



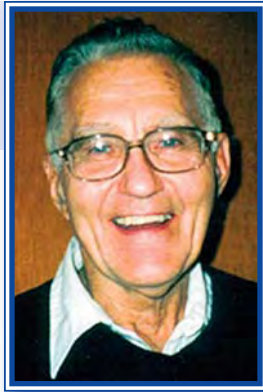
GROW Quarterly Newsletter

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

Volume 9 Issue 4

July - August - September 2010

Message from the President



Roger Haas, President

GROW is embarking on a unique GROW Cookbook to be published for sale in Nov 2010. What will make this cookbook different from most of the fundraiser cookbooks are the stories and old family photos about the recipes. Special recipes that have been handed down through several generations and are a must at any get together. Most of these recipes have not been written down, but are passed on orally and they are in danger of being lost. There will be a maximum of 150 recipes.

There are forms available for you if you are interested. Write to jcprunier@comcast.net or call 425-258-1698. The book will be wire bound and cost approximately \$12. About 60 copies are pre-sold. If you wish to participate in your entry or pre-order your copies, write to Arlene Maston at Amaston@aol.com or call 503-255-5493.

The deadline for submission is July 15. The Cookbook Team Members will help you with composing the stories, typing etc., etc., etc. You can submit more than one recipe with your story and photo. Members who are not GROW members yet can submit recipes.

On 27 June 2010, GROW will be favored by having our delightful Genealogist, Susan Baird, as our Chapter Meeting Presenter. She is the exception and provides excitement as well as information. Don't miss her program.

Concerning our 40th Convention of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society 21-25 July 2010, Bismarck, ND, please contact cynmiller@live.com or

612-386-1436. The program and registration information will be in this Newsletter if you have misplaced your letter or have need for the itinerary. Please let me know if you are planning to attend. You may call me at 503-659-8248 to reflect GROW's representation in the opening and other parts of the GRHS program.

Two summer picnics, as our last, will be at the beautiful Deutsches Haus Gardens: 8 August GAMS with the Sister Clubs; call Jane Radtke at 518-8181 jkradtke@bctonline.com; 29 August GROW Picnic, call Jan Haberman at 503-252-5480 or Haberman989@msn.com for questions or details.

Kurt Radtke has been working hard to get all the *Heritage Review Journals* together from 1971 to the present to be permanently bound some time this fall.

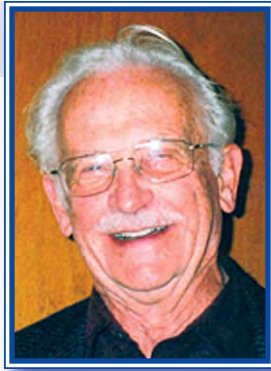
The *Other Holocaust* DVD presented at the last chapter meeting continues to arouse a lot of passions. If you are interested in a copy for your library, for your family, or for a gift for a friend, \$5 plus \$2 S/H is a very good investment. You can

Continued on page 2.

Inside This Issue

<i>Ed's Corner</i>	2
<i>Genealogy Forum</i>	3
<i>GROW Cookbook Project</i>	4-5
<i>2010 GRHS Convention Program</i>	5-6
<i>Arlene Maston Bio</i>	7-8
<i>Marcy Herinck Bio</i>	9-11
<i>Board of Directors</i>	9
<i>Calendar</i>	10
<i>Helpful Hint from Sharon Bell</i>	12

Ed's Corner



Ed Weber

In the past Ed's Corner I have been commenting about how much our lives have changed in the past 100 years and as an eye witness of 86 years here are some of those changes. I was born in Isabel, SD and lived there until I was 12 years old. To supplement my personal observations I'm quoting from the Isabel Dakotan, the current weekly publication that has a column entitled *Peek into the Past*. I was recently asked by a grandchild, "why do you call a refrigerator an Ice Box?"

Under the date of January 7, 1915 there is this article to give you an insight into the problems of no refrigerators. Isabel was founded in 1910 by the Milwaukee Railroad at the end of their branch line from Mobridge SD. *Peek into the Past* has this story: "**The ice harvest has begun. Roy Gleason has the contract for filling most of the local icehouses. The ice is clear and about eighteen inches thick. We understand they are getting the ice from the water holes north of the coal mines.**"

In the 1930s when I was living in Isabel, I think the only refrigerator in town was at the drug store and there were ice boxes in the pool hall and two grocery stores. The town of Isabel had an electric power plant to provide electric lights to about half the houses and stores in town and for a few street lights.

One more article from January 7, 1915: "**F.C. Fitch nearly had a serious fire at his residence. He took a pan of ashes and put them into a basket on the porch. Returned a half an hour later and discovered smoke. The ashes had set the porch afire and a fair sized hole was burned thorough the floor.**" Pretty serious fire when there are no fire fighting resources except a 100-gallon tank on a cart pulled by horses and water pressure created by acid and soda.

When 1920 came along there was a volunteer fire department that had made some progress. Still no water system, but the water tank was now mounted on a Model T pickup that had an extension ladder mounted on the side. Volunteer fire fighters were called to a fire by ringing the fire bell mounted in a tower at the Town Light Plant. Ten years later I was able to be a witness and ran to watch the fire department answer the fire alarm bell. The water tank had been modified and was now towed by the Model T pickup. The town Isabel was modernized at this time. The wooden sidewalks were replaced with concrete and the hitching posts were moved from Main Street to the alley behind the business area to allow shop-

pers to hitch their horses while shopping. Main Street was reserved for angle parking gasoline powered vehicles. Oh! Yes, at that time gasoline sold for 16 cents per gallon. On Saturday nights you would find a number of wagons parked in the alleys. During the winter months the wagons would have their wheels replaced by sled runners and there were buffalo robes in the vehicles to provide the service of heaters for the passengers.

The other day I was taking a walk near home and almost got hit by an automobile that was driven by a person with a cell phone being used even though the person was making a right turn. Two blocks later I was brushed by another vehicle when the driver was also making a right turn and using their cell phone. The vehicle was a bicycle driven by person making a right turn against a red traffic light.

Back in *Ye Olden Days* in Isabel there were about 20 telephones in town and the surrounding two counties area that you had to go through a switchboard. The telephone operator would plug you in to the right party line. On a party line you would use a ring code—like two longs and a short. You generally had to use a hand crank on a wall phone. During a thunder storm it was unsafe to even get close to your phone. We knew about cell phones and they were carried around by people. The phones also would provide visual views of the person being contacted. The difficulty was that the cell phones were being used by the people in the Dick Tracy comics and this was only a thing of the future.

That's it from Ed's Corner.

President's Message, cont.

request your order by sending \$7 to Arlene Maston at 8202 NE Going St, Portland, OR 97220 or calling 502-255-5493.

On September 26, highly demanded by the GROW Board and others, Adi Hartfeil will be returning to make another one of his exciting presentations following the GRHS Convention reports.

Thank you for being part of our GROW/GRHS family. If you have not paid your 2010 dues, please send your \$55 (\$5. for GROW and \$50 for GRHS) to Arlene Maston at 8202 NE Going St, Portland, OR 97220, as you read this newsletter. This is undoubtedly your last opportunity to get your GRHS Life time Membership for \$650 as the dues are expected to be increased to \$850 at the 2010 Convention.

Roger Haas

Genealogy Forum

by Harold Lang

Starting with this issue I will be writing a regular genealogy column to help you to learn how to find more information about your ancestors. I start by telling you my story.

My Story

My father was 13 years old when he came to the United States with his family in 1902. From time to time he would tell of some experiences he remembered from Russia. Unfortunately I did not ask many questions nor make any records of what he told me. After he died in 1978, I realized that I really knew very little about the family, and about life in Russia. Now I could not ask him any questions or get any information from him. I knew that he was born in Kassel and that Kassel was near Odessa, but I did not know exactly where it was. Now that my information source was gone, I wanted to know more.

At that time, I was on the faculty of Andrews University, so I went to the university library to look for a map. I was sure that the name Kassel would not appear on a map today, it certainly would now have a Russian name. Instead of a map I found a book, *Die Russlanddeutschen*, by Karl Stumpp. Unfortunately it was written in German. Both of my parents had taught German but they did not teach much to me. I took German in school but language was not easy for me, so I did not attempt to read the book. I could however read the maps and the captions under the pictures. So from this book I learned where Kassel was. It was located northeast of the Dniester river a little north of Tiraspol.

There are a significant number of Germans from Russians living in Berrien County, Michigan, where we were living. These Germans from Russian came from Volhynia near the Ukraine Polish border. One day our neighbor said that the next time her brother-in-law came to visit she would have him bring "his book". He did, and the book turned out to be, *The German-Russians*, by Karl Stumpp, an English translation of the book I had found in the library. It was printed by the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR) in Lincoln, NE. I immediately wrote to them and they sent me a list of the books they had for sale. On



Harold Lang

the list I noticed another book by Karl Stumpp, *The Emigration from Germany to Russia in the Years 1763 to 1862*, also an English translation of a book originally written in German. I sent for both books. When they arrived I made some interesting discoveries.

There are a number of sections in, *The Emigration from Germany to Russia in the Years 1763 to 1862*, with one of the major sections contains an emigration list and another major section contains "Revisionslistes" (census records) for a number of the German villages in the Black Sea area, including 1816 and 1858 lists for Kassel.

Taking a careful look at #209 in the Kassel revision list (1858) I recognized Valentin Lang 31, with a wife Magdalene 28, and children Barbara 6, Christoph 3, and Philipp 1, as my great-grandparents. I recognized Barbara as a sister of my grandfather Valentin Lang (born 1860), and Christoph and Philipp were his older brothers. This entry also told me that Valentin Lang's father was Johann Lang and his mother was Anna. Going to #91 in the 1916 list I found that Johann was the 16 year old son of Paul and Franziska Lang. Paul and Franziska with their children were my ancestors who had migrated to Russia. From where? And what were Anna and Franziska maiden names?

Next time I will write more about finding information in Stumpp's book and other sources of census records.

9th Annual

GROW PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2009

12:00 PM -3:00 PM

(SERVING TIME WILL BE AT 12:30 PM)

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR A DAY OF FUN AND ENJOY THE FOOD OF OUR GREAT ETHNIC COOKS

**DEUTESCHES HAUS - 7901 SE DIVISION, PORTLAND
DIRECTIONS:**

Coming from I-105 South, take Exit 19 Ramp and turn West on Powell Blvd to 82nd Ave. Go .5 mile North to Division St., then turn left and go to 7901.

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

BRING YOUR FAVORITE COLD OR HOT DISH, SALAD OR DESSERT AND TABLECLOTH AND TABLE SETTINGS WITH SERVING SPOON. PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE.

Coffee and paper plates will be provided.

BRING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT OR A FAVORITE GAME

We would be most appreciative if you would be able to help setup before and/or clean up after the picnic.

GROW Cookbook Project

Dear GROW Members and Friends,

First off, for those of you that haven't met me yet, I'm Jan Prunier, the newsletter editor and webmaster for GROW. I live up in Everett, so I'm not able to attend meetings. My Mom is Maxine Daily and it's through her that I became involved with GROW. (I just can't say no to her when she asks a favor!) During the years that I've been involved, I have developed a great fondness for GROW and its members... we're all family through our heritage!

On to the cookbook project. Here's my vision... I would love to see a cookbook that contains stories and a family photo in addition to the recipe. It seems as though every family has a special recipe (or three) that has been handed down through several generations and is a must at any get together. Most of these recipes are not written down, but are passed on orally and they are in danger of being lost. I feel that there are many of you who feel the same as I do, we need to preserve these traditions for the future.

What will make the GROW cookbook different from most of the fundraiser cookbooks are the family photos and stories about the recipes and how they have been part of your family traditions. I want to know these family stories and see the old photos, and I bet that there are a lot of other folks that do too.

A few years ago, I finally cornered Mom and we worked together to compile most of our family recipes... some are from our German ancestors, others are not. But they are all important to our family. I only needed to make 10 sets of about 25 recipes, so did recipe cards instead of a booklet and it worked out very well for us. What made this different is that I made Mom tell me the story behind each recipe and included that on the card. There were several recipes I updated to make a bit healthier or because I liked it made a different way from the traditional way. For example, our traditional borscht recipe took Mom a couple of days to fix... I changed it so I could make it in the crockpot or in a couple of hours on the stove. I included both variations.

Here's an example of the kind of stories I'm thinking of: When we were growing up, my brother Mike and I always requested knefla and kethla for our birthday dinners, and every year Mom would make them for us. (We were guaranteed knefla and kethla twice a year!) She once told me that she had no idea why we chose that combination because when she was growing up, they would have kethla only with potato soup. I thought about it and have no idea either, but I bet that it was all my brother's idea,

Gramma's Secret Mac & Cheese

submitted by: Jan Prunier

The origins of this recipe were kept top secret until just a few years ago when Mom finally decided let the secret out. In the 50s, Gramma Ella worked in the Oregon City Laundry. She became friends with a coworker, they remained friends for many years. Mom said that she can remember her, but not her name. This was her recipe. Can't get any better than this. Very good not soupy. Quick and easy to make. We made this as a side dish for nearly every family dinner.



Gramma Ella Lutz Wetzel
approx. 1938



Maxine Wetzel Daily
holding Janice Daily
Prunier, 1959

GRAMMA'S SECRET MAC & CHEESE

3 cups large elbow noodles, cooked & drained
2 tbsp. oil
3 cups sharp cheddar cheese, grated
2 to 3 eggs
½ medium yellow onion, finely diced
2 stalks of celery, finely diced
salt & pepper, garlic powder, celery salt to taste

Sweat onions and celery on low heat. Beat eggs, add spices mix with the cheese so it is very gooey. When the onions and celery are translucent, turn up heat to medium, add noodles and oil, mix well. When the noodles are heated through add the cheese and egg mixture, stirring frequently until the egg and cheese mixture coats all the noodles. Do not fry, but a little crispy is okay. Serves 8-10. Can be easily halved or doubled.

1

Lutz - Wetzel - Daily Family

because I would always want what he wanted because he was my big brother.

The illustration above is a sample layout of what the pages will tentatively look like using one of my family recipes. We will be including the family name(s) on each page for reference. There will be a table of contents in the front by recipe and there will also be an index in the back that will be sorted by family name.

So as you can see the stories can be short and sweet. For the stories, we're hoping to get approximately two paragraphs (a little more/a little less is fine). I've noticed while working on the newsletter, some members seem to think that no one is interested in their old "silly" stories, or that it is too difficult for them to write down, or they don't know how to type, etc., etc., etc. **We want to know the "silly" old stories and don't want any more to get lost!** When my Grandma Ella was still alive, I would try and get her to talk about what things were like when she was

Continued on page 5.

GROW Cookbook Project, cont.

growing up or as a young mother and she would tell me that I wouldn't be interested in those times, but yes, I was and am interested in those times and would have loved to know more about what her life was like. We want to collect those stories and family photos with the recipes to keep them alive for the future.

You can submit more than one recipe and GROW family members who are not GROW members yet can submit recipes. We have a limit of about 150 recipes and if a family has more than one submission, we may not be able to publish them all, we would like at least one recipe from each GROW member family.

You don't need to know how to type or have e-mail, the Cookbook Team Members will help with that. There are forms available for you to take with

you at the chapter meetings and fill out and return at the next chapter meeting (or sooner). Or we can email you the form and you can email it back to me at: jcprunier@comcast.net

The deadline for submissions is July 15. At this time there are no categories selected, we'll do that after the recipes have been collected. The recipes do not have to be German recipes, they can be any recipe that is important to your family. The most important aspect of this cookbook are the stories and family photos that go along with the recipes.

I'm back to work so the best way to reach me is by email. Please don't hesitate to email any questions and I will get back to you promptly.

With great fondness and respect,

Jan Prunier

GROW Newsletter Editor/Webmaster

jcprunier@comcast.net

2010 GRHS Convention Information

40th Annual

Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention

July 21-25, 2010

Treasuring the Past; Preserving the Future

Ramkota Best Western Hotel & Convention Center

800 S. 3rd Street, Bismarck, ND, USA

701-258-7700

To receive the group rates when making your reservations, tell the hotel you will be attending the Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention.

Registration information:

<http://www.grhs.org/news/2010convention.htm>

Tentative Convention Program

Check the GRHS Website at www.grhs.org for any changes/updates

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

8:00 a.m. Tour to Hague and Strasburg areas, leaving Ramkota at 8:00 a.m., returning by 6:00 p.m. Deadline for registration for this tour is June 30, 2012.

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration (Coatroom)

12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Bookstore & Library/Research Room Open (Lamborn)

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Open Courtyard Maistube

Thursday, July 22, 2010

8:00 a.m. Breakfast on your own

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration (Coatroom)

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Bookstore & Library/Research Room Open (Lamborn)

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Official Convention Opening Ceremony (Patterson)

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. Lunch and Awards

Times and places for workshops will be published in the convention booklets which you will receive in your registration packets at the convention. These are tentative workshops and things could change.

Thursday's Workshops:

- Examples of German-Russian Resources at the State Archives (ND) - Greg Wysk
- Hoffnungstal Odessa Parish Regional Interest Group
- Dakota Memories – Acacia (Jonas) Stuckle
- Organizing and Creating a Genealogy Treasure Book - Lucy Simpson
- Beresan Regional Interest Group – Presentation with quick annual meeting – Valerie Renner Ingram
- Crimea Regional Interest Group – Wanda Hopkins
- Back to the Roots of the Anabaptist, the Hutterites – Paul & Susie Hofer
- Bessarabia: Before, During and After the German Settlements – Allen E. Konrad
- Letters from Around the World-The Letter Archive Project - Valentine Wangler
- Basic Computer Tips 101 - Diane J. Wandler
- Germans from Prussia-Poland to Russia Interest Group - Thomas A. Stangl
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Sing-a-long (Courtyard)
- 5:00 p.m. GRHS Board of Directors Meeting (Governor's Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner (Patterson)
- 8:00 p.m. Social/Maistube (Courtyard)
- 8:00 p.m. Village Coordinators/Area Coordinators Library Research Time (Lamborn)
- 8:00 p.m. Special presentations and/or entertainment, etc.

Continued on page 6.

2010 GRHS Convention Information, cont.

Friday, July 23, 2010

Chapter Day so wear your chapter vest and bring your chapter scrapbook and banner. Leave scrapbooks at the registration desk or on the scrapbook table.

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast on your own
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration (Coatroom)
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Bookstore & Library/Research Room
Open, Village Coordinators available
(Lamborn)
9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. GRHS Business Meeting
11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Lunch – Awards
(Patterson/Grand Pacific)

Friday's Workshops:

- Examples of German-Russian Resources at the State Archives (ND) - Greg Wysk
 - Separatists in Bessarabia, a Genealogists Nightmare – Dr. Elvire Necker-Eberhardt
 - A German Russian Garden (Heritage Seeds of the Germans from Russia) – Daniel L. Flyger
 - EWZ - A Genealogist's Goldmine – Thomas A. Stangl
 - Back to the Roots of the Anabaptist, the Hutterites – Paul & Susie Hofer-Kutschurgan RIG Chapter- Leg work, research, and a computer: It Ain't Easy Finding Kutschurgan Ancestors
 - Pastimes and Games of the Germans from Russia by Bro. Placid Gross and Phillip Kambeitz
 - Basic Computer Tips 101 – Diane J. Wandler
 - Youth Essay Readings
 - Cooking with Valya by Valya Kramer
 - The Mystery of the Wolf Family Murders - Vernon Keel
Glückstal Colonies Research Association Reports and Discussion – Homer Rudolf
 - Emerging from a Tunnel of Darkness: My Life during the Communist Regime - Anna Fischer
Land regulations in the German-Russian Colonies – Homer Rudolf
 - Kherson/Ekaterinoslav/Taurida RIG Chapter – Debbie Beick
 - The Art of Making Hochzeit Schnapps (Red Eye) – Valentine Wangler
- 3:00 p.m. - 3:40 p.m. Kuchen & Coffee (Courtyard)
5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Sing-a-Long (Courtyard)
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Social Hour (Courtyard)
6:30 p.m. Dinner – Awards, Life Membership
Certificates (Patterson/Grand Pacific)
8:00 p.m. Social/Maistube/Entertainment
(Courtyard)
8:00 p.m. Schneider LLC Tour Reunion –
Robert Schneider (Governor's Room)
9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Journey to the Homeland Tour
Members Reunion sponsored by the
NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND (Sheyenne)

Saturday, July 24, 2010

- 7:30 a.m. Chapter Officers Breakfast -
"Leadership for the Future"

- 8:00 a.m. presentation – Steven Y. Rennell
Breakfast on your own
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Registration (Coatroom)
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Bookstore & Library/Research Room
Open – Village Coordinators
Available (Lamborn)
11:15 a.m. -12:45 p.m. Lunch – Awards
(Patterson/Grand Pacific)

Saturday Workshops:

- Obituaries – A Vital Research Tool – Bob Ell
 - Land regulations in the German-Russian Colonies – Homer Rudolf
 - Organizing and Creating a Genealogy Treasure Book – Lucy Simpson
 - German Reich Views of the Black Sea Germans 1874-1914: Trouble in Paradise – LaVern J. Rippley
 - The Mystery of the Wolf Family Murders – Vern Keel
 - EWZ - A Genealogist's Goldmine – Thomas A. Stangl
 - The Art of Making Hochseit Schnapps (Red Eye) – Valentine Wangler
 - Letters from Around the World-The Letter Archive Project – Valentine Wangler
 - St. Joseph's Colony – A Unique Chapter in the Early History of Saskatchewan – Bob Ell
 - Emerging from a Tunnel of Darkness: My Life during the Communist Regime – Anna Fischer
 - Separatists in Bessarabia, a Genealogists Nightmare – Dr. Elvire Necker-Eberhardt
 - Publishing "Inner Glueckstal" – Linda Becker
 - Heritage Foundation for Germans from Russia (HFGR) – Helping Assure Financial Assistance to GRHS – Ted J. Becker
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Town Hall Meeting – Valerie Renner
Ingram – (Heart)
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Kuchen & Coffee (Courtyard)
3:00 p.m. Library and bookstore takedown
5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Sing-a-Long (Courtyard)
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Social Hour (Courtyard)
6:30 p.m. Dinner – (Grand Pacific/Patterson)
Installation of Board of Directors;
Awards; Chapter Charters
Presentation
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. Entertainment
(Grand Pacific/Patterson)

Sunday, July 25, 2010

- 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Prelude Music
9:00 a.m. Non-denominational Memorial
Service
Passing of the Convention Torch to
the Inland Northwest Chapter,
Host of 2011 Convention
Hosts of the 2010 GRHS International
Convention
Closing Remarks by GRHS President

Arlene Eva Dexheimer Maston Bio

It was a very cold and blustery night in December 1937, in a farmhouse near Velva, ND, that the Lord chose my birthplace. My mother told me it was so cold in the house that the blankets were frozen to the side of the bed next to the wall. My parents, Anthony Dexheimer and Johanna Wald had two children prior to my birth. The oldest, a boy, was born at home and unable to urinate and due to the blizzard in the area, my father was unable to get any medical help in time to save him. Consequently, he had to build a small makeshift wooden box and they kept the baby in the woodshed until the weather improved and they could get help.

The second child, my sister, Irene, who was asphyxiated when the metal chimney top froze in place ceased to turn, and the smoke and coal gas were driven back into the house. The open portion of the frozen flu faced the wind filling the home with smoke. There were a total of 5 persons who died as a result of this tragedy, including my paternal grandmother and grandfather, John Dexheimer and Elizabeth Miller, both born and married in Mannheim, Odessa, Russia.

Others spending the night in the home were three of my Dad's sisters, Rose Mary, Eva and Kathryn. Also, my mother and baby sister, 10 mos. old. My mother and my Aunt Eva had awakened Thursday morning to find the home filled with smoke and coal gas. Other members of the family were unconscious. My mother and Eva were able to pull on their clothes and leave the house preparing to go to a neighbor's house to use the phone. Upon getting outside, Eva fainted and fell in the snowy yard. My mother was able to get Eva back into the house when she too fainted away. The entire family lay unconscious. That afternoon my Dad left their home to go pick up my mother and the baby who were just spending one night to visit with the relatives. My dad, Anthony, found his mother sitting unconscious in a chair holding the infant baby, his father draped over a chair, breathing hard and semi-conscious. He rushed to a neighboring farm, but found no one home. He then went to another neighbor and Dr. Kolb of Granville was summoned. My Aunt Rose Mary improved after the oxygen was administered. My mother, Johanna, and my Aunt Eva (my Godmother) were the only two who lived as a result of this tragic accident.



Arlene Maston

I have always been grateful that my family were Germans from Russia. The intestinal fortitude it must have taken to overcome so many problems is amazing. I am a German from Russia on both sides. My maternal grandmother Philomena Bossert, and grandfather, Balser Wald were both born in Odessa and arrived on two different ships in 1893 and 1901, respectively. Grandpa was from Mannheim and Grandma from Selz. My grandfather had a heart condition and died at age 52. His wife, my grandmother, on the other hand lived to be 97. The only thing I definitely remember about Grandpa Wald was walking alongside the casket when I was about six. However, my family tells me Grandpa put several thousand miles on the old rocking chair with me in his lap. I do remember he had very, very long legs and a kind face. After Grandpa died, Grandma lived with my aunt and uncle and basically raised their seven children.

It was years and years before I learned what happened to my brother, Leo, and sister, Irene. It was extremely difficult for either of my parents to talk about the first three or four years of their marriage. However, as most Germans from Russia do, they picked up their lives and forged forward. My Dad, managed grain elevators in North Dakota as long as I can remember until they moved to Oregon in 1959. Years and years of breathing grain chaff and smoking cigarettes shortened his life, and he passed away on October 1, 1965. My mother owned the bakery in Wimbledon, and she could not make enough bread, rolls, donuts and cookies to satisfy this little town of 500 people and 750 dogs. My Dad's first grain elevator was in Umbria, population four: My dad, my mother and my brother and me. He then took over the elevator in Calio for a couple of years before we moved to Wimbledon. I started third grade in Wimbledon and graduated from high school there.

When I started grade school, I could not speak English. My parents spoke German in mostly an all-German community, and my grandma never did learn to speak English until she was in her 70's. When I started grade school in a one-room rural school with a pot-belly stove for heat and an eighteen year old teacher, I had quite a shock. The teacher couldn't speak German, and she didn't know what to do with me. She sent me out in the hallway to wait until she could find someone to tell her what to do. Eventually my parents were contacted and everything was ironed out. The Hitler stigma was very much alive in those days. As it turned out, learning English was not a problem for me. However, that was a very long first year in grade school. I lived the closest to the bus driver and so I got picked up first and

Continued on page 8.

Arlene Mason Bio , cont.

dropped off last. The driver often took me to the door since the snowdrifts were taller than I was. I still remember the bitter cold even though I was dressed like an Eskimo. I felt like the tears running down my cheeks were freezing as I walked.

While living in Wimbledon in the 40's and 50's, our family grew to seven. My parents followed the German from Russia customs by spending a lot of time in church, butchering a hog and a cow each fall with which they made German sausage for the following year. I was the designated person to thread the casings on the sausage stuffer and then help my brothers haul the sausage to our smoke house. My mother used every part of the pig she could—making pickled pigs feet (Guladetz) and headcheese were some of the delicacies. I have never seen her so angry as when the neighbor's dog found the kettle in the snowbank where my mother was cooling it before making the headcheese. No headcheese that year!

For years we had no running water and got our water from the well. The night before washday everyone helped to fill two huge copper boilers with water and put them on the coal cookstove. The following morning my mother got out the old wringer washer and it took most of the day to wash and hang them out. Since we lived on Main Street, she insisted on hanging the clothes out even in freezing weather. Every one strived to have the whitest sheets in town. I remember her bringing these huge frozen sheets in the house and hanging them on lines she had strung around. We hated having to dodge wet sheets before we went to bed. Anyway, she had a casserole she made in the morning before she began the wash. She called it Washday Dinner and it would cook at the back of the cook stove all day so we would have a hot meal that evening. The recipe will be in the GROW cookbook which will be published later this year.

Actually, helping with the butchering was a better job than picking rock and throwing them on the back of a stone boat most of the summer. I did a great deal of babysitting (both at home and for neighbors) and during the school year I cleaned the bedrooms for my teachers who roomed and boarded near the school. The landlady had 11 huge Boston ferns and she insisted I dust each leaf one by one. To this day I detest Boston ferns! All these jobs paid 25 cents an hour so I had to put in many hours working after school to be able to afford my yearbook, school sweater, team jacket and class ring.

After I graduated from high school, I joined the Air Force and served for three and a half years, mostly near Riverside, California. There were only 12 graduates in my high school class and over half

served their country in one of the armed services. After I left the Air Force, I came to Portland, Oregon, since my Aunt and Uncle told me I could live with them and attend college.

I had a number of jobs in credit management and was President of the OACM Credit Womens' Group in 1962-63.while working at Oregon Marine Supply as Assistant to the Controller.

After my son, Michael, was born in 1964, I decided I wanted to do something other than credit management and took a position with Kneisel Travel. I then decided to move to a smaller agency, Vivian Hanson Travel, and she had me manage her new branch office in Lipman's at Eastport Plaza. About a year later, I was diagnosed with diverticulitis and could only work part-time for six months. I worked some temporary jobs with Kelly Girls, one of which was the Jesuit Provincial House in northwest Portland. They offered me a full-time position, and I was one of two secretaries for the Provincial and his staff. The Jesuits travel so much and I had an opportunity to work outside sales for Azumano Travel. I worked both jobs for 27 years acquiring the Provincial's Secretary position. Everyone deserves a change after almost three decades and the scandal and turmoil within the Catholic church touched everyone. I needed a change. It was extremely difficult to witness the majority of outstanding, intellectual and sincere priests I knew being judged for the mistakes of a handful.

At the end of my career I found a position I really loved as an Administrative Assistant and Department Secretary at Providence Health Services. I worked almost an additional 10 years and probably would still be working for them if my husband had not become critically ill. So, in 2006, I got a new title, permanent Caregiver for my husband. I am not so sure I like this work, but it has its rewards. "For Better, for Worse" comes to mind.

Although many people have a pre-conceived idea that North Dakota is the "pits", I am grateful to have lived in a small community, attended a wonderful school with an outstanding curriculum — I even took German grammar in high school. I did not realize at the time that my teacher, Herbert Bertsch, was also a German from Russia. I still go back for an All-class reunion every five years. Eleven of the twelve in my class are still with us — even though I can see more and more health problems each time I return. The one deceased person was killed when a train hit his car in Minnesota this past winter. Unfortunately, we can no longer say "We are all alive from 1955".

Marcy Herinck Bio

My Grandparents came to America in 1889, on the *Lessing* ship from Russia. Before coming to America the passenger ship first went to Argentina, South America. Why, I wish I knew, perhaps I will study and find the answer. Maybe some of our members of the Grow Chapter can fill the unanswered questions. I often wonder what the the hundreds of families thought when they left their parents as a young couple. The fears of the unknown; night on the ocean, fears of the heavy sea, cold dark evenings, frightful winds, rolling of the ship and their very first time on a long voyage. Especially when there are no land or buildings in sight, you are at the mercy of the sea. The on-going suffering, weakness seasickness, and only God could watch over them.



Marcy Herinck

They had no idea what to expect, all they had to go on were letters from America. The ship arrived in New York City. From there they took a train to Eureka, South Dakota in April of 1889. The Schweigerts had sponsored Grandfather to live with them until they had the sod house finished. Later on they added to the sod house to raise their thirteen children out of seventeen total. Two children died on the farm near the two large rocks just out of Artas, South Dakota. I can't help but wonder about the infant that died on the ship. Grandparents and my parents didn't talk about it until I talked with my aunt and she had told me what happened.

I was born on a farm, on November 20, 1928 in Artas, South Dakota. I was the third child born, before me was my sister Miranda born in 1927, and a child before her died as an infant. I always wondered, so I asked my Mom what it was like when she gave birth to me. She said it was cold, the wind was blowing and the snow drifts were unbelievable. We burned coal, cow pies and corn cobs soaked in kerosene to start fires as there was no electricity. For lights we used candles and oil lamps which are now long forgotten days.

The toilets were outside. Mom always made homemade bread and vegetable and chicken soup and many delicious German dishes which I still make today. It was so cold. Getting ready for bed, we put irons in the oven and on top of the stove to warm our beds. We had big fluffy mattresses and handmade quilts. Our handmade slippers were made out of yarn. They were always in a basket in the house. Scarf mittens and caps were there also.

Continued on page 11.

2008-09 GROW Board of Directors

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Portland, OR 97222 rahaas@haasfamily.us
Term ends: 2010

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Leona Koth Hix, Name Badge Chair/Greeter

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Term ends: 2010

Charlotte Bohlman, Alternate #3 - Kitchen Asst.

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Portland, OR 97236 *Term ends: 2010*



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

GROW 2010 Quarterly Calendar

J U L Y 2 0 1 0						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

A U G U S T 2 0 1 0						
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	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 0						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	2	3	4
5	6 <i>Labor Day</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Board Meeting</i>	22	23	24	25
26 <i>Chapter Meeting</i>	27	28	29	30		



Chapter Meetings are held at:

Deutches 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

NO MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST

GROW PICNIC - August 29 • 11 am - 3 pm

26 September - Adi Hartfeil & Convention & Reunion Reports

24 October - To Be Announced

21 November - To Be Announced

Fundraising Opportunities— At No Cost To You!!

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

Other Opportunities to Help...

- **Oscar Geiszler** is recycling inkjet and laser cartridges. Bring your empty cartridges to Chapter Meetings or contact Oscar directly. He can also help you receive approximately 50% discount on refilled cartridges.
- Visit **Cathy Lobb** before/after the Chapter Meetings to view the fascinating collection of books, audio CDs, videos, etc. that are available for sale. Also take a look at the tote bags, key chains and magnets, all with the GROW logo.

Marcy Herinck Bio, cont.

During the depression era we always kept our noses to the grindstone. My Father's garage burned down, he lost everything, so he went to work for the WPA. The livestock were kept in a huge barn and there was always plenty of wheat barley and oats that were harvested. Talking about my parents, the true hard times, almost too unbelievable. Everyone worked together which allowed us to make it through the depression. The experience released us from inner tension, socially and believing in each other. My parents never talked about their childhood lives. I suppose because my grandparents lived such difficult lives.

How many families have had true documents of official reports of a loved one buried at sea? These were challenging and very difficult times for them. My Father came to Portland, Oregon to attend a machinist and mechanical school. He worked for Pierce Auto Trucking and was a lead mechanic. He lost his job there due to hard times and went to work with the shipyards. Most everyone that came to Oregon went to work with the shipyards in 1945. I graduated from high school in Portland, Oregon and then I went to college for two years. During college I

had to quit school to help support my family. After my father was able to get a house for us and I had gone to work at the Starlight Restaurant at Gateway for 19 years. Not too long went by and I got married to a wonderful man for twelve years before starting our family, two boys. After we raised them I went back to work for 23 years for Tiffany Foods, managing cafeterias. During these years, as a family we had done lots of fishing at Detroit Lake, camping at Round Butte Dam and hunting in the Ochoco Forest.

My husband's father owned The Cedars at Detroit Lake, and my husband always played the accordion and piano for entertainment there. My husband, Ray, then joined his father on the weekends to play. His mother and father lived at the lake. They moved back to Portland when Ray was a young lad.

My hobbies are gardening, reading, ham radio, forming Hayden Island Yacht Club, volunteering 27 years at the American Cancer Society, being a dispatch for the Acs(Hearts of Hope) helping the women survive their cancer and continue to enjoy their lives and being a member of the American Heritage Society Germans from Russia.

Also in the 1980's I was the vice president of the Heritage Society of Germans from Russia chapter as well as John Heimbuck President.



GROW Membership Application

Germans from Russia Oregon and Washington



Years of Membership _____ New Renewal

Birth Month (optional) _____ Anniversary Month (optional) _____

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (include area code) _____ Email address _____

Name of ancestral village(s) _____

Family surnames _____

Names of adults in household desiring membership cards _____

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

GROW Newsletter/Operation Donation (minimum \$5.00)

GRHS Membership \$50.00 • GRHS Lifetime Membership \$650.00 (\$130.00 per year)

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

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

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

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

Send articles to: jcprunier@comcast.net or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

Helpful Hint from Sharon Bell

To see relative's houses, homesteads, etc. try using Street View from Google Maps.

To get to Street View go to www.maps.google.com Type in the address or town in the search window and press the SEARCH MAPS button.

Once there, if the little man on the zoom control is yellow, then Street View can be used.

Left click on the yellow man, hold and drag him, placing the green circle to the street you want to view from the ground.

In this way I have navigated to several small towns in North Dakota to see some of the houses where I have relatives and to see the old homestead of my great grandparents. Note that addresses may not be exact in street view or in the regular map view. When in map view I like to have it display satellite view.

If the man on the zoom control is not yellow, then Street View does not yet exist for this area. Likewise if as you drag the yellow man, a street doesn't highlight in blue, then that street is not yet in Street View.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS WELCOMED!

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

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

jcprunier@comcast.net

Deadline for next issue is Sept. 1, 2010.



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue
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