



Immigrant
Genealogical
Society

Newsletter

Number 318

P. O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510

September 2010

September 12, 2010
ALICE VOLKERT

The Digital Camera for Genealogists

Professional Genealogist COLBY family researcher

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

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

October 10, 2010

This will be the final Pommern Special Interest Group meeting for 2010.

Speaker: Barbara Renick

Topic will be "Ask and You Shall Receive" (help on line).

Barbara frequently lectures and teaches computer labs at national family history conferences and at the Regional Family History Center in Orange, California. Over the years she has had many articles published and was an National Genealogical Society contributing editor for eleven years. She co-authored "The Internet for Genealogists: A Beginner's Guide", made two instructional videos on using the Internet for genealogy, and publishes short instructional videos online at her ZRoots.com Web site. Her last book titled "Genealogy 101: How to Trace Your Family's History and Heritage" was sponsored by the National Genealogical Society for their 100th Anniversary.

If you are going vacationing this summer, here is a suggestion. You already may be grandparents or great grandparents and already do this. But for you other people think about buying booklets aimed at children. You can always give them as presents if you don't have grandkids yourselves. The first place I go when we visit State or Federal Parks is the section with booklets for "little guys". You may find them interesting yourself. There is no better way than spending time learning about an area of the U.S. that you have visited. We are "RVer's" and I always like to relax after driving all day, well most of a day, with a book. Warren sleeps a lot during the day and if TV is available, he likes to relax that way.

I'm a history and geography buff, and it is my guess you are too. After all, genealogy is our history and where our ancestors lived. If you visit the land where your ancestors lived, after taking pictures, head to the local library. Then you are better equipped to know what to look for in the courthouse. Plus, supporting the local library is a way to honor ancestors. Libraries all over the country are experiencing cut-backs. Our local library is no longer rehiring when people retire. Ed.

Here are some more books that may interest you: "The Battle of the Bulge: A Photographic History of an American Triumph". We have all heard of this battle, the last major offensive during WWII. "This photographic history recreates the American triumph over the Nazis in one of the most harrowing battles ever fought." The book "gives full coverage to the Screaming Eagles at Bastogne, the counterattack of Patton's Third Army and the nearly 1 million men who fought on both sides. With 300 pages of images", this book will recreate a time most of us lived through. DAR *American Spirit* mag. January/February 2010

KALENDER

September		
4-5	CLOSED	Labor Day
12	General Meeting/Program	2PM
14		Mailing
October		
10	PSIG/General Meeting/Program	2PM
19		Mailing
27	Board of Directors	7PM

SACRAMENTO GERMAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY

P. O. Box 660061
Sacramento, CA 95866-0061
<http://www.sacergensoc.org>

Following is a press release for the Sacramento German Genealogy Society's monthly meeting. The regular meetings are held at 1 pm 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.

Submitted by Joan Gray-Fuson (916) 487-2563.

Tuesday, August 24, 2010

Presenter: Joan Gunn

Title: "Errors in Burial Records and What to Do About Them"

Our own 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.

One of my most favorite experiences was do research at the Library of Congress. I had lived in Rockville, Maryland for 11 years and, as a lot of us do, don't get hooked by the "genealogy bug" when it would be easiest to do research. I was 28 miles from the White House, so I was about the same distance from the National Archives. But, I was back visiting a dear friend and attending a grandson's high school graduation, in the DAR Constitution Hall, no less, and so I took advantage of going to the LOC. Since I was taking the Metro in to D.C., I didn't take my driver's license. Well, let me tell you, if you EVER plan to visit any library, take identification, especially the Library of Congress. I was NOT ALLOWED in the genealogy research room. I was banished to the Main Reading Room of the Thomas Jefferson Building! Now, if you want to be exiled to any room in the United States that is the one you want to choose! "Docent-led public tours are offered four to five times each day, Mon. thru Sat. The hour-long public tours meet in the Thomas Jefferson Bldg and are limited to 50 people. The library is located at 101 Independence Ave., S.E. Visitors' Information <www.loc.gov/loc/visit>, (202) 707-8000. Can't make it to D.C.? Try a virtual tour: <www.loc.gov/jeff-tour> DAR American Spirit mag. November/December 2006

Kory L. Meyerink, MLS, AG, FUGA, has an article that will help all you computer genealogists. The 50 Most Popular Genealogy Websites for 2010/ProGenealogists on the website <<http://www.progenealogists.com/top50genealogy 2010.htm>> "These rankings were determined in the first quarter of 2010. They are based on the popularity of websites as measured by four major ranking companies, and is explained in an article in the "Digital Genealogist", edited by Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens. The 2009 and 2008 rankings are given, in that order, in parenthesis after the website description. Sites new to the list for 2010 are so identified". It is

not a shock to see Ancestry.com as #1 again. But the second most popular and new site is <FamilyLink.com>. It is "One of the most popular FaceBook applications [that] helps people identify and network with their family. My husband has a FaceBook, but it's not something I have tried as yet. Ed.

From: "Despatches From United States Ministers to the German States and Germany, 1799-1801 & 1835-1906"

National Archives Record Group 59 (General Records of the Department of State), Roll 6, letter No. 97 sent by A. Donelson (Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary) from Berlin on 26 October 1848 and received on November 21st.

It was learned by Mr. Donelson, in regard to the Frankfurt Assembly, that a resolution had been proposed to the effect that the separate German states would become the territory of a Central (German) Power upon the extinction of the male line of the reigning families, except that each government has the right to declare its territory the immediate territory of the Central Power. In addition, each state having less than 500,000 inhabitants would immediately become the territory of the Central Power unless attached to another state by the vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Imperial Parliament.

"This resolution would mediatise or destroy the separate political existence of the following 26 states, viz:

Principality of Hohenzollern - Sigmaringen (pop. 45,000)
Principality of Hohenzollern - Hechingen (20,000)
Principality of Lichtenstein (6,300)
Principality of Waldeck (58,700)
Markgraviate of Hesse Homburg (24,300)
Duchy of Nassau (414,300)
Principality of Lippe Detmold (104,400)
Principality of Lippe Schaumburg (31,800)
Principality of Reuss Greiz (33,800)
Principality of Reuss Schleiz (74,900)
Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar (251,800)
Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg Strelitz (94,400)
Grand Duchy of Oldenburg (276,000)
Duchy of Brunswick (267,500)
Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen Hildburghausen (157,000)
Duchy of Saxe-Altenburg (127,400)
Duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (144,000)
Principality of Schwarzburg Sondershausen (57,900)
Principality of Schwarzburg Rudolstadt (68,900)
Duchy of Anhalt Dessau (62,700)
Duchy of Anhalt Bernburg & Cöthen united into one (39,100)
free town of Frankfurt (66,000)
free town of Hamburg (166,700)
free town of Lübeck (47,200)
free town of Bremen (73,500)

"Exclusive of the Danish Duchies of Holstein and Lauenburg - and the Dutch Duchies of Luxemburg and Limburg, the mediatisation of these 26 States would leave: Austria, Prussia, Saxony, Bavaria, Württemberg, Hannover, Baden, Hesse-Darmstadt, Hesse-Cassel."

From Gordon Seyffert IGS member.

The Annual Meeting of Immigrant Genealogical Society has been set by the Board of Directors for Sunday, November 14, 2010 at Society Headquarters, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd, Burbank, CA at 2:00 p.m. In addition to reports, three members will be elected to serve terms on the Board from January 2011 through December 2013.

The following Three members have been nominated and have agreed to serve if elected:

Ron Eldon Knuth, librarian and German resource; Warren Weimer, librarian; Lura Perkins, Corr. Sec'ty, research & librarian

Continuing Board Members are: Ron Grider, president; Johannes Linning, vice president; Marilyn Deatherage, treasurer; Eloise Haldeman, research & German language help; Linda Stone, mailing committee

Lura Perkins
Lura Perkins
Secretary, Board of Directors

One of the most informative booklets I have picked up in our travels, is titled "How Would You Survive in the American West?" written by Jacqueline Morley and published by Franklin Watts, a Division of Grolier Publishing. If your ancestors came West, you couldn't learn much more than this with a multi-page book. The beginning of the booklet has a "Time Spiral", a unique way to show a time-line. This is followed by "Basic Facts about Life on the Trail". There are four trails discussed: the Oregon Trail, California Trail, Santa Fe Trail, and the Mormon Trail. The illustrations, by David Antram, are lavish and would hold the attention of even young children because they are included along with dogs, buffalo, oxen, horses, prairie dogs, elk and Pronghorn sheep. The ISBN Number is 0-531-14382-1 with library binding or 0-531-15308-8 for paperback, which I have.

If your travels this summer are on the East Coast, this may be a trip you would like to take. "Recently named a National Scenic Byway, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground is a historic driving route that stretches 180 miles from Gettysburg, Pa. to Monticello...in Charlottesville, Va. This section of land along the Old Carolina Road Corridor features sites from the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and other...events. The route traverses four states (Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia) and holds {1,000's} of historic sites, including presidential homes, national parks, Main Street communities and a great concentration of Civil War battle sites." You may have had ancestors who settled early in these areas. Some Germans came early in to Pennsylvania. Many Germans came during the 1840 upheavals in Germany and fought in our Civil War. "Thanks to the area's designation as a byway, the region hosts a variety of educational and cultural programs, and will be preserved and protected under federal guidelines".
DAR *American Spirit* mag. January/February 2010

"Genealogy Sleuth-Tools and tips for studying your family history", written by Lena Anthony in the Daughters of the American Revolution magazine, offered some valuable advice, and as Sharon De-Bartolo Carmack, who we know from her books and magazine columns, says in this article, "Half of your ancestors were women. If you think your family history is important, then your whole family history is important....When researching a female ancestor, the first document, Mrs. Griffith (nee Anthony) looks for is a marriage application or marriage bond, which often includes the maiden name of the female

ancestor, and maybe even the names of her parents. Marriage applications might be held in the courthouse, the county of the church in which the women were married. In some areas, like Virginia and North Carolina, marriage bonds had to be posted by the groom prior to the wedding and included the bride's maiden name. Depending on...location...and religious affiliation, other marriage records to look for include consent affidavits and banns, which were an early American church custom equivalent to a marriage license....After pulling marriage records, Mrs. Griffith turns...to death records, including mortality schedules, cemetery records and gravestones." Here Griffiths gives a warning that rings true to me because a death record of a German male ancestor gave an entirely wrong Kreis for his birth. "Historically, our ancestors tended to cluster together in their relationships," DeBartolo Carmack says. "They signed each other's deeds, witnessed each other's weddings, even married each other's siblings. Mrs. Griffith says the key to finding information among centuries of archived documents is to know what questions to ask—and how to ask them. Keep your request simple, and librarians and archivists will be more likely to help...Instead of asking seven questions in an e-mail, just ask one... Searching for female ancestors sometimes requires reading between the lines. Could the elderly woman who lived with the female ancestor be her mother? Could her grandson's middle name be her maiden name?" My husband's middle name is his mother's maiden name....Like with any genealogy search, verifying the information is a critical step." Verify, verify, verify, could be your mantra! "Read documents thoroughly and then reread them word for word, Mrs. Griffith says. "That special surname you're looking for may be hidden in the 17th paragraph of a will, but if you don't read every line, you'll miss it". Here is someplace I fell down when I began research. "Also take detailed notes on each document or book you read...It pays to be very organized and detailed...She writes down the title of every book she picks up, where she looked at it, what relevant information it contained and whether she made a copy of it." I know that seems like a lot to do, but you will probably be glad you did. "Writing a biographical sketch of an ancestor helps DeBartolo Carmack discover gaps in the story and what documents she might want to revisit. 'I start with the bare-bones information, and as I gain new information, I add to it.'"
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Burbank, CA, 91510-7369

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IGS Newsletter, September 2010

The Week in Germany 08/13/2010

We are traveling during early August so we're unable to put a time sensitive "Week in Germany" here.

Click here to view the Week in Germany online

<http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The_Week_in_Germany/TWIG_100813,variant=issue.html>

If your travels take you West this year, here are some places you may want to stop and waylay for a while: Donner Memorial State Park and Emigrant Trail Museum, 12593 Donner Pass Rd, Truckee, CA; Eastern Oregon Museum on the Old Oregon Trail, Third and Wilcox, Haines, OR; Ft Laramie Nat'l Historic Site, Ft Laramie, WY; The High Desert Museum, 59800 S. Hiway 97, Bend, OR; Jefferson Nat'l Expansion Memorial/Museum of Westward Expansion, 11 N. 4th St., St. Louis, MO; Nevada Co. Historical Museum; Nevada City, CA; Santa Fe Trail Ctr/ Ft. Larned Nat'l Historic Site, Rte 3, Larned, KS; Willa Cather Historical Ctr/Nebraska State Historical Society, 338 N. Webster Rd, Red Cloud, NE. I hope these give you some ideas of places to go! From the book, "*Daily Life in a Covered Wagon*", Paul Erickson, Puffin Books

If your travels this summer are on the East Coast, this may be a trip you would like to take. "Recently named a National Scenic Byway, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground is a historic driving route that stretches 180 miles from Gettysburg, Pa. to Monticello...in Charlottesville, VA. This section of land along the Old Carolina Road Corridor features sites from the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and other...events. The route traverses four states (Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia) and holds {1,000's} of historic sites, including presidential homes, national parks, Main Street communities and a great concentration of Civil War battle sites." You may have had ancestors who settled early in these areas. Some Germans came early into Pennsylvania. Many Germans came during the 1840

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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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upheavals in Germany and fought in our Civil War. "Thanks to the area's designation as a byway, the region hosts a variety of educational and cultural programs, and will be preserved and protected under federal guidelines". DAR *American Spirit* mag. January/February 2010

I received a most welcome phone call today from member, Gordon Seyffert. He sent the information about Civil War veterans that was in a previous newsletter. He suggested we include our e-mail address for articles I have requested for the Periodical. Warren has added it below Officers and Chairmen in the box about the Society.