



August 9, 2009 -WORKSHOP #4 -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. Presentation at 2pm about the work of Franz Schubert, our unique indexes of marriages, census, and other sources given by Eldon Knuth

Program starts at 2:00 p.m.

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

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.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2009 WORKSHOP # 5 -12-5 How to use the IGS Library-U. S. Sources Where did your immigrant arrive?, was it New York, Boston, Philadelphia, New Jersey, Maryland or other ports? We have many sources for these and other states. Has Annette Burgert traced your ancestor from Pennsylvania to Germany? Have you seen your immigrant's signature? Does a U. S. source give you the place of origin?

OCTOBER 11, 2009 JOINT MEETING/IGS & POMMERN GROUP -12-5

SLAVIC PEOPLES WHO SETTLED POMERANIA Speaker: George Unrine, "Die Vorfahren" Editor for "Die Pommerchen Leute". George will tell us about the archaeological and historical accounts of the Slavic peoples who appeared in Eastern Europe during the middle ages.

NOVEMBER 8, 2009 WORKSHOP #6 - 12-5
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.

DECEMBER 13, 2009 -1 P.M. -Program at 2 ANNUAL SHARING & POT-LUCK

Please bring yourself and guests, your finds, your brick walls PLUS an entrée, salad, or dessert to share; utensils, drinks and paper goods will be provided-ethnic foods are welcome.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. VOLUNTEER just **FIVE TO SEVEN HOURS** per MONTH. We are OPEN on Wednesday's noon to 5; Sunday's noon to 5; and Saturday's 10 a.m. to 5. **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!** You are not expected to do patrons research for them--**JUST BE THERE!** Some of our volunteers have been helping for 10 to 15 years or more! But we have sadly lost Don Ebbeler to bad health. He volunteered on Sat. **WE NEED A REPLACEMENT FOR DON. PLEASE CONSIDER helping!**

Love your neighbor; but don't pull down the fence. – German proverb

KALENDER

August			
09	General Meeting/Program	2PM	
25	Mailing		
September			
05-06	CLOSED	Labor Day	
13	General Meeting/Program	2PM	
22	Mailing		

Martin Luther, testified he came from a poor family.

Contrary to this, new discoveries indicate his family led an extravagant lifestyle. In *Atlantic Times*, issue Dec. 2008, p. 20, was this news. A few months after his birth, the family moved to Mansfeld, and lived in three interconnected buildings. In the dump, behind the property, archeologists have found pieces of jewelry, children's toys, cookware, and 300 silver coins. In 1505, two of Luther's brothers died of pestilence, and it appears the family burned items for fear of others in the family contracting the disease. Also proving a middleclass existence, were bones from pigs and poultry. At the residence in Wittenberg, a tower extension, torn down in the 19th century, is the location of Luther's study. Also found there was a garbage dump, where the University of Wittenberg disposed of his effects when they took over the property after his death. Here were dishes from Venice, glasses, dinnerware, enameled stove tiles, and even more exciting, a writing set with an inkwell. *The Journal*—German-Texan Heritage Society, V.XXXI, No. 1, Spring, 2009.

An excellent article titled “Researching Your 19th-Century Alsatian Immigrant” by Donna Hollerung Turbes explains why this particular area can be so complicated to research. My last immigrant, my mother's father, Alois Gumbel, was from Alsace. I have a book with a picture of their house, the oldest in Drusenheim. Turbes describes how records can be in Latin, German, or French because the area has been both French and German. Alsace was part of the Holy Roman Empire and therefore, German in 870, with Charlemagne's empire. It gradually came under French dominance in the 16th and 17th centuries. With the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, parts were granted to France. The Treaty of Wvswick confirmed this partition. Around 1790, with the French Revolution in full swing, Alsace was divided into Bas-Rhin (lower Rhein) and Haut-Rhin (upper Rhein). The Treaty of Frankfurt in 1871, at the end of the Franco-Prussian War, gave Alsace to Germany. From then until 1918, this was an Imperial territory, not state, of Alsace-Lorraine or Elsass-Lothringen. In 1872, the German Empire gave these people a choice: become German citizens or leave. It is estimated 500,000 left over several years, many going in to France, or as my grandfather did, coming to America. At the end of WWI, the area became France again. All this will cause the U.S. Census records to reflect these changes: an Alsatian might say birth place was France in the 1860 or 1870 Census but German in the 1880 Census, as Alois did. For a free outline go to www.familysearch.org and click Research Helps and choose Articles, then F for France and scroll down. For this complete article send a SASE to our library and we will send it to you. If you want to see the article, come here to read it in *Germanic Genealogy Journal*, Spring 2009.

A hearth of one's own is worth its weight in gold.

-German proverb

Another article also by Donna Hollerung Turbes and Lois Edwards, titled “Ahnendaten—A German Ancestor Database”, is a searchable genealogy database of German, as well as, some non-German people. If you have traced your family to around 1800 in Saxony, Thuringia, or northern Bavaria, this website may be of help: www.ahnendaten.de Even though the data is in German, the main page and menu have an English version. The data will be primarily names, dates and places. There are two different search modes—surnames and places. Most records are from 1550 to 1800. *Germanic Genealogy Journal*, Spring 2009

If you are in the mood to challenge your brain, and heaven knows we seniors are constantly being urged to do that, go to <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/testmaps/europe.gif> and use this map to jog your memory of the layout of Europe. The map is from www.graphicmaps.com and will ask you to “Name the Country!” Give it a try!

A page titled, “Where Our Leaders are Laid to Rest”, reveals that only two of our Presidents are in Arlington National Cemetery: Taft and J.F.K. John Adams and his son John Quincy are buried at the United First Parish Church in Quincy, MA,; and Monroe and Tyler are at Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, VA. Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Jackson are buried where they lived. Polk is at the State Capitol Bldg., in Nashville, TN. Wilson is at the National Cathedral in Wash., D.C. Hoover and Nixon are buried at their Library and Birthplace. Taylor and Andrew Johnson are buried at Nat'l Cemeteries with their names. Grant is buried at his Nat'l Memorial. Hayes is at his Presidential Center. Wm. H. Harrison and Harding are buried at locations called by their name plus “Tomb”. F.D.R. and Eisenhower are at their Library and Museum. Truman and Reagan are at the Libraries with their names. L.B.J. is buried at his ranch. Ford is at his museum. All the rest of our Presidents are buried at locations designated cemetery. (As a genealogical aside from the editor, we have had two Adamses, two Harrisons, and two Johnsons; the last two, not related). *Hidden Valley Journal*, V. xxxi, 2008, Escondido Genea. Soc. Inc.

Our library is the recipient of books from Marlene Nolte's private collection. Lura Perkins and Marilyn Deatherage spent a day with help from two teenage friends of Marilyn's cataloging the books on Missouri. We also received Missouri Historical Review periodicals. The books are shelved and we hope you will come in soon and make use of them.

(The San Francisco Branch of the California State Library)

Services Available at the Sutro Library

Research assistance and instruction in the use of the library's resources.

Limited photocopies of up to 20 pages. Sent via fax and mail with no charge. •Reference service by phone or email.

•Interlibrary loan services (printed materials, copying, fiche & film.) •Group visits and orientation sessions. (Advance reservation is required.) •Internet access to California State Library's online resources, Ancestry.com & Heritage Quest online.

•Presentations at conferences and community groups on Sutro Library resources. •We accept donations of family and local histories from all states and countries, travel literature, exploration, etc. (Tax deductible as allowed by law.) Sutro Library is open M-F from 10-5, except beginning Aug. 1, 2009 and continuing until June 2010, the library will close the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Fri's each month., and on state holidays.

Collections & Resources -- Genealogy, Family & Local History, City Directories, US Census & Soundex from 1790-1930, Passenger lists and indexes prior to 1900, Parish records (Baptism, Marriage, Death) from England, mostly before 1800, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) publications, Guides, bibliographies and periodicals published by historical and genealogical societies, and by family associations, Genealogy CD-ROMs, Vital, Tax, Voting & Property Records. Please check: California State Library Home Page www.library.ca.gov and the Online Catalog www.lib.state.ca.us for special collections available at the library.

For inquiries please contact Sutro staff:

Email Sutro@library.ca.gov or call: 415-731-4477.

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There was a recent archaeological find in Germany

that is significant concerning the development of a creative culture pre-dating agriculture. "What may be the oldest known handmade instrument: an 8-inch long, five-note flute, carved from the bone of a vulture—crafted more than 35,000 years ago" suggests "music is as old as humanity". Nicholas Conrad of the University of Tübingen found the instrument. Also found was a "Venus" statuette from the same period. Three more flutes made of ivory from a mammoth, but more rudimentary were at a nearby site. In ScienceNow.com, Conrad said, "They were just lying there with everything else, which leads me to believe they were part of everyday life". *The Week*, July 17, 2009

The Berlin Wall came down 20 years ago.

An overview may be observed by taking a bicycle tour to the main sites in the city center or on a 99-mile Berlin Wall trail that leads out to rural landscapes. There is an exhibit moving around the city titled "Perspectives: 20 Years of a Changing Berlin". In October and November there are street parties and open-air events planned. Go to the festival website, www.mauerfall09.de/en/home.html to find out details. Kate Connolly, *LATIMES.COM/TRAVEL*, JULY 12, 2009

With economic times what they are, you hear many people getting in to gardening, if they weren't already. Kent Whealy's parents had brought two plants with them from Bavaria to Iowa in the 1870's. Diane Ott Whealy had seeds from those plants given to her by her grandfather. And with these they started Seed Savers Exchange. If you own an old seed stock or just want to

purchase seeds, go to www.seedsavers.org. If you want to create an 18th-century garden go to www.victoryseeds.com
Maureen Taylor, *American Spirit*-March/April 2009

A new map database at Ancestry.com will give you a detailed look of Germany's geographic past. Titled *Karten Deutschlands, 1860-1965*, as well as, Germany, topographic maps in English, you may search the Card Catalog under either, "German topographic" or "German maps" for the collection. From there, search for your place of interest and select *Übersichtblatt*. It has a map with grids for all of Germany. There are maps of a range of years for each grid. You may follow the grid to see the development of the city or region as it grows. Not all grids have the same amount of maps, but they are high definition with a variety of topographic features. A descriptive legend called *Zeichenerklärung* is included. You may want to keep this in another window for reference. There is also a German dictionary to help you decipher anything you come across. May/June 2009 *Ancestry*.

An article by Mary Penner in the *Ancestry* magazine of May/June 2009 gives excellent ideas for Census substitutes. I think most of us can't find someone in at least one Census. Use these for the missing 1890 Census we all wish was still available. And if you are anxious for the 1940, there are substitutes as well. She suggests a regular search at Ancestry.com because substitutes are included. You may access a set of years by limiting your search to a date range, such as a few years prior and following the census year you are missing. Go to www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/census/1890sub/main.htm to see if you can find what you need. This site includes a number of state census records, as well as, the Chicago Voter Registrations from 1888-92, and the New York City Police Census and Veterans Schedules, both for 1890. To search city directories for 1935 to 1960 go to www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/grouplist.aspx?group=1940Census Also try 20th-century California Voter Registrations, 1900-68. May/June 2009 *Ancestry*.

Going through papers given us by Elizabeth Sharp's daughter, Jackie, I found a 100 page spiral-ring booklet from The National Endowment for the Humanities from 1965. There is one article that is of special importance to genealogists concerning paper. Their suggestions are important enough to take heed. Store paper in darkness, unfolded in acid-free or polyester folders. Keep these in acid-free boxes. Newspaper clippings become yellow and brittle so you should photocopy them on acid-free paper. Glue attracts bugs. Never use staples, rubber bands, paper chips, tape or glue on important papers. Avoid folding and unfolding papers and place them on larger pieces of acid-free mat-board. Never laminate; the process is irreversible. And finally, consult a conservator if you plan to use any commercial de-acidification product or you find evidence of dirt or mold on your prized papers. "My History is America's History", The National Endowment for the Humanities in partnership with The White House Millennium Council.

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IGS Newsletter August 2009

Week in German Jul 17, 2009

Click here to view the whole Newsletter online
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/TWIG_090717_variant=issue.html

Resistance Remembered on 65th Anniversary

Each year on July 20, Germany commemorates one of the most important acts of resistance in Germany to the Nazi regime, the ultimately unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler in 1944. This year marks the 65th anniversary.
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/P_Wash/2009/07/16_July20_anniversary_PR.html

Preparing for Elections in Afghanistan Preparations are in full swing for presidential and provincial elections in Afghanistan in August. The international community is supporting the process, and about 100 experts from the EU will be monitoring the election.
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/P_Wash/2009/07/15_AFG_Elections_PR.html

Kurt Masur - Leader in Music and Politics

Having played an influential role in East Germany when the Berlin Wall came down, conductor Masur was even considered for the office of Federal President. Maestro Masur celebrates his 82nd birthday on July 18.
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/K_Wash/2009/07/16_Masur_PR.html

Current Affairs Federal President Horst Köhler took part in celebrations of France's national holiday, Bastille Day, on July 14 in Paris as guest of honor of French President Nicolas Sarkozy.
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/P_Wash/2009/07/14_Koehler_Paris_PM.html

Path Toward Intensifying German-Russian Relations

A German-Russian energy agency, a trade agreement and a more intensive scientific cooperation are tangible results of the recent German-Russian government consultations. Chancellor Merkel and President Medvedev also both sharply

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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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Annual Membership, \$25, Family \$30
If publications desired by 1st Class mail, \$35.00

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condemned the murder of Russian civil-rights activist Natalya Estemirova.
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/P_Wash/2009/07/17_Germany_Russia_PR.html

Desertec Solar Energy Project Launched by German Firms A group of German firms have launched an ambitious solar energy project in the deserts of North Africa and the Mediterranean.
http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/GIC/2009/07/16_Desertec_PM.html