

Sunday February 14, 2010

Warren Weimer “Genes, Genealogy & Family History”

How genes & DNA affect Family Histories-familial affects and propensities for Disease.

Library open 12:00 till 5:00 Program starts at 2:00 p.m.

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

Up coming programs

Library open 12:00 till 5:00 Program starts at 2:00 p.m

March 14th

TBD

April 11th

IGS/DPL April Pommern Group.

Speaking genealogist, **Arlene Eakle**

Genealogical Evidence in Emigration-Immigration Sources for Ancestors Leaving Northern Europe for America. No fee.

This is a last reminder that the library will NOT be open every Saturday or Sunday in the future. The volunteer librarians have diminished in number the past year and it has put an undue pressure on several of the people who have picked up the slack. Marilyn Deatherage has been especially responsive to our plight. It is just the only solution that the board could come up with unless we get more volunteers. **BE SURE TO CHECK** if the library is open before you decide to come and save yourself the frustration of arriving and finding the library closed. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Marilyn or Pres. Ron Grider. In the meantime, please take advantage of this wonderful resource. Our collection, especially of German books, is extraordinary.

Hours for 2010. Wednesdays, 12AM - 5PM

1st & 3rd Saturday, 10AM - 5PM

2nd & 4th Sunday, 12AM - 5 PM

Except Holidays.

Consult newsletter for special events or closures.

Family Search’s Record Search added “ten million new records and images” on this update.

Anyone interested in Cook County Illinois may want to check out the Birth Registers for 1871-1915. There are now a total of “369,962 Indexed Records” and “19,781 Digital Images” that have been updated. If you are interested in Wisconsin, look at the 1855 state census. It has a total of “133,164 Indexed Records and “3,088 Digital Images”. For Wisconsin, this “Project is now complete”. These collections can be searched for free at <FamilySearch.org> Record Search pilot (click Search Records, and then click Record Search pilot). Good hunting! Ancestors West, Santa Barbara Co. G. S., Vol. 35, No. 3 & 4, Spring/ Summer 2009

KALENDER

Feb. 14
General Meeting/Program at 2pm
March 14
General Meeting/Program at 2pm
April 11
Arlene Eakle!! NO FEES at 2 pm
April 28
Board of Directors- 7pm

We know that religious affiliations are important to find for filling out the information on our ancestors. To read about their importance, their identity and where they are located, read "What Church Did Grandpa Attend?" on Early American church denominations and more at <<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gentutor/churches.html>>

Der Ahnenforscher, German Genealogy Group, Issue 136, November 2006

For an interest in Danube Swabians, Debby Kozel advises you to visit The Danube Swabian Association of Trenton, New Jersey website <<http://www.trentondonauschwaben.com/>> and Donaueschwaben Villages Helping Hands website <<http://www.duhh.org/>> *Der Ahnenforscher*, German Genealogy Group, Issue 136, November 2006

Do you want to learn more about a famous part of New York City known as German Town or Little Germany? A website created by Kathy Jolowicz was created to keep the memory of this area alive. Her efforts are also going in to a book in the future. For now, you can go to see photos and a historical overview at <<http://york-villekleindeutschlandhistorical.society.com/>> This site will be continuously updated. *Der Ahnenforscher*, German Genealogy Group, Issue 136, November 2006

Are you a lover of cookbooks as I am? Then this is for you. Barbara Downs passed along this information to the Wide Web column of *Der Ahnenforscher*. A "household manual was organized by Michael de Leone... proto-notary (chief clerk) of the Archbishop of Wurzburg. The surviving portion of the manuscript is in the library of Munich University." The book was titled "Das buch von gutter spise (the book of good food), also known as einbuch von gutter spise, the earliest known German language cookbook—dated from between 1345 to 1354." For recipes go to <<http://cs-people.bu.edu/akatlas/Buch/contents.html>> For an overview of the book, go to <<http://cs-people.bu.edu/akatlas/buch/class.html>> *Der Ahnenforscher*, German Genealogy Group, Issue 136, November 2006

Being Iowa born, but not raised, this caught my eye. Jeff Schlatter reports that the 1925 State Census goes further than other state censuses. If you have a subscription to Ancestry.com and had a relative in Iowa in 1925, you should look at it for some great information! On page two, "this census also includes the name of the person's mother and father, their ages, their place of birth, and where they were married". I have other Iowa censuses because they seem to have done them on the fifth year between the Federal censuses. I took a look and they have Lee County and I found where my great-grandmother was born, confirming that her parents probably married in Ohio, not Missouri as many people reported. Now I can check for their marriage to confirm. *Ancestors West*, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, Spring/Summer 2009, Vol. 35, Numbers 3 & 4

The following Current FamilySearch Indexing Projects, Record Language, and Percent Completion as reported in *Der Blumenbaum* are: Deutschland, Baden — Kirchenbucher, 1810—1869, German 93%; Deutschland, Brandenburg— Kirchenbucher, 1789—1875, German, 76%; Deutschland, Mecklenburg— Volkszählung, 1890, German, 74%; Österreich, Wiener Meldezettel, 1890—1925, German, 2%. Current FamilySearch Partner Projects, Record Language, and Percent Completion for Deutschland, Bremen — Schifflisten, 1904—1914, German, 71%. The source for this information originated in "FamilySearch Indexing Update: August 2009 Summary," *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*, Sep. 3, 2009. *Der Blumenbaum*, SGGs, Vol. 27, No. 2: October, November, December 2009

In Beginner's Basics, Connie Moretti, talks about different things we can do to find our ancestors. Go to sites like "GenForum, RootsWeb, and FamilySearch". Don't ignore "social networking sites such as Facebook and WeRelate are another valuable aspect to the internet. Usually there is both a public and a private area for communications". If you are "researching an unusual surname compile a mailing list from online directories such as WhoWhere and WhitePages, then send a postcard to each person explaining what you are looking for and how to contact you". Finally, "don't overlook published queries" even if they are old. Someone at the address may have information even if the original person has passed away. And lastly, don't forget the site Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness. The *South Bay Beacon*, South Bay Cities Genealogical Society, Vol. 32, No. 6, November/ December 2009

Are you aware of a German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA? In an article by Bruce Hausser, he described the work this foundation promotes. Founded in 1977, and "(originally chartered in Pennsylvania as the United German-American Committee of the USA, Inc.), as a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501 (c)(3) educational organization to serve as a national umbrella organization.... The mission of the GAHF is to preserve and promote the heritage of American of German-speaking ancestry and to promote the understanding, knowledge and friendship between people of Germany and those of the United States. Germans represent the largest ethnic group in the United States." A location in Washington, D.C. called Hockemeyer Hall at 719 6th Street, NW, originally built in 1888 by John Hockemeyer, a German merchant is to be used as a museum. The Center plans to "feature multi-media displays varying from historical documentaries to current affairs". Two "German institutions on German immigration to America: The 'Auswanderhaus' in Bremerhaven and 'Ballinstadt' in Hamburg' is partnering with the GAHF. Of most interest to me is the project they plan to "preserve... personal data... and family histories via an 'audiovisual oral history project' which has been awarded a major grant by the

Federal Republic of Germany". I went to their website today <<http://www.ugac.org>> and found that it is currently being updated. In his article, Hausser mentions that "GAHF is supported entirely by donations". There is a toll free phone number that you may want to call for further information—1(866)868-8422. *German Genealogy Group*, November 2009

Anyone with a Saarland ancestor will want to read this. The interesting thing to me, as I have no one that I know of from there, is that, it is only twice the size of the city of Sacramento, CA. It only became a part of the Federal Republic of Germany on January 1, 1957. A gentleman by the name of Volker Bertel is a retired German Army Colonel. He spent a lot of time in America and says, "Now, I would like to help people whose roots lie in the Saar region or persons who have a special relation to this region. I will be thankful for any information you can provide". If you are interested. It is estimated 300,00 Saarlander emigrated. "The main cities of Saarland are Sankt Wendel (a city from which many emigrants came to Ohio), Saarbürcken, Saarlouis, and Homburg". If it is possible you have a Saarland connection do the following: "1. Check out your ancestral hometown. (Use FamilySearch.org of Meyer Orts). If it is listed as being in the Rhineland, search further to determine if it was located in that southern part of the Rhineland that is now Saarland. 2. Gather as much information as you can about the village/town and about your ancestors who lived there. 3. Write to Volker Bertel, using this address: v-bertel@t-online.de. *Der Blemenbaum*, SGGs, Vol. 27, No. 2: October, November, December 2009

I hope everyone is aware of books called Ortssippenbücher. We have an extraordinary collection in our library. You should find out if we have a book for you town. The area most covered is Württemberg. In an article by Homer Rudof, Allyn Brosz, James D. Klein and Thomas A. Stangl, the Publication Committee of GCRA, is the fact that, "As of 1807, congregations in Württemberg were legally required to maintain a 'Familienregister'." Originally these books were know as Dorfsippenbücher. If you are interested in their history go to <<http://userpage.fuberlin.de/~history2/karten/einl/imhof.htm>> In Germany in 1937 the concept was standardized. "The goal was to extract information from local parish records throughout Germany and compile them into a standard genealogical format for each community". Information in these books contain, "birth, marriage, death, citizenship, occupation, etc. extracted from all available parish records) for individuals in the community is organized alphabetically by surname and chronologically by marriage date." To receive a list of all of our libraries Ortssippenbücher, please send a SASE to the post office address at the top of our newsletter. *GCRA Newsletter*, Vol. 22 No. 2

Maps were one of my favorite things to look at in school. Many times, for extra credit, I came home and drew maps. They may account for my wanderlust. Ron Arons wrote an article that contains some wonderful websites that you may want to try for both historical

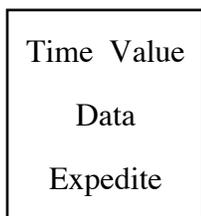
purposes and the present. Here are "major map collection sites" that he included. <<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/index.efm>> the "NY public Library Digital Gallery". Another is <<http://www.davidrumsey.com>> David Rumsey Collection. Another is <<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>> University of Texas Map Collection. Next is <<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/>> Library of Congress Map Collections. www.feefhs.org Federation of Eastern European Family History Societies. And, finally, <www.HistoricMapworks.com> This site is "pay as you go" but Arons says it is a wonderful site. You can "go to the 'images' section of Google,s wbsite (images.google.com) and be amazed at what you will find. Type '<your location> map' into Google's search field. And, of course, for any maps about the present that you want go to the following: from Microsoft, maps.live.com and from Google, maps.google.com. Arons points out the following provisos. Google Maps lacks some of the features Microsoft has but has some functionality that Microsoft hasn't. Because of this, Arons advises using both sites. But the one that really caught my fancy is the following. "Microsoft has a tool that you can download to your computer (PC, Macintosh, and Linus versions are available) called MapCruncher. See: <<http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/redmond/project/mapcruncher/>> This tool allows you to create a 'mashup', amelding of two related maps or a map and photograph. For example, you can combine part of an old map and place it on top of a current day map of the same area". Now if that isn't something great for genealogists, nothing is! Thank You, Ron Arons. *Roots-Key*, Fall/Winter 2009

At this point, according to reports, "more than 100,00 volunteers across five continents" are indexing a half million names every day for FamilySearch. By the end of this year, it is estimated that 500 million names will have been transcribed. But here is the rub. The world creates "more than 100 million records every year (each with multiple names)". The good news is, "All this has resulted in specially designed digital cameras, innovative scanning technology, and new computer software." This electronic age has made everything speed up and helped all of us. "With cameras similar to those used by NASA...workers produce an image at a high resolution of 50 megapixels, or 50 million pixels". If this is almost incomprehensible, read on. "Some of the best high-quality cameras would take 300,000 pictures and die. A typical camera operator might take half a million images in one year, and we expect our cameras to last four or five years or more". And it gets even more interesting. "Every image that is captured undergoes and in-depth audit involving cropping the image, recording metadata, quality control, and other improvement processes to insure quality images". "When 15 high-speed scanners were developed to convert images...into digital images to allow them to be viewed on a computer...these scanners converted 2.5 million rolls into tens of millions of ready-to-index digital images. The records contained by FamilySearch currently, when digitized, would equal 132 Libraries of Congress or 18 petabytes of data" without adding ongoing acquisitions. *Der Blumenbaum*, SGGs, Vol. 27, No. 2: October, November, December 2009

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IGS Newsletter, February 2010

The Week in Germany Jan 15, 2010

Click here to view the whole Newsletter online

<http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The_Week_in_Germany/TWIG__100115,variant=issue.html>

Germany Ranks Among Top Five Places to Live in the World

Germany is one of the best places to live in the world, according to a 2010 Quality of Life Index published by travel magazine "International Living". Living in Germany: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/GIC/2010/01/01_Living_in_Germany_PM.html>

Haiti: Germany Sends Funds, Mobilizes Aid Missions

The German Government and German aid organizations are providing immediate help and support to the people of Haiti in response to the devastating earthquake there.

Aid for Haiti: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/P__Wash/2010/01/14_Haiti_Aid_PR.html>

In Search of Speed on Skis

In biathlon, often there's only a few thousandths of a second between the victor and the vanquished, so the gliding ability of the skis is very important. Researchers at the Fraunhofer Institute for Mechanics of Materials are developing waxes and coatings to improve the performance of skis.

Ski Wax Research: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_PR/P__Wash/2010/01/08_SkiWax_Research_PR.html>

Immigrant Genealogical Society

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Immigrant Library Hours

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

Permission to quote if appropriate credit is given.
Annual Membership, \$25, Family \$30
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Chancellor Merkel in Time Europe Cover Story

"Angela Merkel has more power than any leader on the continent. What will she do with it?" So begins the cover story on Chancellor Merkel in Time magazine's Europe edition. Read the entire article on Bundesregierung.de. Merkel in Time:<http://www.bundesregierung.de/nn_6538/Content/EN/Interview/2009-2010/2010-01-07-Merkel-TIMEMAGAZINE.html>