



**Immigrant  
Genealogical  
Society**

# Newsletter

Number 284

P. O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510-7369

November 2007

## **Immigrant Genealogical Society Annual Meeting & Around the World at IGS--Revisiting our Resources**

**TIME:**      **November 11, 2007**      **Business Meeting--2:00 pm**      Library Open, 12:00 to 5:00 pm

**PROGRAM:**    **2:30 pm** Leader: Eloise Haldeman, member of the Board and the Research Committee  
Revisit the wealth of information in the Immigrant Genealogical Society's library--- books, periodicals, maps, atlases, subject & surname files, fiche & CD's PLUS our INTERNET accessible computer, with the Family History Library, Ancestry, and other databases. Presentations will be by IGS members about library sections and specific sources that have yielded exciting information for them; how to find the source and how to use it.

**PLACE:**    **Immigrant Genealogical Society Library**      **1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA**

### **NEW BOOKS TO BE SHELVED**

On page 3 of this *Newsletter* you will find a sizeable list of books we have received, but which have not yet been shelved. This is due to the fact that no one has had time to label and shelve them--a task formerly done by Carol Germer, who now lives in Wisconsin. Could YOU come in to the Library once a month to handle this necessary job? If so, please contact Lura Perkins at either (818-896-9685) or <lura@juno.com>.

In the meantime, you may come to the Library and look at these books and return them to the New Book Shelf in the East Room of the Library.

### **AUGUSTAN SOCIETY**

Since the death of Sir Rodney Hartwell, Marta and Bruce Metcalf have been caring for the Augustan Society and its collection. The headquarters in Daggett, CA has now been sold, and the collection moved to Orlando, FL and placed in storage, with the office operating out of the Metcalf's home. A new library facility is being sought but there is no immediate site identified.

You may keep informed of progress by the Society on its website at <augustansociety.org>.

### **FOOTNOTE.COM**

The "new kid on the block" for genealogists since January 2007 has been <Footnote.com>. Its mission is to provide digitized documents needed by genealogists. It already has agreements with the National Archives and Records Administration, the Pennsylvania Archives, FamilySearch, the Center for Research Libraries, and such local archives as ones in Goffstown, NH, South Boston, VA, Harris County, TX, and others.

The newest agreement is with the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN (ACPL) the largest public genealogy library in the U.S. The Ft. Wayne Library has a collection of county and family histories including ones

from all the surrounding states, city directories, military records and historical newspapers.

Footnote allows web surfers to find and read records housed on its site free of charge, but if a person wants copies of a given original record, there is a fee. There is also the capacity for readers to post notes to documents and add their own family stories--free. (WAGS *Newsletter*, Sept. '07, p. 31)

### **TRANSLATION OF WEBPAGES**

How genealogy has changed! Many of the records that were "out of reach" because of the need to travel nationwide to the source of the original records are now becoming available online !!! --Witness the item above!

Now an even more amazing ability is at your fingertips. If you do not know German, but need to read records in German on a website in German--- Google can now translate such an entire WEBSITE for you! This is almost too much to believe!

Go to: <<http://germanmapguide.com/german-how-to/using-google-to-translate-german-web-pages/>> It should explain how Google will translate the entire website for you.

(WAGS *Newsletter*, 27:3:21)

### **KALENDER**

Oct. 18	Periodical & Nov. Newsletter Mailed
Oct. 24	IGS Board of Directors' Meeting
Nov. 11	IGS Monthly Meeting
Nov. 15	Dec. Newsletter Mailed
Nov. 21,24,25	IGS LIBRARY CLOSED
Nov. 28	IGS Board of Directors' Meeting
Dec. 9	IGS Monthly Meeting

## WHAT IS A "SNICKELFRITZ"?

Have you ever heard that word? If so, you probably grew up many years ago in a German dominated community. I recall hearing it. But--can you define that term? Most persons can't, and neither can I.

This is the question addressed in an article in the *Los Angeles Westside Genealogical Society News*, August 2007. Nearly everyone asked the meaning of the term had heard it, but nobody seemed to be able to provide a literal translation of the word. Dictionaries, even slang books, failed to provide a definitive definition. Do our readers have a suggestion?

The term "Snickelfritz" seems to fall into the category of a "term of endearment" often use with children. But its actual meaning is rather elusive. The most literal meaning suggested was "chatter-box". My memory suggests, "You little wise guy" or "You little know-it-all", or "You little smarty."

## RUNNING OUT OF GRAVESITES?

England is beginning to discuss the possibilities of running out of gravesites in England and Wales by 2020. The main idea being considered is for using graves for reburials after they are 100 years old, using a method called "lift and deepen." It would apply first to family gravesites, and later perhaps to others.

The process would open a grave and dig it deep enough to hold 6 coffins. The original coffin would then be placed in the bottom of the new gravesite, and 5 additional coffins could later be added.

There are lots of problems to be decided, such as old-stones with unreadable inscriptions, getting family permission for burial of non-relatives, how to keep records, what to do with all the headstones, etc.

(WAGS Newsletter, 27:3:18)

## PENNSYLVANIA LAND WARRANT MAPS

The Pennsylvania Archives have had their Land Warrant Registers listed on their website for some time at <<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/landrec.htm>>. Up to now you have had to order desired maps by mail from the Archive. Now they announce that the scanned images of the maps have been added to the database.

Other specific resources on the Website include:

- Warrant Registers
- Patent Indexes
- Copied Survey Books
- Patent Tract Name Indexes
- East Side Applications (Register)
- West Side Applications (Register)
- New Purchase Registers

## RECORDS LOST ON 9/11

Have you thought how many valuable records were lost in the destruction of the Twin Towers on 9/11? How will that effect future researchers in years to come? While some records will never be re-constructed, many of those lost in the fall of the towers have been recreated, or some substitute has been created. Besides the actual business and office records reconstructed, there were also new records created--Memorials to the Dead, News Media Memorials which included pictures, Casualty Lists by Law Enforcement Agencies, Lists of Missing Persons, Morgue Lists, Funeral Home Lists, Church bu-

rial lists, Cemetery lists, Insurance Company Casualty Lists, Missing Persons reports, Business lists of employees, etc.

The tragedy of 9/11 may provide more records for later genealogists, than the normal run-of-the-mill news reports in other times. Can you imagine descendants reading the old newspapers describing the horrors of 9/11? That event won't be forgotten soon!!!

If you Google "casualty lists of 9/11 victims" you will get 480,000 hits. No, 9/11 won't be forgotten soon.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 12, 2008--San Diego Genealogical Soc., Seminar, 9--4, Arlene Eakle. (619-298-2447)

Feb. 2, 2008--SaddleBrook Genea. Club--25 mi. north of Tuscon, AZ. Seminar. (<[rimac@wbhsi.net](mailto:rimac@wbhsi.net)>)

Feb. 23, 2008--Whittier Area Genea. Soc., Lloyd Bockstruck, <<http://www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags>>

## WHAT IS A "GRETNA GREEN"?

While the term "Gretna Green" is not used in present day conversation, it was fairly common in earlier days. In those days the population was widely scattered, and not every person lived near a town or could travel easily to one.

When a couple wanted to marry they usually went to the pastor of the church they attended, or to the nearest civil administration where they could acquire a marriage license and find a court official who could perform a marriage ceremony. Towns large enough to have a court system were often 20 to 50 miles apart. Before the days of automobiles, traveling that distance could be quite an effort, and very time-consuming.

In many cases, it was a shorter distance to go across a county or state line to the nearest court, or some person would "set up shop" in an isolated spot where there were no other officials near to perform ceremonies. Such a location was known as a "Gretna Green".

The city of Cincinnati, OH was such a Gretna Green in pioneer days. Cincinnati provided a spot which did not require marriage licenses and did not require payment of a fee. People came from KY and IN to be married there, and persons traveling up or down the Ohio River or moving overland to the West used its convenient facilities.

Whenever you have trouble finding a marriage record in early days, look at an early map for a town in the area the families lived in, or travelled through, to see whether some spot acted as a Gretna Green.

## AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

A young Eagle Scout named Brian Coffin saw the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery in Sylmar, CA was in poor condition and decided to do something about it. He recruited volunteers from as far away as Victorville to upgrade this 2nd oldest cemetery in the San Fernando Valley. These volunteers installed 500 engraved bricks on vandalized graves, and dug 100 feet of trenches for new electrical and water lines. There was a Dedication Ceremony on Aug. 28, 2007 to honor those pioneers buried there many years ago.

It took lots of elbow grease and sweat for the cemetery clean-up and upgrade. How wonderful to see the younger generation take the lead in such a project to honor pioneers they never actually knew!

## GERMAN WORLD

*German World* is a magazine published in English for Austrian, German and Swiss persons or their descendants to keep them in touch with their heritage. It is approaching its 5th anniversary of beginning here in the Los Angeles area.

Currently, *German World* has about 80,000 subscribers. It covers cultural events, directories, travel information, and provides one-stop-shopping for German foods and treats with worldwide delivery.

You may check out their website and how to subscribe at: [www.german-world.com](http://www.german-world.com).

## GERMAN FEDERAL ARCHIVE ONLINE

The German Federal Archive now has an online website. Their digital database already contains 60,000 pictures of 150 years of history. East Germany is included in these pictures.

The website is free for researchers to explore, but there is a fee for downloads. You may need to keep the Google translator program standing by for help if you do not understand German.

(*The Week in Germany*, Aug. 7, 1007)

## LOST COLONY DNA PROJECT

Do you recall the "Lost Colony"?--the settlement at Roanoke in 1587? Perhaps your schooling failed to mention this early settlement attempt on the Virginia shore. It did occur, and when later persons arrived, there was no trace of the persons in that first expedition. It was assumed that either the Indians had killed them, or they had intermingled with friendly Indians and moved farther inland to live.

With the help of DNA testing, genealogists are attempting to trace those colonists. If your family descended from persons in the Eastern Carolina area, or if the family has an oral tradition of Lumbee or other Native American ancestry along the Eastern United States, you may wish to join this Lost Colony DNA group.

You may go to: [www.lost-colony.com](http://www.lost-colony.com) to find a list of already identified Lost Colony surnames.

A symposium was held in Williamston, North Carolina on Sept.7-9, 2007 for persons already identified or those interesting in exploring the possibility through the DNA project. (*Questing Heirs*, Aug. 2007)

## FINDING VALUE OF OLD STAMPS

After the change in price of postage this year, were you left with some unused stamps from previous years? If you have some that do not have the monetary value printed on them, there is help available.

Go to the USPS.com website (that is United States Postal Service). There you can select "Buy Stamps and Shop". Next, click on "FAQs". On the page that brings up choose Question3: "Using older non-denominated stamps for postage." Next find the link "Non-denomination stamps". There you should see pictures of old stamps among which you can identify each one you have, and that site should tell you its face value.

## CALENDARS OVER THE YEARS

The Sacramento German Genealogy Society had a number of articles about figuring out dates between the Church Year and secular calendars in its June 2007 issue of *Der Blumenbaum*. They end the topic with a 1 page

chart of 14 calendars with a key to which set of months fit each year from 1776 to 2000. What a helpful aid!

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

The following list is of books received and processed by IGS, but not yet labelled or shelved. We need a volunteer to label and shelve once a month. Can YOU help?

*Indexes to Ohio Censuses, 1840, 1850, 1860 Related Schwab, Frey & Temreck Families of Chicago, Mid -1700's to present*, Marvin Blaski

*History of the Parish of Hohen-Selhow in Randow-Kreis (Stettin) In German*, Pub'd 1878

*Bad Brückenaum by Leonhard Rugel, 1992 (In German)*

*Indiana Magazine of History LXIV #1--March 1918. Indiana Historical Soc. 1980-1981, Annual Report*

*Die Nachkommen Karls des Grossen, Brandenburg, Zentralstelle-Frankfurt am Main, 1964*

*Weintäuse und Liebeigentumgesälle im Kirhspiel Heilgenloh, 1666--1836*

*Häuserbeschreibung Gerhardsbrunn, Eine Familienchronik von Michael Müller (1775-1857), Heimatstelle-Pfalz 1979.*

*The First Hundred Years, A History of Woollam (MO), United Methodist Church 1889--1989* by Klaus Granzow, Translated by L & M Riggle

*Illustrated Historical Atlas, Clinton Co., MO 1876*

*Map of Scioto County, OH 1875*

*Platbook 1859, Land Owners of Pike Co., OH*

*Caldwell's Atlas, Ashland Co., OH, 1874*

*1809 History of Ashland Co., OH --C. W. Hill Pub. 1880*

*Caldwell's Illustrated Historical Atlas, Adams Co., OH 1977--1880*

*Atlas of Auglaize Co., OH, Howland & Keller, 1880*

*Die Ahnenlisten Kartei, Vol. 18, Dieter Zwinger, De-gener*

*Who Wrote Those Letters, In Search of Jürnjakob Swehn, Eldon L. Knuth, AuthorHouse 2005*

*Historical Records of Old Frederick and Hampshire Counties, VA (Revised) 1992*

*Lynchburg, VA & Nelson County, VA, Wills, Deeds, and Marriages, 1807-1831*

*Trauegoster aus dem ältesten Kirchenbüchern Schleswig-Holsteins--zum 1704, Band 15, 16,17,18*

*Kopulationsregister aus mecklenburgischen kirchenbüchern, 1826-1875, Teil M*

*Bevölkerungs geschichte Norddeutschlands, Herzogtum Lauenburg (Neuhaus, Schwarzenbek, Ratzeburg, Lauenburg.*

*Genealogical Guide to East & West Prussia, Records, Sources, Publications & Events, by Ed. R. Brandt*

*Researching Germanic Ancestors, Lecture 7, Edward R. Brandt*

*Searching for your Wisconsin Ancestors in Wisconsin Libraries, Carol Ward Ryan*

## DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

Our December meeting each year is a Holiday Potluck. This is an opportunity to rub shoulders with old and new friends as you share your favorite Christmas food. So, plan ahead to arrive by 1:00 pm with whatever entree, salad, or dessert you wish to share.

Immigrant Genealogical Society  
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Nov. 2007

After we fill our tummies, about 2:00 pm, Jean Wilcox Hibben, a professional genealogist, will share with us how wars inspired some of our Christmas songs.

**THE WEEK IN GERMANY**

German Chancellor Angela Merkel visited Greenland with the Danish Prime Minister Rasmussen to see the effects of global warming. -- Aug. 13 was the 46th anniversary of construction of the Berlin Wall. It fell in 1989, after standing for 28 years. -- Germany is exceeding its goals in shifting to biomass and biogas sources for electrical energy sources. -- German scientists can now use body heat to generate electricity. -- Volkswagen is planning a "New Beetle" for 2009. -- Roughly 3,200 American students are studying in German universities. -- Some 118 artists from 24 countries flocked to Berlin to paint pictures on an .8 mile stretch of the Berlin Wall preserved as a reminder-- near the Ostbahnhof railway station along the Spree River. -- Alan Greenspan, who headed the U.S. Federal Reserve for 18 years, has now been hired by the Deutsche Bank in Germany. -- Germany expects robust economic growth in 2007. Exports are strong. The growth rate in eastern states was 3.3% last year. -- Thousands of seals are frolicing on the Baltic beaches after several years of decline. -- You can now play German videos at <www.Germany.info/video> or play games and take quizzes at <www.Germany.info/interactive> -- An English version of a children's book about Knut, the baby polar bear in Germany, will be available in the U.S. this Fall. -- In Sept. the German Federal Government had a "Day of the Open Door" when 150,000 visitors met with federal ministers, etc. A similar Open House for EU Embassies is planned for 2008. -- Chancellor Merkel is the most popular Chancellor since World War II. -- Germany has pledged 1.5 million Euros in emergency aid to Peru following their massive earthquake. -- A new \$8.2 million Jewish Synagogue and community center in Berlin will serve the fastest growing center of Jewish life in the world. -- Germany had the first budget surplus in the first half of 2007 since Unification. -- The SolarWorld company will begin operating a large solar plant in Hillsboro, Oregon, the largest in

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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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North America. -- Klaus Kleinfeld of Siemens' U.S. will become president of Alcoa. -- Germans are discussing possibly establishing a speed limit on current Autobahns. -- The Congress Hall, a gift from the U.S. Government to Berlin during the Cold War, later renamed the House of World Cultures, will have its 50th Anniversary in Sept. -- Thomas Gaehtgens, a Berlin based art historian, has been chosen as the new Director of Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles. -- A new book, "The Most Noble Adventure: The Marshal Plan and the Time When America Helped Save Europe" has now been published. (TWIG Aug. 10,17,24,31)