



**Immigrant  
Genealogical  
Society**

# Newsletter

Number 301

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

April 2009

**TIME: Sunday, April 5, 2009**

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

**Program starts at 2:00 p.m.**

Living in Pomerania until 1945

Speaker Ilsa Nottrott Peetz, a native Pomeranian whose family was forced to leave their homeland in 1945. The family spent several years in a refugee camp in Schleswig Holstein before she moved to Rheinland to train as a medical technician. In the U.S. she earned a Master's Degree and became a Methodist Pastor (retired), translator and author.

**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.

**May 17, 2009 —Workshop #2 2009 – 12-5**

**“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?

**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**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the library**

We are in desperate need of new people to keep the library open. One of our volunteers has had an operation that went badly and she has had to quit. Another is having an operation and has to give up coming in for the next several months. We don't expect anyone to do visitors research for them. We just need people to come in ONCE A MONTH. All shelves are labeled with the area and patrons are pointed in the right direction. Years ago we had an entire page of people to call upon. TODAY, WE ARE DOWN TO 10 VOLUNTEERS. With so few of us, if anyone has an emergency and can't come in, there is a mad scramble to find someone to replace them. We have library hours on Wed. and Sun. from noon to 5 p.m. On Sat. the library is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ANYONE WITHIN A 25 MILE RADIUS is wanted. PLEASE CALL to volunteer once a month. Marilyn Deatherage (818)348-6444.

**KALENDER**

<b>April 5</b>	<b>IGS/PSIG Meeting 2:00PM</b>
<b>April 22</b>	<b>IGS Board of Directors</b>
<b>May 10</b>	<b>Library Closed</b>
<b>May 17</b>	<b>Workshop #2 12-5 PM</b>
<b>June 14</b>	<b>Workshop #3 12-5 PM</b>
<b>June 26-28</b>	<b>SCGS Jamboree</b>

## Acquisitions since November 2008

Italians to America, Volumes 23, 24, 25 and 26  
– IGS Purchase

Gesamtregister zum Deutschen Familienarchiv,  
Band 126-150 (Index) – IGS Purchase  
German Immigrants in American Church Records:  
WI Northwest Protestant, Volume 2 – IGS Purchase  
German Immigrants in American Church Records:  
WI Northeast Protestant, Volume 3 - “ “  
German Immigrants in American Church Records:  
WI Southwest Protestant, Volume 4 - “ “  
German Immigrants in American Church Records:  
WI Southeast Protestant, Volume 5 - “ “  
Map Guide to German Parish Registers, Kingdom  
of Bavaria IX, Oberbayern II, Volume 22 –  
IGS Purchase  
Familienbuch Gemeinde Althornbach 1800-1875 –  
Donated by Origins Genealogy Books  
The Coblenz Family in America 1743-1982 –  
Donated by Ann Archer  
Genealogical Classification by Family Group Coding for  
Descent from Common Ancestors, Volumes 1 & 2 –  
Donated by Cameron Ralph Stewart  
Collins Portuguese Dictionary –  
Donated by Marlene Nolte  
Slovak-English/English-Slovak Dictionary  
–Donated by Marlene Nolte  
Dutch-English/English/Dutch Dictionary  
– Donated by Marlene Nolte  
Pocket Oxford Russian Dictionary  
–Donated by Marlene Nolte

## The BallinStadt Immigrant World Museum

If you have wondered what the days were like just before your ancestor left Germany for America, there is a new museum in Hamburg that opened in 2007 called The BallinStadt Immigrant World Museum. Many immigrants were passengers on the HAPAG line of ships. Albert Ballin was manager of his father's travel agency and then began working for the HAPAG line. The museum recreates the town where your ancestor who left from Hamburg would have stayed. All thirty of the original buildings now house exhibits that tell stories of these people. Most importantly for anyone who wants to go there, is a database where visitors may look for their families. The German Connection, V.26.No.3/4

## Our Ancestors Clothing

Clothing worn by our ancestors provides insight in to their lives. Known as Tracht, their livelihood could be reflected in what they wore. Originally, reflecting a region or small groups until the 16th C., the peasantry wore practical cloths in neutral colors. Sunday was the day to dress in their best. In the 1600's, trades people began wearing distinctive clothing for their calling, followed by farmers and townspeople. The German Connection, Vol.

## Deutschen Familienarchiv

(German Family Archives) – Supplement – Volumes  
126-150

Deutschen Familienarchiv has a new, additional index. This one covers volumes 126-150, which were published from 1999 to 2007. The following surnames are included in these volumes.

Adlerflycht, Albrecht, von Arnim, von Eysseneck, Bellersheim, Bernhardi, Bodelschwingh, Brandt, Breitbart(h), Burchard, Butzbach, Cammann, Christen, von Cronstetten, Dannenberg, Demeter, Diest, Dorth, Egloff, Eickborn, Einem, Ephraim, Erythropel, Faulde, Fichard, Fudickar, Füge (Fuege), Gemmingen-Guttenberg, Geser, Glauburg, Goßler, Grotefeld, Grüninger (Grueninger), Günderrode (Guenderrode), Haesbaert, Hagelgans(z), Hammerstein-Loxten, Hedwig, Heil, Heldsdorf, Helldorff, Hobeck, Holzhausen, von Homburg, Humbracht, Hutten, Hynsperg, Isaac, Itzig, Jungen, Kappeler, Kellner, Kettenburg, Koeser, Krosigk, Laßberg, von Lehenstein, Lepel, Lersner, von Weißdorf, Lichtenberger, Liebermann, Lützwow (Luetzow), Mann, Marcus, Meissner, Mendelsohn, Muchall, Mühlen (Muehlen), Parpart, Pechmann, von Pechmann, Perret(-Saulvestre), Platz, Pötzsch (Poetzsch), Probbach, Puchta, Quester, Randow, Rautenberg, Richter, Rolffs, von Rothmaler, Rudloff, Ruhs, Sarnthein-Lotichius, Schad, Schmidt, Schmitt, Schmitz, Schölderle (Schoelderle), Schreckenber, Stalburg(er), Stark, Stein, Steinberg, Stieglitz, Stohr, Strachwitz, Stubbe, Stürzelsheim (Stuerzelsheim), Trappmann, von Treuenfeld, Trischberger, Türckheim (Tuerckheim), Wedel, Weiss, Willeke, Wrede, Wundt, Zichy

## New Searches on Ancestry

If you have a membership to Ancestry.de or World Deluxe Ancestry.com, you may now access 540 German city directories containing approximately 27,000,000 names. Most of these directories are from the late 1800's to the mid-1900's. Browse the directories or search through the Card Catalog with a keyword. Everton's Genealogical Helper, July/August 2008

## Revolutionary War

In Missouri, the battle of Fort San Carlos was the only Revolutionary War battle fought west of the Mississippi. On the site of present day St. Louis, on the 26th of May 1780, volunteer militia and soldiers along with settlers defended against British regulars.

Daughters of the American Revolution Newsletter,  
March/April 2009

## DNA

The 200th birthday of Darwin brought forth a lot of information that has been discovered since his book "On the Origin of Species". Many think that after we became an agricultural society, nothing much has changed in human evolution. With technology there was no need for our physic to make any difference. But scientists are learning otherwise. In fact, evolution has been speeding up. With the event of agriculture, which happened 5,000 to 10,000 years ago, the growth of large societies has "accelerated to 100 times historical levels". Milford Wolpoff, a paleoanthropologist at the University of Michigan said, "When there's more people, there are more mutations. And when there are more mutations, there's more selection." This information was "quantified in late 2007 by comparing more than 3 million genetic variants in the DNA of 269 people of African, European, Asian and Native American descent. Sophisticated computer models scoured "the genome for telltale patterns signaling recent adoption of favorable genes." New mutations are not inherited alone, but passed along in large DNA changes. But over time these changes appear smaller. By comparing changes in different people, scientists "estimate how long the beneficial mutation has been spreading through the gene pool". From 300 to 1,800 genes have been widely adopted in the last 40,000 years. The function of most genes is unknown. "A version of a dopamine receptor gene called DRD4...is sweeping through the European population and having two copies increases the odds of having attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder". Those genes having a purpose that is understood are for fighting infectious diseases, among them malaria. Our diet is another category in recent human evolution. Best-known is "a person's ability to make an enzyme required to digest lactose, the sugar in milk." As babies were weaned off breast milk, the LCT gene shut down. But then we began domesticating goats, sheep and cows and those people who had a mutation could drink the milk from these animals as adults and that gave them "a nutritional advantage to propagate their genes". This mutation began "in Europe about 8,000 years ago. Today, it is carried by more than 95% of people of Northern European decent". A theory posits that pastoralism prompted the spread of this gene. German and British researchers used new techniques analyzing ancient DNA. They checked the genes of eight farmers who lived in Europe "7,000 to 7,800 years ago, before the widespread adoption of a herding lifestyle." It was found that none of those "farmers had the mutation for lactose tolerance". But the adaptation occurred at least five times over the last 5,000 years. Our genome "is still adapting to our relatively new agricultural diet, based on starches and sugars". If you or someone you know has blue eyes, it has been found that the first blue-eyed baby was born "between 6,000 and 10,000 years ago... somewhere near the Black Sea. Before that all humans had brown eyes. Today the number of people with blue eyes tops half a billion". Los Angeles Times, Sun. Feb. 8, 2009

## Finding Weekdays in History

If for any reason, you need to find out the day of the week for a date in your family history, there is a formula to find it without leaving your chair. It will not work prior to 1753. Add the last two digits of the year to one-quarter of the last two digits (discard any remainder), the day of the month, and the month key from the key below. Divide the sum by 7; the remainder is the day of the week. If there is no remainder, the day is Saturday. If you're searching for a weekday prior to 1900, add 2 to the sum before diving; prior to 1800, add 4. From 2000 to 2099, subtract 1 from the sum before dividing. Example: March 25, 1913. Last two digits of year: 13 One quarter of these two digits: 3 Given day of month: 25 Key number for March: 4 Sum: 45 (45 divided by 7 equals 6, with a remainder of 3. Key numbers for each month: January 1; leap year 0; February 4; leap year 3; March 4; April 0; May 2; June 5; July 0; August 3; September 6; October 1; November 4; December 6. The Old Farmer's Almanac Special Bookstore Supplement 2005

## Baron von Stuben

For history buffs who are interested in the American Revolution, there is a new book out about the Prussian Army captain who came here and turned farmers in to a fighting unit. We know about the Hessians, although not all were from Hesse, who fought with the British. Men who were hunters and farmers knew how to use a gun but did not have the discipline or formal training to fight an experienced army. But middle-aged Baron Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin von Stuben became famous by turning our militiamen in to a force to be reckoned with and make Washington realize that he was the man who could do the job. The Colonial Army had just won The Battle of Saratoga when von Stuben received a fictional Resume from our supporters in Paris. Upon arrival here Washington that von Stuben knew more about tactics and strategy than most of his generals and he put him to the task of drilling and training soldiers. At Valley Forge von Stuben trained experienced veterans and then had them drill the less experienced. It was von Stuben who drafted the official Blue Book of regulations for the army. The author of The Drillmaster of Valley Forge, Paul Lockhart describes what went about behind the scenes in rivalries and competition with Washington's generals and the politicians in the colonies. American Spirit, Daughters of the American Revolution magazine, March/April 2009

## German Translations by Computer

If you are considering using a computer translation for a document in German pre-dating 1900, you would be advised to read the Roger Minert article in Germanic Research in the July/August 2008 issue of Everton's Genealogical Helper available at our library. It was determined that the time used in a computer translation only slowed you down because you would still end up having to make corrections. You are advised to find an experienced translator who is qualified to do this work. Everton's Genealogical Helper, July/August 2008



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April 2009

THE WEEK IN GERMANY – Visit the German Embassy during the EU Open House on May 9, 2009 After the enormous success the EU Open Houses in 2007 and 2008, the European Union embassies in Washington DC are again opening their doors to area residents and visitors for a day of family fun. Hop from the Seine to the Rhine, across the Alps to the Pyrenees, up the Danube, over the Carpathians, from the Mediterranean to the Baltic, all without leaving the Distric – EU Must Act as One, Say Merkel & Sarkozy Chancellor Merkel and French President Sarkozy have called for the EU to join forces to tackle the economic and financial crisis. The EU can only make itself properly heard if it speaks "with one voice," they declared – German Writer Christa Wolf Turns 80 Christa Wolf, one of Germany's most important contemporary writers, celebrates her 80th birthday on March 18. In her best-known works, Wolf deals with her experience of life in a divided Germany and under the political conditions of the GDR. She is the recipient of many national and international awards. – Economics Minister zu Guttenberg Meets with Treasury Secretary Geithner German Economics Minister zu Guttenberg met with US Treasury Secretary Geithner in Washington for what zu Guttenberg called a good and fruitful discussion in an open and trusting atmosphere. – Schavan and Napolitano Sign Civil Security Research Agreement "We want to use the advantages of research collaboration to mobilize the best ideas for the optimal risk protection in our countries," Research Minister Schavan said -- Berlin Governance Debate Economic political rivalry and the fight for resources – at the third Berlin Governance Debate Foreign Minister Steinmeier and former Foreign Minister Genscher discussed the challenges facing the globalized world and how they can best be countered – Business, Technology and the Environment -- India Joins International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) India became the first major emerging economy to join the fledgling International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on March 17 in Berlin. -- India Beckons at World's Largest Travel Fair in Berlin India's travel industry promoted traditional remedies, with a focus on spa treatments and rural tourism, at the world's largest travel fair in Berlin this year. -- Culture and Lifestyle – Jewish Paths Through Modernity The enduring legacy of Jewish culture and life on the art of the 19th and 20th centuries is explored in an extensive exhibition at the Felix-Nussbaum-Haus in the northern German city of Osnabrück with loans from major museums in Europe and the United States. -- Leipzig Book Fair Looks at Wall Anniversary – At the Leipzig Book Fair, many publishers presented books marking the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, as this year's international show focused particularly on that year of change -- Löw in No Hurry to Decide on Number One Germany Goalkeeper Germany coach Joachim Löw is in no hurry to appoint a number one German goalkeeper for the 2010 World Cup while Michael Ballack will remain

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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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captain – Jazz and Pop Tips What is German music? When you think of it, do you hear strains of Bach, Beethoven, Brahms or Mendelssohn, or the omm-pah-pah of a blaskappelle in a beerhall? Good - you're right on track...but there is so much more! This week: Mouse on Mars and Lithops. -- Readings: Second Opinions Courtesy of Germany.info This week, read about BMW's "Art Cars", a Tropical Island in Germany and the muzzled muezzins of Cairo. -- About "The Week in Germany" – A Publication of Germany.info and the German Information Center, USA – The opinions and material contained herein do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the German government. © 2009 Germany.info unless otherwise noted.