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Number 327

P. O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510

June 2011

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## June 5, 2011 Cheri Mello

National Board Certified Teacher –  
into Portuguese ancestry and DNA  
FIND-A-GRAVE  
A Virtual Cemetery on the Internet-improved

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

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

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### July 10, 2011- Joint IGS/PSIG Day

Kerry Bartels

Wide experience as an archivist now  
with the National Archives/CA

"My Pommeranian research" & Military Records

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**Occasionally it is time to go to the “bottom-of-the-pile”** and work up to the top. It is amazing what you can find there! Here is what I hope you will find as gems. As many of you know, Elisabeth Sharp was one of the founders of IGS along with Gerda Hafner. Neither of them is with us now, and both are sorely missed.

Following is a list that Elisabeth created when she gave a lesson she called, “German Research Class”. I know that this class was near the beginning of my research, because none of these names meant anything to me. I am sure that every one of the books she talked about were in our library, and so they would still be there. The first Kreis or county she chose to tell us about was Baden-Württemburg. I remember she told us that this was where the people were most interested in genealogy and we had the biggest number of village books called, “Ortssippenbücher”. These books can contain the entire genealogies of families who have lived in a village for hundreds of years. In fact, Earl Alexanderson, who was Treasurer of the IGS Society when I joined in 1988, said he came in one day, and Elisabeth found his village and he had either six or seven, or even more, generations of one of his families. Now, I don’t want you to think it will happen to you, but come in and give it a try.

Here are the books she included on the list for Baden-Württemburg.

1. Auswanderungen aus Baden und dem Breisgau...im 18.  
Jahrhundert Stuttgart 1980”, by Werner Hacker.

2. “Auswanderung aus dem Raum der Spaeteren  
Hohenzollerischen Lande nach Suedosteuropa in 17. und 18.

Jahrhundert”, by Werner Hacker.

3. “Emigrants from Fellbach, 1735-1930, by Clifford  
Neal Smith.

4. “Emigrants from the German Fuerstenberg Territories (Baden  
and the Palatinate) to America and Central Europe, 1712, 1737,  
1787”, translated by Clifford Neal Smith.

5. “Immigrants to America and Central Europe from Beihingen  
am Neckar, Baden-Württemburg”, translated by Clifford Neal  
Smith.

6. “Kurpfaelzesche Auswanderer vom Unteren Neckar, Stuttgart”,  
1983, by Werner Hacker.

And lastly, all the books titled, “The Württemburg Emigration  
Index”, by Trudy Schenk, et al.

You may contact the library, if you are not local, to see  
which of these books we offer searches on. A nominal fee is  
charged for our research volunteers to check for your name(s)  
of interest.

**In the April newsletter I mentioned I was on the way to a neurologist.** Although he said he couldn’t believe it, it seems I had a TIA. This diagnosis was confirmed by an ophthalmologist and one of the lenses on my glasses was fitted with a prism film. Three weeks later, my vision returned to seeing one item instead of two. Hooray!

## KALENDAR

June		
5	General Meeting/Program	2PM
10-12		Jamboree
14		Mailing
19	CLOSED	Father's Day
July		
2-3	CLOSED	4th of July
10	PSIG/General Meeting/Program	2PM
12		Mailing
27	Board of Directors	7PM

**Trudy Schenk spoke at one of our October seminars years ago.** Here is some of the information she included in her handout. "Some of the earliest documented migration began as early as 1650, after the destruction of the Thirty-year War, which was especially devastating in the area along the Rhein River from Heidelberg down to the Swiss border....The land needed to be colonized again. Many of the men, who were soldiers from other areas of the country, stayed and married in the towns and villages where they were stationed....People from bordering states came and helped settle, in particular, Bavarians came into the states of Baden, Hessen, Pfalz, and Württemberg. From this time on, migration within Europe was a constant thing....Some Swiss Mennonites driven out of Switzerland went into Alsace, others into the Kraichgau in Baden, to the Phalz, the area of Frankfurt a.M., the Krefeld district in the Rheinland. Later, they went in to East and West Prussia, in the Hesse-Kassel region and Hannover. Around 1710, within Europe, Silesians began to migrate into the Posen district near the Polish border....Many of their descendants later ended up in Bessarabia and Odessa in the beginning of the 19th Century. Silesians also crossed the border into Bohemia and Czechoslovakia in the early 18th Century. Toward the mid to end of the 18th Century, Germans from all corners began migrating to Polish regions, Romania, and later to Russia, where they established and colonized areas which no one else would touch. Many Catholics from Baden and the Hesse states went to Hungary, also known as the Banat, and to the Bukowina, Romania." I hope I haven't overwhelmed you, but this will point out to you that you may have a name that is antithetical to the area where you find them because of this migration. Or, you may be looking in entirely the wrong place. You probably already know how hard this genealogy game is, but keep plugging.

**An Oregon database put online at the end of January** could prove of interest. The Oregon State Hospital in Salem opened as the Oregon State Insane Asylum in 1883, reaching its peak in the 1950's with more than 3,000 patients. The 1975 movie "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" was filmed there. Many canisters of 'Cremains' had been in storage there for many years. There are 3,476 of these canisters yet to be claimed. Most of these cremated remains are of patients at the Hospital, others are of prison inmates and patients from four medical facilities in Oregon. <[www.oregon.gov/OHA/mentalhealth/osh/cremains.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/mentalhealth/osh/cremains.shtml)> *Los Angeles Times*, Saturday, May 14, 1911

**You may have found that your ancestor came to America on a "Barque" (esp. U.S.), bark.** "A sailing ship of three or more masts having the foremasts rigged square and the aftersmast rigged fore and aft." This comes from "Collins Discovery Encyclopedia, 1st ed. © HarperCollins Publishers 2005." *Rabbit Tracks*, V. 28, No. 1, Spring 2011.

**"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."** Mark Twain

**It is with great humility that I apologize to any German speakers/readers** for my error in spelling the German word for "No" in the May newsletter. But, it brought about a good result, in that I got a spelling lesson from Dr. Eldon Knuth, a member of our Board and volunteer at our Library. I already knew about the pronunciation of "ie" and "ei" in German. With these two letters, you have the stress on the second letter. Thus, "No" in German is "Nein", not "Nien". So lessons learned 20 years ago, need to be relearned sometimes. Thank, Eldon!

**David Rempel Smucker contributed this to the journal, Mennonite Family History.** "A 1988 genealogy shows that one Reidenbach Mennonite couple had 16 children born between 1927 and 1948. Eight of the siblings in that family of 16 married eight siblings in another Mennonite family of nine siblings." Wow! Talk about cousins. I feel cheated because I have exactly one first cousin. Another thing he mentioned is very interesting. "One Amish Mennonite from Lott, Texas was chosen 'by lot' for the ministry. The phrase "by lot" refers to the traditional Mennonite and Amish method of choosing ministers." April 2011 *Mennonite Family History*

**Here is something that staggers the imagination**—at least, it does mine! This was first published in Paths to the Past, V.XL, #2. No. San Diego Gen. Soc. in an article by Phyllis Young. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services "has an online program that provides access to many historical records that are in their care. The records available are: Certificate files 1906-1956, Alien Registration forms 1940-1944, Registry files 1929-1944, Alien files numbered below 8 million. Information on each of these file types and what they may contain is on the website. Index search requests or record requests may be made online or by mail. The website address is: <<http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy>> You are asked to pay \$20.00 for the search for a name of a person who is deceased. If the record is less than one hundred years old, you may be asked to prove the death of the person who is the focus of a search. Questions about the genealogy program may be e-mailed to: <[Genealogy.USCIS@dhs.gov](mailto:Genealogy.USCIS@dhs.gov)> If you happen to be in the vicinity of Washington, D.C., you might want to visit the USCIS Historical Reference Library at 111 Massachusetts Avenue NW, First Floor (Room 1000), Washington, D.C. 20529-2180. The Library is open to non-USCIS researchers by appointment only. To inquire about an appointment, contact them at: <[CISHistory.Library@dhs.gov](mailto:CISHistory.Library@dhs.gov)> *Rabbit Tracks*, V. 28, No. 1, Spring 2011

**I mentioned in the newsletter last month about <Mocavo.com>**. Here is more information leading to its usefulness. "Dick Eastman, writer of Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and a top blogger in the field, wrote, 'All my future genealogy searches will start on <Mocavo.com>. I've been using the site for awhile during its testing and have been very impressed. I suspect you will always have better luck searching for your own surnames of interest on Mocavo.com than on any other search engine.'" Now, I plan to see if I can find my Leake's before 1823 in New York. *Questing Heirs* Genealogical Society Newsletter, V. 44, No. 4, April 2011

If you are a “history buff”, you will love this information written by Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck. ‘French Huguenots constitute the largest number of colonists to arrive in the British colonies in North America prior to 1710 who were not English.” Here are some of their descendants whom you know well. “George Washington’s earliest American forbear was Nicholas Martiau who settled in Jamestown in 1623. In Massachusetts Bay were the Huguenots Paul Revere and Andre Faneuil.” Those people around Boston know Faneuil Hall. “Henry Laurens of South Carolina served as President of the Continental Congress, and Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox, was a significant figure in the Revolutionary War in the South. Huguenots were peripatetic. It was not unusual for them to have resided in two or four nations in Europe and in just as many colonies in North America. Accordingly, reconstruction of their pedigrees is a challenging but rewarding genealogical exercise.” I often hear people who visit our library say they have Huguenot ancestors. Here is the definition of a Huguenot in Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary©1961: “A French Protestant in the 16th and 17th centuries; one of the members of the Reformed or Calvinistic communion.” And here is the reason you may not find civil records for a ancestor. “About 60 Quaker missionaries came to America between 1655 and 1662. Since they did not observe the sacraments of other branches of Christianity, they maintained their records of births, marriages, and burials. Even after independence, Quakers did not allow civil marriages. By 1750, they were the third largest religious denomination in the colonies with 250 meeting houses. (The Anglicans had 289 churches, and the Congregationalists had 465 churches.)” Don’t discount the fact that you may have had people who fought on both sides in our Revolutionary War. “By early 1780, George Washington’s Continental Army numbered 9,000. Americans serving in the army of King George III at the same time numbered 8,000. Accordingly, genealogists need to consider the records of both sides for the roles of their ancestors, some of whom have paper trails on both sides of the conflict.” And, consider this: “America afforded a luxury that Europeans simply did not enjoy—the acquisition of land. To safeguard the family’s interest in this new found asset led to the creation of land and probate records on a scale theretofore never envisioned.” And, finally, this information about Virginia. “It (Virginia) was the recipient of banished criminals. In the 18th Century the Germans and Scots-Irish overtook the Piedmont from the tidewater English and gave the colony a varied population.” *Ancestors West*, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, V. 37, Nos. 1 & 2, Fall 2010/Winter 2011

Until recently when my husband was bitten by the “Genealogy Bug” he always said that my research would go in to a garbage bin when I died. Well, have things changed. Now, he has as much information as I, and I know he would never throw out my research. Here is a good idea for all of us from two women in Santa Barbara. “We encourage all to develop instructions or provide in your will, in the event of death

or incapacitation, instructions to your heirs about your wishes for your research, collections, and compilations”. *Ancestors West*, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, V. 37, Nos. 1 & 2, Fall 2010/Winter 2011

We volunteers sometimes trade times and Warren Weimer asked me to take his Wednesday duty this past week. It turned out to be an interesting day. A woman came in and stayed about four hours and was able to trace one of her lines all the way from the 1850’s to 1701 in a set of Franz Shubert books. To say she was happy would be understating the fact. So, come on in, and see if you can do the same, or even beat her record! Ed.

I always have to snicker a little when I think of the use of the name “Windsor” for the current English Royal Family. Because, as many of you know, they were German. Here is the history of the name change to Windsor. “They seem like the quintessential English family. But from the 1714 ascension of George I—the ‘Elector of Hanover’—until the early 20th century, the royal clan was predominately and proudly German. Once war broke out with Germany in 1914, though, those Teutonic roots became a dangerous liability. So in July 1917, King George V announced in the London Times that his family was changing its name from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha—which had replaced Hanover when Queen Victoria married Prince Albert in 1840—to Windsor, after his favorite castle. When news of the name change reached Germany, George’s cousin, Kaiser Wilhelm II, quipped that he was looking forward to the next production of that famous Shakespearean play, The Merry Wives of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha”. THE WEEK, April 29, 2011

## SAVE THE DATE!!! San Fernando Valley Genealogical Society is happy to announce a Special Event

Is sponsoring a Genealogy Education and Research trip to the

L. A. Regional Family History Center  
10741 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A.  
Friday, June 3, 2011

FREE BUS  
Courtesy Greig Smith, L.A. City Councilman

All ARE WELCOME

Depart: 9:15 a.m. from Chatsworth Train Station  
10038 Old Depot Plaza Road, Chatsworth, CA  
Return: Leave FHC 3:00 p.m. Bring a Sack Lunch

To reserve your seat—Notify:  
Donna Chellew or Lynn Neill  
(818) 341-1466 (818) 360-9792  
rchel53483@aol.com meneill@aol.com

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### **Exports & Imports Reach Record Highs in March**

Germany's economy continued its robust recovery in March, attaining records in both exports and imports, according to new statistics released by the Federal Statistical Office.

<[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_pr/P\\_Wash/2011/05/11\\_Exports\\_March\\_PR.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/P_Wash/2011/05/11_Exports_March_PR.html)>

### **First German Census in Two Decades**

Germans will be counted this year for the first time in a national census since the country was reunited in 1990. German Census: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_pr/GIC/2011/05/09\\_Census\\_PR.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/GIC/2011/05/09_Census_PR.html)>

### **Vettel Cruises to Third Victory in Turkey**

While the podium in Formula One keeps moving to different tracks, the same man always seems to be at the top of it. At the Turkish Grand Prix on May 8 Sebastian Win in Istanbul:

<[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_pr/P\\_Wash/2011/05/09\\_Vettel\\_Turkey\\_PR.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/P_Wash/2011/05/09_Vettel_Turkey_PR.html)>

**Endless Europe:** Thousands Flock to EU Open House in Washington. The German Embassy welcomed some 6,000 visitors on May 7, 2011, as part of the fifth annual EU Open House program. They enjoyed fun activities for the whole family.

EU Open House 2011: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_pr/GIC/EU\\_Open\\_House\\_2010/2011/11\\_EU\\_Open\\_House\\_2011\\_PR.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/GIC/EU_Open_House_2010/2011/11_EU_Open_House_2011_PR.html)>

**Protect My School:** Germany and United Nations Launch Global Call for Pictures

Peter Wittig, Germany's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, and the UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, Radhi-

### **Immigrant Genealogical Society**

1310 W Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA  
Mail to: P. O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510-7369  
(818) 848-3122  
<http://www.ImmigrantGenSoc.org>

### **Officers & Chairmen**

Ron Grider, President ..... (661)259-6648  
Lura Perkins, Secretary ..... (818)896-9685  
Marilyn Deatherage, Treas. ..... (818)348-6444  
Lura Perkins, Research Chair ..... (818)896-9685  
Linda and Warren Stone Publications .. (818)998-1735  
[warrenstone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:warrenstone@sbcglobal.net)

### **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.

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ka Coomaraswamy, have jointly launched the campaign Protect my School: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_pr/GIC/2011/05/13\\_School\\_PR.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/GIC/2011/05/13_School_PR.html)>

**International Parliamentary Scholarships (IPS) Program in Berlin.** Are you interested in politics? Would you like to gain insight into the workings of German democracy? The International Parliamentary Scholarship program in Berlin could be for you. The application deadline is June 30. IPS Program: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_pr/K\\_Wash/2011/02/17\\_IPS\\_Program\\_PR.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/K_Wash/2011/02/17_IPS_Program_PR.html)>