November 2009

NOVEMBER 8, 2009 WORKSHOP #6 - 12-5 PM
How to use the IGS Library - SUMMARY
Bringing the resources together to evaluate where your personal research stands: names, places, U.S. and foreign sources; library and personal finding aids; experience and common sense are all important.

Program starts at 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Immigrant Genealogical Society 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd. Burbank, CA

To view thousands of articles on family history research go to <http://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Main_Page> It covers Germany, Denmark, England, Scotland, Wales and the United States. Another site that you may profit from is <www.werelate.org/wiki/Main_Page> It is sponsored by the Foundation for On-Line Genealogy in partnership with the Allen County Public Library. This site contains information about more than two million people and families. And finally, <http://genealogy.wikia.com/wiki/Main_Page> has approximately 26,000 articles relating to genealogy linking people, places and times. Ancestry, March/April 2009

Correction from October newsletter.

Free online courses at BYU should be <http://ce.byu.edu/is/site/courses/freecourses.cfm>
There's a missing "s" in courses that made the published link not found.

The October newsletter was in error. It was numbered 306 and it should have been 307

KALENDER

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<td>October Board meeting</td>
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As always, we are Seeking Volunteers! Come on and join those of us who enjoy helping others looking for family. It only takes one day a month, and not all day! Call Marilyn Deatherage or Linda Stone or Ron Grider and we will get you signed up for a Wed. or Sun. afternoon or a Sat. from 10 to 5.


The San Fernando Genealogical Society now meets at the Chatsworth Train Depot. Meets third Friday 7:30pm. No meeting in Dec.

Quick Reminder from Ruth Cipko to “take time to review previously found documents for information that was glossed over the first time.” German Genealogy Group, Sept. 2009, Issue 134

This story is related in Der Ahnenforscher newsletter of the German Genealogy Group. Three of their members volunteer at NARA in New York. A NARA staff member told them the story. “An adoptee hired a woman to find his real parents because he desperately needs a bone marrow transplant or he will die. The researcher found that his real parents were immigrants that had passed on and he has no siblings.” The search went on for any close relatives and the same surname was found in “the naturalization index on the web site” of the GGG. “NARA in Manhattan was contacted and, with the aid of a staff member, determined that there are two related families that she will be able to contact” to possibly find a donor. German Genealogy Group, Sept. 2009, Issue 134

Many of us have Cook County people in our genealogical background. The Cook County Clerk’s Office has moved to The Daley Center, 50 W. Washington, East Concourse Level, Chicago, IL 60602. This office keeps birth, marriage and death records and will provide copies of up to three documents for those who are eligible. Office hours are 8:30 to 5:00 — Mon.-Fri., 9 to 12 noon on Sat. for marriage records only. Ph. # is (312)603-4899, vitalrecords@cookcountygov.com

You may find translations for German Civil War songs according to Anthony Di Marino. There are also links for other web sites that have German folk music. <http://www.gtg1848.de> German Genealogy Group, Sept. 2009, Issue 134

I wish I had seen this when I was in Munich twice over the years, and it’s almost a reason to go again! “Many visitors to Munich gather daily to view the Rathaus-Glockenspiel on Marienplatz, but few know what goes on as the bells chime and the life-size figures move about on the upper level. The scene represents what may be the biggest marriage celebration ever: Duke Wilhelm V (founder of the Hafbrauhaus) married Renata of Lothringen in 1568. The celebration consisted of a 400-course meal and two weeks of jousting on Marienplatz. It cost a year’s revenue and threatened to bankrupt Bavaria.” Now That Was A Celebration! Der Blumenbaum, SGGS, V. 27, No. 1: July, Aug. Sept. 2009

These tips may help you. See if there is a family organization where any of your family lived in German localities. Google the surname. On <www.Cyndislist.com> under the alpha section “S” click on “Surnames, Family Associations and Family Newsletters”. It is updated frequently. Also click on “General Surname Sites and Resources”. On <www.family-association.com> go to “Directory of Family Associations” and click on the alpha letter of the first character of the surname you are searching. It is a small site. Der Blumenbaum, SGGS, V. 27, No. 1: July, Aug. Sept. 2009

There seems to be no end to things we Should Do! I hate to be a scold but I think the following is important enough to do just that. In the NGS Magazine they have suggestions that all of us need to heed. Identify every portrait or photograph while the principals are still around. And this part can’t be stressed enough. “Use an archival pen on the back, (please, no masking tape, scotch tape, or adhesive labels with regular pen or pencil. If possible, identify all people by name, age, date, relationship, and event or activity. Just be sure to use archival supplies for everything to protect the photographs. Make sure that all the photos you take now are identified clearly and concisely. Incidentally, are the photographs organized in such a way that you can find a picture of a specific person if asked?” And here is an idea that I never would have thought of but could help someone else. If you have photos of someone not of the family but a neighbor or childhood friend that you no longer want to keep, “Don’t throw these away! Think about going to a site such as Dead Fred.com <www.deadfired.com> and contributing them. These suggestions came from Gary M. Smith and Diana Crisman Smith in their article “Identify treasures now”. NGS Magazine, July-Sept. 2009, Vol. 35, No. 3.

Remember this is your newsletter. If you have any interesting information you would like to pass along to other members, please send them to the editor. I do reserve the right to edit. L.S.

An interesting and informative article by Sharon Tate Moody, CG, titled, “Child of no one: Researching illegitimate ancestors” gives historical facts about the children, mothers and fathers in this situation. She points out the main focus in colonial communities was to limit the public’s cost of supporting such offspring. Children were covered by poor laws. “The most logical place to find these records is in a court system. Names of courts that handled such matters vary by area and time period. Researchers must check various court systems to see what the courts were called and how their records are arranged.” NGS Magazine, July-Sept. 2009, Vol. 35, No. 3

The 2010 Palatines to American National Conference will be held June 18-19, 2010 in Fishkill, NY.
The Annual Meeting of Immigrant Genealogical Society has been set by the Board of Directors for Sunday, November 8, 2009 at Society Headquarters, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd, Burbank, CA at 2:00 p.m. In addition to reports, five members will be elected to serve terms on the Board from January 2010 through December 2012.

The following five members have been nominated and have agreed to serve if elected:
Ron Grider, president
Johannes Linning, vice president
Marilyn Deatherage, treasurer
Eloise Haldeman, research & German language help
Linda Stone, mailing committee

Continuing Board Members are: Eldon Knuth, librarian and German resource, Warren Weimer, librarian, Lura Perkins, Corr. Sec’ty, research & librarian

Lura Perkins
Secretary, Board of Directors

If you had ancestors in any of the following states, AL, AK, AR, CA, CO, IA, KS, MS, MO, NE, ND, OK, TX, or VA, go to <http://teafor2.com> to see if one of 203,355 cemetery gravestone photos belongs to an ancestor. Cemeteries are listed by state, county and cemetery name. Look alphabetically for the name on the gravestone. Mark Waldron who gave this tip says that the site has a collection of other sites and Internet links with information, transcriptions and photos. German Genealogy Group, Sept. 2009, Issue 134

Do you have ancestors from the Shenandoah Valley of VA? Join Today—FIRST SETTLERS OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY. For more information: <http://www.firstsettlersshenandoahvalley.com> Gorgeous Certificate mailed to you—hand-painted with yours and your ancestor’s name hand-lettered. Easy to join! Application online. Just send a copy of an approved application from another society such as DAR, SAR, Colonial Dames, as proof. First Hundred Applicants designated as Organizing Charter Members Any questions? Email Janie Sherman, CG at <societydame@verizon.net>

Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles
Mon., Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m.
Valley Beth Shalom Synagogue
15739 Ventura Bl., Encino, CA Mapping
Madness! With Ron Arons How to Find Anyone, Anywhere, Anyhow

Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society
17th Annual Genealogical Workshop
Sat., Nov. 14—9a.m.
This and That in Genealogy
2007 Civic Center Way Round Lake Beach, Illinois

Something we all should remember to look for if we have someone in the early 1900’s that we can’t find an accurate birth date for, is the WWI Draft Cards. In 1917-18 men not yet 46 years of age in the U.S., were required to register for the draft. The information on these cards are the most accurate you are likely to find about the individual because it was supplied by the person themselves. You have to remember that birth information was given by the parents and should be accurate, but death information can often be inaccurate because the person supplying the data may not know the person well, or at all in some cases. So look for those WWI Draft Cards if you have any doubts about the information you have now. INTERNET Genealogy, Preview

The new Family Search Family Tree being developed by the LDS Church is available as a demo now. Go to it by clicking on Family Tree at <www.labs.familysearch.org> The item that caught my attention was the idea that this will eliminate the duplications we see now in Personal Ancestral File and IGI. You all know what I mean. There are so many entries for the same person and you go through them to find that many are exactly the same information. But if there are variations in them as well, what is correct. “As the existing data is converted and new data is entered there will be only one entry for an individual. It may have multiple entries for the event details that will eventually be narrowed down to a single accepted source.” Jeffrey A. Bockman, author of the article says, “Hopefully it will eventually be integrated with their Record Digitization Project and Indexing Project.” As you may already know, the LDS is asking for volunteers to help on the indexing. You my volunteer by going to <www.familysearchindexing.org>
Deverton’s Genealogical Helper, July/August 2008
The Week in Germany 09.10.2009

Herta Müller is Awarded Nobel Prize in Literature for 2009 - German author Herta Müller, her works once banned under the Romanian dictatorship, has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2009. Müller is the thirteenth German-language author to receive the Nobel Prize in literature: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/05__Culture/02/05/01/__Feature__1.html>

Chancellor Merkel to Address Joint Meeting of Congress - Chancellor Merkel will travel to Washington, DC, in the first week of November and, on the invitation of House Speaker Pelosi, speak before a joint meeting of Congress. Merkel’s visit and her address to legislators will mark the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__PR/P__Wash/2009/10/05__Merkel__USA__PR.html>

Germans Take Home Four Medals at World Fencing Championships - German fencers earned four medals at this year's World Fencing Championships in Antalya, Turkey, including Nicolas Limbach's gold in the men's saber. <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__PR/GIC/2009/10/07__Fencing__PM.html>

Celebrating the Day of German Unity - The Day of German Unity marks the day in 1990 on which the German Democratic Republic (East) acceded to the Federal Republic of Germany. In 2009, Germany is also celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Basic Law and the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__PR/P__Wash/2009/10/03__Unity__Reception__PR.html>

Congratulations for Obama on Nobel Peace Prize - The announcement that US President Obama would be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize was greeted with enthusiasm by the German public and hailed by German leaders. Germany's representative in the United States, Ambassador Scharioth, said he had long been impressed by President Obama's ability to inspire people in the US and beyond. <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__PR/P__Wash/2009/10/09__NobelPeace__PR.html>