



Immigrant  
Genealogical  
Society

# Newsletter

Number 339

P. O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510

June 2012

## Immigrant Genealogical Society

**June 3rd:**

Researching Mormon Family History Center On-line Historical Records

**Lorna Rice**

Renowned Genealogist in the South Bay Area of Los Angeles and Director of the Torrance Family History Center

Library open 12:00 till 5:00 Come for the fellowship!

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

## Immigrant Genealogical Society

**Library open 12 noon-5pm  
1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA**

**July 8, 2012 JOINT MEETING IGS/PSIG  
Karl L. Weiler**

Director for 11 years at a Fresno, CA LDS Family History Center, now a volunteer at the Murrieta, CA Family History Center

"Recent Changes to the Family Search WebPages"

**FREE programs- please attend!!!**

### Should I research in Germany?

Here's an interesting thought, albeit one you may have heard before. Genealogical "newbies" frequently assume that to do research on one's German family history it will ultimately be necessary to travel to Germany. They may fail to realize the extensive filming of records carried out by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) and obtainable at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, or for affordable fees through the many outlying Family History Centers. Or, while they may look to internet sources as a starting point, they frequently ignore the many physical holdings to be found in American libraries -- including those of your own Immigrant Genealogical Society.

In reading through the *Kashubian Association of North America Newsletter* for Winter 2011, I noticed yet another article on the BallinStadt Emigration Museum in Hamburg. I was expecting a promotional piece, and to a large extent I was not surprised by anything I read. But one item caught my eye. If I once knew it, I did not remember that the computer workstations one may view on-site at the

Museum provide a link to "the world's leading network of genealogical databases provided by ancestry.com. In other words, you can travel to Germany if you wish. It will no doubt elicit from you the same reaction you'd have in visiting our Ellis Island. But the Hamburg Passenger Lists digitized and indexed by the state archive in Hamburg can be viewed without a trip overseas. As the article notes, "The Generation Network GmbH has displayed the Hamburg Passenger Lists online since January 2007 at <<http://www.ancestry.de>> / <<http://www.ancestry.com>>." Thus, from your own home or the library down the street, the database and its linked digital images are readily available to you now! --Ed.

### Understanding Germanic Church Records

Thanks to the "Wide Web" section in Issue 161 of *Der Ahnenforscher*, the German Genealogy Group Newsletter, for this tip: The Maryland State Archives explains record terminology used in both Catholic and Lutheran church books on their web site at: <<http://guide.mdsa.net/viewer.cfm?page=churchrecords>>.

## KALENDER

<b>June</b>			
3	General Meeting/Program	2PM	
8-10		Jamboree	
13		Mailing	
17	CLOSED	Father's Day	
<b>July</b>			
4	CLOSED	4th of July	
8	PSIG/General Meeting/Program	2PM	
18		Mailing	
25	Board of Directors	7PM	

## Kashubian Surnames

And, while I'm on the subject of the latest issue of the *Kashubian Association of North America Newsletter*, contributor Peter von Pazatka Lipinsky <lipinsky@shaw.ca> has an article which mentions a three-volume reference work on old Kashubian families and their coats of arms. The books are available from Beata Zmuda-Trzebiatowska <bit@grafiko.gda.pl>, and she can check to see if your family name is listed.

Here are the named families that were cited as examples: Rekowski, Trzebiatowski, Palubicki, Brzezinski, Chamier, Cieminski, Wnuk, Janta, Pych, Zmu-da, Jutrzenka, Malotki, Mrozek, Zawadzki, Pruski, Gostomski, Gruchalla, Durawa, Ossowski, Tesmar, Cisewski, Gliszczynski, Kiedrowski, Kistowski, Pazatka, Pupka, Modrzejewski, and Pradzynski. If yours is one of these names, or seems similar, then you may a new research path to pursue! And, for those of you who may not recognize this group, the Kashubians were and are an ethnic minority generally associated with West Prussia and with Danzig. They began as a grouping of Pomeranian tribes, identify now as Poles, but speak a dialect that most cannot understand. --Ed.

## Jewish Deportations, 1942

Sometimes one finds a lengthy and detailed article on a subject of historical interest in a place one wouldn't expect to find such an article. Such is the case with one 20-page item appearing in the December 2011 issue of *The Palatine Immigrant*. The entire piece is translated from the *Mitteilungen des Wetzlarer Geschichtsvereins*, 41. Band, Wetzlar 2003, S. 167-199. Written by Monica Kingreen and translated by Clara Harsch, the English title is "The Deportation of the Jews from the City and Kreis Wetzlar 1942." No explanation is given by the editor as to why this article was included in a publication devoted primarily to Palatine migrations, but there is a hint given in the introduction to the author of the article: "The books and articles written by Monica Kingreen are without equal. They serve as an inspiration to scholars from all over the world. Her original research covering thirty Jewish communities and seven hundred years of history recreates, in exquisite detail, Jewish life in an entire region." And so we cite it. --Ed.

## East European Genealogical Society, Inc.

This Winnipeg-based society recently thanked IGS for its membership renewal, and suggested that we (that is, we members of IGS) consider submitting articles or research success stories relating to Eastern Europe to their quarterly. To do so, contact their Publications Chair, William F. Hoffman, at: <info@eegsociety.org> or call the Society at (204) 989-3292.

## "German Immigrants in American Church Records" series

Many IGS members may not know it, but because of our Pommern group we have been fortunate to receive the Roger Minert's church records series pertaining to

German immigrants in Wisconsin. They are on a lower (WI) shelf directly to your right as you enter the IGS Library from the street. And, we have also received a similar volume on Northern Illinois, although it is not as yet catalogued. --Ed.

## Pomeranian Heritage Websites

Thanks to *Dat Pommersche Blatt* of the Pommerscher Verein Central Wisconsin, January 2012 issue, for this list of Pommern heritage groups with web sites:

IGS - <<http://www.immigrantgensoc.org>>  
our publication, Die Pommerscher Leute  
<<http://www.pomeranianews.com>>  
Pommerscher Verein Central Wisconsin  
<<http://www.pvcw.org>>  
Pommern Regional Group of Minnesota  
<[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnprgm/ PRG.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnprgm/PRG.html)>  
Pommerscher Verein Freistadt  
<<http://www.pommerschervereinfreistadt.org>>  
German Club at Cole Camp, MO  
<<http://www.colecampmo.com/org/german/index.html>>  
American/Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society  
<<http://www.ashhs.org>>  
Plattduutsche Vereen of Seattle, WA  
<<http://germanheritagesociety.org/Plattdeutsche.html>>  
Institute for Plautdietsch Studies  
<<http://www.plautdietsch.ca>>

Do any readers know of others that should be mentioned??

## Winterlude, a Celebration of Shared Norwegian-Canadian Heritage

This festival is the most popular tourist destination in the Canadian capital of Ottawa. This occurs each year during three weekends in February. IGS members may read more by scanning the 2-page article at the center of the Spring 2012 issue of *News of Norway*, received at your library.

## Memory Books of Ukraine

The above-mentioned William F. Hoffman has been an editor for two decades, specializes in Polish genealogy, and has written a book on Polish surnames. In the Winter 2011 issue of *East European Genealogist*, he shares with his readers a 12-page treatment of a series of books honoring (by city or region) Ukrainians who died during World War II. His example for teaching purposes is the *Ivano-Frankivs'k Oblast'* book. Those who want to learn more about Ukrainian regions might look beyond the WWII context of this article.

## "Death Records: More than Just Tombstones"

That's the title of an issue-long article by noted St. Louis genealogist Anne Carter Fleming in the Winter 2011 issue of the *St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly*. While the examples pertain to Missouri, the knowledge shared is a comprehensive look at how to find death information on your relatives in U.S. records. This is not a publication that your IGS library receives, but one to which your editor subscribes. If interested contact your editor, Gordon Seyffert <gordonseyffer@me.com>--Ed.

## Gazeteer of Alsace-Lorraine

Our thanks go out to the Illinois Chapter of "Palatines to America" for the news that a 1901-03 two volume gazeteer of communities in this formerly German region has been digitized and placed on line by the Marriott Library of the University of Utah. Volumes 1 & 2 of *Das Reichsland Elsass-Lothringen* break the alphabet between them at "M." Here you may discover that even a small town of about 300 population rates its own brief history, along with other useful information. These works may be found at: <<http://content.lib.utah.edu/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=/mli>>, where one will have to select these particular books from a list.

## Palatines to America National Conference

Last month in our newsletter we began the issue with a general notice of this June 14-16 meeting in Indianapolis. However, for space reasons we did not list the expected presentations. Here are some titles (some shortened) -- [by speaker F. Warren Bittner]: the Impossible Immigrant, Understanding Illegitimacy, the Elusive Immigrant, and Reading to Put Your Family into Historical Context, plus a workshop on Gothic handwriting; [and by speaker Michael John Neill]: Crossing the Pond, Germanic Research with Ancestry.com™, What's New for German Researchers on FamilySearch, German Genealogy Websites, Online Search Techniques, Creating Your Own Blog, and Determining Your Own Migration Chain, plus a workshop on research and writing practice. Those pre-registered get to visit The Athenaeum (Das Deutsche Haus) from 4 to 8 p.m. on the 14th, including tour, social, buffet, and a "German Topic Lecture."

## Irish research

Calendars of grants of probate of wills and letters of administration, beginning in 1858, are being carefully catalogued online by The National Archives of Ireland. See the web site for the Council of Genealogical Organizations. Also, the British Genealogy News and Events page says that the Northern Ireland equivalents are also available in database format at <[http://www.proni.gov.uk/index/search\\_the\\_archives/will\\_calendars.htm](http://www.proni.gov.uk/index/search_the_archives/will_calendars.htm)>.

## New entries in the Mecklenburg-Kontakte Database

How many of you have Mecklenburg ancestors? And of those who responded "Yes," how many of you are aware of the on-line source for the names of others (Germans and Americans, mostly) who are researching your surnames found there? Not many, I suspect. So, for those of you who are interested, look at this message just received in early May (English version, as the mailing list that carries these messages is bilingual):

"In the previous month the surnames below were added / changed to the SurnameDatabase <[www.Mecklenburg-Kontakte.de](http://www.Mecklenburg-Kontakte.de)>.

- please inform me, whenever you noticed obsolete email addresses
- now you can change/modify your entries via: <[www.emecklenburg.de/Mecklenburg/l44.php](http://www.emecklenburg.de/Mecklenburg/l44.php)>

Kind regards / mit freundlichen Grüßen, D. Garling <[Dieter.Garling@gmx.de](mailto:Dieter.Garling@gmx.de)>

"Ahlgrim Ahnsehl Ander Ansehl Arends Aul Barkow Baumgarten Beger Benthin Bernitt Besendahl Boden Bössack Bruhn Brun Bützow Croeger Daedelow Dinse Dobbeck Dömel Fiedler Fre-denhangen Friedrichson Garling Geufke Gierloff Gohlke Graf Hoya Israel Jahning Jordan Karnatz Kasperschmid Kleffel Kobahn Koepke Kolhoff Kotz Kreyenbring Kroeger Krueger Kuhlow Kurth Maass Maassen Mecklenburg Meyns Moeller Müller Paschen Passow Penzhorn Pfizner Plötz Paschen Prenß Rickmann Riss Rivedstahl Rochow Rose Rueckert Schmaal Schmeichel Schröder Schulz Schulze Siemers Simersen Simmersen Springborn Staete Stegemann Stegmänn Steinford Steinhoff Strasen Tarnow Teen Tetze Thederan Thedram Tidt Tidte Timm Tintke Toewe Vierk Voss Warbend Warbende Wendorf Wiechmann Wiese Wille Winterberg Zentner Ziemer"

Note that this "Database" site is also bilingual -- and is easy to use! --Ed.

## Pomeranian geographical name index

Some of you may find interesting the "Pächter" (leaseholder) index that has begun to be published by the Sedina-Archiv quarterly, issue 1 for 2012. The Kreise covered in this issue are: Bergen, Franzburg, Grimmen and Griefswald. This material was extracted from an 1859 publication from Stralsund. No indication was given as to how long this series will run, but suffice to say that interested readers should continue to follow this quarterly until it covers the desired area.

## The sourcebook that started it all for me....

If some of you are still unable to read German, but would like to develop that skill, then I've a recommendation for you! In reading the latest *Der Ahnenforsher* (newsletter of the German Genealogy Group, Inc. of Kings Park, NY), I learned that one can still acquire a copy of the booklet I first used when beginning my own quest for the ability to read those church records. It is: *If I can, You can Decipher Germanic Records*, by the late Edna M. Bentz. Her daughter still sells this book for \$17.50, and it is also available on Amazon. I'd write to Tamara J. Bentz, at 9150-187 Gramercy Drive, San Diego, CA 92123-40001, or at: <[tjbentz@prodigy.net](mailto:tjbentz@prodigy.net)>. I say that because when I recommended this book before and she found out about it, she contacted me to express her thanks (and let me know of her mother's passing). I like a personal touch, and so I have to favor contacting the author's daughter personally.... --Ed.

## Used books...

Your editor took some time off to visit some used book stores recently. I always look for German-language books, but seldom find anything relating to history. Does anyone in Southern California have knowledge of a store with a trove of German history? I have an upcoming extract from one 1917 compendium that I found through a recent search in Pasadena. It compares the eastern expansion of 12th century Germany with the 18th and 19th century expansions of our own country. --Ed.

Immigrant Genealogical Society  
P O. Box 7369  
Burbank, CA, 91510-7369

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
North  
Hollywood, CA  
Permit No. 801

Time	Value
Data	*****
Expedite	

#### DNA Lectures

Have you been looking at the prospectus for the upcoming SCGS Jamboree in June? While this will be of interest only to researchers near Burbank, CA, where the event is held, many of our members do live within easy driving distance. And there are several lectures over the course of three days that address DNA research. Here they are:

Friday @ 1:30 Stephen P. Morse, Ph.D. - "Genealogy Beyond the Y Chromosome: Autosomes Exposed"

Friday @ 4:30 Bennett Greenspan - "Family Tree DNA" (his company)

Saturday @ 2 Drew Smith, MLS - "DNA 101: The Basics for Beginners"

Saturday @ 3:30 Drew Smith, MLS - "DNA 102: Understanding and Using Test Results"

Sunday @ 8:30 Stephen P. Morse, Ph.D. - "From DNA to Genetic Genealogy"

#### Spiegel Online International

<<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/>

#### The Week in Germany

Click here to view the Newsletter online  
<[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The\\_Week\\_in\\_Germany/TWIG\\_120511.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/newsletter/The_Week_in_Germany/TWIG_120511.html)>

#### Ambassador Ammon Meets with Ohio Governor John Kasich.

Ambassador Ammon met with Ohio Governor John Kasich for an in-depth discussion, during which they agreed to enhance the cooperation between Germany and the State of Ohio in vocational training and manufacturing.

Meeting with Ohio Governor: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_\\_pr/P\\_\\_Wash/2012/05/10Ohio.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/P__Wash/2012/05/10Ohio.html)>

#### Visit Germany and France in One Stop at Annual EU Open House on May 12.

This year, in a sign of the close friendship that binds the two European neighbors, the German Embassy

#### 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 ..... (805)262-2239  
Lura Perkins, Secretary ..... (818)896-9685  
Marilyn Deatherage, Treas. ..... (818)348-6444  
Lura Perkins, Research Chair ..... (818)896-9685  
Gordon Seyffert Editor..... (626)345-0658  
[gordonseyffert@me.com](mailto:gordonseyffert@me.com)

Warren Stone Assistant Editor & 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.

Permission to quote if appropriate credit is given.

Annual Membership, \$25, Family \$30

If publications desired by 1st Class mail \$35.00

© Immigrant Genealogical Society, 2012

and the French Embassy will offer a joint open house on Saturday, May 12, on the grounds of the French Embassy at 4101 Reservoir Road in Northwest Washington, DC.

Joint Open House: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_\\_pr/P\\_\\_Wash/2012/05/04OpenHouse.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/P__Wash/2012/05/04OpenHouse.html)>

#### Westerwelle Lays Out Six-Point European Growth Pact

Foreign Minister Westerwelle emphasized the Government's equally strong focus on both budgetary discipline and growth policy as means of overcoming the sovereign debt crisis in Europe. "Our efforts are both pragmatic and far-sighted."

European Growth Pact: <[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/\\_\\_pr/P\\_\\_Wash/2012/05/11WesterwelleEU.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/P__Wash/2012/05/11WesterwelleEU.html)>