A JOINT MEETING WITH THE POMMERAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

A Pomeranian Adventure Tour

TIME: Sunday, April 13, 2008 2:00 pm. Library Open 12:00 to 5:00 pm

SPEAKERS: Mark & Beth Marshall, members of IGS and PSIG

This is a Power-Point presentation with narrative & time for questions about their TOUR with a group from Wisconsin whom they met up with in Hamburg. Free to explore ancestral areas on their own, this unique tour allowed the Marshall’s to peruse the 1500’s Bible in the Stralsund Archive donated by a distant great-grandfather to the family’s village church.

Remaining an additional week, they visited family, friends, more ancestral villages, churches, mills, and a family inn. A story with pictures in the regional newspaper, and its English translation, will be shown of this visit to the inn. See a picture of them in the local newspaper in Pomerania, telling of their visit.

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

CHANGE OF PROGRAMS

The announcement in our March Newsletter of the program for our April meeting had to be changed on short notice. George Urine’s elderly father had a medical problem that caused George to make a trip to the family home. We will expect him to be able to speak at some future meeting. In the meantime, we appreciate the opportunity to share the excitement of the Marshall’s trip to their ancestral homeland in Europe last summer.

CHANGES IN DOING GENEALOGY

How time and technology have changed the way we do Genealogy!!! If you do not yet have a computer and have not learned how to operate “online”, you will quickly find yourself very isolated from the main genealogical community. So, even though you may be “over-the-hill” age-wise, you will be forced to get some kind of computer and online access in order to continue doing genealogy. In fact, you will be able to do much more genealogical searching online, than you possibly could by visiting libraries and government offices! You can’t beat computers for speed in research--so you may as well join using them. My motto is--“You are never too old to learn.”

If you have no family member to help you, there is certainly someone in a local genealogical society who can help you get online and even--if necessary--write step-by-step lists of how to find specific webpages you might need to use.

Each member of a genealogical society should keep in mind that distant members cannot volunteer to do the basic tasks of keeping a society operating and paying the necessary expenses. Be sure you volunteer for the routine jobs needed for success of your local society, even though your research has progressed to use of a computer for much of your research. Be sure also that you support societies where your ancestors lived, by joining those local societies and supporting their efforts at least with your dues. Be sure you interest your younger relatives in genealogy, -- perhaps by asking them to help you? !

READ NEWS FROM GERMANY WEEKLY

You are all familiar with the back-page of this Newsletter each month with its tidbits of German news. Would you like to receive the weekly editions of The Week in Germany from which I abstract those tidbits? You may even see the weekly edition in German, if you know that. Either the English or German version can be posted to your e-mail each week--usually on Friday. To sign up for either edition, go online to: <http://www.germany.info/form/newsletter/newsletter_signup.html>. There is no fee, and you can cancel at any time you wish.

The Week in Germany is produced by staff at the German Embassy in Washington, DC. It is weekly, except for occasional holiday periods when the Embassy staff apparently are on vacations, etc.

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YOUR FAMILY STORIES PUBLISHED?
Jean Wilcox Hibben, a professional researcher, is working on her Doctorate in Folklore. For her Dissertation, she is collecting family stories from genealogists across the country. Can you submit one that has been passed down in your family for at least 2 generations in North America? It must be about your own family, not necessarily proven true. Stories may be any length, but must be submitted through Hibben's website at: <http://www.circlemending.org/familystory.html>.
Ms Hibbens has extended her deadline to March 31 so that you may participate. She will donate $1 to IGS per story submitted from our members. Be sure to identify us on the website submission blank. Can you help this genealogist for her Doctoral Dissertation? ? ? ? ?

OLD CALIFORNIA NEWSPAPERS
The University of California Riverside announced in Oct. 2007, the advent of a website named the "California Digital Newspaper Collection." It is intended to be a free site, offering digitized copies of historic California newspapers.
The initial 200,000 pages are of San Francisco newspapers from 1850 to 1910. The University hopes to add about 100,000 more pages each year. It is being federally funded.
Go online to: <www.cdnc.ucr.edu> to check newspapers already posted and for further progress.
(CA Genea. Alliance Newsletter, Nov/Dec. 2007)

THE GENEALOGICAL HELPER
The Genealogical Helper has been out of print several months due to economic problems at Everton Publishers. New ownership and new management have taken over and have the company operating again. You may read the various webpages related to events of recent months on their new website at:
< http://www.evorton.com>
Publication of The Genealogical Helper is underway again. You may wish to go online to subscribe, if you have not been contacted already by Everton's Publishers. The standard fee is $27.00 per year, with several special offers available for a time. There is a daily online e-mail newsletter that can be subscribed to now.
Everton's Library has been housed at the Logan County Library, so is available to on-site researchers. Some of their databases have been made available online in an agreement with World Vital Records through a fee agreement of $3.12 per month. Read the details online.
Everton has been the expert of genealogical companies. It is good to see that loyal friends have been able to help it survive the financial problems of the past year. It's future on the Internet appears promising.

PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES
The Pennsylvania Archives have in the past searched their land records and made copies for clients. It was a long and laborious process. Now they have posted those records online, together with suggestions for how to search them—for no fee. What a time-saver and money saver! The next step, with the assistance of volunteers, will be indexes.
The groups of records now available are: Warrant Registers, Patent Indexes, Copied Survey Books, Patent Tract Name Indexes, East Side Applications (Registers), West Side Applications (Registers), New Purchase Registers. <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/landrec.htm> (Corona G.S. Newsletter, 6/3)

COOK COUNTY, IL (CHICAGO), VITALS ONLINE
It started in January 2008--the digitizing and posting online of Cook County, IL records! Planned for inclusion are birth, marriage, death records. These will be all surviving records since the Chicago Fire in 1871. The scanning and indexing of these records was completed in 2007. There are 24 million records included. The county workers uploaded 1 million files per week!!! The records include births over 75 years old, marriage certificates more than 50 years old and death certificates more than 20 years old, according to Illinois law. Searching is free, but there is a charge for downloading and printing.
You may check the Cook County Clerk's Office via their website-- <http://www.cookctyclerk.com/>

NARA/FAMILYSEARCH JOINT EFFORT
The National Archives and Records Administration [NARA] has agreed to allow FamilySearch, the SLC Library digitization project, to digitize millions of historical documents. These records will become available at the LDS Family History Centers worldwide, or at NARA Regional Centers.
Records included will be court, military, land and other governmental records—from as early as 1754 to as late as the 1990's. All such records digitized will be available online. This will doubtless take a FEW years.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Apr. 25, 26--Two Day Seminar to celebrate 25th Birthday of Sacramento German Genea. Soc. Speakers: Roger Minert & Marion Wolfert. Details from <Loreleis@softcom.net> or (916) 421-8032.
Apr. 26--Sonoma Co. Genealogical Soc. All day seminar featuring Rhonda McClure, Santa Rosa, CA. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/mcclure.htm>

EASTMAN ONLINE GENEALOGY NEWSLETTER
Eastman's Newsletter is a DAILY one, delivered every day to you via e-mail. This would be a good way to keep up-to-date on what is happening in genealogy. Find the "Subscribe me!" blank at: http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy
There is a Free “Standard Edition” and a “Plus Edition Newsletter” which requires a name and password. You’d better be retired for this much info !!!
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

The International Herald Tribune, through its parent company The New York Times, no longer charges a fee to use their website.

The entire site is open to searchers, some records may be copied for free, others for 1923 to 1986 require a fee. <nytimes.com> (Der Blumenbaum, 25:3)

GERMAN IMMIGRATION TV SERIES

Here is a TV program for which to watch! It is supposed to start showing “In Spring 2008”.

This four-hour program was televised on European television in 2006 and 2007. It is now being adapted for U.S. showing.

It will be released for public television by NETA (National Educational Telecommunications Association). It shows the pre-immigration process, interviews of descendants of early German settlers, some historical events are re-inacted, and views of “little Germanies” in American cities after arrival are included.

This sounds like a real treat.

OLD GOTHIC SCRIPT READ

An offer came from Birgit McCracken, owner of the website <OldScript.com> to read and translate OldGothic script documents from German to English. Her e-mail address is: <info@oldsript.com>

U.S. POSTAGE--UP AGAIN

That $.41 first-class stamp is outdated already. Beginning May 12, 2008, first class letters will require $.42.

You can buy “forever” 1st class for $.41 until May 12, so now is the time to stock-up.

The charge for the additional ounce to the 1st class stamp will stay at $.17 (total $.59).

The cost for a post card will go up to $.27

Large envelopes, 2 oz. will be $1.00,

Money orders up to $500 will stay at $.05

Certified mail goes to $2.70

First class to Canada/Mexico -- $.73

First-class other countries-- $.94

TEMECULA VALLEY GENEAL SOC. CELEBRATES

The Temecula Valley Genealogical Society will celebrated the 10th Anniversary of its founding on March 10th. One of our IGS members was instrumental in the establishment of that Society--Tony Perroni.

The TVGS has grown rapidly in the past ten years, and is providing broad, excellent service to the cause of family history in that area east of Los Angeles.

The TVGS has a book collection at the Public Library in Temecula, and volunteers are present on the 2nd Saturday and 4th Tuesday each month to assist researchers. Volunteers can be supplied by appointment on other days. This Society has grown rapidly in an area where there has been a continual stream of new housing tracts. Our best wishes to TVGS for many more members and many more years of service.

NEW BOOKS ON OUR SHELVES

Deutsches Familienarchiv, Band 149, IGS purchase
Deutsches Familienarchiv, Band 150, IGS purchase
Italians to America, 1902-1903, Vol. 21, Purchase
Italians to America, 1903-1904, Vol. 22, Purchase
Map Guide to German Parish Registers; Kingdom of Bavaria IV, Oberpfalz IGS purchase
Probate Records 1892-1904 Northern District Cherokee Nation, Vol. 1
The Great Migration Newsletter, Vol. 11-15 (donated by Marilyn Deatherage)
The Central Dakota Germans-Their History, Language and Culture
A Book of Family Histories (Emmons Co., ND) Ancestry and Descendants of Andreas and Maria Elisabeth (Waldschmidt)Sauer-Immigrants in 1850 (donated by Lois B. Goff)
Familiengeschichte-Zimmerli (donated by Frank Zimmerli)
Helter Family History: Ancestors and Descendants of Charles and Elizabeth Helter of Gnadenhutten, Ohio (donated by authors)
The Coblentz Family in America 1743-1982 (donated by Ann Archer)
The Fryman/Freymann Family (donated by James Fryman)
The Haubert/Haupert Family (donated by James Fryman)
The Meys/Meis Family (donated by Patricia Fryman)
The Morsch Immigrants from Baden (donated by Lois B. Goff)
The Vogt/Galvin/Gallivan Family (donated by Jim and Patricia Fryman)

The goal of this project is to have online, free of charge, all significant newspapers from 1836 to 1922. This database is being maintained by the Library of Congress. (TVGS Newsletter, March 2008)

GERMAN WAYS

“German Ways” is the name of a website that apparently has links to almost any topic related to German culture. The URL for the website is:

<http://www.germanways.com/>

The list of topics is almost endless--industry, universities, German history, German cities/villages, newspapers/magazines, current events, travel to Europe, art, medieval architecture, news, castles, language, books about Germany, music & customs, movies, history & people, Fraktur type and Gothic handwriting, genealogy, etc. This sounds like an excellent place for genealogists to explore their German background.

An excellent way to “feel at one” with ancestors! (Geman Genealogy Group Newsletter, March ’08)

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

The International Herald Tribune, through its parent company The New York Times, no longer charges a fee to use their website.

The entire site is open to searchers, free. Some records may be copied for free, others for 1923 to 1986 require a fee. <nytimes.com> (Der Blumenbaum, 25:3)
MAY 18 IGS MONTHLY MEETING

Susie Phelp, retired will describe a trip she and a friend made with the National Genealogical Soc. in 2001 on a Northern Germany Genealogy Tour. They had trouble getting a flight home! She’ll have narrative and pictures highlighting the Berlin & Hamburg Archives, Castles, the Bremerhaven Ships Museum, etc.

THE WEEK IN GERMANY

The European Union is preparing to send a military mission to Chad, Africa, to help provide security for refugee camps in eastern Chad and northeastern Central African Republic. About 500,000 people have been displaced by the conflict in Darfur, Sudan.-- Germans spent about 91 billion dollars on travel in 2007.--German foods may soon be labelled for NOT being produced with Genetic-modification processes.--In 2007 Germany balanced its national budget for the first time in 40 years. Their increase of the Value-added Tax from 16% to 19% at the beginning of 2007 helped this process. The growth of exports by 8.3% also helped.--Germany is producing sun-powered small water treatment plants for developing countries for use in areas not having electricity.--The U.S. is erecting a new U.S. Embassy building in Berlin on Pariser Platz. It’s grand opening is expected to take place on July 4th and 5th. The cost is about $130 million. It has 4 stories and is crowned by a glass and steel penthouse conference room. The embassy will house a segment of the Berlin wall.--The entire German cabinet will travel to Israel in March for the first-ever joint cabinet meeting on the 60th anniversary year of Israel’s founding.--German Daimler AG, maker of the small “Smart Car”, delivered its first "fortwos" to American buyers on Jan. 18 this year. The car is so small that it can be parked perpendicular to the curb. The first Smart car was picked up in Riverside, CA on Jan. 19th. The car averages 41 mpg. Thirty thousand orders are already taken. A plain version costs $11,590, but can have added options.--Berlin's Adlershof district is pushing solar technology. Many industries in its area are using solar technology to produce industrial products. Using many solar panels, they make them movable to catch the maximum rays throughout the day. They expect to supply 25% of electricity needs with solar energy within 2 decades.--Germany likes to use medicinal plants. Chamomile is one favorite. About 75% of Germans look for non-prescription medicines first before prescription ones. About 1,500 types of plants are used.--London's wax museum has unveiled a new wax statue of Chancellor Angela Merkel.--The plains from Hannover to Berlin, and the windy North Sea coast are sporting rows of windmills. They now generate 7% of Germany’s electricity.--Thomas Dold of Germany won the race up 86 flights of stairs to the top of the Empire State Building for the 3rd straight year.

April 2008