

# GROW Newsletter

*Germans From Russia of Oregon and SW Washington*  
Area chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)

Volume 2 Issue 4

July-August-September 2003

## Message from the President

By Roger Haas

Roberta & I just returned from a personalized ancestral tour to England. After three trips to Germany and other European countries, including Russia, to see my cousins, where my mother and other ancestors walked, it was time to see the boroughs, towns, and port of departure in the United Kingdom (UK) where Roberta's relatives named **Jewett** were born, baptized, lived, and protested for their religious freedom. They saw hope in America and in 1638 departed with Vicar Ezekiel Rogers to Rowley, Massachusetts. My expectations and interest were low: You have heard the saying, "You can always tell a German, but you can't tell him much!" Well, my eyes were opened and I learned much!

We arrived at the town of Chester where a **Jewett** cousin served as Mayor. The current Lord Mayor and Mayoress gave us five hours of their precious time participating in a **Jewett** banquet with the traveling tour group and a **Jewett** genealogist. The next day Lord Mayor Barry Cowper gave us a personal tour through the City Chambers with all the splendor of Chester's history. Chester's Town Crier gave us a two-hour tour of the Roman/Medieval Wall and other sites. Attendance at the Cathedral church services at Bradford was particularly meaningful as this was where Roberta's ancestors were born and baptized. Another **Jewett** genealogist provided additional family history. We traveled the area where they had labored and then on to Rowley to the port where the ancestors departed plus much too much to share here.

I share the above to encourage you to get excited about your ancestral history. It can be one of the most rewarding and satisfying interests in your life. Our Chapter provides wonderful opportunities to help you reach into your past and discover some of the most fascinating facets of your ancestors who came to this great country to gain the privileges and fluency of which you now can avail yourself.

I would like to suggest that you attend all of the GROW meetings that you can arrange in your busy

schedule. All of them have been excellent. Come early and visit with our librarians and researchers. Enroll in specially arranged "Leave Your Legacy" sessions. Contribute a few words, a picture, a question, and/or a special story. Read our Newsletter and forward a copy to friends and family. Every member is encouraged to participate by contributing something to the newsletter, and it is not just for experienced writers. Our Editor will be pleased to get even the tiniest tidbit from you. Attend the summer picnic and the national conventions. Avail yourself of all opportunities, such as the free Family History Fair (see page 8 for details) to learn and appreciate your ancestral history and share your excitement with others.

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## Email Change for Newsletter Editor

Dr. Velma Jesser

vjesser@yahoo.com

## **Membership**

As of June 14, 2003, GROW membership was at a total of 195 members.

**Go GROW!**

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## **2003-2004 Calendar of Events**

Add the dates of the Chapter Meetings and the Board Meetings to be held during 2003-2004 to your personal planners now. Find the dates, times, and locations on page 12.

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**July 12**

## **1<sup>st</sup> Annual GROW Picnic**

*(Find details on page 8)*

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## **Prairie Crosses, Prairie Voices**

**Video shared by Roy Schnaible**

**April 27, 2003**

Though they stand silent, behind each cross is a story. It is the story of the Germans from Russia whose blacksmiths used wagon-wheel rims and scrap metal to fashion markers for the graves of the dead. Today, framed against the large expanse of sky and prairie grasses, the crosses can be seen on the Great Plains in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Montana, South Dakota, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. The video is available for sale from Roy Schnaible at GROW Chapter meetings.

**Thank you, Roy, for sharing!**

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## **Documenting A Death**

**Presented by Susan Baird**

**May 25, 2003**

Susan Baird gave GROW members a lot to consider in ancestor research. While you may hear, "Oh, I've hit a brick wall," you'll hear Susan say, "There ARE no brick walls; you just haven't looked at the right record yet!" All records are *clues* and it's always good to find other records to support your evidence. She has a list of documents or areas to research in documenting the death of your ancestor (see page 5).

Susan's underlying message to us is that we have an obligation to know, honor, and appreciate our ancestors and what they sacrificed for us. Two areas of research that she emphasizes are "locality, locality, locality" and "cousins, cousins, cousins." If we don't really seek these resources, we may miss the very thing that we are researching. And

we are reminded to say **thank you** in a special way to those who do help us.

As a humorous practical tip, Susan recommends that when all else fails in getting that document in hand, look pathetic and grovel! She teaches classes with over 112 topics connected to Family History research and brings 43 years of experience with her.

For a topic with **grave** concern, she certainly had us paying attention!

**Thank you, Susan!**

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## **Bruno**

**Presented by Bruno Reule**

**June 22, 2003**

Bruno, a book of a young boy's survival in war-torn Europe, will be presented by Bruno Reule. Russia took over the Bessarabian region of Romania in 1940 where Bruno was born, and his family fled to the Fatherland in Germany to escape the ravages of Communism.

The flight took Bruno as a 12-year-old boy to Yugoslavia, Sudetenland, and finally to German-occupied Poland. In the final months of the war, they fled advancing Russian troops and retreating Germans amid aircraft fire, tanks, and gunshots. Many died and before long they were overtaken; they lost their wagon and horses and even Bruno's coat and boots were stolen from him. He and his family ended up in cattle cars on a month-long journey to a Siberian prisoner-of-war camp where rats, lice, disease, and death became their constant companions. Bruno will tell how he survived and how he would *not* be defeated.

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## **Looking for Relatives in Germany?**

You can place a **free ad** (6 centimeters wide/3 centimeters long) in Volk auf dem Weg, the monthly publication by the Germans From Russia Society in Germany (40,000 subscribers). The ad should be written in German and sent to

**Volk auf dem Weg**

**Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland e.V.**

**Raitelsbergstrasse 49 GERMANY**

If you would like to see a sample ad, contact your Editor (see page 11).

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## **Now Try This . . . .**

**Zehn Ziegen zogen  
zehn Zentner Zucker  
zum Zoo**

Ten goats pulled  
ten pounds of sugar to the zoo



## **Members' Favorite Web Sites**

All sites below begin with <http://www>.

- GROW Chapter** [grhs.org](http://grhs.org)  
Click on *Chapters*, Look under *West Coast*
- German-Russian Recipes** (More on page 7)  
[lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc/recipes.html](http://lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc/recipes.html)
- German books, databases, records, etc.**  
[genealogienetz.de/genealogy.html](http://genealogienetz.de/genealogy.html)  
(Look under *Miscellaneous* for a helpful  
table of weights & measures)
- German Farm** [frontiermuseum.org/german.htm](http://frontiermuseum.org/german.htm)
- Germany Telephone Book** [telefonbuch.de](http://telefonbuch.de)
- Ortsfamilienbuecher**  
[db.genealogy.net/offb/map.cgi?land=deutschland](http://db.genealogy.net/offb/map.cgi?land=deutschland)
- Etymology and Name Days**  
[behindthename.com/namedays.html](http://behindthename.com/namedays.html)
- German-Russian History (Site is in German)**  
[deutschlandrussland.de/zdk/vorwort.htm](http://deutschlandrussland.de/zdk/vorwort.htm)
- A German Marketplace online**  
[genealogyunlimited.com/market.html](http://genealogyunlimited.com/market.html)
- German-Russian Biographies, Databases, Links to  
Genealogical Websites, and Other Records**  
[lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndirs/  
bio&genealogy/index.html](http://lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndirs/bio&genealogy/index.html)
- Pre-Church Records in German Towns, Etc.**  
[members.cox.net/hessen/table.htm](http://members.cox.net/hessen/table.htm)
- Beginners Guide to Family History Research**  
[dhc.net/~jw/guide.html](http://dhc.net/~jw/guide.html)
- Hewlett-Packard's Genealogy Series**  
[homeandoffice.hp.com/hho/us/eng/  
genealogy\\_series\\_article\\_one.html](http://homeandoffice.hp.com/hho/us/eng/genealogy_series_article_one.html)
- Census Links** [censuslinks.com](http://censuslinks.com)
- Grassroots Genealogy** [rootsweb.com](http://rootsweb.com)
- Board of Certification of Genealogists** [fgs.org](http://fgs.org)
- Obituary Central** [obitcentral.com/obitsearch](http://obitcentral.com/obitsearch)

**What's your favorite web site?**

## **Forced Labor Camp Exhibition & Multi-Lingual Gulag Bibliography**

An impressive exhibition of the existence of forced labor camps which were established in the first years of the Communist regime in the Soviet Union is now available at [www.osa.ceu.hu/gulag/index.html](http://www.osa.ceu.hu/gulag/index.html)

The International League for the Rights of Man has documented the existence of over 400 camps in Central and Eastern Europe. It highlights its findings and provides links to many related sites.



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## **Sites Recommended by Susan Baird**

(See program summary on page 2)

All sites below begin with <http://www>.

- California Death Certificates**  
[vitals.rootsweb.com/ca/death/search.cgi](http://vitals.rootsweb.com/ca/death/search.cgi)
- Illinois Death Certificates**  
[www2.sos.state.il.us/departments/  
archives/genealogy/forms/idphdeathsrch.html](http://www2.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/genealogy/forms/idphdeathsrch.html)
- Kentucky Death Records** [ukcc.uky.edu/~vitalrec/](http://ukcc.uky.edu/~vitalrec/)  
also [userdb.rootsweb.com/ky/death/search.cgi](http://userdb.rootsweb.com/ky/death/search.cgi)
- Maine Death Records**  
[vitals.rootsweb.com/me/death/search.cgi](http://vitals.rootsweb.com/me/death/search.cgi)
- Michigan Genealogical Death Indexing System,  
through 1897**  
[mdch.state.mi.us/pha/osr/gendisx/search2.htm](http://mdch.state.mi.us/pha/osr/gendisx/search2.htm)
- Minnesota Death Certificates**  
[people.mnhs.org/dci/Search.cfm](http://people.mnhs.org/dci/Search.cfm)
- Missouri Birth & Death Records Database**  
[sos.state.mo.us/archives/resources/birthdeath/](http://sos.state.mo.us/archives/resources/birthdeath/)
- Ohio Death Certificates, 1913-1937**  
[ohiohistory.org/dindex/](http://ohiohistory.org/dindex/)
- Oregon Historical Records Index**  
[arcweb.sos.state.or.us/banners/genlist.htm](http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/banners/genlist.htm)
- Texas Death Records**  
[vitals.rootsweb.com/tx/death/search.cgi](http://vitals.rootsweb.com/tx/death/search.cgi)

## ***A German-Russian Wrangler***

***By Paul E. Voeller***



My grandfather came to this country in 1896 and settled on a farm near Balta in Pierce County, North Dakota.

Horses were valued more than cows by the Germans From Russia; after all, a farmer could *work* horses or ride them.

Many of the horses my grandfather owned were semi-wild and had to become accustomed to humans and having a bridle put on their noses.

Karl Voeller, my grandfather, was one of many wranglers in North Dakota of German descent who used the following method to capture and control a semi-wild horse.

At that time of his life, my grandfather had what-it-takes to pull-off this stunt. He was young, rather short, built like a refrigerator, very quick, and showed no fear!

These horses were kept in a special corral. My grandfather would approach a particular horse with a rather short rope in his pocket with a “bowline knot” in one end. At the last second, he would jump and grab the mane of that horse with both hands. He then would use his left leg to trip or take-down the horse. At the same time, my grandfather would land on his feet while securing a noose around the horse’s nose, thereby, bringing about some degree of control.

### ***The horse was captured!***

*To be honest, I’ve never seen this stunt performed. I’ve only heard about it through a cousin who once lived near my grandfather in Pierce County, North Dakota.*

## ***The Manure-Pile Bank***

***By Paul E. Voeller***

My Great Uncle Joe came to North Dakota from Selz, Russia, in 1893 when he was a young man. One day my Great Uncle, known as Fidda-sipple, decided it was time to buy another farm because the farm land that he owned was not very productive.

It wasn’t long before an opportunity arose where, if he played his cards right, he could acquire another farm near Fillmore, North Dakota, which had better soil.

### ***He had a plan!***

He would not pay his taxes for several years! He would take the tax money and other accumulated cash, put it in sealed coffee cans with lids, and bury the cans in the manure pile.

He then disregarded many notices of foreclosure. After a period of time, the Sheriff of Pierce County, North Dakota, served an eviction notice on my Great Uncle whereupon Fidda-sipple and the whole Kit-and-Kaboodle, along with the livestock and machinery, embarked on a five-mile trek to another farm which my Great Uncle had recently purchased with the coffee can money.

This farm land was just over the line in Benson County, North Dakota, where the soil was more productive and better suited for growing winter wheat. It was on that farm that my Great Uncle Joe lived and worked for the next fifty years.



*You see, being a first generation German From Russia immigrant, my Great Uncle and many others who lived in the Dakotas did not trust banks or the government at that time.*



## Canadian Research

By Lola M. Weber

From a presentation I recently attended on Canadian research, I would like to share the following guidelines with you for your research.

**The Closest Library.** Determine where the closest library is located within your vicinity of research. Use the source book *American Library Directory* at the local library which includes libraries in Canada. Determine a denomination, if possible, and write to the librarian to find out where the church records are located.

**Associations.** Ask what associations are in the area of the your ancestor's location. You may wish to join the genealogy society for your area of research. Ask where the archives for the area are located and don't forget to research museums and county histories.

**Interlibrary Loan.** When you have discovered books that may be of help, try using interlibrary loan through your local library.

**Internet.** Use the *google* search engine to find the mailing list for the Canadian province you are researching and post your queries on the Internet.

**IRC and Envelope.** When corresponding with a Canadian contact, include a return envelope and an IRC (International Response Coupon) available at your post office.

**Our Closest Research Facility.** A research location closest to us:

Cloverdale Library  
5642-176A St.  
Surrey, B.C. V3S 4G9  
Telephone: (604) 576-1384

This has a collection of genealogical material across Canada.

**Family History Library.** The census for 1841 and most others are available through the local Family History Library.

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*And Good luck!*

*Faulheit ist der Hang zur Ruhe  
ohne vorhergehende Arbeit*

*Laziness is the tendency to rest  
without having done any work  
Immanuel Kant (1724-1804)*

## Sources For Death Data

Susan Baird (see program review on page 2) lists several resources to consider in searching for information about deaths, some of which you may have overlooked in your research.

### At Time of Death

|                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Doctor            | Funeral program                |
| Coroner           | Memorial card                  |
| Police report     | Cemetery                       |
| Criminal court    | Sexton                         |
| Newspaper article | Fraternal organization         |
| Hospital          | Service/community organization |
| Hospice           | Military                       |
| Funeral home      | Social Security                |
| Church            | Vital Records                  |
| Journal           | Department of Motor Vehicles   |
| Diary             | Guardianship                   |
| Family Bible      | Transfer of land               |
| Letters           | Insurance                      |
| Cards             | Occupation records             |
| Obituary          | Florist                        |
| Death notice      |                                |
| Funeral notice    |                                |

### After Time of Event

|                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Probate                     | County history              |
| Will                        | Biographical sketch         |
| Newspaper article           | Social Security Death Index |
| City directory              | Military pension            |
| Mortality schedule          | Railroad pension            |
| Other family member's death | Exhuming records            |
| Reunion committee           |                             |

Susan also provided a list of searchable death indexes for finding death data. These are listed among other web sites found on page 2.

### *Other German-Russian Newsletters*

Here are some Internet locations where you can find interesting newsletters from other chapters. Let us know if you for others that are worthwhile to share with our members.

**Black Hills Chapter, GRHS**

[//members.rushmore.com/~bhgrhs/index.htm](http://members.rushmore.com/~bhgrhs/index.htm)

**Puget Sound Chapter, GRHS**

[//grhs.com/psound/index.html](http://grhs.com/psound/index.html)

**Portland Chapter, AHSGR**

[//germans-russia-pdx.com/Portland/newsletter.htm](http://germans-russia-pdx.com/Portland/newsletter.htm)

***Steinweiler, Pfalz, Germany:  
A Book by Albert Weigel***

Albert Weigel lives in Hatzenbuhl, located in the southwestern corner of Germany just north of Switzerland. He has compiled books for several Pfalz towns, including a book on Hatzenbuhl from which names were summarized in our previous GROW newsletter. The books include the history of the town and photos of residents, school classes, town buildings, and churches. Information from the 1600s to the 1900s is organized by family group surnames with names, births, marriages, deaths, and children. Family names in his Steinweiler book include:

Abel, Acker, Adam, Adrian, Albrecht, Alery, Allgaier, Altvatter, Amer, Amrhein, Amschler, Amsler, Amtmann, Anding, Anthing, Andreas, Anlag, Anner, Anstatt, Anton, Antz, Apfel, Arnold, Arnolt, Arzheimer, Attenad, Aude, Augal, Auth, Avalente

Bach, Bad, Baer, Bahr, Ballinger, Bangerth, Bangert, Banrth, Bantz, Baron, Barth, Bartmann, Basambour, Batsching, Bauer, Bauhammer, Baum, Baumann, Baumgart, Baumgarten, Baumgartner, Bausbacher, Bayer, Bayerle, Beyerle, Bayersdorfer, Bayerdorfer, Becht, Bechtel, Beck, Beckenhaupt, Becker, Beiner, Belzer, Bens, Bernzott, Bersch, Bertram, Betzer, Beutel, Bevier, Beviere, Bevier, Biekel, Birkmeyer, Bischoff, Bitzer, Blaer, Blattner, Blattmann, Blesinger, Blum, Bock, Bobinger, Bohm, Boheim, Bollander, Bohlender, Bolander, Boltz, Born, Bossert, Boudgoust, Bourquin, Brand, Brandenburger, Braun, Brauner, Braunert, Bresch, Bruch, Brunck, Brunner, Brust, Buchlaub, Buchmann, Buchmuller, Burger, Bumiller, Burck, Burry, Butzinger

Cachilier, Caheins, Caheinz, Cambeis, Chaniser, Cassaret, Cherbaut, Crist, Christ, Christoph, Christophel, Claus, Compere, Conrad, Corbet, Corneille, Crepelle, Crepell, Creppel, Croneiss, Croneissen

Damian, Damm, Deck, Degen, Deininger, Dennhardt, Dennhard, Detzel, Deus, Dewen, Dewein, Diebold, Diefenbach, Diehlmann, Dieringer, Diessle, Dietrich, Dippel, Dopffer, Dopfer, Dorner, Dorr, Doerr, Dorzapf, Doll, Donauey, Dorrburger, Dorst, Dressel, Drexler, Dries, Druck, Drunser, Dumbser, Durr, Durst

Eberhardt, Egalite, Ehleiter, Ehleiter, Ehretsmann, Ehresmann, Ehrhart, Erhardt, Eichenlaub, Eiskirch, Eiswirth, Eisswirth, Eckerle, Elgass, Emanuel, Endres, Engel, Engelbreit, Erlenwein, Ernst, Eschelmann, Esswein, Ewald, Farber, Faller, Fassot, Faust, Fauth, Fechter, Fegt, Feldweg, Felz, Felzer, Fetsch, Le Fevre, Fierre, Fivre, Fieber, Filip, Fink, Finkler, Fischer, Fix, Fleckenstein, Fonquet, Foss, Foos, Forster, Fortmuller, Frank, Franck, Franckmann, Frech, Frey, Fricker, Frick, Fritz, Frosch, Fuchs, Fuss

Gaab, Gab, Gartner, Gambert, Gamber, Gander, Ganz, Gassmann, Gebhardt, Gehbauer, Gehl, Gehu, Geyger, Geiger, Gein, Geiss, Geisser, Geisler, Geissler, Gemar, Generoux, Geinsheimer, Gerschardein, Georger, Gerstel, Gerumb, Gerum, Gehrum, Gereuthen, Gerstenmayer, Gerstenmeyer, Getto, Gillet, Gilb, Goller, Gotz, Gomber, Gombert, Grandolph, Gradolf, Graff, Grauss, Greichgauer, Greybuhl, Greff, Grimm, Groh, Grieser, Grussert,

Gunther, Gutermann, Guttermann, Gumbel, Gumber, Gussner, Guth

Hachtel, Hahn, Hammer, Hammerschmitt, Handrich, Hanss, Harsch, Hartmann, Hartmuth, Haupold, Haubold, Hauck, Hauswirth, Hautz, Heger, Heyd, Heyl, Heilig, Heim, Heymos, Heymoss, Heumos, Haimos, Heinrich, Henrich, Heintz, Heisel, Heisler, Heck, Hecker, Hecki, Hecky, Helbig, Helck, Herancourt, Herpein, Herr, Heer, Herrle, Hermann, Herrmann, Hess, Heterich, Heussler, Hilger, Hilsendegen, Hilsinger, Himmler, Himpel, Hirschmann, Hochreuther, Hohn, Horner, Hoff, Hoffmann, Horn, Hornberger, Hosann, Huber, Huberwald, Huner, Huhner, Huffschmitt, Hufschmitt, Hummel, Hurtig, Hust

Imber, Imhoff, Imschweiler

Jacob, Jakob, Jager, Job, Jockle, Johannes, Joner, Jost, Joss, Julch, Jung, Juntzer, Juncker, Junker, Jung, Jutz

Kandel, Kaiser, Keyser, Kampmann, Kastel, Kastle, Kaestle, Karsch, Kaub, Kauffmann, Kegler, Kehr, Keiper, Keller, Keppel, Kern, Kindler, Kirchner, Kitt, Klag, Klanot, Klein, Knauer, Knauber, Knecht, Knell, Knoblauch, Knoderer, Knoll, Knorr, Koch, Kohler, Konig, Kolb, Kopp, Kramer, Kraft, Krauss, Krell, Kretz, Kreusch, Kreutz, Kugel, Kiegel, Kuhn, Kuntz, Kortz, Kurz, Kurtz, Kurtzburger

Lagelier, Laible, Lambach, Lang, Laque, Laux, Leible, Leibel, Leicht, Leiningen, Leisenbach, Lemile, Lemy, Lenhard, Lepere, Liebel, Lieber, Liginger, Lieginger, Liller, Lingenfeldter, Linz, Lochonithe, Lober, Logier, Loge, Lohner, Lorentz, Lucas, Ludwig

Magly, Manner, Maleyn, Mahlein, Mantel, Martin, Martz, Marz, Mathes, Mates, Maurer, Megel, Meckes, Mehl, Meis, Meisterknecht, Meckler, Menges, Merdian, Mercker, Messemer, Metz, Metzger, Mayer, Meyer, Michel, Mittnacht, Mode, Mock, Moock, Mohr, Monath, Mono, Montfort, Montillon, Morell, Morgenstern, Moriz, Moser, Moster, Muckler, Mugler, Muhe, Muhl, Muhleck, Muhlecker, Muhlhauser, Muller, Munch

Nagele, Nagel, Nauerth, Neufeld, Neurohr, Niclauss, Nicot, Von Nida, Niederer, Nist, Nolde, Nolte, Noll, Nuss, Nusslock, Nutz

Ochsner, Odenbach, Ohmer, Osthoff-Hartmuth, Osthoff, Ott, Ottenad

Pahle, Palmer, Paull, Perechon, Sperry, Peter, Peters, Petillion, Petillon, Pfalzgraf, Pfalzgraff, Pfaltzgraff, Pfanger, Pfeiffer, Preffer, Pfister, Pfirrmann, Philippin, Philippein, Picot, La Place, Pomothios, Postel

Quast, Quintus, Quintus

Rammon, Ramo, Ranger, Rapp, Rehmund, Reis, Reiss, Renck, Renner, Rennfranz, Richter, Rieder, Rieger, Ripier, Ries, Rinck, Ripier, Ritter, Rodel, Rohrich, Rohrig, Roller, Roth, Rothmann, Rottmann, Roz, Rub, Ruger, Ruck, Ruckert, Ruhlmann, Rihrmeyer, Ruhmayer, Ruf, Rumetsch, Runk, Runck

Saenger, Sager, Sahn, Sattler, Sauter, Sax, Sachs, Seebach, Seger, Seibert, Seiberth, Seiter, Sedelmeyer, Seltmayer, Sedelmeier, Seltmeyer, Sitter, Sommer, Spanheimer, Spatz, Speydel, Sprenger, Schaan, Schafer, Schaffner, Schaib, Schantz, Schard, Schaurer, Scheib, Scheidt, Scheid, Schenk, Schehr, Scheerer, Scherrer, Scherer, Scheu, Schied, Schimpf, Schindler, Schlachter,

*Steinweiler, Pfalz, Germany* (Continued on page 7)

Schlick, Schloss, Schlosser, Schmitt, Schmurr, Schneider, Schneiderfritz, Schnell, Schnetzer, Schonig, Schonlaub, Schonling, Schon, Schorr, Schowalter, Schreiber, Schreiner, Schroder, Schroh, Schuhmacher, Schuler, Schultz, Schunck, Schupp, Schwander, Schwartz, Schweickert, Schwein, Schwindhammer, Stadler, Stahlschmitt, Stauch, Steeb, Steitel, Steidel, Steigleider, Steiner, Steinhauer, Stekonig, Stentz, Stephan, Stieber, Stor, Stoehr, Stohr, Stoltz, Storhi, Story, Storry, Strantz, Strasser, Straub, Strauch, Streile, Stritzinger, Stumpf, Stumpfhauser

Talon, Theobald, Thiel, Thomas, Thurwachter, Todburger, Trauth, Trautmann, Trautwein, Treubert

Ullmeyer, Ulm, Ullmer, Ulrich, Ullrich, Untersinger

Vesper, Villhauer, Volcker, Vogel, Vonderheyd, Vongerichter, Voss, Vosselmann

Wallfenschmidt, Wagner, Wahl, Walter, Wambsganss, Wanger, Wannier, Weber, Wegmann, Wehl, Weigel, Weil, Weilemann, Weinmuller, Weis, Weiss, Wendel, Wenger, Wenner, Werle, Werling, Westermann, Wettengel, Wetengel, Wettstein, Wetzel, Weyland, Weynantz, Wiedrig, Winn, Wiehn, Wien, Wieser, Wilhelm, Wingerter, Winkler, Winter, Wintergerst, Wurth, Wisswasser, Wittmer, Wohlleb, Wolf, Worz, Winstel, Wunstel, Wurgler, Wust, Wiest, Wurm, Wurtz

Zahneissen, Ziemer, Zimmer, Zimmermann, Zimpelmann, Zininger, Zittel, Zwecker

Mr. Weigel has compiled about a dozen books of church records on cities in the Pfalz area but does not have funding to publish them. Books are about \$50 each. He speaks and reads only German and can be reached at Wendelinusstrasse 5, 6729 Hatzenbuhl, Germany.

Margaret (Herrle) Miesterfeld, Co-Director of the Family History Center in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has been kind enough to summarize the names for the GROW newsletter to publish. She can be reached at [mahm@globaldsl.net](mailto:mahm@globaldsl.net) and is willing to make copies of the information about your specific family and mail them to you for the cost of the copies and the postage. In some cases, there are several pages on a surname; in others, there may only be one page.

*We extend a special GROW thank you to Margaret Miesterfeld for contributing to our publication.*

**Zuhause** **At Home**  
**Recipe Index Search**

Search recipe titles from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, including Bessarabian, Black Sea, German, Russian, Ukrainian, Mennonite, Hutterite, Volga, Crimean and even the United States. Searches cover the cookbook title, recipe category, recipe name, page number, and person who submitted the recipe. Go to:

[www.lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc/recipes.html](http://www.lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc/recipes.html)

**Leute**

**People**

**The Infamous Walter Duranty**

The Pulitzer Prize for correspondence was awarded to Walter Duranty of *The New York Times* in 1932 for his series coverage of Stalin's work in Russia. The Pulitzer Board praised his work for its "scholarship, profundity, impartiality, sound judgment, and exceptional clarity . . ." Duranty accepted describing his respect for Stalin and other Communist leaders.

Although Stalin's man-made famine killed between 6 and 11 million people, *The Times* through Duranty denied that the famine even existed. Recent reporting by *The Times* has added fuel to a 13-year-old campaign to strip Duranty of his Pulitzer Prize. For more on this topic, read "The Blair Affair Fuels a 70-year-old Scandal" by Tim Rutten in *The New York Times* (June 14, 2003), first page of the Calendar Section, E 1.

This article has been brought to our attention by Margaret Aman Freeman  
Glückstal Colonies Research Association (GCRA)

**Kunst und Gewerbe**

**Arts and Crafts**

**German-Russian Dreams**

Quietly gather the female holly leaves at midnight, wrap them in your handkerchief, make nine knots to close it tight, and place it under your pillow.

*All of Your Dreams Will Come True!*

**Sprache**

**Language**

**Let's Practice German!**

According to census figures for people over five years of age in the United States who speak German at home:

1990 = 1,547,987

2000 = 1,383,442

**Speak German - It's Our Heritage!**

**Geschichte und Kultur**

**History and Culture**

**Where's White Russia?**

*By Velma Jesser*

My Grandmother, **Christena (Jantz) Jesser** (1896-1988), always talked about her family coming from White Russia. What/where is that?

My Great Grandparents, **Johan and Kathirene (Littke) Jantz** (1856-1925 and 1857-1924), came from Klöstitz, Bessarabia, a location today called Belarus. White Russia (Belarus) is one of fifteen republics of the former Soviet Union.

Let us know from where your ancestors came

---

*Und so weiter . . . . . And so forth*

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual GROW Picnic**  
**Saturday, July 12, 2003 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Willamette Park in West Linn, Oregon**  
**When Do We Eat???** “Noonish”

**Directions:**

From Portland: From Salem:  
Take I-205 south to Take I-205 to  
Exit 6 to 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Exit 6 to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Turn **left** and go to Turn **right** and go to  
Willamette Falls Drive Willamette Falls Drive  
(3 blocks) . . . (3 blocks) . . .  
. . . Turn **right** on Willamette Falls Drive.  
Turn **left** on 12<sup>th</sup> Street and follow it into the park.  
(Do not turn right and go down hill.)  
The best parking would be to take 12<sup>th</sup> until it ends and  
turn right and park on the left. Our location is a  
covered area next to the Spouting Fountain; look for  
our new GROW Chapter banner.

**What To Bring:**

Your favorite dish to share  
Individual table settings and a table cloth  
Coolers for your beverages  
Chairs

**What Is Provided:**

Eleven electrical outlets to keep food hot  
A container of ice to keep salads cool/safe  
Coffee

**Park Rules:**

Allow alcohol if in single containers  
Require that pets be on a leash

Let's make this a success! Bring families and friends  
to enjoy visiting, music, door prizes, and more. If  
questions, call the Picnic Committee:

Jan Haberman, Roy Schnaible,  
Oscar Geiszler (phone numbers on page 10)

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**See you at the picnic!**

**Ukraine-Crimea-Moldova 2004**

Two 17-day tours are planned and now accepting  
reservations for Ukraine, Crimea, and Moldova, May-June  
and September 2004.

For tour information:

<http://members.rushmore.com/~ukrainetours>

Robert R. Schneider  
1649 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Spearfish, SD 57783  
Phone: (605) 722-7712  
email: [rschneider@rushmore.com](mailto:rschneider@rushmore.com)

**Living Our Grandparents' Dreams**  
**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual GRHS Convention**

**September 4-7, 2003**

Ramkota Inn  
2111 LaCrosse Street, PO Box 1795  
Rapid City, SD 57709-1795  
Phone (605) 343-8550  
Hosted by the Black Hills Chapter

**\* \* \* Help represent GROW at GRHS \* \* \***

For additional information:

<http://www.grhs.org/convention.html>

Phone: (701) 223-6167

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**European Past of the American Present**  
**FEEFHS Convention**

**10<sup>th</sup> International Convention 2003**

(Federation of East European Family History Societies)

July 18-20, 2003

Holiday Inn Downtown  
999 S. Main St., Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information:

FEEFHS, PO Box 510898

Salt Lake City, UT 84151-0898

<http://www.feefhs.org/conf/03slc/03slc-hp.html>

Kalile Mehr, Convention Chair

[mehrkb@ldschurch.org](mailto:mehrkb@ldschurch.org)

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**Family History Fair**

Sponsored by the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

**It's free!**

Saturday, September 20, 2003

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Parkrose High School

12003 NE Shaver, Portland, Oregon

It is easy to find with good parking. Genealogical and  
historical activities include many societies, exhibitors,  
and researchers providing a showcase of what is  
available to make your research fun and rewarding.  
Classes are available for beginners and advanced  
genealogists.

**Help GROW!**

GROW will be there! If you would like to be part of  
the GROW booth, contact any of the Directors (see  
page 10) and enjoy meeting other genealogists and  
learning more *von Unser Leute* (of your ancestral  
family).



## Family News

Please submit news about your German-Russian family and friends to share with others of our GROW family (see page 11 for details on how to submit material).

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### Happy Retirement

June 2003

Velma Jesser, Ph.D.

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### We send GROW Wishes for Pain-Free Days and Better Health to . . .

**Bev Aper** (Klamath Falls) was knocked down by a car operated by a driver talking on a cell phone in the parking lot of Fred Meyer earlier this spring. Bev suffered a bruised knee, no broken bones, and considers herself to be very lucky.



**Ruth Hinman** (Seal Rock) continues to recover from cancer surgery followed by radiation treatments.

**Delores Schuh** (Dallas, OR) is recovering from surgery which she had the first of May.

**Roberta Haas** (Portland OR) will have back surgery on July 31.

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**John Raymond Zwemke** died September 12, 2000, in Salem Oregon, at the age of 86. John was born November 20, 1915, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to **Walter Amos and Velma (Austin) Zwemke** and was raised in Sykeston, North Dakota. He married **Alice Neumiller Heaton** on July 23, 1938, in Billings, Montana; the family moved to Salem in 1942. He is survived by his wife, a sister, two sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



### Ein guter Gesang wischt den Staub vom Herzen

*A good song wipes the dust from the heart.  
Christoph Lehmann (1570-1638)*

## ??Facts?? in the 1500s

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence, the custom of the bride **carrying a bouquet** at the wedding ceremony.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water followed by the other sons and men, then the women, then children, and finally the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence, the saying, **“Don’t throw the baby out with the bath water.”**

Houses had thatched roofs (thick straw piled high) with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm so dogs, cats, and other critters (mice, bugs, etc.) lived there. When it rained, it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall. Hence, the saying **“raining cats and dogs.”**

With thatched roofs, nothing stopped things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could really mess up your nice clean bed. A bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. Hence, **a canopy bed!**

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, **“dirt poor.”**

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. To prevent this loss, a piece of wood was placed in the entranceway thereby creating a **“thresh hold.”**

### The Sunshine Gals

If you know of any illnesses, marriages, births, deaths, anniversaries, retirements, or other news about members, contact:



**Agnes Herrle or Amelia Lybarger**

*(See contact information on page 10.)*

You can help *The Sunshine Gals* save costs for GROW by donating or making computer greeting cards and/or contributing funds for postage.

**The Sunshine Gals help us show that GROW cares!**

## ***GROW Board of Directors***

### **Roger Haas, President/Liaison**

8618 SE 36<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland OR 97222  
(503) 659-8248                      rahaas@haasfamily.us

### **Roy Schnaible, Vice President**

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

### **Edwin Weber, Secretary**

16660 SW Monterey Ln., King City, OR 97224  
(503) 639-4798                      weberd@easystreet.com

### **Sharon Voeller, Treasurer**

17064 SE Wiley Way, Milwaukie, OR 97267  
(503) 659-2726                      voellerp@worldstar.com

### **Clifford Haberman**

8110 SE Madison, Portland, OR 97215  
(503) 252-5480                      jan\_cliff@juno.com

### **Jan Haberman**

8110 SE Madison, Portland, OR 97215  
(503) 252-5480                      jan\_cliff@juno.com

### **Robert Majhor**

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

### **Oscar Geiszler**

803 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Oregon City, OR 97045  
(503) 656-1802                      Oscarandlorraine@msn.com

### **Lola Weber**

106 Victoria St., Longview, WA 98632-5834  
(360) 423-8359                      hunter1@kalama.com

For Board of Director meetings and activities, see page 12.

## ***Help GROW At No Cost To You!***

***Electronic Newsletters*** save GROW over \$40 per issue in postage. To receive your newsletter electronically, contact Jessica Mertz. (See Committee Chairs on this page.)

***\$SCRIP Fundraisers*** Scrip purchases earn a commission on sales of certificates for over 80 participating merchants, including grocery stores, restaurants, national chain stores, car washes, etc. Scrip is the same as cash and makes ideal gifts, an easy way to support GROW financially without costing you a penny. For more information, contact Roy Schnaible. (See Board of Directors above).

***Albertsons Scan Cards*** earn cash for our Chapter and costs members nothing. Simply present the card when you pay for your usual groceries. To get a scan card, contact Roger Haas. (See Board of Directors above).

### ***Need a GROW Name Tag?***

Name tags help you get to know other members at GROW activities and help others put your face with your name.

Name tags cost \$5.50. Contact:  
Leona Koth at (503) 538-3447  
email: [lvkoth@aol.com](mailto:lvkoth@aol.com)

## ***GROW Committee Chairs***

\*Member of Board of Directors

### **Calling**

\*Oscar Geiszler

### **Car Pooling**

\*Oscar Geiszler

Glenn Gumeringer (360) 573-6453

Bob Majhor (503) 648-5781

### **Hospitality/Greeting**

\*Jan Haberman

### **Collection/Research&Genealogical Assistance**

Doris Seibert (503) 651-2394 / (541) 563-3114

### **Library**

Vivian Messenger (503) 574-2271

Evelyn Gatlin, Glen Gumeringer, Carrie Lippincott,

Doris Seibert, Alice Summers

### **Membership**

\*Cliff Haberman

### **Newsletter**

Velma Jesser, Editor (see page 11)

\*Sharon Voeller, Labeler

Alice Sumer, Printing/Mailing

### **Programs**

\*Lola Weber

### **Refreshments**

Roberta Haas (503) 659-8248

Ilene Schnaible (503) 623-5529

Lorraine Geiszler, Ann Gumeringer, Helen Mahjors

### **Pictorial Scrapbook**

Maxine Daily (503) 253-8388 or mandc22@msn.com

### **Special Interests/Obituaries**

\*Sharon Voeller

### **Sunshine Gals**

Agnes Herrle (503) 236-5642 or at  
1914 SE Harold St., Portland, OR 97202-4935

Amelia Lybarger (503) 648-1058 or at  
655 SE Washington St., Hillsboro, OR 97123

### **Volunteer Coordinator**

Robert Mahjor (503) 648-5781 rgmajhor@pacifier.com

Dennis Levi (360) 699-4884

### **Web Site**

Bradlee/Jessica Mertz (503) 667-7953

solandmoon@hotmail.com or mertzb@onid.orst.edu

Debra Voeller (360) 897-9671 debbily@earthlink.net

## ***Book Reviews Wanted***

**By Paul Voeller**

Perhaps some of you have a book, periodical, monograph, or an experience of an ethnic-German nature that you would be willing to share with others by way of this newsletter.

### **Why?**

Simply for the enjoyment, knowledge, and appreciation of all who read it. Please mail reviews to our Editor (contact details on page 11).

To request an annotated bibliography of some quality German-Russian books, contact:

GRHS, 1125 W. Turnpike Ave.

Bismarck, ND 58501-8115 ([www.GRHS.com](http://www.GRHS.com))

or

AHSGR, 631 "D" St.

Lincoln, NE 68502-1199 ([www.AHSGR.com](http://www.AHSGR.com))



**GROW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
*GERMANS from RUSSIA of OREGON and Southwest WASHINGTON (GROW)*

Year(s) of Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Circle appropriately: NEW RENEW

NAME (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Date (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

My family surnames \_\_\_\_\_

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

**GROW NEWSLETTER/OPERATION DONATION minimum \$5**

GRHS Membership \$40 GRHS LIFE (\$100 per year) \$650  
(LIFE membership fees may be paid installments of not less than \$100.)

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

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO GROW - US Currency  
Mail to: Roger Haas, 8618 SE 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97222

***GROW Publication Information***

The GROW newsletter is a quarterly publication. Receiving your GROW newsletter and other communications electronically as an Adobe pdf file saves GROW printing and mailing costs, and you receive the newsletters immediately. (Adobe Acrobat Reader is available as a free download on the Internet at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.) You can also forward the electronic newsletter to friends and family as a way of introducing them to GRHS and to our GROW Chapter. To receive future GROW newsletters electronically if you are not already on the list, contact **Bradlee and Jessica Mertz** (see page 10) and help GROW's budget by doing so.

**Submission of Materials:** All materials should include a statement that gives permission for use in this newsletter. All contributions, including photos, are welcome; we can scan images and other graphics. Please provide a SASE for materials you would like returned. Send articles and other materials for publication, as well as ideas and suggestions for improvements, to the Editor:

Please note new email address:

**Velma Jesser, PO Box 4909, Sunriver, OR 97707 or email [vjesser@yahoo.com](mailto:vjesser@yahoo.com)**

*Let me know what you do/don't like - Your comments are appreciated!*

***The Next Newsletter . . .***

Again, this is **your** newsletter; your contributions are what makes it yours; otherwise, it is just your Editor's newsletter. Send short clips from something you've read, a German-Russian custom, an interesting website, a cartoon, a family photo/document, a question for other members, publicity for an upcoming event, genealogy tips and tricks, an article about your family, etc.

Even if you think the material might not be relevant or too long or too short or too *whatever*, your Editor **edits!** Send anything you think might be appropriate. The next quarterly newsletter will, of course, make **your** contributions the priority!

**Annual GROW Newsletter Deadlines: September 1, December 1, March 1, June 1**

## 2003-2004 Meeting Dates and Events

### Chapter Meeting Dates

Meetings begin at 2 p.m. **Solid Rock Baptist Church**  
September 28      January 25      April 25  
October 26      February 22      May 23  
November 23      March 28      June 27

No meetings in July, August, and December.

For program information, see page 2

### Board Meeting Dates

Meetings begin at 1 p.m. **All members welcome!**  
Libbie's Restaurant, 11056 SE Main St. In Milwaukie  
September 17      January 14      April 14  
October 15      February 11      May 12  
November 12      March 17      June 9  
December 17      No meetings in July and August

### GROW Newsletter Deadlines

September 1, December 1, March 1, June 1

(See page 11 for submission details)

### Directions to Solid Rock Baptist Church

**From I-205 heading South** take the Johnson Creek Blvd. Exit (#16). Turn right onto Johnson Creek Blvd. Turn left onto SE Fuller Rd. And then left onto SE Battin Rd.

**From I-205 heading North** Take the Johnson Creek Blvd. Exit (#16) and stay straight to go onto the ramp. Turn left onto Johnson Creek Blvd. Turn left onto SE Fuller Rd and then left onto SE Battin Rd.



**Solid Rock Baptist Church**  
8510 SE Battin Rd.  
Portland, Oregon



## July 12 - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual GROW Picnic

(See page 8 for details)



**Germans from Russia Heritage Society**

Dr. Velma Jesser, Editor  
GROW Chapter  
PO Box 4909  
Sunriver, OR 97707-4909