



Immigrant Genealogical Society

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

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

Deutsch in Amerika: Episch=lyrische Poesie (Chicago, 1892)

What a find! Your editor paid all of one dollar at his local library's book sale for a book that could be titled, in English, "German-American Poets of the 19th Century." It has not only selected poems by these persons, but also in each case a brief biography that generally tells when and where they were born. Your editor decided to prepare an index that included the birth places, if in Germany or in German-speaking parts of Europe. Should someone find a surname of interest, more information can be provided by sending an email to your editor <gordonseyffert@me.com>. This index will be serialized over the next half-year. Here are the persons with "A" and "B" surnames:

Alberti, Leopold - Rendsburg; **Alpers**, Wilhelm - Harburg an der Elbe; **Andriessen**, Hugo - Langenberg bei Düsseldorf; **Anneke**, Mathilde Franziska geb. Giesler - Blankenstein an der Ruhr; **Arnemann**, Alfred - auf der Domaine Elbingen, Hannover; **Asmus**, Georg - Gießen, Hessen; **Aulenbach**, Karl - Homburg, Rheinpfalz; **Backhaus**, Carl Friedrich Eberhard - Petershagen, Westfalen; **Becker**, August - in dem hessischen Städtchen in der Wetter-au; **Becker**, Nikolaus Ed. - Wormeldingen an der Ober-mosel; **Behr**, Hans Hermann - Köthen; **Beissel**, Conrad - in der Pfalz; **Berens**, August Johann - Hamburg; **Berger**, Heinrich - Breslau, Schlesien; **Berghold**, Alexander - St. Margarethen in Steiermark; **Bickel**, Philipp W. - Weinheim, Baden; **Bielfeld**, Heinrich A. - Bremen; **Binder**, Heinrich - Wien; **Böttcher**, Dorothea ("D. B. Schwerin") - Schwerin, Mecklenburg; **Brachvogel**, Udo - Herren Graben bei Danzig; **Brethauer**, Otto - baierischen Unterfranken; **Brück**, Julius - Brieg, Schlesien; **Brühl**, Gustav ("Kara Giorg") - Herdorf, Rheinpreußen; **Bürkle**, Johann Martin - Plattenhardt, Oberamt Stuttgart; **Butenschön**, Nikolaus F. - Holstein; **Butz**, Caspar - Hagen, Westfalen.

Center for Jewish History

NEW YORK, April 18, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- The Center for Jewish History, one of the world's foremost Jewish research and cultural institutions, has announced a cooperative agreement between the Center and The Miriam Weiner Routes to Roots Foundation. The new collaboration brings together some of the world's most comprehensive data-

bases for researching Jewish genealogy. The Center will incorporate RTRF's Eastern European Archival Database and Image Database into its online catalog, vastly expanding access to a wealth of genealogical resources relating to Jewish and civil records from Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland and Ukraine. Select archive data has also been added to the database from Russia and Romania. Coupled with the vast trove of the Center's partner collections, researchers will soon be able to gain enhanced free access to some of the most comprehensive family history research tools anywhere in the world. Users will be able to access RTRF through <www.cjh.org> and at <www.rtrf.org>.

The Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute, the largest Jewish family history research institute in the United States, provides an enormous wealth of resources six days a week for lay investigators and seasoned researchers. The five partners of the Center—American Jewish Historical Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research—hold collections that total more than 500,000 volumes and 100 million archival documents, including tens of thousands of textiles, ritual objects, recordings, films, photographs, and works of art. Taken as a whole, the collections represent the world's largest repository of the modern Jewish experience.

The Routes to Roots Foundation was established in 1994 with the goal to survey, study, research, inventory and document Jewish material, archives and Judaica in Eastern European archives. RTRF has expanded its goals to include an extensive image collection, numerous articles by historians and archivists and updated archival data, all accessible

KALENDER

August		
15		Mailing
September		
1-2	CLOSED	Labor Day
19		Mailing

on the RTRF website without cost to the user.
[The above is a summary of a news release by the Center for Jewish History.]

Library and Archives Canada

Immigrant research in Canada just got easier. Here's the announcement on "Upfront with NGS":
Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has released immigration heritage kits online. Ultimately 24 kits will be released. The first three released relate to Chinese, Japanese and East Indian communities. Each kit includes lists of digital resources for a specific ethno-cultural group, allowing users to access photographs, works of art, texts, music and all other material available for that respective group. Find out more by browsing the different immigration heritage on-line kits on LAC's website, <<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/immigration/Pages/immigration.aspx>>.

Our Renewing Members (& Research Names)

John Eyraud - **Bramlage, Eyraud, Faure, Poll**. Carol Hopping - **Brower, Dillman, Eichenberg, Flora, Roesch, Staldar**. Donna J. Morton - **Fratt, Packard, Rathmann, Soll**. Helen G. Rusatti - **Köller, Lippke, Marczschesky**. Warren Weimer - **Book, Schmidt, Veit, Weimer**.

New entries in the Mecklenburg-Kontakte Database

In the month of May the surnames below were added or changed to the Surname Database at:
<www.Mecklenburg-Kontakte.de>:

Beese Benier Bernstorff Bluhme Böttcher Böttger Böttgner Bötticher Bohnenstaedt Bohnstaedt Fröhlich Gähde Harm Hueb-ner Husadel Janecken Kauffman Köhler Kordes Korts Krüger Kührner Lammeryer Lange Lehl Mittag Nierath Parlow Rückert Saß Schmidt Schröder Schwandt Sommer Stettin Stollen Strasburg Tabbert Von Muhlbach Von Wagener Wendt Willwater Witt Wollitz Ziehl

This information was submitted by Dieter Garling <Dieter.Garling@gmx.de> to the Mecklenburg List (die Liste Mecklenburg-L, <<http://list.genealogy.net/mm/listinfo/mecklenburg-l>>).

Churchbooks, Civil Registers and Directories for (Southern) East Prussia

Marc Plessa, a genealogist with whom your editor corresponded some time ago, has prepared a web site full of information. Some of the pages are in English. One in particular pertains to the churchbooks, civil registers and addressbooks from the regions of Allenstein, Neidenburg, Ortelsburg, Sensburg and Tilsit in East Prussia, and where they can be found. These locations are generally in the south of the former province, and he has good advice for those who would seek records of their family here: "The records of the civil registry offices are nearly all in Poland.... Here I give you some hints: In Poland records which are 100 years old or older get sent to a state archive. You'll find the addresses of the civil registry offices and the addresses of the archives [on my web site].... If you want a record from an archive or a civil registry office you should write in Polish, and give

them exact (!) dates, otherwise it will cost you lots of money or they'll send you the answer that they had found nothing.... The answer you get is always in Polish. If you write to a civil registry office, tell them that you want a copy of the original entry (as it retains more information!)."

The above was gently edited and abridged, but you may find it (and the additional information) at: <<http://www.marc-plessa.de/privat/churchb.html>>. In addition you might wish to email him if you have one of the surnames in his "family tree," which are listed here: <<http://www.marc-plessa.de/ahnen/index2.htm>> If so, reach him at: <plessa@web.de>. --Ed.

Ortsfamilienbücher for East Prussia

Here is a list of town and village lineage books (listing "everyone" who ever lived in that place!) for the same province as above: <http://www.plew.info/ofb_allgemein.htm>.

British Isles Family History Society

Represented at the SCGS Jamboree in June, this organization holds monthly meetings at the Los Angeles Family History Library (10741 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A., CA 90025) on the fourth Sunday of each month -- excluding December. Program details for these meetings are available at: <<http://www.bifhsusa.org>>, where you will also find British, Irish, and Colonial American research aids.

Family History Day at the CA State Archives

Free admission to this Sacramento-based archive is offered on Saturday, October 13, 2012. In addition to the general tour one may visit the Archives Preservation Lab, attend genealogy classes or shop with the exhibitors. Information is made available at: <<http://fhdnews.blogspot.com>>, or one may email <fhdmailbox@gmail.com>.

Ireland Research Trip

A week-long research tour in Dublin will visit these major repositories: National Library of Ireland, General Register Office, National Archives of Ireland, Registry of Deeds, & Valuation Office. Contact Donna M. Mought at: <<http://www.moughty.com>> or <moughty@mac.com>. --Ed.

Taking the Big Leap in DNA Testing

Speaking personally, I've had a long interest in DNA studies but felt that its usefulness for me was probably limited. I once did have my Y-DNA tested for 37 markers, but failed to come up with any good matches. I passed on mitochondrial testing for the reason that my matrilineal line will end up being Polish, and I have no other Slavic "roots." These two are the tests that Henry Louis Gates, Jr. used in his recent PBS television series.

Then at Jamboree I heard Bennett Greenspan of Family Tree DNA speak on autosomal DNA, which his firm markets as the "Family Finder." The idea is that, depending upon which genes you've received from your grandparents, great-greats and so forth, one may be able to match with more distant cousins from a bit farther back on one's tree -- to living persons whom you probably would not know. Still, your common ancestor(s) would have lived within the last few centuries, and should have left a paper trail. By getting in touch with these probable cousins and comparing pedigrees the source of the match may be identified, leaving you with a

new-found genealogical friend with whom to coordinate research and trade data.

I bought this test while at Jamboree, and will be anxious to see what comes of it. But in the bargain, Mr. Greenspan graciously agreed to look into my Y-DNA results to see if those results might be tweaked a bit to allow for recent discoveries. Perhaps I'll turn up with some matches there after all.... --Ed.

Amsterdam City Archives

An interesting web site is available for those who think they may have roots in that city. Try the following link, then select "English" at the top, and then next to the word "English" at the top you'll see > Archives Database and just to its right > Genealogy. Each of these has a cleverly disguised pull-down menu that you should explore. Go to: <<http://stadsarchief.amsterdam.nl/archieven/archiefbank/indexen/vreemdelingenregisters/handleiding/index.nl.html>>.

The Slovak Spectator

Here is a newspaper with a recent article, "Find your ancestors in Slovakia." It's not long, but one doesn't often come across "how to" articles for this part of Europe. See: <http://spectator.sme.sk/articles/view/46505/8/find_your_ancestors_in_slovakia.html>.

Genea.Net

This is "a French web site with many Germans." Who knew? Find it at <<http://en.geneanet.org>>. I heard about this (including the above brief description) through a panel session on blogging that I heard at the 2012 Jamboree (held each year in Burbank, CA). The Wikipedia entry on this database is enlightening; it estimates the number of individuals named to be roughly 400 million. One can send a GEDCOM file, but the database began through the exchange of lists of surnames being searched, together with the places and dates associated with the indicated surname. I can't vouch for the site, but it sounded worthwhile and came highly recommended by one of the panelists. --Ed.

San Diego Gen. Soc. trip to NGS in Las Vegas

You've doubtless seen the early announcements on the upcoming National Genealogical Society 2013 Conference in the States that is slated for Las Vegas for May 8th through the 11th. Yet perhaps you live in Southern California, but still haven't been aware that the above-listed society is planning to charter buses for genealogists to travel together to and from the conference. What fun! No driving, and a chance to compare notes with those who enjoy what we enjoy.

The plan is to leave from the Mission Valley VA Center, close to downtown San Diego, at Noon on the 7th for arrival at 7 that night at the Las Vegas Hotel (formerly a Hilton). The hotel is connected to the building where the Conference will be held. Return starts at 4 on the 11th, with arrival estimated for 11 back in Mission Valley. Prices include registration, transportation by Coach America charter, and hotel accommodations including taxes for four nights. The estimated price varies according to occupancy: \$1040 for single, \$800 for double, \$700 for triple, and \$625 for four-person occupancy. Guests who do not intend to attend

the Conference are welcome, and their cost will be \$200 less than the above rates. This notice won't be useful for those of you who live far from San Diego, and I regret that our newsletter schedule doesn't mesh with the window of time for normal responses to the SDGS, but if interested please contact Diane Lott <jefflott01@cox.net> or Sue Aprea <saprea@cox.net>.

Remembering our "Roots"

Sometimes fellowship within our Immigrant Genealogical Society can have the effect of causing one to look back at when and where we began. Such was the case recently when your editor shared some time with one of our more senior members -- one who was present in the very early years. Suffice to say that I was intrigued enough at her remembrances to go back in the files of our Society's newsletters and investigate one of our founders, Gerda Haffner, who was serving as vice president in May 1983 when the following was written:

"Gerda came over to California from Germany Christmas 1972 to visit the Sharp family in North Hollywood and she's been here ever since. As a young widow in her 30s, she took her children to schools in France, England and Switzerland, where she met Elisabeth Sharp who was also letting her four children have a taste of European education. The knowledge of languages that the mothers gained this way was put to use in the following years, when Elisabeth Sharp tried to get Gerda interested in genealogy.

"There were first the odd family documents and parish records that needed to be translated and then the book hunting started.

"Every six months, the Immigration authorities decided that Gerda had already stayed for too long in this country, so back she went to Europe to accumulate another pack of books.

"The archives hold a fascination over Gerda and there are only a couple of German archives that she has not done research in.

"Along with Elisabeth Sharp, Gerda founded the Immigrant Library in January 1981 to house all the wonderful books she was bringing back from Germany. Gerda acts as the Library's eyes and ears in Germany, finding out what books are being published, etc. She was born in Göttingen, Niedersachsen, Germany and attended schools in Germany, so the old German script holds no mysteries for her...."

The article added that she would be conducting research during the coming winter for people in the U.S., and it was this link that provided -- along with the library itself -- much of the impetus behind the founding and growth of your Society. The newsletter originally was called the Immigrant Library Newsletter when it began publication in April 1981. It only became the Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter in March 1985. --Ed.

1982-83 German Genealogical Exchange Group

As a part of the Immigrant Library Newsletter, the above-named study and research group often included lists of "cases" that were being researched by members in those early years. [Of course, this research continues to this day, and if you still have a "brick wall" then you might want to contact Lura Perkins, the Society's Research Chair; see

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see the box on page 4 of this Newsletter for her contact information. --Ed.]

Following are some "cases" being researched and mentioned in several of the "Locality/Surname Lists" of almost thirty years ago. We still maintain research files, and may be able to help anyone who wishes further information on a mentioned surname. Some of the mentioned surnames were the subject of queries, while others were offers of help to others.

Case Number & surname(s): 6--Tittel; 7--Anders; 12--Weintraut; 19--Talacek and Schoen; 20--Haeger; 21--Utz; 22--Dehn; 23--Abendroth, Wacker and Leisterer; 26--Vollendorf; 28--Yost, Sipple and Purvis; 32--Bandholt/Bandholz/Bandholtz; 33--Herzog; 34--Eib/Eyb; 35--Wirsing and Bar/Baer; 36--Ebersbach; 37--Mirus/Mirous; 39--Mangold; 41--Blümlein/Blumlein; 42--Prohaska; 46--Buschendorf/Puschendorf; 51--Bast; 54--Schreyvogel; 57--Flamm; 61--Esser; 62--Kambach; 63--Hussong/Hussung; 65--Reis; 70--Knit(t)el/Knut(t)el/Knet(t)el/Knit(t); 77--Blocher/Plocher; 81--Hoffmeister; 84--Schneller; 98--Kramer, Baumeler and Stengel; 99--Barnhardt and Tusch.

To be continued next month with a recap of a chain of research undertaken in 1983....

Some tables present at the 2012 Jamboree.

Here's a short list of exhibitors with an interest in a specific country, just for the record:

- Czechoslovak Gen. Soc. - Int'l. <<http://www.cgsi.org>>
- Nordic Gen. Soc. <<http://www.nordicgenealogy.org>>
- Sons of Norway <<http://www.sonsofnorway-westLA.com>>

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_120713.html>

Skills Initiative: In an initiative called "a win-win idea" by Ambassador Peter Ammon, the German Embassy Washington is working with US states, German

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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.

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companies in the US and education and training facilities to spread best practices in sustainable workforce development in the US, and, at the end of the day, to help fill more jobs with capable, well-trained people.

Training to Work: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/sa/en/07__Climate__Business__Science/02__Bus__w__Germany/skills-initiative.html>

Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan: Solidarity and Expectations: Over the next four years the international community has pledged \$16 billion to support Afghanistan's civilian development efforts; Germany's contribution will amount to 430 million euros a year. "We're ready to help, but we expect tangible results in return," Foreign Minister Westerwelle said. Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/__pr/P__Wash/2012/07/09Tokyo-AFG.html>