a reedy shoreline and large, open patches of water. With little snow pack, it became a mucky swamp dotted with only a few water holes large enough for a duck to attempt a landing.

At the lake's west end, a gentle slope descended from the shoulder of a higher plain. It wasn't much, but add snowfall and a 40 mile per hour wind blowing for a day or two and the structure changed. Now, rather than a short prairie hillside, it had character. Now it had cliffs, drop offs, and cornices. Al and cousin Allen found the sled jump years before and had ridden it often. A rider sledding down the hill could become airborne more than once if it was done at the right speed and angle.

The North Dakota winter of 1948-1949 was one of the snowiest in memory. A series of storms dumped ever more snow onto the prairies, feeding the perfect sled jump.

On a cold, crisp, sunny day in January 1949, Al and six year old Ronny stood at the top of this hillside. Al placed the well-used Flexible Flyer sled he had been carrying on the snow, sliding it back and forth a few times. And don't think for a moment that Ronny wasn't simultaneously scared and excited as he looked

at the waiting sled and the long way down on the brilliantly white untouched snow. With a little luck I can make it all the way onto the lake, he thought and barely noticed a parallel thought underneath, I'm too young to die!

He lay down on the sled and put his hands on the wooden cross-piece, pulling it each way, testing the steering. He wiggled his body to get comfortable and balance his weight on the sled.

"OK," he said.

"Are you sure you're ready? Now hold on tight." Al slid the Ronny laden sled back and forth several times and then gave it a mighty shove.

The first thing Ronny hadn't anticipated was the layer of fresh light snow that sprayed up as he flew through it, blasting his face and burrowing deep within his brown coat. He had no idea where he was or what was coming towards him at supersonic speed. He heeded his brother's words and held on as tightly as he could.

Al was on all fours after pushing the sled. What he saw was a moving cloud of snow scurrying down the hill toward the drop off. For a brief moment, the cloud dissipated and he saw the Flexible Flyer and its cargo reaching for an orbit. Instead, it touched down in another massive cloud of snow, traveling even faster than before. The runners left the snow several times in the next three seconds and Al thought of a rodeo rider on a wild bull.

This is like riding a wild bull, thought Ronnie. And he held on.

Al stood up, his eyes fixed on the moving snow cloud. He's going to get killed! He held his breath as he watched Ronny headed directly for a snowed-over rock pile at the edge of the lake. A loud scraping sound and he saw the sled cart-wheeling off to the right as a brown bullet shot through the air for a perfect landing on the lake's ice and skidded to a stop.

With a half crying, half laughing "WHEEEEE!", Ronny struggled to his feet. Al raced down through the knee deep snow to grab the sled and help his brother back up the hill.

Taking his turn, Al carefully steered away from the pile of stones that had launched his brother into free flight.

A shivering walk later and back at home, they were crawling out of their wet clothing. Mother looked at Al, "I hope you weren't down at the sled jump. Ronny's much too young for that."

Ronald Schauer  
9 January 2013

Have you wondered why you have not been able to find records of your ancestors in the records available from Russia? At one of my genealogy workshop sessions, Al Schiermeister came with a record of his Schiermeister ancestors going back to a Ludwig (or Christian Ludwig) Schiermeister, who lived in Worms, Odessa, South Russia. He had looked in some of the records and could not find his name. Stump's book *The Emigration of Germans to Russia in the years 1763 to 1862*, contains an 1816 revision list for Worms, but no Schiermeisters are listed, in fact the name Schiermeister does not appear anywhere in Stump's book. The newer *Black Sea German Russian Census, Volume I*, published by GRHS contains the 1858 Census for Worms, and again no Schiermeisters are listed. Incidentally the GRHS book is available on a disc which can be electronically searched to see if a name appears in any of the villages listed.



A check of the St Petersburg Duplicate Lutheran Parish Records reveals that indeed a Ludwig Schiermeister lived in Worms. He was married to Catharina Engelhardt and had six children (possibly more as there may be some missing data in the in the parish records) born there between 1837 and 1848. The parish records also show that a son born in Arsis Bessarabia in 1836 died in Worms in 1838. The parish records also show that Ludwig Schiermeister died in Worms in 1848. This explains why Ludwig does not appear in either the 1816 or 1858 census, he arrived after 1816 and died before 1858. But where were his wife and children in 1858? The parish records show that in 1853 Catharina Schiermeister married Georg Berreth a widower, and she appears in the 1858 census as his wife and with Berreth children, all of whom can be identified as children of Georg Berreth. What happened to the Schiermeister children who would have been in the 10-20 year age range by 1858? Did they all die? We know that at least one of them was living as the parish records list a Friedrich Schiermeister as having a number of children born in Worms and Waterloo (same parish) from 1868 to 1885. So far we have not been able to locate the name Schiermeister in anywhere in South Russia 1858.

The revision lists were not census records as we

know them in the US, but they were tax lists that were periodically updated. The 1858 revision was 10th revision of the tax list. The actual record shows not only the listing for 1858 but also the 9th revision done in 1850, and the changes that took place in between (births marriages and deaths). The list contains all of the names of individuals that were living in 1850 and/or 1858. They do not list children that were born and died during the period. The census books published by GRHS for individual colonies are in this format. The multi-colony publications are of necessity more compact. It appears that these records were revised about every eight years so records for other years must exist in archives in Russia, including some that contain the Schiermeister name. The reason these records are not available too is the cost of finding them, paying the archives for them, and translating them. Some day they may be available.

I want to give you another example that involves my extended family. In 1813 my ancestor Paul Lang and his brother David migrated from Wielkie Jesiorke, Hohensalza, in the Duchy of Warsaw (formerly Prussia) to Kassel, Odessa, South Russia. Paul Lang is listed in Hopf's list along with another brother Peter Lang who settled about 80 miles away in Grossliebental a little south of Odessa. In the 1816 Revision Lists Paul and David and their children are listed in Kassel and Peter and children are listed in Grossliebental. By 1858 Paul, David and Peter had all died. In 1858 all of Paul and David's living male descendents were still listed as living in Kassel and no Lang families were living in Grossliebental. This would imply that all of Peter Lang's male descendents had either died or left Grossliebental. The female descendents would be listed under their husband's name.

All this becomes interesting when we look at the Lutheran Parish where we find records of David Lang's family in Grossliebental. First his wife Ann Rosina died there in 1848. His son Carl married Christina Dhon (Thon) there in 1850. Carl and Christina had children there in 1850 and 1852 but were back in Kassel by 1853 but had another child die in Grossliebental 1860. Three of David Lang's daughters were married in Grossliebental in the 1830s and 1840s and listed with their husbands in 1858. Did David and his children move from Kassel to Grossliebental or were they just temporarily there? Actually I knew about

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## Genealogy Forum, cont.

Paul Lang living in Grossliebental before the Lutheran Parish records were available. In 1992 a Joyce Lang wrote *A History of the August and Katie Lang Family*. August was a grandson of Carl the son of David. Joyce states that "Karl Lang was born 04 January 1829 in Kassel, South Russia... The Family moved in 1832 to Grossliebental." Joyce also states that "Much of this information is from a letter written 29 June 1963 by Rose Huether Beier... a granddaughter of Karl Lang, to another granddaughter." Incidentally Karl Lang came to the US and lived in South Dakota for 30 years before he died. Don't under estimate the value of old letters and family records in doing genealogy.

In Russia people were not free to move around at will, they were expected to stay in their villages. To move from one village to another required a vote of approval of the citizens of both villages and the approval of the Russian government. To temporarily live in another village to work there, required approval of the government. Records of these actions have been found in Russian archives. Why would they move to another village? There were a limited number of homesteads in each village as determined by the amount of land owned by the village. As children grew up and established new homes, more homesteads were needed, which led to the establishment of new daughter colonies that were associated with a mother colony. I am sure that movement from a mother colony to a daughter colony was very common. In the example I just cited both Kassel and Grossliebental were mother colonies. My theory is that something happened to Peter Lang and/or his sons and his brother David and some of his children moved to Grossliebental to occupy Peter's homestead, while David's son Paul remained in Kassel occupying the family homestead. In 1858 Carl Lang was required to be listed as citizen of Kassel just like Mary and Joseph were required to register for taxes in Bethlehem when Jesus was born. In 1858 Carl is listed as occupying a homestead with his brother Paul.

The point of all of this is that records of your ancestors may be found in villages you did not now know they lived in. In this example the clues were that other relatives were living in the village, and a statement in a family history.

My e-mail has changed. It is now [vhlang@q.com](mailto:vhlang@q.com).

## President's Message, cont.

bership and suggested certain possible leaders:

*Bell, Katherine and Sharon* - Hoffnungstal, Odessa  
*Careys and Herinck, Marcine* - Fruedental, in the Libental colonies. (I can also help with this one).

*Haas family* - Glueckstal colonies

*Kuntz, Larry* - Kutchurgan colonies

*Kuntz, Kaye and Joanne Pfau* - Speier and the other Catholic Beresan colonies.

*Radtke, Kurt and Jane* - Volhynia

*Passmore, Dee/David, and Bruno Ruele* - Bessarabia colonies

*Janzen, Timothy* - Mennonite colonies.

Kaye also thought it would be good to discuss the years the colonies started, where the villagers came from in Germany, Hungary, Poland, etc. Exhibit on a map where they were located, name some of the surnames of original villagers, some interesting history of the colonies, and whatever else is of interest. Maybe GROW members could rotate from table to table? Further, as our ancestor moved from Germany to Russia and then migrated to America, how they preserved their way of life, even through persecutions and political repressions. Good ideas Kaye!

One of the Membership benefits in being a local GROW member is the excellent programs that you can enjoy, usually the last Sunday of the month at 2 pm. An unusual guest presenter on the 23 June may be Natalia Hougen. She is originally from Moscow, Russia. She studied music and law and graduated from Gnesin Academy of Music and Law Faculty of Moscow University. She immigrated to America seven years ago and at the present time lives in Gresham and is a US citizen. She is a Russian Folk Singer and accompanies herself on guitar. Her picture and additional information can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter. She works at Mt Hood College and is a colleague of GROW Member, Jeanette McDermid.

It is this kind of benefit you can receive by meeting people with shared interest and ethnic background of our ancestors. Learning the history and heritage of the Germans in Russia for perhaps less than 100 years helps to know the fabric of our life and how we must cherish and be active in preserving our pioneers' culture, stability and zest for succeeding and making it better for even us today.

Roger Haas

# Germans from Russia in South America:

## New Research Frontiers in Our Group's History and Other 21st-Century Reflections (Part II)

By Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz, Associate Professor of History,  
Department of Social Sciences, Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva

The upcoming Prairie Public Broadcasting documentary film will be conducting further investigations into the Germans from Russia experience in Argentina and Brazil. Despite somewhat preliminary findings, as the film's scriptwriter and historical consultant, I wish to consider several historical matters that will help us better understand the compelling and emerging story of this significant German Diaspora in South America, with a primary focus on Argentina and Brazil for convenience.



Various interlocking factors contributed to the migration of Germans from Russia to South America between the mid-1870s and early 1920s. In particular, Argentina's and Brazil's active recruitment of immigrants, coupled with Russia's political and economic problems, led to this Diaspora.

Political conflicts along Conservative/Liberal and Centralist/Federalist lines have dominated post-colonial Latin American history. These long-standing political divisions have formed the backdrop of a large and complex region filled with promise and peril, helping to prepare the way for the arrival of Germans from Russia. Indeed, Latin America has experienced general cycles of reform and innovative government ideas over the past two centuries of independence. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, Enlightenment-based "Liberal" policies on economic development characterized government efforts when it concerned matters such as immigration. This development shared parallels with imperial reforms and immigrant recruitment drives under Russia's "enlightened despots," including Catherine the Great and her grandson Alexander I almost a century earlier.

Argentina, for example, formed the First Triumvirate as its early government after gaining independence from Spain. On September 4, 1812, the First Triumvirate signed a decree which stated that "...the government offers its immediate protection to all persons of all nationalities and their families who want to establish their home in our territory..." In this manner, the Republic of Argentina opened its borders to immigrants from whatever part of the world to whomever wished to reside there. About a genera-

tion before the Germans from Russia came, Argentina drafted the Constitution of 1853, which was born out of the "Liberal" movement in Latin America. It encouraged the invitation of skilled immigrants to this part of the world.

The Prologue of the Constitution of 1853 also referred to "all people of the world who want to live on Argentine soil."

Problems of land hunger, overpopulation, and other economic pressures led to early German migrations out of Imperial Russia in the late 19th century. The German-Russians' desire to avoid Russification policies and military conscription later grew in importance when the decision was made to depart from the land of the tsars. By the early 1920s, even outright persecution under the Bolsheviks assumed a more prominent role in driving some of these last waves of migrants abroad.

In this context, Argentina's and Brazil's governments carried out an active and direct recruitment of immigrants from different countries in the 19th and 20th centuries. The preference for Roman Catholics resulted from both countries' desire to foster greater internal cultural cohesion. Immigrants from nations such as Germany, Italy, Russia and others received invitations to settle in South America. Consequently, this policy created an interesting demographic reversal for the German from Russia Diaspora. In Russia, the vast majority of ethnic Germans were Lutheran (more than 70%). The opposite proved true for the contingent in South America; for instance, in Argentina, about 70% of the ethnic group was Roman Catholic.

At the same time, the great U.S. railroad companies conducted sweeping advertising campaigns abroad to entice East Europeans to set their stakes on the North American prairies. Unlike Brazil and Argentina, however, the U.S. government did not engage in the active and direct recruitment of immigrants, since the railroad companies served more as its proxy to find new settlers.

As many as 37,000 German-Russians immigrated to Argentina alone during the late 1870s and 1880s. Emigration to Brazil began around the same time. South American countries like Argentina and Brazil

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## Germans from Russia in South America, cont.

(again, whose governments conducted an aggressive recruitment of settlers, unlike the United States where the railroad companies more or less assumed that role) were transformed into lands of East European immigration during the 19th century. Volga Germans especially made their homes in northeastern Argentina near Buenos Aires and Entre Rios as well as in the Pampas (grasslands) to the south. Meanwhile, Black Sea Germans moved into the southeastern Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, which resembled the Ukrainian steppes and the prairies of Canada and the United States. By the 1880s, thanks to extensive railroad construction and the development of refrigeration technology, many Germans from Russia, notably from the Volga Region, also became involved in Argentina's meat-packing industry.

Many Black Sea Germans today live in the Argentine Pampas, while the largest German from Russia subgroup in the country is Volga German. In Brazil, however, more Black Sea Germans than Volga Germans form a share of the immigrant population originating in Russia.

With respect to certain parts of Russian Siberia, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, North America and South America, comparative scholars in recent years have sometimes referred to these 19th- and 20th-century settlement regions as "Neo-Europes" because of their relatively temperate climates and extensive lands suitable for agricultural production, in fact bearing a striking resemblance to traditional homelands in Europe, all of which proved conducive to mass European colonization on a global scale. These "Neo-Europes" produced hybrid and pluralistic societies composed of various immigrant populations. Documentary film producer Robert Dambach of Prairie Public Broadcasting in Fargo recently expressed this eerie sense of familiarity of landscapes and mixing of traditions after a preliminary trek to South America: "The mingling of three or four languages seemed to be no hindrance to communication...The landscapes in Argentina reminded me of taking a trip across North Dakota with the flatlands morphing into gentle hills as you travel west. Our route in Brazil brought back memories of traveling through central Pennsylvania with its photogenic valleys revealing themselves as we traveled westward."

Indeed, the extent of the German immigration from Russia during this time proved quite monumental. As of 1940, following the period of great migrations, Germans from Russia population figures could be generally broken down as such (based on Dr. Karl Stumpp's

estimates at the time): 200,000 in Canada; 350,000-450,000 in the United States; 30,000 (mostly Mennonites) in Mexico; 250,000 in Brazil; 150,000-170,000 in Argentina; 4,500 in Paraguay; and 2,500 in Uruguay. Thus, the total number of Germans from Russia in the Western Hemisphere by 1940 had reached over one million, with about 630,000 in North America and roughly 407,000 in South America. Following World War II, another 30,000 German-Russian refugees or Displaced Persons (DPs), who had fled the Soviet Union into western parts of Allied-occupied Germany, received sponsorship to start new lives in North and South America and even Australia, mostly doing so between 1948 and 1952.

The sheer number of Volga Germans in Argentina alone is remarkable. According to the German Embassy in Argentina, as well as the Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University in Portland, OR, an estimated one to two million descendants of Volga Germans today reside in Argentina, whose total population stands at around 41 million.

A common North American misperception today is that South America constituted the second choice of destination for Germans from Russia. In some instances, it was true that taking the wrong boat or facing medical quarantines and outright rejections by North American officials forced immigrants to seek different ports of entry or simply to return home to Russia, while others sought entry in South America. For all that, a much larger proportion of German-Russians set their sights on South America as their preferred destination of choice. In short, most immigrants who settled in South America had from the beginning intended to come there as a land of opportunity. Until the 1920s, Argentina even held a higher standard of living per capita than in the United States.

In the next issue of the GROW Newsletter, we will discuss briefly the cultural and economic development of the German-Russian colonies in South America after the 1870s. Then we will consider contemporary trends for the group in the region.

*(To be continued.)*

*Acknowledgment: The author wishes to thank departmental colleague J. W. Platt at Northwestern Oklahoma State University for offering his expert insights into Latin America.*

# Sauerkraut Recipe

by Pastor Scott LeMert

1. Figure out how much cabbage you will need to for your batch. It is best to select hard, heavy heads. Figure to throw away about 15% of the weight in outer leaves and cores and then purchase accordingly.
2. I would use a one gallon container. Five pounds will make about three quarts of kraut, but you will need the extra room for the boil over when it is working and to have room for you to put a plate or device to keep the kraut down in the brine.
3. In the batch that I made at GROW, I used one head of red cabbage, with a ratio of 1:8-10 pounds. That gave it a nice pink blush in the finished product. You can use more red for a darker color.
4. Cut the cabbage into wedges and pull/tear out some of the very large ribs for an easier time of slicing the cabbage. Discard discolored outer leaves and the main cores.
5. I have found that the best way to insure a good batch is to weigh each cutting so I know how much I end up with. Use 3 tablespoons of canning salt to 5 pounds of shreds and mix thoroughly. It is good to go to 3-1/2 tablespoons of salt in the middle of the summer in that it is hard to keep the kraut cool enough for processing.
6. Add no water! The salt will pull all the moisture needed out of the cabbage.
7. Add mixture to processing container and fist it down to the bottom. You will quickly see the salt pulling water out of the cabbage. Proceed with next batch and add to container. I find that 5 pound batches are as large as I like to work with.
8. The next key is very important. You will need to use a large plate or device on the top of the mixture once your container is full. As by full, always leave an inch or two of air space at the top or the kraut might tend to want to go over as it works. Push the plate down allowing the brine to come over it. You will need to use something to keep the plate down. Many old-timers would use their favorite pet rock. I use the lid of my canner since I can lock it down over the top; I set a plastic container between the plate and the lid as a spacer. If using a metal container, I recommend using a plastic trash bag as a liner between the kraut and the metal container. As the kraut works, it takes



**Pastor Scott LeMert demonstrating how to make sauerkraut at the October Chapter Meeting.**

time for the bubbles to surface and this is why the mixture seems to expand while working and the need for a little "head space" at the top of your container.

9. Set in a cool place. In a few days (longer or shorter depending on storage space temperature) you will notice bubbles appearing in mixture. If you were able to keep the space above the kraut somewhat sealed off, the gas bubbles being carbon dioxide will force all free oxygen out of the space and prevent unwanted pathogens from forming. If they do, all is not lost. They usually are just on the surface and can be easily seen as a scum and might have an off color; just skim it off with a large spoon. The salty brine should keep the submerged kraut safe.
10. Kraut takes about two to four weeks to come to perfection, depending on processing temp. Slower and cooler is better. You will know it is ready when the kraut stops bubbling. I put it into jars and store in the refrigerator. It will keep for me for a year. Do not cook to store. The kraut is still alive healthy, beneficial natural probiotics and these will keep unwanted bacterial away.

Enjoy!

Scott LeMert

# The Fred and Rose Werre Homestead

Northeast of Lehr, North Dakota

by Mary Ann (Werre) Lehr, daughter

Printed with permission of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, North Dakota State University Libraries, Fargo – [www.ndsu.edu/grhc](http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc).

**Historical information and 41 photographs about the Werre Homestead and summer kitchen are at [http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc/history\\_culture/photo/werrehomestead.html](http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc/history_culture/photo/werrehomestead.html)**

A sod house was first in 1900. The house was moved from Lehr (by steam engine) and a summer kitchen was built at that time. The summer kitchen was used for all cooking and canning with the old fashion range (cook stove) using cow chips, wood scraps, dead trees, etc.

The primary objective was to keep the main house cool for sleeping, relaxing and company. During harvest season the thrashing crew also ate in the summer kitchen. The summer kitchen has two rooms. The first room you entered was for preparing all meals, baking bread, pies and kuchen. The second or (back room) was for eating at the big round table.

The summer kitchen was also the honeymoon cottage for my parents, Julius and Emelia (Zimmerman) Werre in the early 1920s and again for my uncle Ed and Alma (George) Werre in the late 1920s.



**Summer kitchen, shed and “mooned” outhouse. Photograph by Michael M. Miller, September 2012**

The summer kitchen was used for all butchering purposes – making all the sausages, head cheese, liver sausage and frying “out” all the lard – which was used for baking and frying foods. We also had a 50 gallon oak barrel which was filled with the hams and bacon

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## GROW Board of Directors, December 2012

As appreciation for the GROW Board’s service, travel and time given thru 2012, GROW paid for one meal per Director, Alternate, and Emeritus Director. Twenty-two attended the Christmas Social get-together at Xavier Restaurant in December 2012.

What a great festive evening with the Directors, their spouses, and special guests all having a wonder-

ful time, learning many new things that we had not known or may have forgotten. One spouse, most had known before, while others may have been together for as much as 15 years. It was a time to relax; not conducting or talking about GROW business, but having a fun time when we could enjoy each person’s fellowship. A lot of laughs and many hugs.



**Starting on the front row sitting (L to R) were: Charlotte Bohlman, Jeanette McDermid, Roberta Haas, Roger Haas, Jan Haberman and Cheri Elder**

**Second row Standing (L to R) were: Allen White, Arlene Maston, Violet Lang, Nina Schiermeister, Larry Kuntz, Kathy Kuntz, Nina Weber and April Blauser**

**Third row Standing (L to R) were: Alice Summers, Nancy White, Harold Lang, Ells Schiermeister, Sharon Bell, Bill Glen, Ed Weber and Oscar Geizler**

## Werre Homestead, cont.

to cure in the brine solution of garlic, salt, etc. until spring when it was smoked and ready to eat.

We did all our canning of fruits, vegetables, and jams in the summer kitchen, as well as butchering the chickens, geese, etc. and canning them before freezers.

The summer kitchen was always used on wash day— heating the water in boilers on the old range. The old gas engine was used for washing.

A hole in the wall of the summer kitchen was put in for the exhaust (blue smoke all over) the constant noise was terrible. In 1947, my dad bought a power plant (wonderful) everything became electric—the washing machine. The power plant was big so we had lights in the barn and an electric iron was great. Which was all we did in the summer kitchen.

In the winter of 1947-1948, our family went to Texas and the hired man lived in the summer kitchen. The summer kitchen was used constantly. Washing continued in the summer kitchen until 1970. The canning is still done there. Many wonderful memories.

Homemade soap was always made in and outside the summer kitchen. The lard was melted inside and then the lye was added and constantly stirred outside otherwise it would take your breath away!

*President's Note: Please see the 41 pictures on the website listed above and let your memories marvel and react. I hope to see the Fred and Rose Sommer Küchen (Summer Kitchen) in August. Roger*



**On the 10 March I went to see Vic Jacobs who is suffering with pulmonary difficulties. He was in the Tillamook hospital in January, but the breathing problems became more severe. He was transported to the Veterans Hospital for a week and then brought to Marquis Rehab where he will be staying for up to 21 days for an evaluation. He will love to have visitors. His phone number at Marquis is 503-289-5571, his cell phone is 541-418-1360, and his e-mail is vfjacobs@oregoncoast.com**

**Thanks for showing your affection and love. Roger Haas**

## 2012-14 GROW Board of Directors

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Sunshine Chair & Calling Asst.  
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Portland, OR 97215 haberman988@msn.com  
Term ends: 2014

Jeanette McDermid, Secretary/Library Specialist  
327 SE Elliot Ave (503) 666-6939  
Gresham, OR 97080-7726 toadlilyuniqu@comcast.net  
Term ends: 2013

Adi Hartfeil, Treasurer-Membership  
4230 S Terra Vista Ct. (503) 636-2272  
West Linn, OR 97068 abhartfeil@comcast.net  
Term ends: 2015

Allen White, Caller/Brochure Disseminator  
10400 SE Cook Ct. #75 (503) 253-9551  
Milwaukie, OR 97222-1574 allenandnancy@juno.com  
Term ends: 2015

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 vhl@q.com  
Term ends: 2015

Leona Koth Hix, Name Badge Chair  
2704 Haworth Ave. (503) 538-4508  
Newberg, OR 97132-1918 JWHIX@comcast.net  
Term ends: 2014

Larry Kuntz, Alternate #1, Brochure Printer  
16500 SE 1st St. Unit 159 (360) 953-8709  
Vancouver, WA 98684 vwlarry@comcast.net  
Term ends: 2013

Sharon Bell, Alternate #2 - Set-Up Chair  
126 NE 86th Ave. (503) 254-2583  
Portland, OR 97220 bellglen@teleport.com  
Term ends: 2013



In Memory—Maxine Daily, Director Emeritus  
In Memory—Clifford Haberman, Director Emeritus  
Robert Majhor, Director Emeritus  
Ed Weber, Director Emeritus

# GROW QUARTERLY CALENDAR

APRIL 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Board Meeting	24	25	26	27
28 Chapter Meeting	29	30				

MAY 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Board Meeting	15	16	17	18
19 Chapter Meeting	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
					Newsletter Deadline	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Board Meeting	19	20	21	22
23 Chapter Meeting	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



**Chapter Meetings are held at:**

**Bethany Lutheran Church Basement  
4330 NE 37th Ave., Portland, OR**

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.**

**Doors open at 1 pm • Meeting 2-5 pm**

## Chapter Meetings

**28 April** Presenter: Yelena Thayer

**Will be speaking on her homeland in Ukraine & Elections**

**19 May**

Presenter: Kaye Kuntz Igao

**Ancestral Village Round Table Discussion**

**23 June** Presenter: TBA

**22 September**

Presenter: Bob Schauer & Convention Reports

## 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

**43rd Annual  
Germans from Russia  
Heritage Society  
International Convention  
July 17-21, 2013  
at the  
Best Western Ramkota Hotel  
Bismarck, ND**

**SEEKING CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS!**

**Volunteers are at the heart of the  
Germans from Russia Heritage Society,  
and the convention is no exception.  
If you would like to volunteer to help at the  
convention please contact Rachel  
at GRHS Headquarters.**

*Looking forward to seeing you there!*

**GRHS CLEARING HOUSE HAS NEW FILES AVAILABLE!!  
For a complete list please see the website - [www.grhs.org](http://www.grhs.org)**

1816 REVISION LIST, COLONY OF LUSTDORF, GROSSLIEBENTAL DISTRICT, KHERSON GUBERNIA - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, 2013

1816-1817 REVISION LIST, COLONY OF MÜNCHEN, BERESAN DISTRICT, KHERSON GUBERNIA - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, 2012

STATISTICAL REPORT ABOUT COLONISTS, (Includes Family Members & Ages) DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND FARMING INVENTORY IN THE TAURIEN GOVERNMENT, FEODOSIA AND SIMFEROPOL DISTRICT, 1818: Colony of Friedental, Colony of Neusatz, Colony of Rosental - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, 2012

1816 REVISION LISTS, CRIMEA: Includes Feodosia, Colony Near Feodosia, Friedental, Heilbrunn, Kronental, Neusatz, Rosental, City of Simferopol, Sudak, Zurichtal - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, 2012

1811 BERESAN DISTRICT FAMILY LISTS With Statistical Information About Their Economic Condition; Includes villages of: Landau, Sulz, Karlsruhe, Speier, Worms, Rohrbach, Rastadt, München - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, 2012

KUTSCHURGAN: Register of 6 colonies of the Odessa Settlement Region, 1814 - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, June 2012

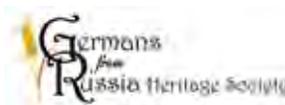
1816 Revision List, Colony of Neuburg, GROSSLIEBENTAL DISTRICT, Kherson, Gubernia - a project of Germans from Russia Heritage Society, coordinated by the GRHS Clearing House, 2012

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS WELCOMED!**

Please send articles, photos, stories, anecdotes, recipes, etc. to: **Janice Prunier, Editor • 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201**

**NEW EMAIL ADDRESS - [grownnewslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:grownnewslettereditor@gmail.com)**

*Deadline for next issue is June 1, 2013.*



**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 \$1000.00 (\$200.00 per year)

Make checks payable to GROW - US Currency Only • Mail to: Adi Hartfeil, 4230 S. Terra Vista Ct., West Linn, OR 97068

Please send email updates and address corrections to Adi Hartfeil - [abhartfeil@comcast.net](mailto:abhartfeil@comcast.net)

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

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

Send articles to: [grownnewslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:grownnewslettereditor@gmail.com) or by mail to: Janice Prunier, 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

## Resources for Aiding in Your Research

### Organization Websites:

AHSGR Library  
[ahsgr.org](http://ahsgr.org)

G-R Heritage Collection  
[lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc](http://lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc)

GRHS Library  
[grhs.org](http://grhs.org)

EEGS - East European Genealogical Soc, Inc.  
[eegsociety.org](http://eegsociety.org)

FEEFHS - Fed of E. European Family His Soc  
[eefhs.org](http://eefhs.org)

LDS Family History Library  
[familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)

National Genealogical Society  
[nsgenealogy.org](http://nsgenealogy.org)

### Archive Websites:

National Archives (US)  
[archives.gov/aas/](http://archives.gov/aas/)

Odessa Archives (Pixel)  
[odessa3.org](http://odessa3.org)

Ellis Island  
[ellisland.org](http://ellisland.org)

Canadian National Archives  
[archives.ca](http://archives.ca)

# GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

## Germans from Russia

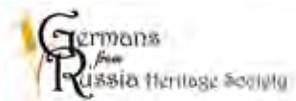
Sunnyside Seventh-day Adventist Church

**10501 SE Market Street • Room 20**

(Just east of the Adventist Medical Center) Portland, OR

**Starting in  
October 2013  
Dates Will Be Announced  
In Next Newsletter**

For more information, how to find the church,  
and how to get into the church contact:  
Harold Lang, [vhlang@q.com](mailto:vhlang@q.com), 503-251-2948



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

## GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222