



# GROW Quarterly Newsletter

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

Volume 7 Issue 3

April - May - June 2008

## Message from the President



**Roger Haas, President**

Reflections and memories are precious especially if they are pleasant and positive: and so it is with heirlooms. They are things of special value handed on from one generation to another, a piece of property that descends to the heir as an inseparable part of an inheritance. So Lola Weber, a special friend and a GROW charter member of almost seven years, shares and will delight us on the 30 March 2008 Chapter Meeting to talk about "Where did that come from?"

Talking about old friends, Bob Schuh, bringing the GROW Charter to Portland from the Bismarck 2001 Convention, will be our Chapter Meeting guest on the 22 Jun 2008. Bob is one of the most resourceful and knowledgeable people, particularly on the Kutschurgan Villages and Daughter Colonies. If you are searching family ties in any of the Catholic villages, Bob very likely will have the answers. For a precursor background, see <http://www.grhs.com/rig/krig/villages.htm>. Also, please go to the krig List serve Odessa Website <http://odesa3.org> and see what particular answers Bob may be able to provide to our members, friends, and family. I have requested him to favor us with his attendance. He has attended most of the 37 GRHS Conventions and in 2007, he, received a distinguished award for his contributions. If you have Catholic friends or relatives who are searching German-Russian roots, family connections and wanting to learn archival history and resources, you will want them to clear their calendar date and attend this chapter meeting. Bob can be reached at 503-623-5529 and [rschuh@teleport.com](mailto:rschuh@teleport.com)

Another GROW Member since 2001 and a GRHS

Member since 1991 serves as President of the Oregon Alliance for Retired Americans. We're speaking about Verna Porter. She will be our Guest Presenter for 18 May 2008. Her current profession may be somewhat unrelated to Germans from Russia, but she has roots in the Dakotas and her upbringing and knowledge will be of interest to all GR members and guests. Her cousin is Edna Boardman, author of the *Czar Alexander I of Russia: The Man and his Industrious and Talented Germans* as found in the March 2008 Heritage Review. Maybe Verna can enlighten us about some valuable bits of information that Edna published in this article?

For April 27, we will have the unusual special privilege of having Vice President Kurt Radtke, his cousin, Arnold Stebner and GROW Director, Ell Schiermeister, speaking to us on their first hand experiences, conditions and brutality of the Russian and German Governments to Germans from Russia and having been displaced and suffering for their ancestors' search for a better future than what the German and Russian governments were providing. The Jewish holocaust is getting the greatest amount of attention, but what about the other holocausts that have not been amplified and were equally tragic and revolting? Kurt, Arnold and Ell will speaking to those plus much more.

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## Ed's Corner

Looking back to when I was a child in Isabel, South Dakota during the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression days I became acquainted with the dairy business. My Dad was employed as a cream buyer for the Aberdeen Equity; a Farmer's Cooperative that operated a grain elevator and had the cream station that Dad operated. There were no dairy farms in the area but nearly every homesteader would have one or two milk cows and the cream they sold was a small cash crop that could be used the year around for extra cash.

At age ten I would work every Saturday in Dad's Cream Station where I would steam clean the containers that farmers used to bring their **sour cream** to be sold to the cream buyer. It would be weighed, tested to determine the percentage of butterfat. The homesteaders would wait to get a check for the cream to be used immediately to buy groceries. Before the dustbowl era started the cream was brought in five-gallon cream cans, but with draught conditions the container was often empty gallon syrup pails.

About the same time I was given the job of taking care of one cow we kept in town. My reward was that as soon as I learned to milk the cow my dad bought me a new bicycle that was ordered from the Montgomery Ward catalog. The purchase price was \$12.00 and that included the shipping charges. When our family moved from dust bowl South Dakota to Washington State my experience with the Dairy business got bigger because we had a dairy farm and sold our milk to be used for consumption in Seattle.

Why did the farmers back in the depression days sell sour cream? Nowadays butter is made with sweet cream and the answer comes that modern times have provided refrigeration to dairy farming and other equipment that were not available 60 years ago to our German from Russia farmers. The way to get the cream from milk is to use the law of gravity to allow the cream to rise to the top of a container of milk and then skim the cream off and place it in another container. Now you have one container of cream and another of skimmed milk.

Back in ye olden days, before homogenized milk this was the way for the farmers to get the cream for my dad and other cream buyers to provide the farmers for extra money to buy groceries. The more prosperous farmers could speed up the process with a separator, a machine that would spin the milk through a couple of discs producing cream from one spout and skimmed milk from a second spout.



Ed Weber

Another discovery that our ancestors made; if you allowed the milk to sour, you got more cream from the top of the container because the cream is lighter than the sour milk. Now add to this that most farmers did not have electricity to run refrigeration equipment the accumulated cream to be sold to the buyer would be sour.

Before my corner story becomes too sour, aren't you glad you now have **sweet cream butter, half-and-half and homogenized milk**?

That's it from Ed's corner.

## Matching Memberships

Membership is the life blood of any organization. GROW has attempted to provide worthy programs and other reasons for persons desiring to belong to this outstanding GRHS Chapter. Our current membership remains fairly constant with an average of about 200 members. We look for ways we can provide helps to our members in their collection and organization of their family histories. Chapter Speakers are invited to share our ethnic culture and heritage. Our library, resource personnel, GRHS website online, and regional interest groups further provide special expertise, knowledge and helps. Personal fulfillment & goals of individual members is the effort and goal of our GROW team.

See page 42 of the current *Heritage Review* where GRHS is attempting to give a special emphasis for the month of May to encourage persons to join their National and local chapter. GRHS and GROW will again be offering the first two NEW members MATCHING MEMBERSHIPS. In other words, the GROW Chapter will pay for two FREE GRHS memberships and the GRHS Parent organization will match those two FREE memberships, each worth \$40. This will be done for a total of four NEW members. GROW will also be absorbing the cost of the Local membership dues of \$5 each. This will be a total contribution of \$160 for the four National memberships and \$20 for local Chapter memberships. This should be a really good incentive to invite your family member(s) or friend(s) over 18 to become a member in our great organization. We would like to particularly encourage the younger persons who have an interest in their ancestral German culture and heritage. There is no better way to supplement their family history and capability of having the many resources at their disposal.

Think, who is there in your circle of acquaintances whom you can encourage to join and learn the benefits of our organization? Do you know some person in your church, in your employment, businesses where you frequent/shop or organizations to which that you belong that you could recruit? They will be grateful to you for reaching out to them, no doubt??

# Recollections of a Blumhagen Boy

*Ed. Note: The following story excerpt is from a family history book written by Vern Blumhagen, GROW member since 2001. It will be published in the GROW newsletter in installments as space allows.*

by Vern Blumhagen

## Foreword

Many of my older relatives have been asked numerous times to tape record, or otherwise document, their experiences and recollections of things the way they were, and events occurring, during their lifetime. With one exception, the only information collected was in the form of family history in terms of genealogical relationships. This one exception is the monograph by Sophie Stabbert, daughter of Christian Blumhagen. She was eight years old when the clan emigrated from Romania to the US; specifically, North Dakota. Her dissertation has been published in heritage review publications.

This lack of interest, possibly because of the, "My life isn't that interesting." attitude, has always bothered me. My interest in genealogy and the sketchy knowledge of many interesting happenings and situations in the history of the older folks, and prodding by my family, has made me decide to break the chain of indifference.

This writing is not a history of the latter 2/3 of the twentieth century, but is a compilation of my recollections and what I consider interesting events. Accordingly, as much as I try to be very general, the "I, me, my" factor does show up. It is what I know the most about. Some of the situations and events are unusual or significant, and should not be taken as either self-deprecating or boastful.



**Blumhagen Family 1936 - Back: Delmar, Minnie, Fred, Orville. Front: Vern, Luella, Dale.**

My life began at the start of the great depression, in 1929. Eking out an existence was difficult and depressing. Families were concerned with providing the next meal and a comfortable home. I feel

extremely fortunate to have lived during, experienced, and contributed to, the tremendous advancement in technology from horse-and-buggy to space exploration; crystal radios to High Definition TV received from satellites; telephone messaging from hand-crank party lines to video cell phones, and everything in between.

This story includes pictures from long ago to help visualize the persons, places, and conditions referred to in the text. I hope you find it interesting.



**Brothers: Christian, Julius and Sam Blumhagen.**

## Chapter I - The Beginning

A short history summary will set the stage for the following story. It begins with Julius and Maria (Buchholtz) Blumhagen homesteading five miles south of Drake, ND. The town was originated in the same year of 1902. Julius's father, Ferdinand, and several of Julius's siblings had arrived a few years earlier; and Ferdinand's homestead was a mile west of Julius's place. At the time they emigrated from Romania, Julius and Maria had two children: Ferdinand (called Fred or F.J.), who was four, and Christian, who was two. Christian died soon after arriving.



**L-R: Sam, Julius, Maria, Paulina, Christian Blumhagen**

*Continued on page 4.*

## Recollections of a Blumhagen Boy, cont.



**Fred Blumhagen, 1917.**



**Minnie Murchison, nearly 16 years old.**

Maria was pregnant with Anne, who was born on July 2, 1902. They subsequently had Martha; Emanuel; Lydia; and the twins, Laura and Emma.

In his early teen years, Fred became dissatisfied with his lot on the farm. It seems the sisters and remaining brother were allowed to go to school, whereas he was not. Several of the sisters later went to college and became teachers; Emanuel became a lawyer and State Representative in Oklahoma. Fred left ND and found work in the fields of the north-west states. He later worked in the forests of OR near LaGrande. Minnie Murchison lived near LaGrande. They met and were married in September 1917.



**L-R: Jay and Guy Murchison, Fred and Minnie Blumhagen, Lillie Murchison.**

Fred and Minnie went back to ND and took over a part of Julius's farm. The farmstead was southwest of Lake Richard. Here three children were born; Orville, Verna, and Delmar. Some incompatibility again developed between Fred and Julius. Fred and his family left for OR. After a few years in OR, they drifted east to MT. Fred leased a farm in the Round Butte rural community, seven miles west of Ronan.

### **Chapter II - Round Butte, Montana**

Here, Dale was born in 1927 and I was born in 1929. My sister, Verna, died of complications of rheumatic fever a week or so before I was born; so that's how my name was derived. When I was not quite 2½, I noticed my mother was missing so I asked where she had gone. My older brothers told me she had gone to the hospital to get a baby. She came home with Luella, born December 2, 1931.

The following spring we moved to a different farm about five miles north of the old one. We drove the all livestock on foot and horseback between the two farms.

About this time, I remember Dad discussing the upcoming election. Herbert Hoover was President, and a fellow named Franklin D. Roosevelt was running against him. As I remember, Roosevelt won. In the same time frame, Prohibition was still in effect. Dad made a batch or two of home-brew. My job was to put several little rocks in the bottles, along with soap and water; then swirl it around until the bottles were clean. They were then rinsed and filled with beer, and capped with a special capping machine. They were stored in the cellar. Fortunately, none blew up. Grape juice was a big seller in those days, too. Instructions on the bottles said, "Don't do (the following) or you will produce wine, which is illegal to make for sale."

Round Butte is in the Mission Valley, which is 15 miles wide and 80 miles long, with the Flathead Lake in the northern part. A large part of the valley is in the Flathead Indian Reservation. Even so, non-Indians own practically all the farmland. At that time, the Indians could let their livestock run free. For a farmer to keep them out of his fields, he had to fence his property. A large share of the farmland was under irrigation.



**Luella Blumhagen, 21 months.**

### **The Farmstead**

Our home was a four-room bungalow; I suppose you'd call it. The dining area was in a lean-to attachment; the kitchen had a wood burning stove with a four-lid top; with an oven and warming-ovens; and a reservoir for keeping water warm. A dishpan served as the dishwashing facility. There was no cold-storage facility, so all food items had to be either canned,

*Continued on page 5.*

## Recollections of a Blumhagen Boy, cont.



**Farmstead in Round Butte, MT, 1933. L-R: Orville 15, Dale 6, Fred 36, Luella 1½, Vern 4, Delmar 11.**

smoked, or require no refrigeration. The living room had a padded rocking chair, a bench made out of a bench-type car seat, a pot-bellied stove, and our parent's bed. Later on, we acquired a radio console. It required a six-volt car battery to run the vacuum tube filaments, and a ninety-volt "B+" battery. The bedroom had a twin-sized bed where Orville slept, and a full-sized bed where Delmar, Dale, and I slept. Luella slept on the bench. There was a cellar where canned fruits and vegetables, as well as potatoes, were kept for wintertime use. Kerosene lamps provided nighttime illumination.

Wood-stoves; a potbelly in the living room for heat when needed; and a large range in the kitchen for cooking, heating water, and contributing to heating the house provided heating and cooking facilities. While the nearby Mission Range of the Rocky Mountains was covered with conifer trees, no trees inhabited the valley. Consequently, to have firewood required hauling small logs, bought from the Indians, from fifteen miles away on a horse-drawn wagon. Another chore for the boys every day was to saw the logs into stove-length sections, using a saw-horse and a two-man crosscut saw. The boys then split the wood with a double bladed axe into firewood. All the boys carried the wood into the house.

The farmstead had no electricity, phone nor running water. There was no well, either, so water was brought from Ronan in the cream cans that were used to transport cream to town. Night-time chores were conducted with the help of a kerosene lantern, carried to the work area, then hung in a suitable place while the milking, feeding, or whatever the chore, was done. It was an adventure to use the out-house in the dead of winter. Sears & Roebuck and Montgomery Ward catalogs were a welcome quarterly item. Economical use of water meant we had a weekly Saturday-night bath. We three younger chil-

dren would all use the same water. The event would take place in a washtub on the kitchen floor. Clean clothes from Monday's laundry and Tuesday's ironing were available the next morning. We wore no underclothing unless it was winter, when we wore our long johns.

Doing the laundry was accomplished with a foot-power-driven washing machine. The agitator was an up-and-down motion contraption. After a while of washing, the still soiled spots were scrubbed on a washboard. They were partially wrung out, and then placed in a washtub for rinsing. The water was heated in a boiler (a copper receptacle that held about 25 gallons) on the kitchen stove. The water was transferred to the washer with a cooking pot. This machine didn't have a wringer, so one was attached to the washtub and the wringer was turned by hand. The clothes were then hung on the line to dry. The clothes would dry normally in warm weather – the water would evaporate and the clothes were dry. In freezing weather, the wet clothes would, of course, freeze solid. But in about a day the clothes would be limp and dry. The ice would transform from a solid to vapor without ever having become liquid water. This process is called sublimation.

Nearly all the clean clothes were ironed. There were no non-wrinkly materials to make the job easy. Ironing linens and other large things was optional. The pre-ironing process was to "sprinkle" the clothes with water by using your fingers, or from a bottle with a spray-can type device on it. They were rolled up to help the dampness permeate the entire garment. The resulting damp clothes made the ironing process much easier and quicker. Ironing the damp clothes was a precursor to using the "steam iron". The ironing was done with "flat-irons". Two or three



**L-R: Delmar 15, Luella 5, Fred 40, Vern 8, Orville 19, Dale 10.**

*Continued on page 6.*

## Recollections of a Blumhagen Boy, cont.

irons were heated at a time on the stove. A handle device that fit all the flatirons was used to pick the iron off the stove and apply it to the garment, or other fabric item. When one cooled, it was replaced on the stove and another picked up and used until the job was done. Wetting a finger with the tongue, and checking the "sizzle" when applied to the bottom of the flatiron assured the proper temperature.

The flour manufacturers were innovative during the depression. They knew clothing was scarce and hard to come by for most families. So, they made their 50-pound flour sacks out of dress material. The ladies would use up the flour, then make a dress out of one or more of these sacks. The patterns on the sacks were very attractive, considering. Many families relied on this source of dress material.

## Julius Blumhagen's Passport with Translation

No 113393

**IN THE NAME OF HIS MAJESTY  
CAROL I.  
KING OF ROMANIA**

*We, the Minister Secretary of State at the Romanian Foreign Affairs Department ask the civilian and military authorities to grant safe passage to Mr. Julius Blumhagen from the Village of Ciucurova, district of Tulcea, Romanian subject, who is going abroad with the family noted on the back of the page. Good for leaving and returning. Valid for 11 months  
And to grant him help and protection in case of need.*

Appearance:

Place of birth: Ciucurova

Year and Date of Birth: 1875 January 18

Stature: average (medium)

Hair: brown

Eyebrows: brown

Forehead: medium – usual shape

Eyes: blue

Nose: medium – normal

Mouth: medium – normal

Beard: brown

Chin: round

Cheeks: oval

Facial Tint: ruddy

Particular Signs: does not have

Signature of bearer: Julius Blumhagen

Seal of the Romanian Foreign Affairs Ministry  
Signed by the Minister and the Chief of Division

(Over)

Page 2 (VERSO)

This certificate was issued based on the certificate issued by the mayor of Ciucurova No. 1086/901

Tulcea on 13 -Dber-(December) year 1901

Appearance of the Family Members:

Maria, wife 22 years, Average height, brown hair and eyebrows, blue eyes, average nose and mouth, oval cheek, ruddy complexion (which probably means Caucasian in our times), has no special marks

Ferdinand, son 4 years old

Cristian, son 1 year 8 months old



Romania  
Prefecture of Tulcea County  
(Town Hall)

This here present passport has been issued by us, today the 13th of December 1901

No. 8473

Signed: Prefect I ... (Cosereanu?)

Director: (illegible)

*Continued next issue*

## In Remembrance

### Doris M. Isaak Seibert

*June 19, 1926 - December 4, 2007*

Doris Marie Seibert, 81, of Canby, died Dec. 4, 2007, of causes related to Alzheimer's. She passed into the Lord's presence with her husband and daughters singing "How Great Thou Art" at her bedside.



Born June 19, 1926 in Eureka, SD, to Edwin and Jessie Isaak, Doris grew up in the German-Russian community of Hillsvew, SD. This country girl learned to read at age 4 from her teacher-mother, and developed a life-long love of books and learning. From her father she learned farming skills and how to shoot a .22 rifle, which earned her a bounty of two cents per gopher tail during the Great Depression. Her Dad also instilled a passion for music through his vocal and instrumental performances, including the years he played in bands with another Dakota boy, Lawrence Welk.

The Isaak family moved to Portland in 1943. Doris worked as a burner and welder in the Portland shipyards during World War II, and attended Oregon State University where she met the love of her life Art Seibert. They married on Dec. 21, 1946. Doris earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from OSU in 1948, and taught at the Children's Farm

Home in 1948-1949.

The couple raised four daughters in Portland. Doris volunteered at their schools, helped in the family pharmacy, and attended Reed College, earning a master of arts in teaching (English and history) in 1964. Over the years, she and Art opened their home to people from all walks of life. Many "bonus kids," as Doris liked to call them, joined the family circle. She taught at Jefferson High school in 1964-65, and from 1973-76 worked for Project Picture (Juvenile Parole Services) as an educational liaison. In 1976, Doris and Art moved to rural Canby, and Doris worked at MacLaren School in Woodburn as a teacher and vocational coordinator from then until her retirement in 1986.

Doris was a member of Zoar Lutheran Church in Canby, Oregon, Christian Writers (OCW), the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, and the Germans from Russia Oregon and Washington. Her hobbies included writing, reading, artwork, singing, Scrabble, crosswords, meeting new people and spending time with family.

Survivors include her husband, Arthur L. Seibert of Canby; daughters, Sandra Schuff and Paula Manley, also of Canby, Ellen Poole of Hockinson, WA and Carol Kelley of Newberg, and their families, including 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her sister, Mavis Johnson resides in Lacey, WA.

A memorial service was held at 3 pm, Saturday, Dec. 29 at Zoar Lutheran Church, 190 SW 3rd, in Canby, a reception followed.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances to ELCA World Hunger (800-638-3522), or the Alzheimer's Association, Oregon Chapter (503-413-7114).

### Wayne Eugene Weber

*January 21, 1952 - December 15, 2007*

Wayne Eugene Weber passed away at the age of 55 on Saturday, December 15, 2007 after a seven-month struggle with cancer. Wayne usually "won the fight," but not so this one.



Wayne was born Jan. 21, 1952, in Huron, SD, to Curtis Lavern and Carol Meade Weber and was raised on a farm near Miller, SD, with his three brothers, Darwin of Longview, WA; "C.L." Curtis Lavern Jr. of Hermosa, SD; and Gaylord of Huron, SD.

Wayne graduated from Wessington Springs High School in South Dakota in 1970 and received an Associates Degree in Architectural Drafting from Mitchell Technical Institute in the spring of 1973.

He married his high school sweetheart, Carol Beth

Kraft, that same spring on May 26, 1973. They moved from the Dakotas to Oregon in 1978. Together they have two daughters Alecia Anne Weber DeRoo and Michele Kaye Weber, both of Portland.

Wayne loved life, his family, friends, his faith community, traveling, gardening, woodworking and motorcycling. He was a long-time member of the Hillsdale Community United Church of Christ and the Rose City Motorcycle Club.

He worked for many years in the Portland area in the building products industry, most recently for Huttig in Tigard.

He is survived by his wife Carol; daughters, Alecia and Michele; son-in-law, Dan DeRoo; brothers, Darwin, C.L. and Gaylord Weber; father and stepmother, Curt and Ruth Weber; and his mother Carol Christensen. He was preceded in death by his younger brother, Gaylon, and stepfather, Paul Christensen.

A memorial service was held at 1 pm, Friday, Jan. 4 at Hillsdale Community United Church of Christ, 6948 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland, OR 97219.

Remembrances may be made to HCC Foundation with the same address.

## Welcome & Congratulations!

GROW congratulates all 2007 members who have renewed for 2008 and welcomes those 16 new members. The benefits surely outweigh \$5 for the Chapter dues and we hope you have also renewed with the National GRHS for \$45 (\$40 plus \$5 late fee).

From the local Chapter level, you will receive the quarterly 12 page GROW Chapter Newsletter dealing with stories of our Germans from Russia culture/heritage, current Chapter activities, research & genealogical helps, forthcoming programs, letter from the President, etc. Additionally, you will receive the Quarterly 24 page *German American Society Journal* which deals with German films, its Saturday School open to all ages, club activities which includes GROW, German poetry/writings, book reports, art, current history of Germany, travel tips, etc. Those with electronic capability will also receive the monthly Chapter meeting summaries. What a deal for \$5.00!!!

From the National GRHS membership, you will receive a quarterly *HERITAGE REVIEW*; the current issue has 46 pages with outstanding stories on archives and recordings, folklore, Genealogy Tips and far too much to enumerate. Also, you will have access to a website which includes secured sites for members only for your genealogical research and other valuable information.

Reward yourself by investing in your Germans from Russia societies with ethnic pride and sharing information with your family and friends.

If you have not renewed for 2008, it is **NOT TOO LATE**. The following 16 NEW members have joined GROW and we want to give them a special WELCOME and a HEARTY GREETING!

AMAN, Walter  
BEKERMEIER, Erika  
HOPPE, Walter  
JAEGER, Francis & Betty  
KNOLL, James  
LABLANC, Tim & Carol  
MARCOE, Lawernce & Arlene  
MASTERSON, Jessica & E.C.  
METZGER, Roger & Jean  
NEUMANN, Carol & Keith  
OSTER, Albert  
PFEIFFER, Ron  
ROTT, Palmer  
SCHNEIDER, Jerome  
SCHMITT, Jessie & Melvin  
DeYONE, Sonjia & John

### 2007-08 GROW Board of Directors

**Roger Haas, President/Liaison**

8618 SE 36th Ave. (503) 659-8248  
Portland, OR 97222 rahaas@haasfamily.us  
Term ends: 2010

**Jan Haberman, 1st Vice President**

8110 SE Madison (503) 252-5480  
Portland, OR 97215 haberman988@msn.com  
Term ends: 2008

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

20023 Quinalt Dr. (503) 518-8181  
Oregon City, OR 97045  
Term ends: 2009

**Jeanette McDermid, Secretary**

327 SE Elliot Ave (503) 666-6939  
Gresham, OR 97080-7726 toadlilyunique@comcast.net  
Term ends: 2010

**Alice Summers, Treasurer**

130 SE 155th Place (503) 775-9929  
Portland, OR 97233 sewsum4u@msn.com  
Term ends: 2008

**Arlene Maston, Membership**

8202 NE Going St. (503) 255-5493  
Portland, OR 97220-4860 amaston@aol.com  
Term ends: 2009

**Oscar Geiszler, Fundraising**

803 5th Ave (503) 656-1802  
Oregon City, OR 97045 oscarandlorraine@msn.com  
Term ends: 2010

**Ell Schiermeister, Member at Large**

12010 SE McGillivray (360) 253-2499  
Vancouver, WA 98683  
Term ends: 2009

**Leona Koth Hix, Member at Large**

2704 Haworth Ave. (503) 538-4508  
Newberg, OR 97132-1918 JWHIX@comcast.net  
Term ends: 2008

**Katherine Bell, Alternate #1**

2940 High St. (541) 485-7179  
Eugene, OR 97405 katherinebel@msn.com

**Tim Janze, Alternate #2**

12367 SE Ridgecrest Rd. (503) 761-8781  
Portland, OR 97236-6124 tjanzen@comcast.net



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



# Upcoming Events

# Kochvergnügen

The German American Society is proud to offer unique cooking and baking classes.

- Maximum of participants for each class is 10 (cooking) or 12 (baking), minimum is 5.
- Fee for each class: \$ 30 (please fill out form below, and send with payment to the society's office c/o Kochvergnügen). No refunds.
- There will be an additional \$5-10 for ingredients, going directly to the instructor - and you get to eat what you created at the end of class!
- All classes are being held at the German American Society Haus' kitchen, at the German American Society of Portland, 7901 SE Division Street, Portland, OR 97206.

## Rouladen, Rotkohl und Klöße

Rouladen, red cabbage and dumplings

Teacher: Cornelia Gibson

Saturday April 19, 2008 10am - 1pm  
Thursday April 24, 2008 6pm - 9pm

## Sauerbraten, Petersilien-Karottengemüse, Semmelknödel

Marinated beef, carrots with parsley, dumplings

Teacher: Heike Schütz-Malinowski

Saturday May 31, 2008 10am - 1pm  
Thursday May 22, 2008 6pm - 9pm

Thanks to our generous sponsor Edelweiss Sausage & Delicatessen!

## Strudel dough and puff pastry (Blätterteig)

Teacher: Edgar Loesch

Strudel sweet; Quark  
Strudel sweet; Apple  
Strudel savory; Cabbage  
Crème schnitte; Puff pastry and Bavarian crème  
Crème schnitte; with seasonal fruit

Saturday April 12, 2008 10am - 1pm  
Thursday April 17, 2008 6pm - 9pm

Hefeteig (Yeasted doughs)

Bienenstich (Bee sting)  
Sächsische Eierschnecke (Saxonian Egg cake)  
Gugelhupf

Saturday May 3, 2008 10am - 1pm  
Thursday May 15, 2008 6pm - 9pm

Please call the office **first** to make sure there are still slots available, and to reserve yours. Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Phone: 503.775.1585 Check the website for updates: [www.germanamerican.org](http://www.germanamerican.org)



## Course Registration

Please enclose a check for \$30.00 per person, per class (expect additional \$5-10 for ingredients, going directly to the instructor)



Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Street Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Home Phone	Business Phone	Cell Phone
Course	Date	
Date/Signature		

# GROW 2008 Quarterly Calendar

A P R I L 2 0 0 8						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Board Meeting	23	24	25	26
27 Chapter Meeting	28	29	30			
M A Y 2 0 0 8						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Board Meeting	14	15	16	17
18 Chapter Meeting	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31
J U N E 2 0 0 8						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 Newsletter Deadline	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Board Meeting	18	19	20	21
22 Chapter Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



**Chapter Meetings are held at:  
Deutes Haus**

**7901 SE Division, Portland, OR**

**Doors open at 1:00 pm**

**Meeting starts at 2:00 pm until about 5:00 pm**

**Coming from I-205 South take Exit 19 Ramp and turn West on Division St., then turn left and go to 7901.**

**Coming from I-205 North take Exit 19 Ramp onto Division St. Go West on Division to 7901.**

## Chapter Meetings

**22 April 2008** Vice President Kurt Radtke, his cousin, Arnold Stebner and GROW Director, Ell Schiermeister - Other Holocausts

**18 May 2008** Verna Porter - North Dakota Experiences +++

**22 June 2008** Bob Schuh - Kutschurgan, Internet Research

## Fundraising Opportunities—

### At No Cost To You!!

- Electronic Newsletters. Receive your newsletters via email, and save GROW in postage costs. Thank You!
- Albertson's Scan Cards - Contact **Roger Haas** for your card if you don't already have one. 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.

## History of the GROW Library

The GROW Library has come a long way from its infant beginning in 2002 with Glen Gumeringer basically responsible for the organization, providing the File drawers for the Heritage Review and the AHSGR Journals, card catalog system, etc.

The library started with a few Heritage Review and AHSGR Journals donated by GRHS at Bismarck, ND, followed by individual gifting of books, journals, newspapers, family history books, maps, etc. to the point that all totaled perhaps a thousand or more items that should be accounted for.

To begin with, all items received were taken back to Glen's home and brought again to each Chapter meeting as we had not been given any storage in the Solid Rock Baptist Church where we held our Chapter meetings the first three plus years. Further, Glen brought his own personal library and unselfishly loaned those books out. GROW bought a few books, tapes, and DVDs, but the bulk of our library collection came from the generosity of members and friends.

Vivian Messenger accepted the position as Librari-

an, made the appeals, and did technical work, but Glen took full charge and built the library to a work in progress. He was hurt in losing some of his own books as well as some of GROW's collection by some members checking out books and not returning them. This became evident as the library size grew smaller, rather than larger.

In Nov 2004, we relocated to the Deutsches Haus where we were provided with a small locked storage/library space. This was equipped with a desk, a table, chairs, and some built-in shelves. Rudy Wage-mann also provided us with some portable shelves.

Glen was conscientious, but possibly after feeling little appreciation and not getting volunteer staff to monitor the library and help to retrieve the missing books, he left in discouragement and unhappiness in Feb 2007.

With Glen being gone, the Library was closed down. Inventory was taken by Vivian Messenger, books were demanded to be returned and, little by little, the new Library is taking shape.

Kurt Radtke has taken charge with Jeanette McDer-mid providing the expertise of cataloguing and indexing of the materials in accordance to the

*Continued on page 12.*



## GROW Membership Application

### Germans from Russia Oregon and Washington



Years of Membership \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

Birth Month (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Month (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Family surnames \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

#### **GROW Newsletter/Operation Donation (minimum \$5.00)**

GRHS Membership \$40.00 • GRHS Lifetime Membership \$650.00 (\$130.00 per year)

**Make checks payable to GROW - US Currency Only • Mail to: Arlene Maston, 8202 NE Going St., Portland, OR 97220-4860**

**Please send email updates and address corrections to Arlene Maston - amaston@aol.com**

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

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

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

## German Activities in Portland

**April 10 - German Silver Tea**, Noon by German Ladies Hilfsverein, Deutsches Haus, 7901 SE Division, donations of \$5. appreciated. Questions, call Ruth Werner: 503-254-5786

**May 24 - Liedertafel Concert & Dinner Dance** by the Guest Choir Liederkreis, Deutsches Haus, 7901 SE Division, tickets \$15. For reservations call: Marlene 503-236-6081 or Irene 503-244-5736

**July 19 - German American Flea Market + Arts & Crafts** at the Deutsches Haus, 7901 SE Division, NO Entrance Fee, Entertainment: Bounce Castle for kids and Music Program; Vendors for varied German food and Crafts. Questions, Call Heike 503-235-8036 or Sonja 503794-0985

## GROW Library History, cont.

Library of Congress indexing system. Kurt has helped to more properly organize and classify the books.

Donors are recognized with labels in their donated materials. Vivian Messenger has, in her quiet way, done much of the technical work of recording and helping with the organizational process. It will be sometime before the library can be fully implemented and staffed, but progress is being made. Books are a valuable resource and we want to give the Library the respect it deserves.

Our hats go off to those who have donated, those mentioned, and those perhaps overlooked. We owe a great debt to those who have invested in a most worthwhile project, helping with our genealogical research resources, and enjoyment of reading material. Thanks to each of you.

## Newsletter Submissions Welcomed!

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

Janice Prunier, Editor • 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

[jcprunier@comcast.net](mailto:jcprunier@comcast.net)

*Deadline for next issue is June 1, 2008.*



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

### GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222