



# GROW QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 16, Issue 2

January - February - March 2017

## President's Message

Ach du Lieber, 2016 was not a good year for GROW and for me personally. But I hope and wish the new 2017 year will bring every GROW member and supportive assistants gute Gesundheit, great enjoyment and lots of satisfaction! For GROW, I hope we will be successful in the way the Board runs our small organization in supporting of our shared Germans from Russia heritage, culture and ancestry.



GROW lost the original founder Roger Haas and his great assistant and wife Roberta this last year. Their dedication and labor to GROW's cause was total and so it will take all of us on the Board to carry-on their tremendous efforts!! I volunteered and was elected as your new GROW President. Even though I do not know some of you GROW members as well as Roger and Roberta did; I am sehr (very) friendly, sehr cooperative and am sehr supportive in anything related to my or your Russland Deutsche roots.

Our two Vice-Presidents are Larry Kuntz who I named our President Pro-Temp who is GROW's technical Meister and has run some of our past 2016 Chapter meetings and Jan Haberman whose husband was a cofounder with Roger of GROW. The other experienced GROW Board members are our Secretary Jeanette McDermid; Allen White, who arranges a number of functions; Kathy Minden, who is very interested in getting younger and new members to join GROW; Sharon Bell, who is a sehr hard working and a new Board member who has taken over in generating the Chapter Meeting Reports and the latest GROW Board member Kay Carey, who is taking over the Treasurer's duties which I used to perform.

Our main 2017 goals and challenges will be to keep all you GROW members interested in our shared German heritage and attending the Chapter Meetings.

We are attempting to keep the Chapter Meeting presentations interesting and informative. Additionally, I am meeting with Steve Schreiber, the President, of the local Russland Deutsche organization, to see if we can have some shared meetings over topics which interest both Germans from Russia organizations. If you have any GROW related subject matter which you think should be presented at the Chapter Meetings, feel free to contact any of the GROW Board members or me (abhartfeil1114@outlook.com).

We have gained some new interesting GROW members in 2016 which I hope continues in 2017. Joe Baney joined GROW after I got to meet him at Roger's memorial service. He was born in the Bohemia region of Deutschland which is now Poland. He left Germany for the Portland area after meeting his future American wife in Deutschland giving her traveling directions in English. After he married his wife, Joe Americanized his first and last name (his first Deutscher name is Joachim). Two Woehl family

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Our winter in Bend has given us the most beautiful snowfalls and snow scenery imaginable. That, of course requires a lot of snow. I went to Walgreens for some needed things and, wanting to not tromp through two feet of partially trodden out paths, I entered the block where the cars go in. Several other businesses occupy the area and I picked my way between ski-jump sized mounds large enough to hide people and automobiles. They would make a perfect lair for ambushing and robbing unsuspecting SUVs of the sale-priced candy they just bought. My walk was like a stroll among small canyons. I thought I would have to climb the next mound to see where I was.



Other than mountain recreation areas, upper Michigan, or the leeward side of a Dakota barn, this is the most snow I've seen in one place. Snow falls, are moved and plowed, and gradually, eventually, gets dirty and littered. Then the next snowfall comes through and everything is white and clean-looking again. And, seemingly, so it goes through the winter until late March or June. But this is, we try to remember, our first winter here at 3,500 feet and we are told by the locals (all of whom moved in from lower California three or four years ago) this winter is snowier and colder than average. They also tell me I should watch my attempts at humor—I'm still on probation.

In the forty-five years we lived in western Washington, directly under the ocean influence, snow dribblings happened, maybe several times a year, but real snowfalls with a shelf life of more than a day were increasingly rare. And they were bothersome while being immensely delightful. As a visually-impaired bird watcher, I waited for the snow to bring uncommon flocks out of the foothills and mountains for a few days in search of food, pecking up the generous scatterings of bird seed in our back yard.

I pause and reflect. I realize my writings frequently gather around winter and cemeteries, which probably relates to my lack of success as a writer! If only I could write a story of Brad and Angelina arguing in a cemetery during a fluffy snowfall. I look out the window and the falling snow has changed from large quarter-sized flakes like we cut out of paper in the third grade to a sky full of white periods. Looking more carefully, I see a whole array of punctuation functionaries are out there—more periods, some pausing commas, emphatic exclamation points and, over to the left, a

very formal looking colon beside an uncertain semi-colon.

### A story:

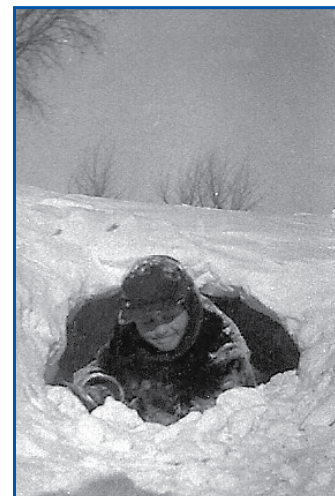
At the most, I was an early four. I wakened on a dark morning and crawled out of bed. The house was strangely quiet. No sound of my parents arguing, no polka playing on WNAX radio...silence. I searched each of the four small rooms up and down the stairs. I was alone. The entry door was locked. I turned to the window beside the door and the world wasn't there, only the cold white of a gathering blizzard. As the wind increased and I could hear its howls and moans, the world, inside and outside the house, became increasingly dark.



I don't know how long I wandered the house containing an increasing level of panic. At some point I must have figured my parents had to be in the barn milking and my brother was with them or in the shed.

From that a quick decision to join them sent me up on the table to kick out the kitchen window. I don't recall being cut or scraped

going out. Instinctively, I jumped into the white and, I was told, bitter cold snow wall. I remember little of my walk. I do remember walking into the barn and seeing fear in my parents' faces as they saw me! The memory ends there. I assume I found my way by habit. I walked the route many times daily: Going out to play in the pasture, carrying water to the house, finding dad in the sheds near the barn, carrying a



pail of milk, back and forth. Leaving the house with the broken window, I walked on the east of a current thicket. Next was the large cottonwood tree to the right of the path, then a fence, the windmill and stock

*Continued on page 3.*

## Snow, cont.

tank. And then the barn. Likely none of that was visible, but I knew it was there.

My mother believed God saved me for something great (yet to be realized apparently). Given that I frequently get lost in downtown Portland and have little sense of direction on cloudy days In the wilderness, I appreciate the mystery.

A cousin from North Dakota just relocated to Arizona. A succession of past generations moved to California, Texas, Arizona, and other such places. Most say they don't miss the snow. Not at all. A few, wearing the kind of faces where you can't tell if they're lying, say they do. And if they are truthful, and you sit with them quietly, you can maybe hear the wind blow.

## In Remembrance of Gisela Tunger

Gisela was an Honorary and Lifetime member of the German American Society (GAS) as well as a member of the Germans from Russia, Oregon and Washington (GROW).

An outdoor graveside gathering was held at 10:30 am on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at Helvetia Community Church north of Hillsboro. A small reception with cake and coffee followed at the church.



## Why I Never Met My Four Deutsche Grosseltern by Adi Hartfeil

I never had a chance to get to know my four Deutsche grandparents (Grosseltern or Oma and Opa) because they lived as Deutsche farmers in Russia (specifically Wolhynien - the northwest part of the Ukraine). Please note that our three grandchildren call my wife and me their Opa and Omi so that they can differentiate us from their other two grandparents.

My four Hartfeil and Ulmer Oma's and Opa's lived at the end of the 19th century in the northwest part of the Ukraine and which is very close to the Polish border. They were successful small farmers and enjoyed their Russian promised and written rights of having their own German language, customs, schools and churches until they were seriously restricted by the last Czars of Russia. The last and most important Russian government decree was the last straw when their Deutsche sons were supposed to serve in the Russian army.

So then by somewhat good circumstance my four Deutsche grandparents were interviewed and selected by Deutsche land barons from Latvia to come and work on their large estates in Latvia around 1906. The reason these Deutsche land barons were looking for loyal Deutsche Bauer (farmers) is that their local Latvian farmers refused to work for them anymore because they wanted to own their own Latvian land. For 700 years, these German land barons had controlled vast areas of Latvia because they were originally invited as German crusaders by Latvian kings and princes to put



**Maria & Daniel Hartfeil in southeast Brazil.**

down a land revolt. They were so successful militarily that they then controlled the Latvian government and kept possession of large tracts of land for the next 700 years.

My grandparents first worked for a smaller Deutscher Baron at Perbone which is located about 75 miles from the Baltic Sea. They then transferred more inland to the Baron von Mannteufel estate with a large Mansion located by Valtaki (Neuhausen). He was one of the richest barons and a Military leader

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## Deutsche Grosseltern, cont.

of the local Deutsche troops. My Oma Katherine Ulmer died in Perbone and was buried on small hillside German cemetery which my wife and I visited. We couldn't find her grave because they were too poor to have a stone marker. But we did find GROW member Kurt Radtke grandfather's stone marker on this beautiful wooded hill.

Because of the defeat of Deutschland in WWI, Latvia became a free country and all the German barons lost their land. Even though my Joseph Ulmer Opa remarried they were too poor to make a living in Latvia where you needed large farms to make a successful living. So, all my three remaining Grosseltern were forced to emigrate and had to emigrate to southern Brazil to find a new way of life in clearing land from dense jungles.

My father helped the free Latvian state stay independent at the end of WWI because the new Russian Communist forces were trying to conquer all three small Baltic countries. Because of his military effort, he was given a large Latvian farm which he farmed successfully until that crazy Hitler started WWII in 1939. He then moved (and occupied) in exchange of his Latvian farm an equal sized Polish farm near Posen, Poland where my mother, at age 42, had my twin brother and me in 1942. Two years later, in the winter of 1944-45, she had 24 hours to pack up her five kids to escape on the last train from our little Polish village of Domeslavic to West Deutschland. The train ran at night and was in hiding in the day time because the allies controlled the skies.

Please note that the Polish farm owner relatives worked side-by-side with my parents on their family Polish farm and on our last day there helped my mother to the village train station. My wife and I visited these very nice Polish farmers in 2002 to thank them for their help to my mother. This was only possible because they invited the nice-looking, Polish/German village teacher who readily translated my Deutsche words of thanks and appreciation. They served us coffee and cookies, allowed us to take pictures and video for my siblings in Oregon, and wanted us to stay overnight!! We were very impressed with the warmth and friendliness of the Polish people we met. See the picture (top right) of my sister Erna (in the middle) and two farm adults with my twin brother and me in the sled in front of this Polish farm which was probably taken in the winter of 1943-44.

On my 1980 trip with my brother Leo and his wife



**Taken in probably the winter of 1943-44, My sister Erna (in the middle) and two farm adults with my twin brother and me in the sled in front of our sized farm.**



**Daniel Hartfeil's grave marker in southeast Brazil which says "Here rests in peace ...."**

Gudrun to celebrate our Onkel Adolf and Tante Natalie Krueger 60th Wedding Anniversary in southern Brazil, my Deutsche cousins took me to see my Oma Maria and Opa Daniel Hartfeil's grave site with their nice-looking stone markers. I have added a picture of my Hartfeil Grosseltern which was recently sent to me by Pastor Wilson Wutzke. He is a Baptist Preacher in this area of Brazil and was interviewed by Michael Miller on his latest DVD about the Germans from Russia who immigrated to Brazil and Argentina. My Opa Joseph Ulmer also died in this area of Brazil but was later interred with his wife across the border in Argentina.

# Letters to Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl: Volga German Family Correspondences from Russia to Oklahoma, 1913-1937

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

Last November I presented a paper entitled “Letters to Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl: Family Correspondences from Russia to Oklahoma, 1913-1937” at the Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) held in Washington, D.C. It formed part of a special scholarly panel concerning early Soviet-era letter exchanges from Russia and the Soviet Union to North America. The panel provided me with additional insights and perspectives to enrich my own research on the topic.



This ongoing investigation involves a large corpus of 180 handwritten letters mailed between January 1913 and April 1937 from Russia’s Saratov Province in the Volga Region and elsewhere to rural Ingersoll and Alva, Oklahoma. Though now a virtual ghost town, Ingersoll, which in 1913 was Volga German immigrant Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl’s initial place of residence, claimed a post office until 1942. Original envelopes stamped and delivered from Russia show that her relatives’ early letters arrived in Ingersoll, and later on in Alva upon her marriage to William, also of German-Russian stock.

This vast collection of correspondences from family and friends spanned the period preceding the First World War’s outbreak to Soviet Communist dictator Joseph Stalin’s Great Terror. The preserved letters offer a glimpse into daily life during one of the most transformative and violent eras in modern world history. Sometimes through subversive writing techniques and



Part of an original family letter in Russian written in May 1919.



An original envelope from December 1914 mailed from Russia to Ingersoll, Oklahoma.

coded language to avoid official censors, they related to the outside what was happening inside the old country.

Part of the remarkable family story is tied to the University of Kansas in Lawrence. Between 1988 and 1992, this branch of the Lehl family in Wichita, Kansas, was able to enlist the professional services of Dr. Eugenia Felton (1907-2005), a noted Russian linguist of Estonian background who had worked for many years at the university and who is now passed away. In 1994, the family reproduced her handwritten translations on typewriter for a self-publication. Around this time, following the Cold War, the family had the good fortune through Russian pen pal Elena Bazarkina to reconnect with surviving relatives in the former Soviet Union. After both sides of the family reunited, most of the original letters were returned as a gift to family in Russia.

In October 2013, immigrant Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl’s granddaughter, retired educator Ella Marie (Lehl) Frederick of Wichita, Kansas, generously donated to me one of only two original typed sets of the entire letter collection for the expressed purpose of historical preservation. I have now completed a digital scan of all original typed and translated manuscripts, as well as the handful of remaining original documents such as envelopes and letters, for further editing as part of an anticipated published book compilation and related projects.

This collection represents an extensive, long-term project. It remains an enormous honor and privilege to be involved with sharing to the public this family treasure which still bears witness to major historical events nearly one century ago and which embodies the enduring power of the human spirit across space and time.



Volga German immigrant Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl (1893-1982) from Russia in 1913.



# Dispersal of the Volhynia Germans in South Brazil

Written by Baptist Pastor Vilson Wutzke in South Brazil, 2016

Translated by Adi Hartfeil

Baptist pastor Vilson Wutzke is a Brazilian and first generation-born Volhynia German from Russia (nw part of the Ukraine). He presently lives in Nova Santa Rosa, state of Parana, Brazil. Vilson is distantly related to the translator, Adi Hartfeil, and annually generates his German-written publication named "The Friend". His publication aims to document and disseminate the history of his fellow Volhynia Germans who initially immigrated to Brazil around the end of the 19th century. Note, Vilson drove more than 250 miles to be video taped in Brazil for Michael Miller's 2015 Prairie Public & GRHC video titled "Germans from Russia in South America".

Continued from last issue.

Already in Russia the Volhynia Germans had to rely on themselves. Consequently they developed a great self-sustaining skills in regards helping themselves with all kinds of living circumstances. A German was judged as a person who one could trust, could be educated, and did not waste time and was productive. The following was said about them: "The German is like a willow tree in that where ever you plant them their roots will sprout".

Because workable land was needed, the land in the Rio Grande do Sul State was parched and the aim to find better options, the following Volhynia German emmigration began.

## ARGENTINA

The first Volhynia Families went to Misiones, Argentina because they heard about several better opportunities in making a living on their farmland. Here they could plant and harvest year around Yerba Mate (leaves used to make a herbal drink), tea, Tung, Pinos and Eucalyptus trees. Also their money had more



Yerba Mate planting, Argentina

value so that they could buy larger farms. Today one can find many Volhynia Germans in Misiones and especially in Obera, Parnambi, Alem, Tres de Mayo and other cities as well.

All of them settled well and have added to the development of their country. From a few original families the German Baptist churches developed in Misiones.



Baptist church members in Panambi, Argentina

## TUPINAMBA, PARANA STATE, BRAZIL

In the 1940's a few Volhynia German families left for northern part of the State of Parana and settled in the jungle area around Tupinamba-Astorga. Here the living standards were totally different. The jungle was cleared and main crop was coffee. At this time coffee had a very high price, one named coffee the "green gold". Pastor Willy Schmidt said: with one crop a farmer could in one year buy another equal amount of land. At that time since there were few farming alternatives, these small and middle sized colonists had a good economical income and were able to live fairly well.



Brazilian coffee beans

After 1975 and a terrible frost, the coffee plantation were destroyed and farming in the northern part of the State of Parana started a new phase. As a result, the coffee planation were replaced with soybeans and wheat.

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# Dispersal of the Volhynia Germans in South Brazil, cont.

## EAST PARANA, BRAZIL

The Empress "Colonyadora Maripa" bought in 1946 the "Estate Britania" from the Madeiras del Alto Parana company which is located on the left side of the Parana river. Here later the small city of Toledo was founded. After three years Willy Barth took over the colonization of this region and via a land surveying devided this purchased land into small cities and farms. Many villages and cities came into being including Nova Santa Rosa where most of the Volhynia



**First house of Erich Wutzke in Nova Santa Rosa, 1958.**

Germans settled.

The colonization started here in 1954 because many Volhynia German families were coming from the Rio Grande do Sul State. These families were looking for more land and a better future for themselves and their children. Here in the eastern part of the State of Parana they again had to clear the jundgle and start from scratch just like they started their immigration lives initially in the Rio Grande do Sul State. Falling trees, constructing buildings and all labor had to be done again manually.



**Clearing jungle, Nova Santa Rosa, Parana State, Brazil.**

**By Otto Bucholtz**

## PARAGUAY

At the beginning of the 1970's, Paraguay opened the doors for immigrants because there was still a lot of jungle covering their country. So again this was a good opportunity for Volhynia German families in Brazil, who didn't have a lot of land, to purchase more of it in Paraguay. The land which was covered with jungle was available for a very reasonable cost. For a small amount of money one could buy more than a large farm. Because of this economical incentive, many families emigrated from eastern Parana, Rio Grande do Sul and other Brazilian areas to Paraguay. They settled in the Santa Rosa del Monday region and in the cities of Curupayty, Naranjal, Santa Rita, Iruña, Raul Penha, Guahory Central, Nueva Toledo, Katuetê, San Alberto, Tupa Renda, etc.



**Santa Rosa del Monday Region, Paraguay.**

At the beginning the living circumstances were very difficult for the Volhynia Germans because there were few roads and bridges. Many restarted their lives under plastic roof covers in the jungle. At first the jungle was cleared with hand saws, axes and brush machettes, later replaced with power saws. The first houses were built with round logs with dirt floors

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## Dispersal of the Volhynia Germans in South Brazil, cont.

and covered with wood shingles. I can testify personally that these Volhynia German church members welcomed me into their jungle homes. These visits left me with very good memories.

At the beginning there was little commerce and opportunities for the Volhynia Germans in selling their grain crops. Their start meant to clear jungle and tree stumps by hand before tractors were used. With farm mechanization, their agricultural economy increased greatly. Today these Volhynia Germans can look back and thank God for the agricultural development in their country.

### MATO GROSSO STATE, BRAZIL

In the 1980's the emigration of the Volhynia Germans to the State of Mato Grosso started. Here the climate and the ground make-up is totally different and as are the art and ways of planting crops. In the summer there is a lot of rain and the winters are very dry. In southern Brazil the jungle had to be cut, burned and planted without using fertilizers and lime. Here the new settlers had to learn new agricultural techniques, apply fertilizers and use new planting techniques.



Nelci and Ademar Tietz with Pastor Vilson Wutzke in Sinop, Monto Grosso State, Brazil.

Ademar Tietz came to the State of Mato Grosso, Brazil in 1986 after he sold his 10 hectar (about 25 acres) farm in Nova Santa Rosa in the State of Parana, Brazil. Near the city of Sinop, he was able to purchase 200 hectares of land because of the cheaper prices in the State of Mato Grosso. He noticed right away that the ground make-up was not going to suport the growing of grain crops. So he planted soy beans but only harvested 25 sacks per hectar. No advanced agricultural techniques existed to help determine the type of fertilizers to use and how to plant crops. Later when he applied fertilizers with phosphor his farming yields increased from 40 to 65 sacks per hectar. Now Ademar and his sons plant 660 hectares of their own and rented land and get an average yield of 60

sacks per hectar of soy beans.

Because of agricultural technical advancements, farm yields in the last 30 years have doubled. In the State of Mato Grosso, Brazil the harvest of grain crops is more expensive and the profits are lower than those in southern Brazil. But because farmers have larger flat lands available to plant they obtain greater profits.

As far as I know, today we have Volhynia Germans in Lucas do Rio Verde, Soriso, Sinop, Gaucha do Norte, Alta Floresta, Porto dos Gauchos, Brianorte and other cities in the State of Mato Grosso. Also Volhynia Germans live in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul, where the climate is similar to the climate in southern Brazil. One can find them also in the Brazilian states of Santa Catarina, Bahia, Maranhao, and others as well.

From this publication we should be able to come to a couple of conclusions. No matter in what country or Brazilian state the Volhynia Germans descendants settled, they all embraced their new homeland and worked and lived in peace. The Russian writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn who authored his book "The Gulag Archipelago" learned the German character while being a fellow prisoner in a Russia labor camp with Germans and other nationals prisoners. He witnessed these German prisoners working diligently and with full efforts. So he wrote in his book "where in the world can you find a poor place that the Germans can't turn into a productive land?"

One can also say that where ever the Volhynia Germans settled they were very involved with the orga-



1947 Baptist Conference in Linha Dr. Pederneiras, Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil.

nization of their religious communities. This is how it happened with the first Volhynia Germans who settled in southern Brazil as well as those who then later moved to the States of Parana, Mato Grosso and other countries like Argentina and Paraguay. They were searching for land to making a better living but also brought Christianity to all the places they settled. They were concerned with their earthly lives and finding a new homeland but also kept their focus on their future lasting home in heaven.



## President's Message, cont.

members are new members. Randy Woehl will make a future presentation about his Grossmutter who was filmed by Michael Miller from North Dakota in one of his first professional video DVDs.

Even though we have several GROW challenges, our financial year end-results are very good because the stock market has been on our side. So, let's all work together to make 2017 successful for GROW. Remember that common Deutsches saying – Arbeit macht das Leben süss (work makes life sweet/successful)!!

## What's the Difference Between AHSGR and the Center for Volga German Studies

by Steve Schreiber

As many of you know, I am currently serving in two roles; as President of the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR and as the Interim Director of the Center for Volga German Studies. I've found that there is a great deal of confusion between the two organizations and I'd like to help sort that out a bit.

Founded in 1968, The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR) is an international organization based in Lincoln, Nebraska that is dedicated to the discovery, collection, preservation, and dissemination of information related to the history, cultural heritage and genealogy of Germanic Settlers in the Russian Empire and their descendants. I'd like to emphasize that AHSGR represents all German ethnic groups that lived in the Russian empire. It is not a "Volga German" only organization.

The Oregon Chapter of AHSGR was organized in Portland, Oregon on April 25, 1971 and became formally affiliated with the AHSGR International organization headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska on November 21, 1971. Our chapter membership includes individuals with ancestry from the Black Sea, Bessarabia, Mennonite, Volga and other German settlement areas. The Oregon Chapter membership became more heavily (but not exclusively) comprised of people with Volga German ancestry with the founding of GROW in 2001. With a singular focus on Black Sea Germans, many AHSGR Oregon Chapter members chose to change their membership to GROW. Some people maintain dual memberships to this day.

AHSGR International, the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR, and GROW are historical societies that require a membership.

In contrast, the Center for Volga German Studies

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## GROW Board of Directors

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Term ends: 2016



In Memory—Maxine Daily, Director Emeritus

In Memory—Oscar Geiszler, Director Emeritus

In Memory—Roger Haas, Co-Founder/Director Emeritus

In Memory—Roberta Haas

In Memory—Clifford Haberman, Co-Founder/Director Emeritus

Robert Majhor, Director Emeritus

Ed Weber, Director Emeritus

# GROW QUARTERLY CALENDAR

JANUARY 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17 Board Meeting	18	19	20	21
22 Chapter Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



**Chapter Meetings are held at:**  
**New Deutsches Haus**  
*(formerly the Fellowship Masonic Center)*  
 5626 NE Alameda St., Portland, OR  
 (57th & Sandy Blvd.)

**Directions:**  
 From the North taking I-205 or I-5,  
 Take Columbia Exit and go to Cully, turn South  
 until you come to Sandy Blvd. & 57th/NE Alameda.  
 From the South on I-205 take Sandy Blvd. Exit,  
 turn right on Sandy going West to Alameda & Sandy.  
 From I-5, take I-84 to 60th, turn North to Halsey,  
 Left to 57th, North to Sandy & Alameda.  
 38 car parking across from the Deutsches Haus.  
**Doors open at 1 pm • Meeting 2-5 pm**

## Chapter Meetings 2017

*January through April presenters are tentative.*

**JANUARY 22:** Basic reviews of Germans from Russia-based websites using various presenters of the following internet home-page sites: GROW's, GRHS's, AHSGR's, Michael Miller's, SGEEE, a Ukrainian/German one, a Russian/German one, etc.

**FEBRUARY 26:** The life of meine Deutsche Grossmutter by new GROW member Randy Woehl. Note, his Grossmutter was interviewed and video taped in the first DVD made by Michael Miller (two part presentation).

**MARCH 26:** Deutsche Ukrainian pastor or Joe Baney about the history of the Deutsche Marine (Navy) since he served as a Deutsche Seemann on the first destroyers after WWII.

**APRIL 23:** Joint Chapter Meeting with AHSGR at the Deutsches Haus with Lea Duda presenting "My Donau Schwabian Family".

**MAY 21:** Second part of Randy Woehl presentation about his Deutsche Grossmutter.

FEBRUARY 2017						
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 Presidents Day	21 Board Meeting	22	23	24	28
26 Chapter Meeting	27	28				

MARCH 2017						
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
19	20	21 Board Meeting	22	23	24	25
26 Chapter Meeting	27	28	29	30	31	



## Difference Between AHSGR and CVGS, cont.

(CVGS) is part of Concordia University and supports research into and preservation of the heritage, history, traditions and accomplishments of the Volga Germans. As you know, the Volga Germans are only one of several ethnic German groups that settled in Russia.

The CVGS is not a membership based organization. The CVGS has its own Advisory Council and operates based on donations from interested people and organizations. All funds and materials held by the CVGS are the property of Concordia University, not the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR.

The Oregon Chapter of AHSGR shares a close partnership with CVGS. The former Oregon Chapter library is now included as part of the CVGS collection held in the George R. White Library on the Concordia University campus. Most of the Oregon Chapter meetings and programs are also held at the Concordia University library. Despite this close partnership, they are two separate entities from both a legal and financial perspective.

All three organizations have unique missions, but there is a good deal of overlap. While we tend to be most interested in the settlement areas of our ances-

tors, there is also the much larger story of the *Russlanddeutsch* that encompasses all our groups. We have much in common and our story should not be forgotten. Let's collaborate where it makes sense.

## Treasurer's Note

Hello again, fellow GROW members!! With all the extra work of dealing with the snowy weather, please send your 2017 dues \$70 (\$5 for GROW & \$65 for GRHS) into me at the following address --

Kay Carey  
10107 SW Trapper Terrace, #24  
Beaverton, Oregon 97008

(The building number is VERY IMPORTANT, since the house numbers repeat every few buildings, even on the same street!)

Thanks very much,  
Kay Carey, GROW Treasurer



## 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 \$65.00 • GRHS Lifetime Membership \$1300.00 (\$130.00 per year)

Make checks payable to GROW - US Currency Only • Mail to: Kay Carey, Treasurer, 10107 SW Trapper Terrace, #24, Beaverton, Oregon 97008

Please send email updates and address corrections to Adi Hartfeil - 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: [jcprunier@frontier.com](mailto:jcprunier@frontier.com) or by mail to: Janice Prunier, 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

We'd Love To  
Hear From You!

**NEWSLETTER  
SUBMISSIONS  
WELCOMED!**

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

**Jan Prunier, Editor  
1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201  
grownewslettereditor@gmail.com**

***Deadline for next issue is March 1, 2017.***

**FUNDRAISING  
OPPORTUNITIES**

***At No Cost To You!***

Receive your newsletters via email,  
and save GROW in postage costs.  
Thank You!

***Other Opportunities to Help...***

- 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.



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

**GROW Chapter**

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222