



**Immigrant
Genealogical
Society**

Newsletter

Number 302

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

May 2009

TIME: May 17, 2009

Library Open: 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Program starts at 2:00 p.m.

—Workshop #2 2009

“How to use the IGS Library-Surname Sources”

German, Swiss, Italian, Irish, Polish, English or?

Use of our Surname Books, Variations, Same name in Different Languages, Spelling, or does it matter? And Origins-patronymic, occupational, place name, or descriptive, maybe a combination?

PLACE: Immigrant Genealogical Society

1310 W. Magnolia Blvd. Burbank, CA 91505

IGS WORKSHOPS-2009 Sundays 12 noon to 5 PM How to use the IGS Library

This year we are having a series of workshops at the Library to acquaint our patrons with various resources, how to use them, and what can be expected from them. These Workshops are YOUR time to research. Presentations and handouts, if any, are to be given at 2 P.M. PLEASE bring YOUR information (charts, clues, brick walls, & all those questions) for our Leader and Staffers to help you.

June 14, 2009—Workshop #3 2009 –12-5 “How to use the IGS Library—Places-Map Use”

Historic or “new” maps, spelling, number in the country with the same spelling, “neu, alt, ober, nieder, vor, hinter, etc.” Clues to finding the right one, gazetteer help, use of grids, area searches, finding jurisdictions. Library diagram.

July 12, 2009—A Joint Meeting IGS & The Pommern Group will be held at 2PM

“Mystery” Letter & Pomeranian House on the Lake
Speaker: Carolyn Casperson will recount her trip in May to Pomerania and hopefully solve the mystery of the letter in the four days they have with a guide.

August 9, 2009 -WORKSHOP #4 2009 –12-5 How to use the IGS Library-Foreign Sources

Organization of our foreign collection by German State and time period, then other countries in alphabetical order
A presentation at 2pm about the work of Franz Schubert, our unique indexes of marriages, census, and other sources given by Eldon Knuth.

September 13, 2009—WORKSHOP #5 2009—12-5 United States

November 8, 2009 —WORKSHOP #6 2009—12-5 Put It Together



**Marlene A. Nolte
April 3, 1931-April 12, 2009**

Marlene was one of the original members of the Immigrant Genealogical Society and served in any capacities as a member, Treasurer, and Director for many years. She participated in all areas including cataloging, Jamboree, giving programs, traveling with members to conferences and for genealogy. She was the daughter of Eugene Bernard Baumgaertner and Clara Mary Bauer and was born in Hermann, Missouri. Marlene is survived by five children, 12 grandchildren, two sisters and many relatives. She was predeceased by her husband George Charles Nolte in 1988. In her German research she discovered they were cousins.

Marlene graduated from CSUN in 1979 with a B.S. in Business Administration/Accounting and was an accountant and office manager for a music publishing company for many years as well as being an enrolled agent with the IRS.

After retirement (in theory) she moved to Lake Isabella, California in 2003 to be near one of her daughters, however she continued her travels and was rarely home. She

KALENDER

May 10	Library Closed
May 17	Workshop #2 12-5 PM
June 14	Workshop #3 12-5 PM
June 26-28	SCGS Jamboree

fulfilled her desire to visit all 7 continents in March 2009 with a cruise around South America. This passion to travel included trips with her husband, her genealogy friends and to her relatives in various states and Nova Scotia. Her hobbies were passions that she continued throughout her life and included reading, oil painting, gardening (especially Iris), and genealogy. She seemed to be the only one working on her and her husband's German, Swiss, and French (only one) families. She did very well; reading German, computerizing, and traveling to Archives and ancestral towns. Marlene will be missed greatly! Mary Louise Chittenden said "She was so much fun to be around" and Marilyn Deatherage has always said they were always laughing.

Marlene Nolte was active in most Society activities over the years. Her cheerful personality, her deep knowledge of history, and her mastery of the skills of "doing genealogy" were always shared with everyone. She loved to travel, and made trips to most of the major continents of the world with various friends over the years. It is very sad to lose her many talents from our Society. Thanks for all your help, Marlene!

Jean Nepsund

Homestead records aren't readily available, but you can access land patents for 32 states online that will help you to obtain this information that may prove of value. The BLM General Land Office Records Automation website: www.glorerecords.blm.gov may also have some field notes, land surveys, plats or maps, to go with the patents. Another website is: www.archives.gov/genealogy/land/index.html Get your information from these sites and order the homesteading case file from the National Archives (NARA) in Washington, D.C. Ancestry magazine.

For those of us who know of a family Bible going to someone in the family and not being able to track it down, here is a website to try: www.biblerecords.com I haven't tried it so I can't vouch for it being of use to anyone. Along the same vein, trying to find a relative, here is another suggestion: www.distantcousin.com I have found people on other sites who are distant cousins, but you might give this one a try. Then for obituaries, there are several I have become aware of and have not tried: www.ObitsArchive.com and www.rootsweb.com/~obituary/ and lastly, www.arrangeonline.com For two cemetery sites try: www.FindaGrave.com and www.Interment.net I think that last is a misspelling. If so make it interment. When we find these sites, there is always the possibility of human error or typos. And, if all else fails, think of this suggestion. You can post your question and offer a reward. Some times finding information requires desperate measures. www.unsolvedancestry.com DAR Genealogical Research Databases

On March 3, 2009, at 2 p.m., the six-story archive building in Cologne, Germany collapsed. The staff and visitors were able to escape with no deaths or injuries because the building had made a groaning sound before collapsing. At the time of the report, there were three people missing from the adjacent buildings with apartments and an amusement arcade. A witness said there was "a giant bang...and a giant gray dust cloud". No word was available about the condition of the archives contents that go back centuries. The archives contained manuscripts by Marx and Engels. Tuesday evening concrete was pumped in the ground to firm the area. It was unclear at this time what caused the collapse. Los Angeles Times, Mar. 4, 2009

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History (NMAH) has reopened after a two-year, \$85 million dollar renovation of the buildings atrium, now five-story and sky-lit, displays over 400 objects including a Star-Spangled Banner gallery. A \$46 million dollar federal fund was matched with \$39 million from private donors. At the opening, visitors saw the White House copy of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, one of five drafts, and the last written in his hand. During 2009, NMAH will have new exhibits and programs for the year. For information, visit www.americanhistory.si.edu. American Spirit, Daughters of the American Revolution magazine, March/April 2009

In case you have a German surnames ending in -le, it is likely from Baden-Württemberg. This handy gem of information was in an article by Paul A. Davis in his series "Germania in Amerika". TWIGS, Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society, Mar. 2009, V. 32. No.5.

There are many websites now that save us time and money doing mundane things we used to have to do. Here are a few that fit that category. For phone directories: <http://whitepages.com> – <http://www.switchboard.com> Both of these are for use in the United States. For international use, here is the following: <http://www.inforbel.com/teldir> Here is one that may help you locator someone: <http://www.peoplefinders.com> This site may give you unlisted phone numbers and even a month and year of birth with a person's name and address. PasTimes, March-April 2009, V. XXXVI, No. 5.

If you are like me and didn't take Latin in school, you may be frustrated when you run across a Latin word in records. To solve that problem, try this website: <http://www.familysearch.org> When you get in the site, click Research Helps, then Articles, then Sorted by Title, then click L. for Latin; G for German, etc. PasTimes, March-April 2009, V. XXXVI, No. 5.

Here is something that may be of interest to you. I have not tried this site, but here goes: <http://www.digital-librarian.com/genealogy.html> La Porte County Indiana Genealogical Society, Mar. 2009, V. XXVI, No.1.

Along with our desire to find names is the need to find locations of our ancestors. In this endeavor you will need maps and gazetteers. In the past, this could entail hours of research in libraries. But the Internet can be put to use and perhaps save you all those hours. For maps, try: <http://www.maps.google.com> Another site has maps of the world. A more esoteric website has WW1 maps of Middle Europe. <http://www.pgsa.org/geomaps/php> If you have Polish ancestors and want to see where the country of Poland is outlined now use: <http://www.mapa.szukaca.pl/> Along with maps, gazetteers will help you find information you will need to round out your search. Try: <http://www.kartenmeister.com> for German-Polish and Polish-German locality spellings. It is not complete but you may find what you need. Also in the same vein, here is a Polish-English and English-Polish website: <http://www.poltran.com/> If you are trying to find parish localities for villages in the former German Empire, this may help: <http://www.progenealogists.com/germany> PasTimes, March-April 2009, V. XXXVI, No.5.

Did you know that these Germans have helped you move with their inventions? Gottlieb Daimler invented the motorcycle in 1885; Rudolf Diesel invented the diesel engine in 1895 and Hans von Ohain invented the jet airplane in 1939? And another German, Wilhelm Roentgen invented the x-ray in 1895. If you have never ridden a motorcycle of taken a plane trip, or had an x-ray, there is still another German who you have to thank -- Johann Gutenberg invented movable type in 1447. And last, but not least, Gabriel Fahrenheit, invented the mercury thermometer in 1714. The World Almanac for Kids 2001.

If you start to hit dead-ends in your German research around the middle of the 1600's, it may be that records were destroyed because of the Thirty Years' War. The war began in 1618, is fought over religious issues, and much of Europe is involved and destroyed in the conflict. I have read as many as half, or even more, of the population was killed. If you can surmount this barrier, you will hit another one with the Hundred Years' War. This is between England and France and ends in 1453. During this same time period, the Black Death, or bubonic plague begins in Europe and may have killed one third of the population.

Homestead records aren't readily available, but you can access land patents for 32 states online that will help you to obtain this information that may prove of value. The BLM General Land Office Records Automation website: www.glorerecords.blm.gov may also have some field notes, land surveys, plats or maps, to go with the patents. Another website is: www.archives.gov/genealogy/land/index.html You would get your information from these sites and order the homesteading case file from the National Archives (NARA) in Washington, D.C.

In case you missed this gem, the RootsWeb Review, of 21 Sept. 2005, V.8:38, had this interesting website, <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/> The New York Public Library has put more than 360,000 images online from its Digital Gallery. You may view Ellis Island photos as well as Civil War photos, maps, and city scenes. There are even medieval manuscripts for your viewing. If you just want to use them for your own use, they can be downloaded free. For use in publications or other media, such as film, television or on the Net, you can arrange permission for use from the library's Permission Department. TWIGS, Nov. 2005, V.29 No.3.

You may now search the Chicago Tribune newspaper. Exact dates are not given but I know anyone having Chicago ancestry will want to check this website out -- <http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/chicagotribune/index.html?ts=1081033116>. TWIGS, Nov. 2005, V.29 No.3.

When I found this website, I had my husband go there and register our last name. If the name is common, you must be more specific. But give it a try. <http://www.googlealert.com/> This is a free service that runs daily and searches and e-mails you when the word appears on the web. Because the name is common, we have added a first name of an elusive ancestor of my husband and may never get anything but we may get lucky some day. South Suburban Geneal. & Hist. Soc. Infolink, 3 Sept. 2005

As a member of Daughters of the American Revolution, I'm happy that DAR has had member transcribing previously unpublished records of genealogical value. Northwest Indiana Genea. Soc., in TWIGS, passes this information on and we can all take advantage of this project. It was a huge undertaking to create databases, indexes and finding aids for material that had been submitted by members over the years. The first version of their library's "National Index to the Genealogical Records Committee Reports" is free online. Everton's Genealogical Helper, July/Aug. 2005

Anyone with an ancestor who lived in Colorado between 1859 and 1923 will want to take advantage of this information. ResearchBuzz newsletter #346, 18 Aug. 2005, reported about a website for newspapers online from the Stephen H. Hart Library at the Colorado History Museum. About a third of their historic newspaper collection, covering more than 75 papers in 20 Colorado cities can be viewed, with admittedly varying results in quality. Some are very readable, while some are blurry. When you log on, you are asked whether you have dialup or broadband and a several tabbed page will let you browse either by issue, date or keyword. The website is <http://host1.cdphheritage.org/newspapers/>. I have not tried it because I had no one living there in that time period. I grew up in Colorado and lived there many years and hope that this may help some of you.

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May 2009

The Week in Germany Apr 3, 2009 Top Stories Calling for "Results that will Change the World" Germany and France call on G-20 Summit participants to produce concrete decisions that can be used as the foundations for a new global financial constitution. 60 Years of NATO The NATO Summit in Strasbourg and Kehl, co-hosted by Germany and France, will celebrate the 60th anniversary of NATO. The Alliance embodies the transatlantic link by which the security of North America and Europe are permanently tied together. •NATO Anniversary Germany Hitting Kyoto Emissions Targets Early Germany has exceeded its emissions reductions target under the Kyoto Protocol, achieving a 23.3 percent reduction in emissions (compared to 1990 levels) in 2008, according to forecasts. • Emissions Targets Berlin Wall to Topple All Over Again Berlin is counting on the domino effect as it celebrates the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Over 1,000 eight-foot-tall Styrofoam tiles will be stacked along a section of the former border and then toppled. •Domino Wall Current Affairs Afghanistan is at Top of International Agenda Representatives from 80 states gathered in The Hague to discuss reconstruction in Afghanistan at an international conference co-chaired by the United Nations, the Netherlands and Afghanistan. •International Conference Chancellor Merkel's Podcast on NATO Summit Chancellor Merkel current weekly video podcast focuses on the upcoming NATO Summit, jointly hosted by Germany and France. For the first time, the podcast has been produced with English subtitles. • Podcast Radio Goethe on Afghanistan Radio Goethe Magazine producer and host Arndt Peltner reports on his recent trip to Afghanistan in this half-hour broadcast. Radio Goethe is broadcast on several radio stations in the US and is also available online. •Radio Goethe Afghanistan Report Business, Technology and the Environment German American Energy Conference Taps Opportunities Opportunities for German renewable energy companies to invest and work in the US are at the top of the agenda at the 1st German American Energy Conference 2009 in Berlin. • Energy Conference Experts Recreating Egyptian Female Pharaoh's Own Perfume The latest thing in scents next year could be the oldest perfume in the world, made especially for an Ancient Egyptian female pharaoh, according to German scientists who are analyzing residue found in a 3,400-year-old perfume flacon.

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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.

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•Egyptian Perfume Culture and Lifestyle The Falckenberg Collection The Falckenberg Collection in Hamburg is one of the most important private collections of contemporary art in Germany. In just fifteen years of intense collecting, the collection has amassed approximately 2,000 works of international contemporary art. • The Falckenberg Collection European Higher Education Area Makes Good Progress Internationally recognized bachelor and master's degrees are now standard in Germany. Other initiatives are helping ensure better access to student loans and opportunities for study abroad. A new report shows how Germany has made progress in the European Higher Education Area. New York celebrating the founding of the legendary school of art and design in April 1919.