



Eastern Europe: After the Communists

Joint Meeting with Pommern Special Interest Group

TIME: Sunday, July 8, 2007 2:00 pm

Library Open, 12:00 to 5:00 pm

SPEAKER: Marilyn Deatherage, IGS Treasurer, Program Chair, European Traveler

During a 26-day trip to Eastern Europe last summer, very different ideas and attitudes were encountered. Communism has left its mark on the people of Eastern Europe after both "soft" and "hard" revolutions. Petitioning for former property will be illustrated by the story of Marilyn's cousin's family experiences.

PLACE: Immigrant Genealogical Society Library

1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA

FREE ENTRANCE TO ORANGE CO., CA FAIR

For members living near Orange Co., CA, you are invited by the Southern CA Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists to help them staff a table at the Orange Co. Fair from July 13th to Aug. 5th. You can receive free parking and entrance to the Fair for each day you volunteer 4 1/2 hrs. to staff their table at the Fair.

If you can help, contact Norma Storrs Keating, (714) 970-7040 or <normakeating@earthlink.net>.

CLEANING THE IGS LIBRARY

Several members responded to the request for help in "Dusting" our Library books. While a sizeable part of the bookshelves were dusted, there are some remaining. If you can come in on a day when the Library is open to help complete this necessary job, please do so.

The shelves completed are marked with white paper notes, so you can make your choice of where to work. Bring rags and feather dusters, and remove some of the accumulation to keep our Library neat and healthful. Do not leave all this work to our diligent Librarians.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING GERMAN ? ? ? ?

Our Library has available two sets of audio cassettes produced by the Foreign Service Institute, Dept. of State, for teaching Basic German. Set One consists of Unit I--10 cassettes and an instruction book for Units 1-6, and Set Two-- consisting of Units 7-12 on 8 cassettes and an instruction book. If enough members from near our Library are interested, we can set up weekly classes for learning the basics of spoken German in a group.

If there is not enough interest for a class, but there are individuals from our area who would like to use the cassettes on their own, they could be available for use on days the Library is open.

If interested, please contact Jean Nepsund at (818) 991-9475 or by e-mail at <jean@nepsund.com>.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL FHC

Our June speaker, Liz Carlin, gave many details of resources that are available here in our Los Angeles area at the Family History Center on Santa Monica Blvd (LARFHC). One item of special help is the fact that many of the resources listed on the online front page at <LARFHC.com> have now been expanded with indexes, etc. So, click on a type of record or collection about which you wish information to see the details of what is available.

For example you can check whether the LA Regional FHC has a specific film you want, or whether you need to request it from the Salt Lake Library.

The LA Regional Library has some books and films that are not available in Salt Lake. These too will be listed on the website. There is a group of interested helpers who are busy indexing many things that have not been indexed in the past. You will need to check this website frequently to see what is newly indexed that might be helpful to you.

The LARFHC has a large collection of CDs from many sources that might interest you. These are not necessarily available in Salt Lake City. You can check them online as you plan a trip to the Library.

KALENDER

June 14	July Newsletter Mailed
June 17	Library Open, Father's Day
June 27	Board of Directors' Meeting
July 4	Library Closed/Independence Day
July 8	Monthly Meeting
July 19	Aug. Newsletter Mailed
July 25	Board of Director's Meeting

The LARFHC has quite a few films that are not available in the Salt Lake Library. These are in special cabinets known as the "F Numbers" films. There is a list you can check on the website.

Since the British Isles Family History Society meets in the LARFHC facility, they have donated many British Isles films and books that are not available in Salt Lake. You might profit from checking out these items online.

The LARFHC also has some early CA records not available in the Salt Lake Library.

So--check details on <LARFHC.com> and discover treasures you never dreamed of using!

NEHGS CIRCULATING LIBRARY

In case you have not yet heard, the New England Historic Genealogy Society's lending library was de-accessioned last year. Now news comes that it will be made available, thanks to the efforts of Ruth C. Bishop, one of the NEHGS trustees, at a new library to be built in the Portland, Oregon area. The 30,000 lending library books, plus 40,000 additional books will be housed in the Connor-Bishop Historical Resource Center, now in the planning stage. This will be an interesting resource to watch as it is developed and opened in honor of Mrs. Bishop's parents.

EARLY CALIFORNIA VITALS

The Huntington Library in San Marino, CA has established a major online database including records from early Missions and Churches of California. It will include 101,000 baptisms, 28,000 marriages and 71,000 burials in CA from 1769 to 1850.

This database will provide extensive information. For example, a baptismal record has 85 fields of info, marriages 93, and burials 46. There is info about Indians, soldiers and settlers in Early California. With original registers disintegrating from age, early microfilms being of very poor quality, and records written in 18th century Spanish script, the transfer of these into readable indexes and records is a great gift to all researchers. Access it at <www.huntington.org/Information/ECPPmain.htm>

(Desert Diggings, Apr, 2007, p. 7)

FREE GENEALOGICAL "WIKI"

A website to explore, and to which you may wish to add your genealogical info, is called <WeRelate.org>. It is jointly operated by The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, IN and the Foundation for On-line Genealogy, Inc. It has quickly become one of the largest, totally free, websites for genealogy. Because webbies can add or delete material as they wish, it will need frequent checking.

Some features are Family Tree Explorer, Gedcom uploads, Annotated images (photos, documents and maps), "Work-on-the-same-Page" so that cousins may work together, Pedigree maps for 5-generations, and e-mail notification when someone adds new material to a page.

WeRelate is a free public service, supported by tax-deductible donations.

(TWIGS--May 2007, Sent by Ann Archer)

GEOLOGIST OR GENEALOGIST ???

Do you know the difference?--- One digs in the dirt and sometimes finds artifacts. The other digs in facts and sometimes finds dirt. *(Rootsweb Review, Jan. 3, 2001)*

PRE-HISTORIC RUINS IN MEXICO CITY

Historians seem to have ignored American civilization prior to Columbus' discovery of America.

In Mexico City ancient ruins have been hidden by later buildings built on top of early ruins. Now as those buildings are deteriorating, or expansion is necessary, earlier artifacts are being revealed.

However, the ancient ruins are not being uncovered and displayed to the public. Instead, "windows" are being built over/around them, and the new buildings are being placed on top of them. When subway tunnels were installed, old ruins discovered were preserved by covering them with an occasional window.

My local newspaper printed a picture of an old Aztec stone carving discovered 3 decades ago under the city's cathedral, and preserved. Can you imagine the treasures of early artifacts that have NOT been uncovered? What a shame. *(The Star, Apr. 1, 2007)*

CALIFORNIA NEWSPAPERS PRESERVED

As early as 1991, Henry Snyder, a professor at U.C. Riverside began agitating for preservation of the early newspapers of California before they were lost to mold and crumbling newsprint. The California Newspaper Project (CNP) was activated in 1992.

The CNP is part of the nationwide U.S. Newspaper Program, managed by the Library of Congress. Eventually, it is hoped that every existing old copy of a U.S. newspaper will be filmed, indexed, and made available, probably to computer searches.

(WAGS Newsletter, March '07)

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 24, '07--Swedish-American Central Asso. of So. California, 9 am--6 pm., 2854 Triunfo Canyon Rd., Agoura Hills, 91301. (310-782-7786)

August 11--Polish Genea. Soc. of CA, Fam. Hist. Sem., Lakewood, CA, (310-378-0877) <www.pgsc.org>

Aug. 15-18--FGS '07 Conference, Ft. Wayne, IN. <fgs-office@fgs.org>

Sept 16--Scandinavian Autumn-Fest & Marknad, Vasa Park Asso., Vasa Park, 2854 Triunfo Canyon Rd., Agoura Hills, CA, 9 a.m.--6 p.m., Nordic Genea. Soc. of So. CA. (805) 491-8231.

FAMILY SEARCH

At the National Genealogical Society annual meeting in May 2007 the main topic of conversation was the vast possibilities opening to genealogists through the new technologies of digitization, indexing and online searching via computers.

The LDS Church officials announced that they hope to place 80 billion family files online soon. They have some tens of billions of records needing only indexing before being made available online. They are busy signing agreements with local state and county groups for securing copies of indexes to local records for addition to the FamilySearch.org databases. The local agencies will be allowed to charge a fee for copies, etc.

There is even an online site called Footnote.com which can create electronic indexes of the records, as well as handle processing of actual images for public access. New technology is being developed that can scan a roll of microfilm in only a couple of minutes! New software is also being developed. It is envisioned

that eventually FamilySearch.com will be the master index to all records available in electronic format.

There are now 5 billion names online. It is projected that will rise to 80 billion in time.

(Deseret Morning News, May 17, 2007)

NUCMC

The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC), is a publication of the Library of Congress. It has been an ongoing project of identifying manuscripts located in various U.S. libraries.

NOW--the index will become available ONLINE. Go to <www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/>

This is an index to titles of Manuscripts and where they are located--not to the names and places contained within the manuscript. Have fun!!!!

ANCESTRY.COM

Ancestry has scanned 90 million U.S. war records and has them online. While Ancestry is no longer free at Family History Centers, it may be available at some public libraries who can afford the yearly fee.

I understand that these records cover most of the early wars in American history, and are indexed. Some of the records contain extensive family information, correspondence, medical records, etc.

We can thank Lura Perkins' daughter-in-law for alerting us to this information.

EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER ONLINE

For the first time ever---all issues of *Everton's Genealogical Helper* are now online. This includes over 10,000 pages of genealogical information! To check it out, go to <WorldVitalRecords.com>

(Der Blumenbaum, p. 163, Apr-June 2007)

NAMES AND DATES

Today we talk about "Baden-Württemberg" quite often, but---we need to remember that **that** name was used only after 1952! Since most of us researching in the southwestern German areas are interested in times before 1952, we need to be careful that we are looking in the proper records for our families.

Baden and Württemberg were adjoining, separate kingdoms prior to World War II (in 1945). At that time they were known as "Württemberg-Baden," but they were still two independent states. In fact, contained within the area of southern Württemberg is also the "Kingdom of Hohenzollern."

Hohenzollern was ruled by a royal line and even provided royal leadership for other areas--particularly Brandenburg and Prussia in northern Germany.

Don't be confused either by "Baden-Baden". That is a **city** in Württemberg today--not a country.

You may need to consult old maps for the boundaries of these three entities at the particular time that interests you. Don't be led astray by just the name.

See-<<http://www.genealogienetz.de/reg/>>

(German Genealogy Group Newsletter, Mar. '07)

INDIANA MARRIAGE INDEX, 1790 to 1957

This project of compiling a complete index to Indiana Marriages from 1790 to 1957 is an ongoing one, so you should check periodically if you have Indiana relatives. The Indiana Genealogical Society is cooperating with

the Genealogical Society of Utah in compiling this important index.

The staff of the Utah society is digitizing all the relevant LDS Library microfilms, and filming any pertinent records not already available. Volunteers work from their home computer to do the actual indexing. Additional volunteers would of course be welcomed.

When completed, the Indiana Marriage Indexing Project will be available online free to public use. The digitized version of the actual record will be linked to the index reference to it. Questions may be sent to the project coordinator, Shirley Richison Fields at <indexing@indgensoc.org>.

(WAGS Newsletter, Apr. '07, p. 83)

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN EMIGRANTS

Did a relative or friend emigrate from Schleswig-Holstein during the 1800's? There is a database of many persons emigrating during that time, and it includes much additional information besides just the person's name. There are also maps to identify places of origin and some history to provide a picture of their life and why they emigrated. Go online to <<http://www.rootdigger.de/>>

(German Genealogy Group, May 2007 Newsletter)

BREMEN PASSENGER LISTS

We usually hear that Bremen emigrants cannot be identified because the records were destroyed during World War II because of lack of space. That is not entirely true, it seems.

Now comes word that passenger lists of Bremen from 1920 to 1939 were partially preserved. There are 3,017 of the 4,420 records created during that time that have been preserved! These have been extracted by Die Maus in Bremen. There are over 635,000 persons listed in their database. You can search by surname, ship name, day of departure, destination and hometown. The persons' names, ages, occupations, hometowns, destinations and marital status should be included.

You may search the database without a fee by going to: <www.passengerlists.de>

(The German Connection, 30:2-3, 2006)

A NEW IDEA

Our former IGS President, Barbara Freshwater sent us an interesting suggestion---

JustaJoy.com was launched in January '07 by Joy Shivar, owner of JustaJoy Historical Treasures, an antiques business specializing in artifacts from American history. All items on her website are linked to any family surnames with which they can be associated. You may check her website for your surnames and possibly find artifacts from the Revolutionary or Civil Wars, or other historical locations or events, from persons of one of your surnames.

You may also enter up to 20 of your family surnames of interest and you will be automatically e-mailed, if items related to one of them becomes available. Mrs. Shivar accepts items from antique businesses, family owners, estate sales, etc.

Membership in this site is presently free for a limitedtime. Check out the details at <www.justajoy.com>.

(NGS News Magazine, Apr-June '07)

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AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING

The August meeting, Aug. 12, will feature former Pres. and current Board Member of IGS, Linda Stone, on the topic, "Family Errors Corrected by Using the IGS Library and the Salt Lake Library."

When Linda was invited to a 60th anniversary meeting for one of her families, she discovered that the family information given was not confirmed by records. It took a trip to Germany and research in our IGS Library and in Salt Lake to establish the truth. Hear all about it!

THE WEEK IN GERMANY

The German Embassy in Washington, DC coordinated the European Union Open House on May 12. Embassies of 27 European states participated. You may see pictures of the event at <www.europe-in-dc.com> -- Tourists are flocking to see World War II bunkers in Berlin, and its network of underground shelters and tunnels. Hitler's bunker draws much attention. Three hundred of 1,000 bunkers built still survive. -- Templehof Airport had a huge network of underground bunkers, plus a 4-mile-long tunnel-aircraft assembly line. -- Some underground bunkers were refitted in the 1970s as nuclear fall-out shelters. -- Berlin's crime rate was down 1.4% in 2006 from 2005. Frankfurt am Main has the highest crime-rate with 55.4 per 100,000. -- May 9 is celebrated as "Europe Day." On that day in Paris in 1950 the Schuman Declaration was signed. That agreement developed into the European Project and then the European Union. -- Half of the world's solar energy was produced last year in Germany, even though it has only half the number of sunny days of other European countries. The world's largest solar plant is Solarpark Gut Erlasee in Bavaria. -- The research ship, Polarstern, docked in Bremerhaven on May 5 after a 19 month research voyage to Antarctica. They discovered that the under-sea Kerguelen Plateau, about the size of Germany and France combined, was a former land link between India and eastern Antarctica. -- On May 7, the EU's Online Archive Video Portal went online. It documents experiences of eyewitness resistance fighters to Naziism. -- The mild winter this last year brings a warning to watch for ticks, which carry en-

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Immigrant Library Hours

Wednesdays . . . 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
Saturdays 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sundays 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
Closed for major holidays.

Permission to quote if appropriate credit is given.
Annual Membership, \$25, Family \$30
If publications desired by 1st Class mail, \$35.00

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cephalitis. -- About 95% of Germany's 3.2 million companies are "family owned," and generate 41% of sales volume. Business was so good in 2006, that the budget deficit may be wiped out this year. -- Germany had about 200,000 foreign students studying in its universities and institutes in 2006. -- Since 22 of 27 members of EU have ratified the proposed EU Constitution, Chancellor Merkel hopes to complete ratification before her term ends July 1. --Volkswagen expects to produce hybrid versions of all models of its cars in about 2 years. -- There are plans underway to build a new Chinatown near Berlin for the 7,000 Chinese in the Berlin area.

(TWIG, May 4,11,18,25, 2007)