

FRÖLICHES WEIHNACHTEN



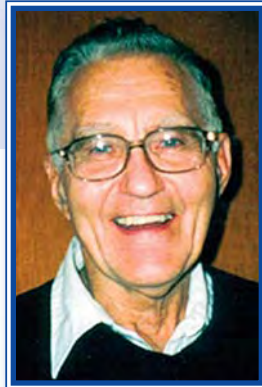
Area Chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)



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Message from the President



Roger Haas, President

GROW has been on the move again! The new GAS (German American Society) building purchased from the Friendship Masonic Center at 5626 NE Alameda St. (corner of 57th and Sandy Blvd.) will also be the new permanent GROW home.

Board Member Ell Schiermeister and Roger Haas moved the Library, et.al from the temporary six months stay at Bethany Lutheran Church. GROW thanks GAS and Bethany Lutheran for the storage of our library and the meeting space for the interim period when GAS had sold their 100 year old home under the threat of condemnation by Portland Community College and now as of October 2011, has purchased another building as their new residence.

The new home was the accommodation for the GROW's Board and Chapter Meeting place starting in November; however, GAS is planning a major remodeling and redecorating which is expected to take as much as a year. GROW hopes that a Library provision can be had before the summer of 2012, but many factors weigh in GAS's decisions for proper spacing and only time will tell as to how expeditiously the project can be accomplished. Hella Betts, Planning Chair, your President, who is one member of the team, along with the other Sister Club Presidents, are making recommendations to the GAS Board who meet monthly.

I can tell you that the Planning Committee recom-

mendations on 30 November, which are to come before the Board on the 14 December are:

1) The improving and remodeling of the current bathrooms, bringing them up to ADA standards, and better utilization of the spaces for GAS purposes;

2) The raising of the roof of the 1933 addition (N segment) to align with the original 1912 structure to accommodate the GSSOP (German Saturday School of Portland) for its 10 classrooms on the second floor. Other considerations are to further provide for the school accommodations, making better use of the basement, and also to provide for the handicapped is an elevator for the three floors.

3) The commercial kitchen will be slightly expanded with additional cabinets space and modernizing the center island.

4) The lobby flooring up to the auditorium will be refurbished and the main Meeting room hardwood floor will be refinished. The Sister Clubs' storage and library space accommodations are in flux.

Several architects and contractors have been engaged and all have different recommendations and opinions.

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Winter Walk

In an earlier issue, I discussed two books about tragic weather. One of those, *The Children's Blizzard*, reminded me of a vague memory and a story I sketched some years ago. It is not a true story in the sense of being factual and detail accurate, but the feeling of being lost in a blizzard is real, and something I'm sure some will remember.



Ronald Schauer

The low morning sun tinted the wakening sky, enlivening the graying snow to a golden sheen. Sounds of crunching crystals under children's boots mixed with excited voices in the windless air.

Dressed in his usual black trousers and green sweater, Mr. Loden stood just outside the school door and waved a brass bell. "Come on! Come on! Machts schnell." Obediently and quickly, the children were seated at their desks, their winter coats with scarves and mittens hung on pegs and lunch boxes piled on a corner table.

Their school was a single large room with a black cast iron stove. Large windows lined the north wall. The children's desks were arranged in two neat rows, facing the windows and the large and frighteningly tidy teacher's desk.

During the mid-morning arithmetic lesson, Mr. Loden stepped outside the room to answer an urgent knocking and the children heard another grown up voice quietly talking with their teacher. Some knew the second voice was that of Mr. Wintzner, the farmer who lived across the road from the school.

Stepping back into the classroom, Mr. Loden told the children to quickly put on their coats and gather their lunch boxes and books. "A storm is coming," he said, "you need to get home quickly."

The older children were not worried, they had done this before. The younger ones were frightened by the hurriedness and their teacher's serious and stern voice. As they scurried to the road, each looked back to see Mr. Loden lead his horse, Donner, from the barn. He pointed at each as he counted the hurrying children and then he seemed to float onto the back of the horse and turned to the south in a single motion. He had more than twenty miles to ride to

his home.

A confident, strong twelve-year-old and his frightened six-year-old brother were the only ones who lived north of the school. Tiny ice crystals began to fall as they walked up the road and turned to the path they always took, crossing a sagging fence and angling across the pasture, aiming right at their home a little more than a mile to the northeast.

Too soon, the crystals became snowflakes that fell larger and faster. This morning that had been very quiet became gradually filled with the wail of wind driving snow into their faces. The little boy began to cry with quiet tears that froze quickly to his reddened cheeks. His big brother took his hand and confidently said they were almost home. "Just walk a little faster," he urged.

Looking very hard though, he could not tell the grass from the sky or the sky from the surrounding hills. Frightened and cold, he began to think about pale violet crocus flowers pushing through the snow beside two children frozen very stiff in a corner of the pasture where no one ever went. And he held his brother's shivering hand and told how they would soon be thawing out by a stove so hot that its top will glow red.

They walked with aching lungs, their legs numb, their cheeks stinging and raw. Keeping a tight hold on his brother, he marched on, worried the wind might separate them or they would want to stop. He had heard old men tell of people lost in a blizzard who stopped and then did not know how to start again.

And suddenly a wonderful thing happened: They came to a fence. The older brother touched it to make sure. And the younger one touched it and heard mixed in the wind his brother's voice, "This is our fence, see, we are almost home."

They walked beside the fence, each one reaching out every few stumbling steps to touch it carefully because it was barbed wire and they didn't want to tear their mittens. Sometimes they thought they recognized the slant of the fence posts or a pile of rocks. They weren't sure at all so they just walked and held on tightly.

And then, like an angry mother holding her breath, the wind paused. The little one let go of his brother's hand and pointed and said, "Our house!" The wind roared back as they ran across the road and through the door to warm themselves next a stove so hot that its top glowed red.

Genealogy Forum

GRHS Convention in Spokane

In July, I attended the Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention in Spokane. Of course my primary reason for going was genealogy. What kind of genealogical information can you find at a GRHS convention? I found three sources of genealogical information there.

First, there are sessions specifically devoted to genealogy. I attended sessions dealing with sources of genealogical information, how to search websites for genealogical information and how to write a family history.

Second, there is an opportunity to talk with experts in specific areas of genealogy. Some of my ancestors came to Russia via Poland and so I talked with Tom Stangl and found that he had more information than what I had and he told me he would send me the latest information. One of my ancestors came through Hungary so I talked with James Klein Jr., the expert in that area. In both cases I am following up by e-mail.

Third, the entire GRHS library was moved from Bismark to the convention site in Spokane. This is hard copy material—books, files, etc. that is not available on the internet. I spent all my time, (when I was not attending a session) in the library. What does the library contain? (1) Lots of family history books (I found some of my relatives in other peoples family history books, where they were also part of that family.), (2) local history books (Most communities in the US where our ancestors settled have produced jubilee or centennial books with biographical sketches of what are now our ancestors.), and (3) pedigree charts/family group sheets. Every one who joins GRHS is asked to provide some family information. The pedigree/family information is filled with a folder for each summiteer. They are well indexed—listing every surname on every chart. Using information obtained from these charts at the convention, I have made contact with three new relatives, like third cousin.

To illustrate the value of these charts and how a number of little bits of information can fit together, I will tell you a story. For many years I was Chair of the Engineering Department at Andrews University in Michigan. One day in the mid 1970s I was inter-



Harold Lang, PhD

viewing a prospective faculty member. On meeting me he told me that his wife's maiden name was Lang. When he came to take the job, I met his wife and asked her where her ancestors came from. She told me that they came from the village of Kassel in South Russia and settled near Emery, South Dakota and later moved Beiseker, Alberta, where she grew up. Amazed, I told her that my ancestor also came from village of Kassel in South Russia, but came over later and settled near Gackel, North Dakota. This was shortly before I had found Stumpp's book. With Stumpp's book and *Beiseker's Golden Heritage*, I was able to trace my ancestry back to a Paul Lang and her ancestry back to a Dave Lang, brothers who migrated with their families to Kassel in 1814. We were seventh cousins.

The story continues about twenty years later when I was visiting a cousin on my mother's side in College Place, Washington and she said that there were Langs buried in the College Place Cemetery. I have Lang second cousins that live in College Place and I told her that a Lang child had died and was buried there. She said no other Lang. Then I remembered that when I was a student at Walla Walla College I knew that there was a Lang family living in College Place who had two sons (Maurice and Don) in college the same time I was. It could be that some of this family is buried there.

On our way back to Michigan we went through North Dakota and stopped at GRHA in Bismark. There I discovered the pedigree/family information file and found a family group sheet with some Langs buried in College Place, WA. and some buried Beiseker, AB. So some of the Langs buried in College Place were related to those in Beiseker. The final proof came some years later when the Chair of the Mathematics told me that they were interviewing, a young lady from California by the name of Lang for a teaching position. I arranged to meet her and ask her what her father's name was and she said Maurice. Then I showed her a copy of the family group sheet and she told me that the Langs buried in College Place were her grandparents. She also told me that she had attended family reunions in Beiseker. So now I had it all fit together.

It is amazing how some little pieces of information can fit together to make a big picture and sometimes it is a little bit of information that makes the final connection. That is what makes genealogy interesting and challenging.

German - Russian Statistics

Compiled by Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz



Dr. Eric J. Schmaltz,
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Oklahoma State Uni-
versity in Alva

GERMAN AS THE PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF ETHNIC GERMANS ACCORDING TO THE SOVIET CENSUSES OF 1926, 1959, 1970, 1979, AND 1989

Census Year	Total Percentage of Ethnic Germans Claiming German as Primary Language
1926	95.0%
1959	75.0%
1970	66.8%
1979	57.7%
1989	48.7%

NOTE: Especially in more recent census counts of the 1990s, the claim by individual ethnic Germans that German is the native (primary) language is partly a subjective response to the census and an act of "solidarity as Germans." Although identifying as Germans, many of these individuals may not necessarily be fluent in the German language.

SOURCES: Gerd Stricker, ed., *Deutsche Geschichte im Osten Europas, Russland*, Vol. 10 (Berlin: Siedler Verlag, 1997), p. 607; Peter Rosenberg, "New Research on the Status of German Language in the Soviet Union," *AHSGR Journal* 18:1 (Spring 1995): pp. 15, 21-22. For a detailed analysis of German-language retention and proficiency, consult Barbara Dietz and Peter Hilkes, *Russlanddeutsche: Unbekannte im Osten. Geschichte, Situation, Zukunftsperspektiven* (Munich: Olzog Verlag, 1992), pp. 49-59.

RATE OF URBANIZATION FOR ETHNIC GERMANS IN RUSSIA AND THE USSR, 1914-1989

Year	Total Percentage of Ethnic Germans in Towns and Cities
1914	4.4%
1926	15.4%
1939	19.0%
1941	27.0%
1959	39.3%
1970	45.4%
1979	51.0%
1989	52.8%

NOTE: Besides in the former USSR, the urbanization process continues for more recent ethnic German émigrés (*Spätaussiedler*) who have arrived in Germany.

SOURCES: Barbara Dietz and Peter Hilkes, *Russlanddeutsche: Unbekannte im Osten. Geschichte, Situation, Zukunftsperspektiven* (Munich: Olzog Verlag, 1992), pp. 33-34; Karl Stumpp, *The German Russians: Two Centuries of Pioneering*, trans. Joseph S. Height (Lincoln, NE: AHSGR, 1978), p. 146; *Volk auf dem Weg: Deutsche in Russland und in der GUS, 1763-1997*, eds. Kulturrat der Deutschen aus Russland und Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland (Stuttgart: Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland, 1997), p. 26.

President's Message, cont.

The GAS Board's judgment will prevail, but its infrequent meetings and the annual election in January may impede the progress. The facility is more building than GAS perhaps will be able to fully utilize. Therefore, the Southern auditorium, "Red Room", will possibly be utilized for large functions; and cultural events will perhaps be the last area to be remodeled.

Membership is the vital life blood of any organization. This year, 2011, GROW had the largest enrollment in several years. We hope all of you dear members will be renewing your membership and invite your family and friends to become part of our GROW Family also. What is also appreciated is those who have donated more than the minimum of \$5. Those who have currently enrolled and have gifted more than the basic \$5 are: Ron & Pat Schauer, Bill & Sharon Bell, Pete Ehli, James & Jan Volk, Kathy Shinn, Leon & Kay Hagen, Howard Engelhardt, & Lawrence and Della Kiesz. Thank you so very much! It helps with our operational expense. GROW operates on a very low budget.

Look for some exciting programs in 2012! On the 22 January 2012, Joanne Pfau is leading a team sharing about holiday traditions and German customs and on 26th of February, Kaye Kuntz-Igoa is heading up some German Cooking demonstrations, baking of specialties and sampling at our Chapter meetings.

THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL CENSUS OF ETHNIC GERMANS IN 1897

Population of Ethnic Germans According to Religious Denomination (Including the Baltic Germans)

Lutherans	1,360,943	76.0%
Roman Catholics	242,209	13.5%
Mennonites (esp. Ukraine)	65,907	3.7%
Reformed (esp. on the Volga)	63,981	3.6%
Baptists	19,913	1.1%
Greek-Orthodox	13,360	0.7%
Other Christians	1,411	0.1%
Jews and Non-Christians	22,855	1.3%
	1,790,589	100%

SOURCE: Karl Stumpp, *The German Russians: Two Centuries of Pioneering*, trans. Joseph S. Height (Lincoln, NE: AHSGR, 1978), p. 20.

Continued on page 5.

GERMAN "OUT-SETTLERS/SETTLERS FROM ABROAD" (AUSSIEDLER) FROM THE (FORMER) USSR TO (WEST) GERMANY, FROM 1950 TO NOVEMBER 2006

Year	Aussiedler	Year	Aussiedler
1950	.....0	1980	.....6,954
1951	.....1,721	1981	.....3,773
1952	.....63	1982	.....2,071
1953	.....0	1983	.....1,447
1954	.....18	1984	.....913
1955	.....154	1985	.....460
1956	.....1,016	1986	.....753
1957	.....923	1987	.....14,488
1958	.....4,122	1988	.....47,572
1959	.....5,563	1989	.....98,134
1960	.....3,272	1990	.....147,950
1961	.....345	1991	.....147,320
1962	.....894	1992	.....195,567
1963	.....209	1993	.....207,347
1964	.....234	1994	.....213,214
1965	.....366	1995	.....209,409
1966	.....1,245	1996	.....172,181
1967	.....1,092	1997	.....131,895
1968	.....598	1998	.....101,550
1969	.....316	1999	.....103,599
1970	.....342	2000	.....94,558
1971	.....1,145	2001	.....97,434
1972	.....3,420	2002	.....90,587
1973	.....4,493	2003	.....72,289
1974	.....6,541	2004	.....58,728
1975	.....5,985	2005	.....35,396
1976	.....9,704	Jan.-Nov. 2006	.....6,794
1977	.....9,274	TOTAL	.....2,341,128
1978	.....8,455		
1979	.....7,226		

NOTE: Between 1987 and 1991, the USSR instituted emigration reform. In 1993, united Germany began enforcing annual immigration restrictions for *Aussiedler/Spätaussiedler* (from both the former USSR and Eastern Europe) to around 225,000, including language tests and other considerations. Starting in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Germany began to reduce further the annual quota of this category of immigrants, from about 100,000 to 50,000 per year. For those born before 1993, legal applications to migrate to Germany under this ethnic category were also permitted until 2011. Clearly, annual immigration numbers have continued to decline in more recent years. Also, note that the figure of almost 12,000 Germans from Russia permitted to move to Communist East Germany between 1965 and 1985 is not included in these tabulations.

SOURCES: "Aussiedler-Zahl wird halbiert," *Rundschau* (Ulyanovsk, Russia), no. 2 (10 Jan. 2001): p. 1; Alfred Eisfeld, *Die Russlanddeutschen*, Studienbuchreihe der Stiftung Ostdeutscher Kulturrat: Vol. 2, rev. ed. (Munich: F. A. Herbig Verlagsbuchhandlung GmbH, 1999 [1992]), pp. 187-188; *Volk auf dem Weg. Geschichte und Gegenwart der Deutschen aus Russland* (Stuttgart: Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland, 2006), p. 63.

GROW Board Christmas Social

On December 1, the GROW Board of Directors had their annual Christmas Social at Francis Xavier's on 181st north of Halsey. There were 17 people who attend the dinner. As always we had great service and accommodations for our large group, as well as great fellowship. The servings were more than ample.



Jan Haberman

We missed Clyde and Maxine Daily and Bob and Helen Mahjor. They are our Emeritus Board Members and of course Clifford Haberman who is deceased. Also we missed John and Leona Hix who are always a delight to have around.

Sorry to Ell and Nina Schiermeister. We did not connect with you. You both, with your bright smiles, were missed.

Those attending were Arlene Maston, without her husband Brad who is very ill and in a foster home. Our prayers go out to both of them at this time.

We also celebrated Arlene's birthday, which was that very day. We all sang to her. Arlene was always doing something for me when Cliff was down. So many thanks to you and happy birthday again.

Jan Haberman with guest Cherie Elder who some of you saw at the picnic helping out.

Roger and Roberta Haas, our leader who goes the extra mile.

Ed and Anita Weber, we are glad to have Ed out and about these days. Good to see you both.

Harold and Violet Lang, you both always look chipper and have a smiles that are addictive.

Charlotte Bohlman, who has been sick we were glad to see her up and around. Keep well and see you in the new year.

Jeanette McDermid, who always has her bubbly sense of humor.

Adi and Barbara Hartfeil he always has a smile of innocence and seems very proud of his wife Barbara.

Our guest speaker from November meeting was Yelena and son Jacob Thayer. She is a delight, full of fun and has so many stories to tell us of the Ukraine. We all adore you.

Oscar Geiszler and his guest April Blausler, who is a very bubbly and friendly person.

I hope that I did not forget anyone who attended. If you would like to attend these dinners join our board members when election time rolls around and help us come up with good ideas for our chapter.

Happy Holidays and Good Health to all. See ya in the New Year. Vice President, Jan Haberman

DNA and KET Regional Interest Group Updates

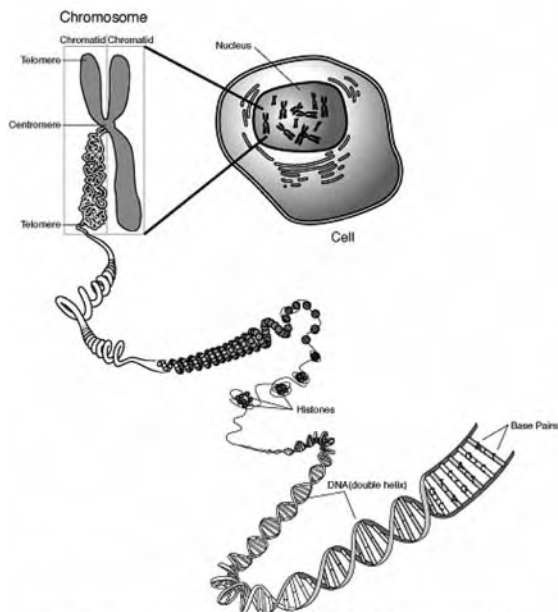
GRHS has recently acquired photos of documents from archives in Ukraine that date back to the early 1800s. Some of these documents pertain to Mennonite colonies and some pertain to other German colonies in the Kherston/Ekaterinoslav/Taurida Regional Interest Group (KET RIG) area, particularly the Prischib Colony, the Josephstal Colony, the Swedish Colony, the Danzig Colony, the Belowesch Colony, the Mariupol Colony and possibly other colonies. If you are fluent in German or Russian and would like to help translate some of these documents, let me know. I would like to see that any translations that people do are shared with GRHS and the rest of the GRHS membership. I have recently translated an 1806 Mennonite census for the Molotschna Colony that was among the items in this collection.



Dr. Tim Janzen

DNA research update

As many people know, I am actively involved in genetic genealogy research and I have given a presentation on that topic for GROW previously. The drawing below depicts the basic structure of DNA. There continue to be many advances in DNA research over the past several years. The most interesting of these developments from the standpoint of genealogy is the use of autosomal DNA tests to help learn about one's ancestry. These tests also can potentially extend



<http://www.accessexcellence.org/AB/GG/chromosome.html>

genealogical lines back further than is currently known.

Autosomal tests are particularly helpful for trying to determine genealogical relationships within the past 200 years, but in some cases autosomal DNA can indicate connections back as far as 500 years or more. Autosomal DNA may be used to determine the relative degree to which two people are related to each other on any line of descent if they share at least one common ancestor in the recent past. It has significant potential for genealogical researchers since there are a total of 44 chromosomes that can be tested. It is limited by the fact that the chromosomes recombine at conception and thus one half of each parent's markers is not passed to a specific child. It is thus of most benefit in determining relationships between people who share a common ancestor within six to eight generations.

The two best autosomal DNA tests in my opinion currently available are the 23andMe test and the Family Finder test offered by Family Tree DNA. See www.23andMe.com and www.familytreedna.com for information about these tests. FTDNA is currently offering the Family Finder test for \$199 and 23andMe's price for their test is \$99 plus \$9 per month for a minimum of 12 months or \$399 with no ongoing monthly fees. The 23andMe test is the better test, but is more expensive.

The 23andMe test uses a customized Illumina SNP chip that tests 934,670 autosomal SNPs, 3089 Y chromosome SNPs, 26,087 X chromosome SNPs, and 2737 mtDNA SNPs. The test has a feature called Ancestral Painting that tells which regions of the world your ancestors came from. The Global Similarity feature tells which countries or ethnic groups you are most closely related to. This test also gives information about medical conditions one might be predisposed to. From a genealogical perspective, the most helpful feature is Relative Finder, which is a feature that allows you to contact people who share matching segments of DNA with you. About 110,000 people have done the 23andMe test thus far.

The FTDNA Family Finder test uses an Illumina OmniExpress SNP chip that tests 708,092 autosomal SNPs, no Y chromosome SNPs, 18,091 X chromosome SNPs, and no mtDNA SNPs. The test gives limited information about medical conditions one might be predisposed to since the medically relevant SNPs have been removed. It allows for comparisons to other people similar to Relative Finder. About 20,000 people have done the Family Finder test thus far. More information may be found at

DNA & KET Updates, cont.

FTDNA's Family Finder background section at <http://www.familytreedna.com/landing/family-finder.aspx> and at FTDNA's Family Finder FAQ section at <http://www.familytreedna.com/faq/answers/default.aspx?faqid=17>. Also see Terry Barton's blog at <http://www.worldfamilies.net/familyfinder>.

Over the past year or so I have tested 10 descendants of my ancestor Jacob Youngman (b. ca Aug 1823), as well as two descendants of William Youngman (b. ca 1818) and 2 descendants of Mary Jane Youngman (b. Nov 1835). The autosomal DNA results confirmed my theory that all three people were 1/2 siblings to each other. This helped me establish the parentage of Jacob Youngman (b. ca Aug 1823). Similar projects could be done with German Russian families. To see what we are doing with the Mennonite DNA project see www.mennonitedna.com and <http://kquilting.homeserver.com/23andme/index.html>.



The above picture shows how various segments of DNA can be attributed to the ancestor that a person inherited them from. In this particular situation someone tested four grandparents, two parents, and a grandchild. They then determined which sections of each chromosome came from each of the four grandparents. I have been working on a similar project involving my mom's DNA. I have been able to determine some specific segments of DNA that came down to her from specific ancestors who lived in the 1700s. In many cases I have been able to attribute segments to various grandparents and great grandparents of my mother. I am working on a similar project for my father's DNA.

I have heard word that Ancestry.com will also be offering an autosomal test next year. FTDNA is also currently having a sale on Y chromosome and mitochondrial DNA tests that will continue through Dec. 31, 2011. Complete genome sequencing currently costs \$2500 to \$5000 and likely to be in the \$1000 range in the next several years. It is an exciting time to be a genetic genealogist!

My Memories of Christmas and Winter in North Dakota

by Harold Lang, PhD

I have many fond memories of Christmas and winters in North Dakota. My first memories of Christmas decorations in our home was when I was about four or five years old. My father had cut some kind of a bare bush (no needles or leaves) and placed some lights and decorations on it. Later when I was in school we had real evergreen Christmas trees in the one room school but none of us had them in our homes. There were so few trees of any kind in North Dakota at that time. One evening just before Christmas we would drive into Harvey to see the Christmas lights, which consisted of a red light on a candle or in a wreath in a few of the homes. No one had outdoor Christmas lights and almost no one had lighted Christmas trees.

My family celebrated Christmas on Christmas Eve. We had a special supper with fresh apples, oranges, nuts, cookies and other good things to eat. After supper we opened our presents. I would usually receive one toy and some clothing. The hardware store in Harvey would have a toy section just for Christmas. I always was anxious to visit it. However most of my presents were probably ordered out of the Montgomery Ward Catalog. When the Montgomery Ward Christmas Catalog arrived I had to go through it page by page. My birthday was right after Christmas so my birthday presents were usually bought at the after Christmas sales

We always had a Christmas program/party at school. We had a real Christmas tree and we made red and green paper loop chains and strung popcorn and cranberries on a string for decorations. A lady that lived near the school made popcorn balls that were wrapped in colored cellophane paper. I remember several years I took my sled over to her place to haul them to the school. The night of the party we first had a program put on by the school children and then the popcorn balls, candy, and gifts that our parents brought were pass out to the children.

During the winter we enjoyed playing in the snow. At recess time we did a lot of sledding. We all had sleds and since the school was built into the side of a hill there was a good sledding hill right outside the school. There was about a 10 foot drop in a 20 to 30 foot run. It was not a long run but we could go down a number of times in one recess. To go down fast we would pick up our sleds start running drop the sled and plopp down on top of the sled. We usually lay

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Christmas & Winter Memories, cont.

face down on our the sleds as this gave us less wind resistance and more stability. If we really wanted a long run we would go down this hill fast then turn behind the school where it was now fairly level. We had to have a lot of momentum to get past the school building and start down the big hill to the Sheyenne River. Then there was a long walk back up the big hill to the school. We did not have time to do this during recess.

We had lots of fun in the winter playing in the snow. We would lie down on our backs in powdery snow swing our arms from our sides to above our heads and when we got up we could see an angle in the snow. We would make tracks in the snow in various patterns. One pattern was a spiral where we would walk in a circle with decreasing radius until we got to the center, then we would turn around and make a new spiral out in between the one we made on the way in.

We played a fox and rabbit game by making a number of concentric circles in the snow. These circles were connected with several spokes going out. One would be the fox and the rest rabbits and the fox would try to catch a rabbit. The fox and the rabbits had to follow the pattern laid out in the snow jumping from one circle to another only where the spokes were.

During the middle of the winter it was cold enough that the snow would not stick together to make snow balls or snow men. After a blizzard there would be big drifts of snow that were packed so hard that one could walk across the top of them with out sinking in at all. The down wind side of a drift was usually quite steep and we would slide down these standing up. Our boots would eventually wear ruts in the snow where we slid. We would use a saw and



Sheyenne River Academy, tunnel from girls' dorm to main building.

cut out chunks of snow which we would haul on a sled to build a snow house. I do not remember calling them forts

We lived on the campus of Sheyenne River Academy, a boarding high school, where my dad taught. The winter of 1937 must have been particularly hard with lots of snow. A large snow drift developed between the girls dormitory and the school building. The drift was so high that they dug a tunnel through it which was tall enough for an adult to walk through without bending over.

We had rural mail delivery. I remember several modes of transportation that the mailman used in the winter. Some of my early memories are that he used a horse-drawn sled. He had a little house mounted on a farm sled. It had a window on the front so he could see where he was going. Under the window were two small holes for the reins for the horses. It had a metal chimney sticking up through the roof, implying that it had a wood or coal stove inside. I don't remember if he had a window that he opened to put mail in the mail boxes or if he had to open the door. Later he drove a modified Ford Model A coupe that had the rear wheels replaced by large balloon tires and the front wheels were replaced with skis that steered like the normal front wheels.

Those were the good old days, at least when your remember the fun things. I also remember the wind-whipped snow stinging my face, tingling fingers and toes from the cold, and my tongue frozen to the outside door knob when I licked it.



New Research Materials

The following items have been added to the Kutschurgan Website and can only be accessed by being a GRHS member.

R7-1-54, 1921 BMD Civil Records. Primarily for Mannheim and Georgental. Also included are records for Elsass, Kandel, and other daughter colonies

R7-1-206, 1923 Marriage Civil Records and 1 Birth Civil Record. Colonists from the 6 mother colonies and daughter colonies.

To view these files, go to the Kutschurgan website <http://www.grhs.org/chapters/krig/>,

click on **Private Data**, under Mannheim click on **Odessa Archive - Files R7** then select the files listed above.

Also a file has been added to the Kutschurgan Website that contain **1726-1779 Oberlauterbach Baptismal Records for the surname Baumstark.**

To view this file, go to the Kutschurgan website, click on **Private Data**, under **Germany** click on **Baumstark Baptisms - Oberlauterbach.**

While on the KRIG website click on **What's New** to see if you missed anything.

Dennis Roth
Kutschurgan RIG Spokesman
Kutschurgan Webmaster
GRHS Archive Acquisition Committee Member
GRHS Odessa Archive Liaison

Valerie Ingram reported on Dec 1 that the following are available for researchers:

The following items are now available at GRHS, but have not yet been added to the bookstore online:

1816-1818 Revision List, Colony of Worms, Beresan District, Kherson Gubernia will be \$5.00 to members or \$10.00 to non-members. This price does not include shipping and handling.

1816-1818 Revision List, Colony of Sulz, Beresan District, Kherson Gubernia. Member \$5.00 - non-member \$10.00

1808 Family Lists for the German-based Swedish Colonies of Klosterdorf, Muhlhausendorf, Schlangendorf. Member \$5.00 - non-member \$10.00

If you are interested in purchasing any of these at this time, send Rachel an email at rachel.grhs@midconetwork.com or give her a call at 701-223-6167.

These early census lists are translated by our team from the original census lists that Stumpp used to put together his book "*The Emigration from Germany to Russia in the Years 1763-1862*". If you've ever wondered about the data he gave us in his book, here's your chance to see what the censuses REALLY said! There have been some discrepancies found already.

Upcoming files that are almost ready are 1816 censuses for Franzfeld, Mariental, Rastadt, and an awesome 1813 Family Name List of 10 GDO villages with information on livestock, farm equipment and profession. This reads like a census, with all members of the families included along with their ages! So stay tuned! Roger

2010-11 GROW Board of Directors

Roger Haas, President/GRHS Director Rep

8618 SE 36th Ave. (503) 659-8248
Portland, OR 97222 rahaas@haasfamily.us
Term ends: 2013

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Term ends: 2014

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Sharon Bell, Alternate #1 - Set-Up Chair

126 NE 86th Ave. (503) 254-2583
Portland, OR 97220 bellglen@teleport.com
Term ends: 2012



Maxine Daily, Director Emeritus

In Memory—Clifford Haberman, Director Emeritus

Robert Majhor, Director Emeritus

Ed Weber, Director Emeritus

GROW 2012 Quarterly Calendar

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 2						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17 Board Meeting	18	19	20	21
22 Chapter Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Fall Genealogy Workshop	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21 Board Meeting	22	23	24	25
26 Chapter Meeting	27 Fall Genealogy Workshop	28	29			
M A R C H 2 0 1 2						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Newsletter Deadline	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Fall Genealogy Workshop	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Board Meeting	21	22	23	24
25 Chapter Meeting	26 Fall Genealogy Workshop	27	28	29	30	31



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

Directions:
 From the North taking I-205 or I-5,
 Take Columbia Exit and go to Cully, turn South
 until you come to Sandy Blvd & 57th NE Alameda.
 From the South on I-205 take Halsey exit,
 go W to 57th, make R to Sandy/Alameda;
 From I-5, take I-84 to 60th, turn N to Halsey,
 L to 57th, N to Sandy & Alameda.
 38 car parking across from the Deutsches Haus.

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

Chapter Meetings

- 22 January** - Joanne Pfau - Team sharing about holiday traditions and German customs
- 26 February** - Kaye Kuntz-Igoa - German cooking and baking demonstrations with sampling!
- 25 March** - 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.
- * **Family Heritage Recipe Book** - \$12.50 at Chapter Meeting or add \$4.00 s/h for mailing. Call 503-659-8248, rahaas@q.com

Resources for Aiding in Your Research

The Oregon AHSGR Chapter Library, 27th-29th NE Liberty St., Portland, OR, at Concordia University is open on the fourth Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Contact Jene Goldhammer at 503-771-5813. It is best to call before coming.

Websites available for research:

AHSGR Library

ahsgr.org

G-R Heritage Collection

lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/grhc

GRHS Library

grhs.org

EEGS - East European Genealogical Soc, Inc.

Eegsociety.org

FEEFHS - Fed of E. European Family His Soc

eefhs.org

LDS Family History Library

familysearch.org

National Genealogical Society

ngsgenealogy.org

FALL GENEALOGY WORKSHOP FINDING YOUR ANCESTORS IN GERMANY

*The ancestors of all Germans from Russia
originally came from Germany.
This workshop deals with
German records prior to 1900.*

Meets at the
Sunnyside Seventh-day Adventist Church
10501 SE Market Street, Portland
(Just east of the Adventist Medical Center)

Second & Fourth Monday evenings, Feb - May
Feb 13, 27, Mar 12, 26, Apr 9, 23, May 14
7:00 pm, Room 20

For further information and instructions on how to get to the church and how to get in, contact Harold Lang, hvlang@msn.com or 503-251-2948



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: icprunier@comcast.net or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

Dues Reminder

This is a short message from Adi Hartfeil, your new GROW Treasurer, to remind you that not all of you have submitted your GROW/GRHS dues for 2012. The GROW organization is thankful that many of you have already paid the \$50 annual dues for GRHS and some of you were so generous that you paid more than the \$5 GROW required dues. But looking at last year's GROW membership roster some of you have not yet paid the dues for next year.

Please submit your dues to the below address when you have an opportunity and preferably before the end of the year.

Failing to pay your dues will mean that you won't be receiving those interesting monthly GROW newsletters from the President nor will you receive the GRHS quarterly reports or be able to access their website for genealogy research.

Danke schoen ahead of time for any dues you will submit.

Adi Hartfeil
4230 S. Terra Vista Ct.
West Linn, OR 97068
503-636-2272

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
March 1, 2012.*



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue
Portland, OR 97222