

**Immigrant
Genealogical
Society**

Newsletter

Number 344

P. O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510

November 2012

Immigrant Genealogical Society Presents

NOVEMBER 11, 2012

Annual Meeting 2PM Research 12-5 with expert help

DECEMBER 9, 2012

Holiday Pot-Luck 1PM Show & Tell

Library open 12:00 till 5:00 Come for the fellowship!

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

From the Treasurer:

Thank you so very, very much to all of you who have renewed your membership at an upgraded level AND/OR given donations to help us in this economic environment. **WE STILL NEED HELP!** Do not forget our organization is a non-profit 501(c)(3). You can deduct your contribution from your taxes. Do you know of any foundation/company that gives grants, or has a matching plan? Or an individual/other entity who could donate?

Marilyn Deatherage - 818-348-6444

Gen. Soc. of Stanislaus County 2012 Seminar

This year's speaker is renowned genealogical researcher/author Mrs. Christine Rose, CG, CGL, FASG, addressing the topics of genealogical proof standards, estates as an information goldmine, the trap of leaping to erroneous conclusions, and "solving the problem onsite in 25 hours or less." The seminar runs from 9 to 3 on Saturday, November 10 at the Modesto (CA) Centre Plaza, 1000 L Street. We're sorry there wasn't more lead-time for this announcement, as it promises to be a rewarding day.

Names Our Members Are Researching

Natalie Cornwell -- **Froehlich, Gabel/Goebel, Krum, Weeber.** Robert Seal --**Guggenburger, Kreichhammer, Muller, Poch, Schlang, Stadler, Vatter, Vock.** Gloria Thompson -- **Dettmer, Fantzen, Gerken, Martrens, Thuesen.** Kathy Holland --**Frenkes, Schlefelbein, Schmidt, Strassburger, Wombacher.** Anne Wattmann --**Artern, Waechter** (Prussian Prov. of Saxony); **Brosius** (Hesse-Darmstadt); **Koehler, Merz** (Bavaria).

Italian Records on FamilySearch.org

24 million images of civil registrations from the National Archives of Italy are now available through FamilySearch.org, with some 4 million names transcribed and available for searching. Readers will be familiar with the above URL, but go to: <<http://www.archivi.beniculturali.it/sitoenglish.html>> to view the Italian Archives site in English. And, if you have Italian names to research, keep in mind that we have IGS members who may be able to help you. Let us know by writing to our Corresponding Secretary!

Irish Heritage Magazine

This is a start-up with a mix of current events and heritage information. The aim is to add a separate but related genealogy/heritage forum in the future. It can be found at: <<http://www.me-heritage.com>>.

Slovakian Records

GenealogyBlog has passed on the news that free online access to Slovakian data has now reached over 5 million-searchable records at FamilySearch.org. In particular, the 1869 census has been added, meaning that a Slovakian family immigrating to this country in the prime years for Eastern European emigration may very possibly be located in their village of origin. This has all been made available through the efforts of a small army of volunteers who transcribe and index information found in digitized handwritten records. If you've benefitted from such an effort, please share your story with this newsletter's readership by writing the editor at: <gordonseyfert@me.com>.

New entries in the Mecklenburg-Kontakte Database

These are the surname entries for the month of August, courtesy of Dieter Garling <Dieter.Garling@gmx.de> and die KontaktDatenbank <<http://www.Mecklenburg-Kontakte.de>>. The search page is here: <<http://www.emecklenburg.de/Mecklenburg/l44.php>>.

Ahrens Bahr Baier Bartelt Berger Berndt Bleeck Bockholdt Bold Boldt Bredow Bruhn Bunge Busse Doss Eggebrecht Eisenhaber Eisenhaver Eisenhaver Frenz Froh Grunwald Hahn Havemann Ida Kaltofen Klück Konow Kruse Kurzyna Ladwig Lenthe Levermann Meinhard Moll Mueller Oppermann Passow Pechtel Peter Poehl Qualmann Rahne Regling Rohde Runge Salfeld Schmahl Schröder Schütt Schultz Schulz Schwerdtfeger Sodtman Stahl Tretow Viereck Voelker Westphal Winterfeld Zahrndt Zierk Zimmermann.

And these are the additions for the month of September: **Adam Bechtold Blumenthal Braemer Brehmer Bruhn Dickfo Dickfoss Dieckfoss Dieckvohs Dieckvoss Diekfoss Diekvoss Dieterich Ehmke Fellmann Fleck Gundlach Heise Holst Kaehliche Kaelcke Kalkhorst Kock Krohn Krüger Langheim Leitmann Martine Meier Mittddelstaedt Mittelstaedt Ott Otte Palis Peters Plückhahn Prinzler Rode Rohde Scharfenberg Susemihl Tesch Teschendorf Von Nehringen Wienholz Wolf Zimmermann Zollfeldt.**

Westrich, the Pfalz region near Kusel

The Palatine Immigrant (Vol. XXXVII No. 4, Sept. 2012) contains an interesting book review of a 1995 work by the Zweibrücken Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Familienforschung. The German title is: *Schweizer Einwanderer im Westrich, 1650-1750* (English: "Swiss Immigrants into the Westrich..."). This book of 279 pages contains alphabetical lists of Swiss immigrants to this region, together with family member names and vital statistics information, all documented in such a way that the reader may trace these migrants back to their Swiss home towns. As the review observes, even those who don't read German can profit from finding this book, as the lists are easily understood.

Emigration from the Bern Aargau to the Pfalz

The same journal cited above offers a second book review that similarly covers Palatinate immigration from Switzerland that occurred after the Thirty Years' War in Germany. And, like the above-cited work, there is an alphabetical list -- this one comprising 220 pages. Written by Peter Steiner in 2009, the German title is: *Aargauer in der Pfalz: Die Auswanderung aus dem Berner Aargau nach dem Dreissigjährigen Krieg*. By reading the review I learned something I hadn't considered previously. The Swiss had had a ready market for their agricultural exports during the years of war, but when the thirty years of warfare were at an end, and Germany was again able to harvest its crops, the Swiss lost a major market and grain prices dropped accordingly. This, then, was a major factor in the subsequent emigration -- the so-called "push factor." Likewise, constant warfare had depopulated much of Germany, and many German rulers

were eager to lure additional farmers to their lands in order to till the fallow fields and provide the tax base with which to continue the rulers and noble families in the style to which they had been accustomed -- the "pull factor!" If yours was a family who seemingly appears in Germany "out of nowhere" some three-and-a-half centuries ago, you might ask yourself if they might originally have been Swiss. --Ed.

Other Reviews...

In yet the same issue of *The Palatine Immigrant* (Vol. XXXVII No. 4, Sept. 2012), several other brief reviews may mention a smaller locale that is still of interest. Here is a list of them: Böckweiler/Kreis Bleiskastel; Oberentfelden; 57639 Oberdreis/Westerwald (with constituent towns Lautzert, Dendert & Hilgert); Niederwambach/Westerwald; Nueuenkirchen/Odenwald; Absteinach & Mackenheimer; Atzbach, Dorlar & Waldgirmes (three villages on the Lahn R. between Giessen and Wetzlar); and Tambach-Dietharz. Prospective readers may wish to search for their volume of interest using "Worldcat.org".

Family Tree Magazine's Best Websites for 2012

Readers will want to visit the magazine's web page for full details and links, but a few sites may be of special interest to those researching Euro-pean immigrant ancestors. Danish Demographic Database <http://ddd.dda.dk/ddd_en.htm> contains among other data censuses beginning with 1787, emigration records, and probate records for certain Danish locales. Digitalarkivet <<http://arkivverket.no/eng/content/view/full/629>> from the National Archives of Norway has censuses, and certain parish and land records. Genlias <<http://www.genlias.nl/en/page0.jsp>> is concerned with the Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam, now New York. The European list also ranks two Jewish genealogy sites very highly. Live Roots <<http://www.liveroots.com>> is a metasearch site that is highly ranked, but possibly not well-known. WorldCat <<http://www.worldcat.org>> is wellknown, but probably underutilized for finding books of interest in specific libraries. Family Pursuit <<http://www.familypursuit.com>> is a collaborative site for family trees that can synchronize (on a beta-testing basis) with trees at FamilySearch. One may contribute to the Community Family Tree for free, or upgrade for a fee and establish one's own tree. These are but a half-dozen of the 101 sites recommended by Family Tree Magazine; no mention has been made here of many other sites that may be of value for U.S. research. --Ed.

Million Short

Another great find has been recommended by the "Upfront with NGS" blog (from the National Genealogical Society)! They note in a September 18th email release that Mocavo, the dedicated genealogical search engine, may still not find the information you want. So what's a person to do? *Million Short* is perhaps an answer. The purpose of this new web site is to allow researchers to "narrow" search results retrieved by search engines to the less popular sites. The way this works is that one first begins a search in the usual manner. Once the umpteen zillion results have been reported, you can remove the top one hundred, one thousand, ten thousand, hundred thousand or one million sites

from consideration. This leaves you to search through the more obscure findings -- the very ones that may mention your ancestors. In the example given, the writer searched on "Simon Turner" and "Wake County." Essentially, you'll end up "searching from the bottom" instead of wading through all the commercial and common sites that don't hold what you're looking for.... Wow! What won't they think of next? --Ed.

Learning about Illinois History at the German Emigration Center

An article in the April 2012 issue of the Bremerhaven Center's *News* publication (Issue No. 11, pages 10-12) relates how millions of immigrants arriving after 1913 took New York Central Railroad from the port city's Grand Central Terminal to Chicago, either to live there or to embark for other cities in the Midwest or as far away as California. And it does this by recreating the scene as an immigrant would have experienced it! "Visitors to the German Emigration Center will step up to the ticket booths with their bronze adornments just like the travelers do. Exact copies of eight of the 26 booths in Grand Central Terminal were reproduced for the new exhibition rooms, each containing cabinets displaying photos, documents and memorabilia of a German immigrant family. An audio station relates how emigrants felt as immigrants in their country of arrival, their new home, and what became or has become of their descendants...." The state of Illinois, founded in 1818, did not register a significant rise in population until after 1832 when the Sac Indians had been defeated. In Illinois particularly as well as in other Midwestern states, close to one million German farmers settled between 1830 and 1870. One of the three dioramas in the Waiting Room of the new exhibition rooms gives a precise picture of how these German farmers lived. A second diorama shows German workers in the 'huge, greasy meatpacking plants' of Chicago 'that smelled like the craters of hell.'" --according to Upton Sinclair's novel, *The Jungle*. Perhaps you can even get a glimpse of the expansive nature of such exhibits by catching the Center's presence at a trade show or travel fair. The *News* (Issue No. 10, page 14) describes how the Center's traveling team periodically tours the U.S.A. in concert with the Bremerhaven Tourism Board, targeting German emigrants and their descendants in cities such as New York or Milwaukee, or on the German Board of Tourism's annual road show.

Die Randows: Eine Familiengeschichte von Olof v. Randow

How many of you dear readers know that we have in our IGS Library a wonderful resource for locating writings about your German families? I'm speaking of the *Deutsches Familienarchiv* series, which is currently complete to volume 156 or so. Those of us who staff the library frequently use it as a resource for verifying the spelling of a name that is known by a patron to be Germanic, but which may have been Anglicized in the course of a family's early years in America. But occasionally an entire volume will be devoted to one family, in which case it really should be cross-indexed to our family genealogies located in Section 30 of the Library. Such is the case with volumes 135/136, com-

bined in one book, for it constitutes a genealogy of the von Randow family. One member of the family, born in 1863 in Mirow (Mecklenburg) to Ernst Heinrich Leopold August v. Randow and his wife Helene Rode, lived in Los Angeles after 1920. His name was Karl Heinrich Wolfgang v. Randow, and he perhaps first lived in San Francisco and in Mono County (1910 & 1920 censuses) before apparently moving south to live out his life. I wonder if any one of you knows of this gentleman? --Ed.

Geschichte Schlesiens: Preußisch- und Österreichisch-Schlesien 1740-1945

Here is a history of Silesia with a broad variety of chapters. They range over some 490 pages from the political history of the Prussian province over four eras (with the breaks at 1815, 1848 and 1918), the economy, religious history (Catholic, Protestant & Jewish), culture (literature, the arts, music, and publishing) before ending with some 80 pages on Austrian Silesia. A fine series of maps is also provided. Look for this one on the "New Books" shelf in Section 29 of the IGS Library.

The Prussian-German Army

Joyce Rohloff-Gardner has written a concise summary of the ins and outs of serving in the Prussian (later German) military in the mid- to late-19th century. It appears in the Fall 2012 issue (Vol. 35, Issue 3) of our own IGS special interest group's journal, *Die Pommerschen Leute*. Did you know, for instance, that: "Men could not marry until after they served their first three years in the standing army, and this is why you will see men's marriage age as 23 or older in the church books."? Not only does she do a great job of explaining how military requirements may have affected your ancestor, she also provides a list of "Sources for military records." She is a board member of the Pommern Regional Group of Minnesota, and she plans a book on the Prussian military. Reach her at <jrohloffgardner@gmail.com>.

Polish in Minnesota?

The Summer 2012 issue of *Rodziny*, the journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America contains a nice four-page article written by the late John Kowles on Polish settlers in the state of Minnesota. In particular, he talks of the "pushes" and "pulls" that spurred emigration from Poland to our country, and there is a map that illustrates the locations of pre-1880 Polish settlements with the approximate years of their start. The article is a reprint from the Summer 2004 issue of the *Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter*.

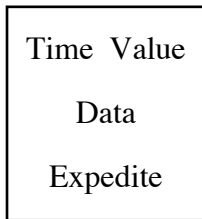
West Prussia

This is the "spotlight" of the Spring 2012 (Vol. 15, No. 1) issue of *Germanic Genealogy Journal*, published by the Germanic Genealogy Society of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. The article by Cynthia Jacobson provides an historical summary, some "fast facts," a time line, maps, and much information on genealogical resources -- over four pages worth! And, if you find a copy of this issue here at your IGS Library or elsewhere, spend some time reading a 7-page article by Dan Riordan about his quest for one ancestor; it's a nice case study of German ancestor research.

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Conejo Valley Gen. Soc.

...has a new website at: <http://conejovalleygenealogical-society.org/>. We receive their newsletter, and you should know (if you live near Thousand Oaks) that they maintain a genealogical section at the Brimhall Library there (at 1401 E. Janss Rd.) with a strong European focus on German and Irish materials.

Deutsch in Amerika: Episch=lyrische Poesie (Chicago, 1892). This is a continuation from the last issue. It is an index of 19th century German-American poets with birthplaces in Europe.... **Lafrentz**, Ferdinand W. - auf der Insel Fehmarn, Schleswig=Holstein; **Lange**, Heinrich - Bremen; **Lexow**, Friedrich - Tönning, Schleswig; **Leyh**, Eduard F. - Meimers, Sachsen=Meiningen; **Lieber**, Franz - Berlin; **Liefeld**, F. W. A. - Ludwigsfelde, Provinz Brandenburg, Preußen; **Lilienthal**, Max - München; **Loeb**, Julius - Edenkoben, Rheinpfalz; **Lorenz**, Carl - Stuttgart; **Lüdeking**, Friedrich - Neustadt am Rübenberg, Hannover; **Märklin**, Edmund - Calw, Württemberg; **Meinecke**, Karl - Oldenburg; **Meißner**, Heinrich - Münster, Westfalen; **Michel**, Friedrich - Ingweiler, Unter=Elsaß; **Moras**, Ferdinand - Dovern, Regierungsbezirk Aachen, Rheinpfalz; **Müller**, Niklas - Langenau bei Ulm; **Müller**, Wilhelm - Heppenheim an der der Bergstraße, Hessen; **Münch**, Friedrich - Nieder=Gmünden, Oberhessen; **Münter**, Carl - Verchen, Pommern; **Nau**, Johann Baptist - Tetingen, Luxemburg; **Nies**, Konrad - Alzey, Rheinhessen; **Pastorius**, Franz Daniel -Sommerhausen, Franken; **Pohle**, Adolf - Bautzen, Sachsen(?); **Pohle**, Carl Adolf Julius - Bautzen, Schlesien(?); **Precht**, Viktor - Bremen; **Puchner**, Rudolf - Beutelsbach, Württemberg; **Querner**, Emil -Eisenberg, Sachen=Altenberg.

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/>

The Week in Germany

Click here to view the Newsletter online

< http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The_Week_in_Germany/TWIG_121012.html>

Leo Baeck Institute Launches DigiBaecK, a Free Digital Archive Documenting 500 Yearsof German-Speaking Jewish History. The new

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Immigrant Library Hours

Wednesdays . 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
1st & 3rd Saturdays .. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
2nd & 4th Sundays ..12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
Closed for major holidays.

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online archive will enable free access to more than 3.5 million pages of material that encompasses rare books, photographs, artwork, letters, memoirs and ephemera documenting the culture and achievements of German-Speaking Jewry. DigiBaecK Archive: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/GIC/2012/10/12LBIarchive.html>

Two plus Four Treaty on the Memory of the World Register UNESCO has inscribed the Two plus Four Treaty and a number of other documents recording the construction and fall of the Berlin Wall in the Memory of the World Register. A recent ceremony in Berlin celebrated the documents being inscribed as well as 20 years of the UNESCO program. Two plus Four Treaty: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/P__Wash/2012/10/12TwoplusFour.html>