

SUNDAY'S PROGRAMS 2 PM

July 11, 2010

Joint IGS/PSIG Meeting

Topic: History of Poland with Maps

Speaker: Past Pres., **Paul Lipinski**-Polish Society of California
Historical Implications on Genealogical Research

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

August 8, 2010-JUDY COOK

What was Grandpa Thinking?

Sources to find motivations of our Ancestors

Author of If This Land Could Talk, Homesteading on the
Northern Plains

September 12, 2010-ALICE VOLKERT

The Digital Camera for Genealogists

Professional Genealogist COLBY family researcher

Our society volunteers are here only on certain days now because of a shortage of people. It may be a good idea before coming, especially if from a long distance, to call and find out for sure that someone is here. There can be an emergency that prevents a volunteer from coming in on a day they are assigned. This is a good time to put in a pitch, again, for volunteers. I came across a list of 1 ½ pages of volunteers that we had at the time I was President years ago. We are down to 11, most of whom are Board members. Seriously consider being a volunteer. We need you!

Writing this newsletter is both exhilarating and tiring. There is so much to read to put it together every month. When I begin reading other newsletters and journals at the library, I loose track of time and have to prod myself to move on. Ed.

It is almost time for us to have our Periodical for the year and I want to put out a request for any article you may be able to write about help you received from the Immigrant Genealogical Society. Over the years, since 1979, I know a lot of you have been helped in your research. Not many of

us know the German language but, even if you don't, we have always told people you know the name, or its approximation, and that is all you need to look through our books. Please submit an article, or even a few sentences and let us know what you learned from our library. What you found here may even help someone else. We all need all the help we can get with genealogy! Ed.

Line 5 was left off last month.

The Five Communist Paradoxes

- 1- Everybody works
- 2- Even though nothing gets produced
- 3- Nothing gets produced, but production quotas were met 110%
- 4- Production quotas were met 110%, but stores had nothing to sell
- 5- Stores had nothing to sell, but the standard of living was continuously growing

KALENDER

July		
3-4	CLOSED	4th of July
11	PSIG/General Meeting/Program 2PM	
13		Mailing
28	Board of Directors	7PM
August		
8	Meeting/Program 2PM	
17		Mailing

A thought of Jo Ann Schmidt's in her column, "From the Heart", struck a chord with me. She gave a recipe for a dessert, and made a comment that I think relevant for us all. She said, "I am also reminded that part of our family history should include some of the recipes our forebears prepared....as family historians we should make sure to include these precious cooking directions in our family files as well". How I wish my Grandmother's on of who died the year before I was born had done this. In fact, she did leave one inside a cookbook put out by Warsaw, Illinois in the early part of the 1900's. The other grandmother showed me how to do her wonderful, beyond words, German potato salad. I searched years for directions and when I found them, included it in a past periodical of IGS. *Der Ahnenforscher*, Issue 143, June 2010

Just when I give up hope that the younger generation is not "catching fire" in genealogy, someone comes along that has reversed my pessimism. Her name is Elyse Doerfinger and Board Member, Warren Weimer, presented her to us at our May meeting. He said she was a dynamo and he was right! Elyse spoke about "Using Social Networks for Genealogy", such as blogs and videos. Examples that Elyse suggests as "Must read Blogs" are: GeneaBloggers – <www.geneabloggers.com>; GeneaMusings – <www.geneamusings.com>; ProGenealogists – <<http://blog.progenealogists.com>>; Little Bytes of Life – <www.littlebytesoflife.com>; Tracing the Tribe – <<http://tracingthetribe.blogspot.com>>; Midwestern Microhistory: A Genealogy Blog – <<http://midwesternmicrohistory.blogspot.com>>; Association of Graveyard Rabbits – <www.thegraveyardrabbit.com>; and finally, The Genetic Genealogist – <www.thegeneticgenealogist.com>. Elyse continued on in the blog vein with the following bits of information. She called it, "Keeping Track of it All". And we all know how hard that is! "Blog Reader: Assembles all blog posts in one place. RSS: Real Simple Syndication – the way to "subscribe" or "follow" blogs and put them into your blog reader." And the ever popular Cyndi's List has something on this front too. Elyse says to go to: "Cyndi's List: Social Networking for Genealogists – <<http://www.cyndislist.com/socialnetworking.htm>>. Now, this should keep you busy all month! This young girl puts me to shame. I really must come in to the electronic age!! The things she told us made my head spin. Keep an eye out for this girl's name because I am sure she will be a force in genealogy in the future. My husband saw Elyse on a panel on this subject at the Jamboree in Burbank this week-end, and he says, she's bright and shiny!

In the column, "Wide Web", is a site that many of our subscribers may be able to take advantage of, especially if you had early Germans in to Pennsylvania. As you know, "A land patent records the original transfer of a piece of land from the ownership of the federal government to an individual". Go to <<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>> where you will see "live access to Federal land conveyance records for the Public Land States". And as if that isn't enough to get excited about, "It also provides image access to more than three million Federal land title records for Eastern Public Land States, issued between 1820 and 1908." Now I think we can all think

this is a worthwhile site! *Der Ahnenforscher*, German Genealogy Group, Issue 143, June 2010

In the IGI (LDS International Genealogical Index) you can look for German batch numbers at <<http://www.igi-index.de/index.php?page=0&seite=batch8&lang=uk>> *Der Ahnenforscher*, *German Genealogy Group*, Issue 143, June 2010

A reminder about a website that you may forget about that has German information. Go to <<http://cyndislist.com/germany.htm>>. The list of available items in the "Category Index" is too long to go in to, but here is a sample: Mailing Lists, Newsgroups & Chat; Queries, Message Boards & Surname Lists; Records: Census, Cemeteries, Land, Obituaries, Personal, Taxes and Vital; and WorldGen Web. *Der Blumenbaum*, SGGs, V. 27, No. 4: April, May, June 2010

An article in Der Blumenbaum emphasized a "settlement community" for your immigrant. Here is the reason given. "The immigrant, after arrival at an American port, may have traveled, usually, westward, in search of land before settling down to marriage and a family. It is after a home is established and children are born, raised, and marry, that records are left behind—mostly through the church—with birth, christening, marriage, and death records—but also through other activities in this community. Therefore, the 'settlement community' offers rich opportunities for researching the immigrant's place of German origin". Besides the church, the cemeteries, libraries, an obituary file at the library, a German language newspaper, siblings, occupational or trade organization, children's Social Security application, a Turn Verein, a published history of the town or church, a World War I draft registration if the male immigrant was born between 1872 and 1900. These are just a few of the items listed in the article which asked a total of 48 questions to answer for ideas. *Der Blumenbaum*, SGGs, V. 27, No. 4: April, May, June 2010

The editor of the German-Texan Heritage Society has put out a call for journals to "encourage each of you who know something about Schnitzel to put in your two cents worth". Stephen Block, the originator of the website—Discover German-American heritage, recipes and culture--wants you to send in your recipe. The Journal, German-Texan Heritage Society, V. XXXII, No. 1. Spring 2010

Another one of our past Presidents, Barbara Freshwater, sent a good tip on California research. We all know about the Gold Rush. Barbara has a group she organized where she moved up in Northern California. A man couldn't find a grandfather who left the family in New York in 1850-51 and never went back. Barbara suggested he look in Miners Court Records. She says these are the earliest court records in California. These records also contain deaths, probates, land, and other records. Sounds like a great resource. Thanks Barbara!

Former President, Barbara Freshwater, sent an article from Smithsonian magazine about German butchers. I already had the same issue and was going to mention it to our members. If you have access to Smithsonian at your library, I heartily endorse Barbara that it is an article you must read. Perhaps just a tidbit is enough here to encourage you to search it out and read the entire article. Ed.

Sacramento German Genealogy Society's

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<http://www.sacgergensoc.org>

The regular meetings are held at 1 p.m. in St. Mark's Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at Lusk Dr. & St. Marks Way. St Mark's is located east of Country Club Plaza near Watt and El Camino Avenues.

Tuesday, June 22, 2010, and Tuesday, July 27, 2010
Presenter at both meetings: Baerbel Johnson
Title for the double session: "How to Make Use of Resources for German Research on the Internet"

Here's an exciting research concept: Baerbel Johnson, on the staff of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, is an expert on German sites on the Internet. Building on her 2009 presentation to SGGs members, she will give us a much more thorough review of resources, with website-specific handouts for each one of them – to guide us as we open these websites on our own home computers. Tuesday, August 24, 2010 Presenter: Joan Gunn
Title: "Errors in Burial Records and What to Do About Them"
Joan Gunn has been digging into and exploring German resources for a long time, sharing her discoveries with us along the way. Lately, she has been working on problems with burial records and will share her solutions with us to help us in our research.

Study Group: Individual help with your German genealogy questions is offered at 9:30 am the same day as each meeting, upstairs in the classroom wing, east end.

One of the speakers at the Genealogical Jamboree in Burbank, John T. Humphrey, CG, made a statement that scares me. His talk was titled, "The 'www' of German Genealogy". He said in the syllabus, and I quote, "The internet has totally changed the manner and way we go about looking for information on our ancestors. Traditionally we used to go to libraries, genealogy societies and court houses for sources of information." I hope you don't forget to use a resource as rich as Immigrant Genealogical Society. We have a treasure trove of books on Germany. We have one set of books that is only available in America at our library! I was President of the Society years ago and we had many volunteers. Here comes my plea, again, that you consider giving the library one week-end day a month to let people come in to take advantage of this resource. Our founders, Elisabeth Sharp, and Gerda Haffner, are no longer with us and they are both terribly missed. If you knew these women, you know the knowledge they carried in their heads. People told me they came in, said what they needed, and Elisabeth turned around, took a book off the shelf and went right to what she needed. Remember, we are carrying on and each of us has a part.

Here is a new address for a favorite website: <<http://www.germanroots.com/>> according to The Palatine Patter, No. 130, Spring Issue 2010.

If you come across the term "Morgen in your German research..." it is an old term for a measurement of land. A Morgen generally described what could be plowed in a morning. A Morgen of forest was usually larger but it also varied in size". Our acre also "originated as a measure of time. In this case, the acre was considered to be what could be plowed by one man behind an ox in one day." The *Palatine Patter*, Spring Issue, No. 130

There is now available on line 16 years of Ancestry magazine. The website is a long one: <<http://books.google.com/books/serial/FTgEAAAAMBAJ?rview=1&lr=&sa=N&start=0>&lr=&sa=N&start=0>> It is the longest site I have ever copied and I went over it more than once to make sure I got it right! The *Palatine Patter*, Spring 2010, No. 130

If you are like me, you can hardly read an article that doesn't relate to something you know about your ancestry. Gail Blankenau in her column, "Germanic Research in Everton's Genealogical Helper", mentioned something that I found in one of my German lines. "In Westphalia....sometimes, the last names of the children followed the mother's birth name, if she brought a farm to the marriage. Thus, it's the name that goes with the farm [that] is more important. I'm told that in German there's an expression, he 'married the farm'. In my case, I followed the wrong line for a short time because of this circumstance. Blankenau mentions an idea I would not have thought about. If the woman was a widow with children, the second or any subsequent husbands children, would not have his name. "This has repercussions for those interested in Y-DNA studies using German surnames..." It seems to me she has a point. Another thing I did not know, was that there are "farm histories (a record that shows a chain of land ownership)". Now I have to go back in my research and try to find which line had this occur. *Everton's Genealogical Helper*, January/ February 2009

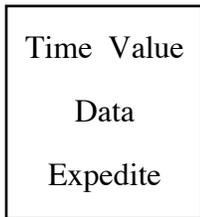
Those of us who did not come in to genealogy with any information were told to go to the census first. This is by way of telling you about the information coming out about the current 2010 Census. "Two large suburban counties flipped from having white majorities to having minorities last year. Gwinnett County, outside Atlanta, and Contra Costa County, near San Francisco, showed the change as minorities edged closer to becoming a majority of the nation's youngest children. More than 500 of the nation's more than 3,000 now fall in that category. The census estimates released Thursday also quantified the impact of the recession on former population magnets. California recorded the largest net loss of population to other states, 98,000 followed by New York and Michigan. As of July 1, 2009, racial and ethnic groups other than non-Hispanic whites accounted for 48.6 percent of all births and 48.3 percent of children younger than 5." The *New York Times National*, Friday, June 11, 2010

Our library has received three new books by Franz Schubert, titled "Trauregister aus den ältesten Kirchenbüchern Hamburgs— Von 1705 bis 1750, Volumes 1, 2, and 3. Ed.

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IGS Newsletter, July 2010

The Week in Germany 06/06/2010

Click here to view the Newsletter online

http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The_Week_in_Germany/TWIG_100611,variant=issue.html

Gearing Up for World Cup in South Africa

All eyes are on South Africa, where the 2010 World Cup kicks off on June 11. Germany's opening game is on Sunday, June 13, against Australia, and Germany fans can hardly wait for the first chance to shout "Tooor!" Keep up with the national team in South Africa in our World Cup Special. The 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/07__Culture__Lifestyle__Travel/04/05/Feature__5__WM2010.html>

Germany Ready, Confident as World Cup Start Looms

German national team coach Joachim Löw said Wednesday that his side is fully prepared and confident heading into its opening match of the 2010 World Cup against Australia. Germany Ready: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/K__Wash/2010/06/10__WM__Loew__Beckenbauer__PR.htm>

Federal Cabinet Adopts Savings Measures

By 2014 savings of some 80 billion euros must be made in order to put Germany's financial future on a sound footing once more, the Federal Cabinet decided in a special meeting. "Sound finances are the precondition for stability and prosperity," Chancellor Merkel emphasized. Austerity Package: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/P__Wash/2010/06/08__AusterityPackage__PR.html>

German Peace Prize Awarded to Israeli Author David Grossman

Israeli author David Grossman was chosen for one of Europe's most prestigious culture prizes, the German Book Trade Peace Prize. The writer and journalist is to be awarded the 25,000-euro (\$30,000) prize for his efforts at Israeli and Palestinian reconciliation. German Peace Prize:

Immigrant Genealogical Society

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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.

Permission to quote if appropriate credit is given.
Annual Membership, \$25, Family \$30
If publications desired by 1st Class mail \$35.00

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<http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/K__Wash/2010/06/10__Peace__Prize__PM.html>

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