

## FEEFHS

Newsletter of the Federation of  
East European Family History Societies

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### FEEFHS

*Federation of East European Family  
History Societies*

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v.2, no.s 1-4 and Index

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Will you volunteer to serve on any FEEFHS committees? Please check all that apply:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers/databanks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Convention activities/planning      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence   | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership committee                |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> English language publication searches for the FEEFHS newsletter                  |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange &/or staff a FEEFHS Table at local/regional/national genealogy meetings. |  |

Comments & Suggestions (use an additional page if necessary):

# FEEFHS

## Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

Vol 2, No. 1

January 1994

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### FEEFHS CONSTITUTION RATIFIED

We officially report herewith that sufficient affirmative votes (and no negative votes) have been received, and draft 12Af of the FEEFHS Constitution and By-laws has been ratified. Since that draft was only distributed to organizational members, the approved text is included at the end of this issue of the newsletter for the benefit of individuals and others who may be interested.

### CONVENTION ARRANGEMENTS AND REGISTRATION

by Ed Brandt, Program Chair

The first FEEFHS convention will be held at the Howard Johnson Hotel near the Family History Library in Salt Lake City on May 14-16, 1994.

The registration fee of \$50 includes the Saturday night banquet, but there will be an additional charge of \$15 for the Sunday luncheon. The combined fee for attending the FEEFHS convention and the United Polish Genealogical Societies convention on May 12-14 is \$75.

Since it is very difficult to estimate the attendance at the first convention of any organization, we strongly urge you to send your registration form (enclosed) to: Kathryn Lichfield, Registrar, 2169 Pheasant Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84121, as soon as possible.

Even if you are not certain whether you will attend, please mail in the form if there is a better than 50% chance that you will be able to come, so as to facilitate convention planning. Prepayment is encouraged, but not required. Organizational members are encouraged to duplicate this form for those of their members who may not receive the FEEFHS Newsletter individually.

Rooms at the Howard Johnson Hotel will cost \$56 per day, regardless of whether there are 1, 2, 3 or 4 occupants. The FEEFHS convention committee will attempt to put people who are interested in sharing a room to save money in touch with

one another. The sooner we receive your registration, the easier it will be to offer such assistance.

A block of rooms has been reserved and will be saved until 21 days before registration. This number can be increased if we receive a sufficient number of registrations. Rooms may be available after April 22, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Alice Woods Kirk (formerly Schiesswohl) will be the book vendor at the convention. There is insufficient space to provide for individual vendor booths, but any commercial publishers and self-publishers with books related to East European family history, broadly defined, are asked to contact Alice at P.O. Box 210092, Salt Lake City, UT 84151, telephone (801) 575-6510, if they wish to have their books sold at the convention. The FEEFHS book display will be open on Monday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be a long lunch period to enable people to look at and buy books at this time. Early risers will have an hour before the programs begin to visit the book display.

Tours of the Salt Lake City area can be arranged at the hotel for any spouses or children who are sharing this family event, but not interested in the genealogical presentations. Salt Lake City is a very family-oriented city, as illustrated by the fact that almost all of the statues in the main square near the Family History Library and the Tabernacle represent happy families, not famous people. Family members who do not wish to attend the convention may nevertheless purchase tickets for the Saturday banquet and Monday luncheon.

## CONVENTION PROGRAM

Many speakers have already been lined up for our first convention, although the program is not yet complete. The convention will begin with a joint banquet with the United Polish Genealogical Societies, whose convention will be on May 12-14. Sonja Nishimoto will give the keynote speech at this banquet on Saturday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m., with a slide presentation on Polish archives. FEEFHS President Charles Hall and representatives of all the participating Polish societies will speak briefly about their organizations. Charles Hall will give the keynote speech at the FEEFHS luncheon on Sunday, May 15, which will include the annual business meeting. His topic will be "Field Research in Eastern Europe."

A full program is scheduled for Sunday, May 15, and Monday, May 16. There will be two simultaneous presentations during each 60- or 75-minute period, a few of which may possibly be repeated. Current plans are to begin late Sunday morning, with evening sessions on Sunday, and the formal program probably ending at 6 p.m. Monday, except that some presentations could possibly be repeated Monday evening or Tuesday morning if enough registrants are interested in this. Complete details will be published in the next newsletter.

As of now, the following speakers have confirmed that they will participate:

- (1) John C. Alleman, editor, *FEEFHS Newsletter*, "How to Handle Foreign Languages on Your Computer"
- (2) Patricia Eames, National Archives Volunteer Association, "The Russian-American Genealogical Archival Service"
- (3) Irmgard Hein Ellingson, "The Swabian Migration to Bukovina"
- (4) Duncan Gardiner, Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, "Multi-Ethnic Ancestry Research in the Archives of Slovakia and the Czech Republic"
- (5) Tom Hrnčirik, Slavic Research Institute, "Establishing Links with the Past: Finding Relatives in Eastern Europe"
- (6) Larry O. Jensen, editor, or Laraine K. Fergusson, or A. Leslie Kowallis, *German Genealogical Digest*, "Researching Ancestors from the Pre-World I German Empire"
- (7) Howard Krushel, contributor, *Wandering Volhynians*, "A Visit to the Archives in Zhitomir and Rovno"
- (8) Jo Ann Kuhr, American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, "The Genealogical Resources of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia"
- (9) Brian Letrus, East European Branch, Manitoba Genealogical Society, "Multi-Ethnic Research in the Former Austrian Crownland of Galicia"
- (10) Eva Liptak, Family History Library, "Hungarian Research"

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- (11) John Movius, Sacramento German Genealogical Society "Computer Tools for Genealogy"
- (12) Robin J. Neumann, Lithuanian Genealogical Society "Yes, Doing Lithuanian Genealogical Research is Possible"
- (13) Tom Noy, "LDS Resources for Jewish Genealogical Research"
- (14) Gwen Pritzkau, researcher, "LDS Resources for Black Sea Germans"
- (15) Jonathan Shea, Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut, and William F. Hoffman, Polish Genealogical Society of America, "Researching Catholic, Jewish and Orthodox Records in Poland" and "Linguistic Aspects of Research in the Territory of the Former Kingdom of Poland"
- (16) Ewald Wuschke, editor, *Wandering Volhynians*, "Protestant Research in Central Poland and Volhynia."

The organizations identified above are illustrative. Many of the presenters belong to various other organizations. Many also are authors.

Barry Kirk of the Family History Library is expected to talk on Ukrainian research. Jared Suess (or Barry Kirk in his absence) is scheduled to provide an update on LDS resources on the Baltic countries. Nancy Svet Burnett of the Slovenian Genealogical Society expects to return from a trip to Slovenia shortly before the convention and has tentatively agreed to speak.

Daniel Schlyter, head of the East European Reference Section of the Family History Library, is also expected to speak. He may provide an overview of FHL resources on Eastern Europe, possible on Tuesday morning, May 17, to provide an orientation for those genealogists who wish to remain in Salt Lake City after the convention for their own personal research, although the details have not been firmed up yet.

If you would like to volunteer to speak or to recommend someone, please contact Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101.

For those who are interested in Polish research, the United Polish Genealogical Societies convention will include the following presentations: an orientation to the Family History Library on Thursday morning, May 12; Jolanta Setmajer on "Beginning Polish Research" on Friday morning, May 13; Marek Koblanski on "Advanced Polish Research" on Saturday morning, May 14; two presentations by Daniel Schlyter, and a breakfast buffet on Sunday morning, May 15.

There will be ample time for individual research on all these days. Individuals desiring more detailed information should contact Jacque Penstone, Conference Coordinator, P.O. Box 651, Midway City, CA 92655.

## NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICERS SOLICITED

by Ed Brandt

Now that the FEEFHS constitution has been ratified by more than the required two-thirds of the organizational members, we would like to move from pro-tem leadership to an elected executive council as quickly as possible.

Under the constitution, each board member representing an organization belonging to FEEFHS, as well as every individual FEEFHS member, has the right to submit nominations for president, 1st president, 2nd vice-president, 3rd vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

The nominating itself may also nominate candidates for office. The nominating committee will contact every individual who has been nominated to determine whether he or she is willing to serve. All nominees who agree to serve, if elected, will be listed on the ballot, which must be mailed to every organizational and individual member at least 49 days in advance, which means no later than March 24, if we are to have an elected executive council by the time of the convention.

The members of the nominating committee are John C. Alleman of Salt Lake City (chair), Duncan Gardiner of Lakewood, OH, and Ewald Wuschke of Vancouver, BC.

A nomination form is enclosed with this newsletter.

## GENEALOGY IN RUSSIA

by Igor V. Sakharov

*(Editor's Note: Dr. Sakharov, Director of the Institute of Genealogical Research in The National Library of Russian and President of the Russia Genealogy Society, spoke to the Utah Genealogical Society on Nov. 20, 1993. Following are excerpts from his remarks, as reported in the LDS Church News section of The Deseret News issue of Nov. 27, 1993.)*

Genealogy, as no other branch of historical science, concerns the mind, the heart and the soul of every man and woman, and it even has to be an element of everybody's self-consciousness.

Regarding this self-consciousness, the Russian people are in a very bad condition. This is due on the one hand to the destruction of their traditional way of life and the breakdown of the family structure, and due on the other hand to the loss of the personal and collective memory of the past.

For instance, because of the repression against religion and the success of atheistic propaganda, the Russian people forgot the traditional practice of regular prayer for both living and deceased relatives. This practice formerly trained the genealogical memory and brought everybody else back as part of an inseparable family unit and a link of the chain of generations.

Following the revolution of 1917, many cemeteries, including those of greatest historical interest, were destroyed. These suffered to an extent completely unknown in civilized countries.

As a result, there is in Russia a profound cultural, intellectual, moral and spiritual rupture between the modern generations and the generations of our fathers. This loss of historical memory is a thing which can be called "historical amnesia."

Historical amnesia began after the 1917 revolution. For example, during the Stalin era, it became dangerous to have a good memory, especially the memory of one's own family line. It became dangerous to remember one's parents and grandparents not only if they were of nobility, but also if they had been well-to-do peasants, entrepreneurs, clergymen of the older regime, or just educated people.

In this situation, such families forced themselves to forget the complete past and to do everything possible to preen this knowledge from reaching their children and grandchildren. Instead of taking care of the Russian genealogical forest and tending one's own genealogical tree, the people tried to cut them down.

In the process, family relics were destroyed or hidden, and sometimes surnames were changed to obliterate family connections. In the following years, many people were exiled or sentenced to concentration camps. Others starved to death or emigrated. There remain in Russia relatively few people who carry an authentic family memory of the past.

Compounding the loss, historical facts in textbooks and historical literature were replaced by abstract concepts. Conflicting facts were adjusted or eliminated. The people of history became a faceless background to the historical process. The Soviet historical sciences became, so to say, depopulated and depersonified.

Under these conditions, genealogical societies that had formed after the turn of the century were abandoned.

The eyes of the new authorities saw genealogy as an ideologically defective science that could serve only the ambitions of the upper classes. Therefore, it was harmful and useless.

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For instance, because of the repression against religion and the success of atheistic propaganda, the Russian people forgot the traditional practice of regular prayer for both living and deceased relatives. This practice formerly trained the genealogical memory and brought everybody else back as part of an inseparable family unit and a link of the chain of generations.

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Historical amnesia began after the 1917 revolution. For example, during the Stalin era, it became dangerous to have a good memory, especially the memory of one's own family line. It became dangerous to remember one's parents and grandparents not only if they were of nobility, but also if they had been well-to-do peasants, entrepreneurs, clergymen of the older regime, or just educated people.

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Many genealogists were jailed or put in concentration camps where they suffered intensely. One Alexander Grigorov, was sent to a concentration camp along with his wife. Their daughters were raised by other families.

But decades later, some of them emerged from the camps to continue their research.

When I met Dr. Grigorov, he was living in a slum. I consider him a Russian "Job." Although he suffered so much, he retained his faith in God, his optimism, his unselfishness. And he heroically continued his genealogical research.

These genealogists inspired me to enter the "world of facts."

I knew better than I had before that each person who lives or who has lived on earth was created by God as a unique human being. And my feelings protested against the fact that so many of the so-called ordinary people had disappeared into oblivion after their death, as if they had never existed.

I feel that it depends on me personally, whether the memory of this or that person of family roots survive or whether this memory will vanish forever.

When we, in the Russian church, pray for the members of this or that family, the church choir chants: "Eternal memory from generation to generation, eternal memory forever and ever." This is not only an exercise to train our genealogical memories, but it also reminds us of the fact that the genealogical tree on the one hand lives and is fed by its roots, and on the other hand, grows and aspires to heaven....

In August 1992, the National Library of Russia established the Institute of Genealogical Research, the only government institution in this field.

The material circumstances of our institute are humble at present, with five full-time employees working in a single room with only three desks and no computers. Yet our program is very comprehensive.

Pre-revolution sources of Russian genealogy include:

- Parish registers which contain the vital statistics of births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths.
- Confessional lists of all parishioners that showed whether this or that parishioner had confessed and received communion at least once a year.
- Special clergymen registers.
- "Marriage search" documents. The Orthodox Church doesn't permit marriage of close relatives, so before a wedding the priest was to make certain the bride and bridegroom were not closely related. These church materials

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are of the greatest importance for genealogical research. However, registration of vital statistics in Russia was introduced much later than in western Europe, during the 18th century. Many of these documents are poorly preserved.

- Land owner surveys.
- Registers of all males belonging to Russian military or civil service, which was considered obligatory. Unfortunately, these archives were badly damaged by the occupation of Moscow by Napoleon's troops in 1812.
- Extensive and long-kept lineage books of the nobility. These books represent a very valuable source for genealogical research.
- Service registers of all official service in the Russian bureaucracy.
- Lists of people who changes their names, such as those of Germanic descent who changed their names to Russian about World War I, and materials about the adoption of children, including the adoption of one's own illegitimate children.

Genealogical records kept during the Soviet period of Russian history include a new type of records of vital statistics. After the revolution, these were kept by local registrars of vital statistics under the Ministry of Justice.

The so-called House, or Residence Books, which fixed all the inhabitants of every residence, building by building, were kept to keep all the Soviet people under strict police control.

At present, these pre-revolution and contemporary resources are available only to those who come to Russia and seek them out.

The Institute of Genealogical Research is planning a conference on "Genealogy and Religion," possibly in 1994.

## SEARCHING FOR THEIR LONG-LOST RELATIVES

by Julie Fredericksen

*[Editor's note: the following is adapted from an article that appeared in the October 8, 1993 edition of The Bismarck Tribune. Thanks to Michael Miller for sending it to us.]*

For many North Dakotans of German-Russian descent, reading new stories about the former Soviet Union and reunited Germany is more than just keeping up with current events. It's an attempt to find out what's happening to relatives as close as first and second cousins.

These same people were also eager to hear Peter Hilkes as he toured North Dakota speaking about ethnic Germans living in the former Soviet Union or recently emigrated to Germany.

Hilkes is an internationally known researcher, scholar, and speaker from the East European Institute in Munich, Germany.

Accompanying Hilkes was Michael Miller of the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies in Fargo, ND. Miller says local audiences were interested in three main questions: "What's life like for Germans still in Russia, what's life like for those who have gone back to Germany, and how can they find their relatives in Germany and Russia?"

Listeners learned that compared with other districts and regions, prospects for the future are much better for Germans in Western Siberia. They learned that Germans who have the possibility to emigrate -- even those from Western Siberia -- will try to do it. And they learned that, surprisingly, not many Germans from Russia want to emigrate to the United States.

The German ethnic identity has remained strong, even though their family many have moved to Russia in the days of Catherine the Great. "They're German, and they want to remain German. They want their children to remain German," said.

They return to Germany despite the lack of jobs and accommodations, the competition from other immigrants, and the imposed idleness they find there. "They say, 'We did it for our children,'" Hilkes said. "Their view of Germany is from the last century -- an unrealistic view."

While Hilkes and his institute are interested in the study of cultural assimilation, their goal is more than scholarly. They also want to help real-life people. Hilkes dreams of a triangle-shaped cooperative arrangement, the three points being the Ukraine, Munich, and North Dakota State University, site of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection.

Miller is excited about the benefits to scholars and individuals here -- discovering valuable historical records in the Ukraine, helping people find and write to relatives, helping people to actually make visits and meet each other. "There are a lot of North Dakotans who want to step on the soil where their ancestors once lived," he says.

That help goes both ways. "It's important for people in North Dakota to know there are 2 million Germans from Russia in the former Soviet Union -- many, many with relatives in North Dakota," Miller says. "On a very small scale, we can help some of them."

For example, Hilkes says, that could mean sending German-language textbooks to Novosibirsk. His institute knows the ins and out of the process, even to avoiding the Russian "Mafia."

But, he cautions for now, "Let's not think too big."

Persons interested in beginning a search for relatives may contact Miller at NDSU Libraries, P.O. Box 5599, Fargo, ND 58105-5599.

## SEARCH FOR YOUR LITHUANIAN ROOTS

by Julie D. Balzekas

Anyone with roots in their family tree that tie them to Lithuania can find help at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture. The Immigration History & Genealogy (IHG) department and its affiliated Lithuanian American Genealogy Society provides access to the vast resources of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture.

The IHG department of the Balzekas Museum is the primary source of Lithuanian-American genealogy information in the United States. While there are not yet any official or established channels for routing genealogy research requests to Lithuania, the IHG Department has been working for over a year towards that end. We have the most experience in getting information from Lithuania, and we can offer the best guidance. Our genealogist, who is of Lithuanian ancestry, has extensive research experience. We offer a basic search of four major Lithuanian-American genealogy sources to patrons. More extensive research is handled on a request basis. Among the resources that belong or are available to the IHG Department are: Lithuanian encyclopedias; over 1,500 different newspapers or magazines from the 19th century to the present; an extensive archival collection of Lithuanian organizations, churches, institutions, etc.; published material about and by famous and lesser-known Lithuanians; including a photograph collection; death notices dating from the 1940's. Perhaps the most important piece in our collection is *Lietuviu Pavardziu Zodynas, Volume I, A-K, (1985) and Volume II, L-Z, (1989)*, edited by A. Vanagas, which lists thousands of Lithuanian names and their location by town in Lithuania.

The Balzekas Museum Library is the largest Lithuanian resource center outside Lithuania. It contains over 30,000 volumes relating to the history and culture of Lithuania and other East European countries, in Lithuanian and English. The library has an extensive collection of rare antique and current maps of Lithuania and Eastern Europe.

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Many genealogists were jailed or put in concentration camps where they suffered intensely. One Alexander Grigorov, was sent to a concentration camp along with his wife. Their daughters were raised by other families.

But decades later, some of them emerged from the camps to continue their research.

When I met Dr. Grigorov, he was living in a slum. I consider him a Russian "Job." Although he suffered so much, he retained his faith in God, his optimism, his unselfishness. And he heroically continued his genealogical research.

These genealogists inspired me to enter the "world of facts."

I knew better than I had before that each person who lives or who has lived on earth was created by God as a unique human being. And my feelings protested against the fact that so many of the so-called ordinary people had disappeared into oblivion after their death, as if they had never existed.

I feel that it depends on me personally, whether the memory of this or that person of family roots survive or whether this memory will vanish forever.

When we, in the Russian church, pray for the members of this or that family, the church choir chants: "Eternal memory from generation to generation, eternal memory forever and ever." This is not only an exercise to train our genealogical memories, but it also reminds us of the fact that the genealogical tree on the one hand lives and is fed by its roots, and on the other hand, grows and aspires to heaven....

In August 1992, the National Library of Russia established the Institute of Genealogical Research, the only government institution in this field.

The material circumstances of our institute are humble at present, with five full-time employees working in a single room with only three desks and no computers. Yet our program is very comprehensive.

Pre-revolution sources of Russian genealogy include:

- Parish registers which contain the vital statistics of births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths.
- Confessional lists of all parishioners that showed whether this or that parishioner had confessed and received communion at least once a year.
- Special clergymen registers.
- "Marriage search" documents. The Orthodox Church doesn't permit marriage of close relatives, so before a wedding the priest was to make certain the bride and bridegroom were not closely related. These church materials

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are of the greatest importance for genealogical research. However, registration of vital statistics in Russia was introduced much later than in western Europe, during the 18th century. Many of these documents are poorly preserved.

- Land owner surveys.
- Registers of all males belonging to Russian military or civil service, which was considered obligatory. Unfortunately, these archives were badly damaged by the occupation of Moscow by Napoleon's troops in 1812.
- Extensive and long-kept lineage books of the nobility. These books represent a very valuable source for genealogical research.
- Service registers of all official service in the Russian bureaucracy.
- Lists of people who changes their names, such as those of Germanic descent who changed their names to Russian about World War I, and materials about the adoption of children, including the adoption of one's own illegitimate children.

Genealogical records kept during the Soviet period of Russian history include a new type of records of vital statistics. After the revolution, these were kept by local registrars of vital statistics under the Ministry of Justice.

The so-called House, or Residence Books, which fixed all the inhabitants of every residence, building by building, were kept to keep all the Soviet people under strict police control.

At present, these pre-revolution and contemporary resources are available only to those who come to Russia and seek them out.

The Institute of Genealogical Research is planning a conference on "Genealogy and Religion," possibly in 1994.

## SEARCHING FOR THEIR LONG-LOST RELATIVES

by Julie Fredericksen

*[Editor's note: the following is adapted from an article that appeared in the October 8, 1993 edition of The Bismarck Tribune. Thanks to Michael Miller for sending it to us.]*

For many North Dakotans of German-Russian descent, reading new stories about the former Soviet Union and reunited Germany is more than just keeping up with current events. It's an attempt to find out what's happening to relatives as close as first and second cousins.

These same people were also eager to hear Peter Hilkes as he toured North Dakota speaking about ethnic Germans living in the former Soviet Union or recently emigrated to Germany.

Hilkes is an internationally known researcher, scholar, and speaker from the East European Institute in Munich, Germany.

Accompanying Hilkes was Michael Miller of the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies in Fargo, ND. Miller says local audiences were interested in three main questions: What's life like for Germans still in Russia, what's life like for those who have gone back to Germany, and how can they find their relatives in Germany and Russia?

Listeners learned that compared with other districts and regions, prospects for the future are much better for Germans in Western Siberia. They learned that Germans who have the possibility to emigrate -- even those from Western Siberia -- will try to do it. And they learned that, surprisingly, not many Germans from Russia want to emigrate to the United States.

The German ethnic identity has remained strong, even though their family many have moved to Russia in the days of Catherine the Great. "They're German, and they want to remain German. They want their children to remain German," said.

They return to Germany despite the lack of jobs and accommodations, the competition from other immigrants, and the imposed idleness they find there. "They say, 'We did it for our children,'" Hilkes said. "Their view of Germany is from the last century -- an unrealistic view."

While Hilkes and his institute are interested in the study of cultural assimilation, their goal is more than scholarly. They also want to help real-life people. Hilkes dreams of a triangle-shaped cooperative arrangement, the three points being the Ukraine, Munich, and North Dakota State University, site of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection.

Miller is excited about the benefits to scholars and individuals here -- discovering valuable historical records in the Ukraine, helping people find and write to relatives, helping people to actually make visits and meet each other. "There are a lot of North Dakotans who want to step on the soil where their ancestors once lived," he says.

That help goes both ways. "It's important for people in North Dakota to know there are 2 million Germans from Russia in the former Soviet Union -- many, many with relatives in North Dakota," Miller says. "On a very small scale, we can help some of them."

For example, Hilkes says, that could mean sending German-language textbooks to Novosibirsk. His institute knows the ins and out of the process, even to avoiding the Russian "Mafia."

But, he cautions for now, "Let's not think too big."

Persons interested in beginning a search for relatives may contact Miller at NDSU Libraries, P.O. Box 5599, Fargo, ND 58105-5599.

## SEARCH FOR YOUR LITHUANIAN ROOTS

by Julie D. Balzekas

Anyone with roots in their family tree that tie them to Lithuania can find help at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture. The Immigration History & Genealogy (IHG) department and its affiliated Lithuanian American Genealogy Society provides access to the vast resources of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture.

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cities to the smallest villages, most Ancestral Towns can be located on maps in the Museum's collection. We also offer an Ancestral Town Referral through which individuals can communicate with other Lithuanian-Americans whose ancestors came from the same Lithuanian community as their own.

The centerpiece of the IHG Department is the Lithuanian Pioneer Project, an exciting historical effort to gather information on Lithuanians who emigrated to the United States before World War I. Our mission is to publish the names of 1,000 Pioneers, along with descriptions of their immigrant experience in their own words. Questionnaires are now being sent to individuals who either emigrated to the United States themselves before World War I, or who have ancestors who did so. People have access to their Pioneer files and can add documents, photos, correspondence and other items that they wish to have preserved permanently by the Museum. To date, the goal of 1,000 Pioneers names has been met by over 60-percent.

Public access to the IHG and Library collections is available to members of the Lithuanian American Genealogy Society. Annual memberships are \$35 (family) and \$25 (individual), and include a quarterly newsletter, *Genealogija*, among many other benefits. Non-members can request information from the IHG department for nominal donations.

The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture is a not-for-profit organization. The IHG department is supported completely by patron donations and a staff of eight part-time volunteers, including a genealogist, to provide services. Donations are requested for all services. For a brochure and a free copy of our newsletter *Genealogija*, write to the IHG Department at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 South Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL, 60629.

The IHG department and the Lithuanian American Genealogy Society promote the personal discovery of ethnic heritage and family history. We convey our belief that identity with one ethnic culture should lead to greater respect for all cultures. We help people see how their family histories are connected to the histories of America, Lithuania and the world. Please write for more information.

## GERMAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, INC.

by Helen Boyden

In 1977, several local genealogists, struggling individually with the complexities of Germanic research, banded together to found the German Research Association. They realized that by sharing knowledge, experience, and reference materials, more and better research could be accomplished by more

people. Since then, researchers from across the United States and Canada have joined the German Research Association Inc. In 1991, the membership exceeded 700.

Purposes are: to share Germanic information among members and with the public, to educate members to help themselves and others with foreign research, to acquire and provide a repository for Germanic reference materials, and to encourage and participate in Germanic-related activities in the community.

Meetings or workshops are held on the first Saturday of each month, except holidays. Four program meetings are held per year. Workshops featuring personal research assistance, instruction in Germanic research procedures, German handwriting and related topics, and area interest groups are held in the other months. An all-day seminar is held once a year. The meetings and workshops are open to the public. They are held at the Joyce Beers Community Center on Vermont Street, just north of University Avenue in the Uptown District of San Diego, California.

*The German Connection*, published quarterly contains 20 or more pages of useful, current information on foreign research methods and materials, as well as Germanic customs, history, and cultural heritage. It announces genealogy courses and meetings in San Diego and throughout the United States and publishes other information of interest to members.

*The German Research Association Surname Book, Volume 1* was published in April 1990. Compiled from over 7000 records of Germanic surnames submitted by over 200 GRA members, it consists of 330 pages. The records are sorted by surname and by place; there is also a list of all submitted towns with their locations and a postal-code sort to aid in area searches. Submitters' names and addresses are given. This book can be ordered from the GRA at \$18.00 plus \$2.50 shipping. California residents add local tax. Work on Volume 2 is in progress.

Library reference materials, purchased with \$2 of each member's dues, are located and catalogued at the San Diego Multi-Regional Family History Center, 3705 Tenth Avenue, San Diego, CA. The GRA does not perform research and translation services, but will refer you to those who have done satisfactory work for members. The GRA responds to research assistance inquiries. Send a SASE to the GRA. For members who do not have access to university libraries or LDS microfilms #068814 (map of the German Empire in 1871) or #496640 and #496641 (*Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs-Lexicon*), the GRA will search these sources. Send village name or geographical coordinates, \$5.00 and a SASE.

Annual individual membership is \$18.00 (foreign US\$ 24.00)



Contact GRA at P.O. Box 711600, San Diego, CA 92171-1600 for a membership application and/or more information.

## REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Fritz A. Callies, W156-N8185 Pilgrim Road, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051, sent the following inquiry to the GRA, which they have forwarded to us:

"I am looking for a font (typeface) of the fancy old-style (pre-1930) ornate German printing with characters like these, which I have scanned from an old book:

zeit, wie viel der Bräutigam  
muß. Dieser Schmuck hat  
Spangen meist einen sehr  
er doch zum größten Teil  
welche sämtlich durchlöcher  
(aber u. d. dem gangbar) Hau

"I want to use it on an Apple IIe or Apple IIs computer in 'AppleWorks 3.0' with 'TimeOut SuperFonts.' Therefore I need a \$C8 type font, in as many sizes as available. If it is available as a \$F7 font for 'PublishIt,' I can easily convert it to \$C8, or if it is available as a 'TrueType' font I can convert it to \$C8 with 'Pointless' from Seven Hill Software Co. If it is available on the Macintosh, I think it is also possible to convert it to \$C8 using 'Font Munger.' If it is available only as a 'PrintShop' font, I could even get along with that.

"I cannot find such in the United States, though there are many 'Old English' styles available. These do have the ASCII extended character set including ã õ û Ä Ö Ü ß and §, but they do not have the old-fashioned ligatures (combined letters) as shown (circled) in the picture above, nor do they have the same unique style of ornate capital letters. I want the old style to use with some very old German people in Kazakhstan who learned it this way.

"I would also like to get a German-language dictionary disk to use with AppleWorks TimeOut QuickSpell or the AppleWorks 3.0 spelling checker. If that is not available, are there any stand-alone spelling checker programs (software) which can be used on an Apple IIe or IIs to check German-language AppleWorks files? And is there something like 'TimeOut Grammar' for the German language? Is there a German - English translation program for the IIs (like 'German Assistant' on the IBM?"

If you have information to help answer these questions, please

write to Mr. Callies directly, but also consider sending the information to GRA and/or FEEFHS so it can be shared with others who are having similar problems.

## AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

by Jo Ann Kuhr

For many years, people in various parts of the United States and Canada wanted to know why their ancestors spoke German although they came from Russia. Their research was usually in vain, because very little was known about the Germans from Russia at that time. Gradually they became acquainted with one another. On 8 September 1968, forty-two such people met in Denver, Colorado, and decided to found a society, the main purpose of which would be to gather, preserve, and disseminate information about their heritage. Thus the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia was founded.

AHSGR is an international, non-profit, educational organization. It is actively engaged in researching the history of all Germans from Russia and publishes four historical publications and one genealogical publication each year, which are sent to all members. Volunteers on both the local chapter and the international level search for information, translate, and generally help develop a storehouse of knowledge that will be useful to many generations to come. An annual convention is held, where members can meet others of like interests and from the same area of Russia to compare notes and acquire new information about their heritage. (The 1994 convention will be in Lincoln, Nebraska, June 19-26.)

Our library has almost 4000 books, academic treatises, family histories, personal memoirs, newspapers, and magazines from Russia, Germany, and North America, maps, gazetteers, and other printed matter. Our vertical files contain many clippings, photographs, documents, etc.

The founding fathers of AHSGR were concerned primarily with those colonies which were founded after in the invitation of Catherine the Great in 1763 (Volga Region and Mennonite colonies) and Alexander I in the early 1800's (Black Sea Region). Over the past fifteen years, however, we have added information about German settlements which were not part of Imperialist Russia, but which bordered Russia or became part of the USSR. Thus we have some information about German colonies in the Dobruja, Bukovina, Galicia, and especially Volhynia. We do not have information about the Germans in the Baltic States, nor do we have information on Germans who lived in the cities of Russia prior to the Manifest issued by Catherine the Great. We have some books about Germans in Poland and Polish gazetteers, but no records from Poland.

All members are asked to submit genealogy forms. The information from these forms has in the past been typed onto family-group cards. We are now entering this information in PAF and have created a database which uses the PAF database and makes it easy to research the data -- even of unrelated families. The cards for this family-group card file are now being generated by computer. This file now contains over 80,000 cards. Members who have submitted their genealogy forms may be listed in the Surname Exchange of our genealogy publication, *Clues*. We also maintain an ever-growing obituary file, with close to 100,000 obituaries.

Our genealogy files are now serving another purpose. In 1993 we received over 125 requests from German Russians in the former USSR and some who have been able to emigrate to Germany. They ask us to help find their relatives, with whom they have not been allowed to correspond since the 1930's. Because of our genealogy files, we have been able to reunite many of these families.

For more information, write to AHSGR, 631 D Street, Lincoln, NE 68502-1199. AHSGR presently has sixty chapters in the United States and Canada.

## EASTERN EUROPEAN MATERIALS AT THE ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Fred J. Reynolds Historical Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library, located at 900 Webster Street, Box 2270, Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270, houses thousands of family genealogies and local history materials, especially United States and Canadian resources, but also including some foreign countries. Curt B. Witcher, manager, has sent us a list of the titles periodicals indexed in their well-known *PERiodical Search Index (PERSI)*. They do not provide materials through the mail, but they offer a limited research service by which they will search through indexed materials for a specific person in a particular geographic area during a specific time period. A list of professional researchers in the Fort Wayne area who can do more extensive research is also available. The library is open every day (except Sundays in the summer), and they encourage those interested in their materials to visit in person.

Following is a list by subject of periodicals they hold that may be of interest to FEEFHS readers. Each is provided with the four-letter code used to identify the material at the Library.

### Czechoslovak

CZND *Nase Dejiny - Magazine of Czech Genealogy and*

### Culture

CZNR *Nase Rodina*

### East European ancestry

BLEE *Balkan & Eastern European American Genealogy & Historical Soc. Quarterly*

### German

AMGE *German Genealogical Society of America Bulletin*

AMGG *German American Genealogy*

AMGR *Der Kurier*

AMPN *Pomeranian Society of Freistadt Newsletter*

CLGR *Clues-American Historical Society of Germans from Russia*

CNGR *Canadiana Germanica*

GRAM *Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*

GRAN *Society for German-American Studies Newsletter*

GRAY *Yearbook of German-American Studies*

GRFB *Genealogical Reference Builders Newsletter*

GRGC *German Connection*

GRJL *American Historical Society of Germans from Russia*

GRPL *Pommerschen Leute*

GRRP *Report: Journal of German-American History*

GRWV *Wandering Volhynians*

INGM *Indiana German Heritage Society Newsletter*

PAEE *Es Elbedritsch*

TXGT *German-Texan Heritage Society Newsletter*

### Hungarian-German

HGFN *Hungarian-German Family Newsletter*

### Jewish

AMCH *Chronicles*

AVOT *Avotanyu*

CARK *Roots-Key*

CASW *San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society Newsletter*

CNJL *Jewish Life and Times*

CNTV *Shem Tov*

CORJ *Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical News*

ENJW *Jewish Historical Studies: Transactions of the Jewish Hist. Soc. of England*

FLTL *Tayerer Landsman*

ILMR *Morasha Heritage*

JSWR *Search - International Quarterly for Researchers of Jewish Genealogy*

MDJG *Generations*

MIJG *Generations*

MIJH *Michigan Jewish History*

RIJH *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*

### Lithuanian

LTGN *Genealogija*

#### Mennonite

- NNFH *Mennonite Family History*  
NNHB *Mennonite Historical Bulletin*  
NNHR *Mennonite Heritage*  
NNML *Mennonite Life*  
NNML *Mennonite Quarterly Review*  
PAML *Mifflin Country Mennonite Historical Society Newsletter*  
PAMN *Mennonite Historians of Eastern Pennsylvania Newsletter*

#### Palatine

- AMPP *Palatine Patter*  
INAM *Palatines to America Newsletter -- Indiana Chapter*  
LSPL *Lost Palatine*  
OHPA *Palatine Heritage*  
OHOT *On the Trail*  
PLIM *Palatine Immigrant*  
WVPC *Pal-Am Mountaneer*

#### Polish

- POBW *Biuletyn*  
POGS *Polish Genealogical Society Newsletter*  
TXPC *Polish Genealogical Society of Texas News*

#### Romanian

- AMRM *American Romanian Review*

## CALIFORNIA CZECH AND SLOVAK CLUB

by Kathryn Betlach Dankowski

Our first meeting was organized by Kathryn Betlach Dankowski and Rita Derbas and was held on 6 June 1990 with twenty-six people attending a genealogy study group. The membership grew quickly, with varied interests. We had no idea there were so many Czechs and Slovaks in the San Francisco Bay Area. Genealogy has since then become a subgroup. We now have about 500 members nationwide.

The purpose of the Club is the recognition and preservation of our rich Czech, Slovak, Moravian, and Silesian history, language, culture, heritage, and customs, and to promote the study of family history.

The first officers were elected in March 1991. Kathryn Betlach Dankowski headed the new group for the first two years. We started our newsletter about that time too. It was first called the California Czechoslovak Club *Chatter*. As it matured, we decided it needed a better name, and it was changed to the *Noviny*, meaning the "news" in both the Czech and Slovak languages. It is published six times a year. We

also changed our name to the California Czech and Slovak Club to reflect the major political changes in our homelands.

We hold bimonthly meetings in various places in the Bay Area. Each meeting starts with a potluck luncheon with time to socialize. We then have a short business meeting followed by an interesting program or speaker.

The second election of officers was held in March 1993. The current officers are as follows: Ilonka Martinka Torres, president; Mary Frances Darrow, vice president; Val Tupy, secretary; Joseph Vitek, treasurer. Bernard Shanelec, Harwood Kolsky, and Kathryn Betlach Dankowski serve as directors.

We have developed a surname-listing database, which includes the family names, areas, and villages of origin in the former Czechoslovakia, as well as the areas of settlement in the United States. It is a valuable research tool. We offer free, unlimited genealogical queries for our members in the *Noviny*. We maintain an inventory of Czech and Slovak specialty items, including books, dictionaries, and novelty items. We also offer translation services for a fee.

Membership is on a calendar-year basis. Dues are \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a family. Our address is PO Box 20542, Castro Valley, CA 94546-8542, telephone: (510) 581-9986, fax (510) 581-0213.

## CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International is a non-profit educational and literary corporation. The purpose of Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International is to provide a forum for sharing information and ideas and to collect and publish genealogical and historical research materials.

We invite people to join who are interested in their heritage and whose origins are from the Czechoslovak area, as it was in 1918, including Bohemian, German, Hungarian, Jewish, Moravian, Rusyn, Silesian, or Slovak. Each new member will receive a packet of research information including: language word lists, correspondence ads, forms, and other information.

All members will receive quarterly issues of the newsletter *Nase Rodina* and the society journal *Rocenka*, containing information including: helpful research articles, articles by genealogical experts, free research queries for members, up-to-date information on Czechoslovak research worldwide, sharing of resource information, reviews of research books, library acquisition lists, notice of upcoming meetings, lectures,

classes, etc., notice of upcoming events in our ethnic community.

Genealogical advice is provided to members by answering or directing questions for information in the following areas: deciphering town names in documents, locating towns or villages, advice on correspondence to the Czechoslovak region.

Research materials for sale at meetings include books, maps, dictionaries, cookbooks, shirts, etc. All materials are available by mail-order.

Meetings and workshops include various programs on genealogical and historical topics, all-day workshops and conferences featuring recognized research experts, sharing of resource materials, reports and new on a wide range of topics.

The Society has a research collection for its members. Our library collection includes many research books, maps, and family and church histories. Donations to help us expand our library collection are tax deductible.

For additional information, write to PO Box 16255, St. Paul, MN 55116-0225 or call (612) 946-6605.

## ORGANIZATION CHANGES

by Charles M. Hall

We are privileged to have a new pro-tem membership secretary, Kathryn Lichfield. She is also serving as registration chairman for the convention (see page 2).

Laurence Krupnak has accepted the assignment to serve on the committee to handle inquiries and requests for assistance from FEEFHS members. His address is:

Laurence Krupnak  
1711 Corwin Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

He will handle all matters except those dealing with the German speaking area. As announced previously (Vol. 1, No. 2, page 11), German questions should be sent to:

David Chapin  
325 West 500 North #1  
Provo, UT 84601-6702

We also welcome Tom Hrnčirik, who has agreed to serve as assistant newsletter editor. One of his functions of immediate interest to FEEFHS members is that he will be responsible for distribution of the newsletter, including back issues, starting

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approximately February 1, 1994 (see below).

*Membership in FEEFHS is available to societies interested in Eastern European genealogy for \$25 per year for organizations with less than 100 members, \$50 per year for larger organizations. The FEEFHS Newsletter is published quarterly. Individuals may subscribe to the newsletter for \$10 per year. Send dues or subscriptions to Eva-Maria Batek, FEEFHS treasurer, 2968 Glenmare, Salt Lake City, UT 84106.*

*Contributions to the newsletter (preferably on diskette or WordPerfect) are welcomed from both organizations and individuals, whether members or not. Paid advertisements will be accepted at the rate of \$25 per page per issue or \$10 per camera-ready copy is provided. Send items for publication to John C. Alleman, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103. Requests back issues (\$2 each) from: Tom Hrnčirik, 722 N. Simon St., Visalia, CA 93291*

### FEEFHS

*Federation of East European Family  
History Societies*

eMail: [feefhs@feefhs.org](mailto:feefhs@feefhs.org)

WWW: <http://feefhs.org>

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# FEEFHS CONSTITUTION

## Article I - Name

The name of this association of organizations and individuals shall be the Federation of East European Family History Societies, hereafter referred to as FEEFHS or the federation.

## Article II - Purpose and Goals

### Section 1 - The Purposes and Goals of FEEFHS are to:

- (1) Provide a forum for exchanging information between different ethnic and religious groups as well as individual members who research ancestors from Eastern Europe.
- (2) Promote harmony and cooperation among all East European-oriented genealogical societies and set an example by maintaining a spirit of cooperation within FEEFHS.
- (3) Help establish new societies, devoted to genealogy research of ancestors from Eastern Europe, by encouraging and assisting individual members living in regions where no ethnic societies exist or meet their ethnic needs.
- (4) Provide a clearing house for member inquiries to assist both organizational members and individual members to identify resources most likely to be of assistance to them.
- (5) Establish databases, common to two or more East European ethnic/religious groups, to assist organizations in responding to queries and assist individual members in obtaining information relating to their East European ancestors.
- (6) Help member organizations and ethnic publications by promoting awareness of their existence, services, functions, research resources, activities and relevant publications authored or published by these organizations and their members.
- (7) Provide referrals of individual FEEFHS members to FEEFHS member organizations.
- (8) Publish a newsletter, and such other publications as are needed from time to time, dedicated to assisting in the realization of these goals.
- (9) Make the newsletter available at all major genealogy libraries and archives in the United States, Canada, all Eastern European countries and elsewhere in the world to assist in creating communication links, disseminating knowledge and promoting awareness of FEEFHS and its member organizations.

## Article III - Membership Classes and Subscriptions

### Section 1 - Organizational Members

- (1) Any genealogy society, association, organization or group

with historical or cultural objectives embracing genealogy as well as branches or chapters of such organizations, eligible for membership in FEEFHS, provided some their interest includes Eastern Europe, or migration to institutes, archives, libraries, other special organizations, etc.

- (2) Each organizational member shall choose a representative to serve on the board of directors of FEEFHS. Board members should have some experience in their respective fields.
- (3) Each organization shall have a voice in the affairs of FEEFHS through its board member. This includes the right to nominate candidates for election, to vote in elections of officers and on proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws.
- (4) Each board member has a responsibility to report on information or developments concerning East European genealogy to the newsletter editor and database chair for possible publication or inclusion into a FEEFHS database.

### Section 2 - Individual Members

- (1) Any person interested in East European genealogy is eligible for individual membership in FEEFHS.
- (2) This individual membership will include receipt of the FEEFHS newsletter, the opportunity to request information, place queries in the newsletter, the right to vote in elections and the right to become a candidate and hold office.
- (3) Individual members are not permitted to vote on the constitution or by-laws or amendments thereto.
- (4) Individual members are encouraged to join together to form new ethnic societies where none exist or when no FEEFHS member organization is able to serve their needs.

### Section 3 - Subscribers

- (1) Any person, organization, library or other archive may subscribe to the FEEFHS newsletter. A FEEFHS newsletter subscription carries no membership rights or privileges.
- (2) Subscribers are encouraged to submit articles for use in the FEEFHS newsletter and information for FEEFHS databases.

## Article IV - Officers

### Section 1 - Titles and Election

- (1) The officers shall be president, three vice-presidents,

secretary and treasurer.

- (2) The officers shall be elected by popular vote of all the organizational and individual members in the manner prescribed by Article VII.

## Article V - Executive Council

### Section 1 - Composition

- (1) The executive council shall consist of the officers, the two most recent living past presidents, the newsletter editor and one or more country representatives, if applicable.
- (2) The newsletter editor shall be appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the executive council.

### Section 2 - Bi-National and Multi-National Participation

- (1) The executive council shall initially be bi-national (United States and Canada) with at least one member from each country.
- (2) If the election of officers does not produce bi-national representation, a special "country representative" shall be appointed to serve on the executive council until such time as a person from that country is elected or appointed to fill a vacant position in accordance with Article VII.
- (3) The executive council may be expanded to include non-voting or voting country representatives of other nations. This shall be a decision made by the executive council with the advice and consent of the board of directors.

### Section 3 - Responsibilities

- (1) The executive council shall serve as the primary governing body of FEEFHS. It shall decide all matters placed before it except those matters specifically reserved for decision by the board of directors.
- (2) The executive council shall establish and approve a budget for FEEFHS and approve the major expenditures of funds including the publication of a newsletter.
- (3) The executive council shall consult with board members as needed and maintain an open door policy with regard to sharing of information on its activities with them.
- (4) The president or executive council shall address any concerns raised by board members and respond in a timely manner.
- (5) The president or executive council shall respond in writing in a timely manner to any and all written petitions from the board of directors.

### Section 4 - President

- (1) The president shall serve as the chief executive officer of FEEFHS, chair the executive council and act on behalf of FEEFHS between meetings of the executive council. The

president shall consult with other council members as needed.

- (2) The president shall have the responsibility to create committees to deal with FEEFHS needs and appoint committee chairs and members and changes in such appointments as needed.
- (3) Committee chairs and committee members shall be members in good standing of FEEFHS. The president may delegate to committee chairs the authority to appoint committee members.
- (4) The president shall report all major decisions to the executive council in a timely manner.

## Article VI - Board of Directors

### Section 1 - Composition

- (1) The board of directors shall consist of the executive council and a representative of each organizational member.
- (2) Each member organization shall designate a primary representative to serve on this board, to be called its board member. Each organization may designate a second person to serve as an alternate board member if desired.

### Section 2 - Advisory Responsibilities

- (1) The board of directors shall serve as an advisory body of ethnic specialists.
- (2) Board members are expected to provide advice and suggestions to the president and executive council when solicited or on their own initiative.
- (3) Board members are expected to maintain liaison with their respective member organization and FEEFHS.
- (4) Board members are responsible for reporting new information and developments in East European genealogy to the newsletter editor and database chair for publication and use by FEEFHS.
- (5) Should 25% or more of board members consider an issue of importance deserves to be addressed and resolved by the president or executive council, they shall petition the president or executive council to address their concerns.

### Section 3 - Approval Authority

- (1) A majority vote of approval by the board shall be required to ratify any proposed amendment to the constitution or by-laws.
- (2) A majority vote of approval is required to relocate FEEFHS headquarters and/or library.

### Section 4 - Audit and Oversight Responsibilities

- (1) The board of directors at each annual meeting shall select

- a person who is not on the executive council to audit the treasurer's books each year.
- (2) The board shall have the power to remove any officer for just cause. Each board member shall cast one vote.
  - (3) Removal from office shall require a vote of 60% of board members in good standing at the time the vote is cast and at the time it is counted.
  - (4) The board shall report its reasons for such action in a timely manner to the general membership of FEEFHS.

#### Article VII - Elections

##### Section 1 - Nominating Committee

- (1) A nominating committee shall be appointed by the president. It shall be chaired by the past-president, if possible, and include two or three FEEFHS members in good standing who are not running for election. Every reasonable effort shall be made to ensure bi-national representation.
- (2) Recommendations for new officers shall be solicited through board members from member organizations and from all members in good standing through the newsletter. The nominating committee shall contact each person recommended and determine if they are willing and qualified to serve. They shall respond in a timely manner to membership inquiries and conduct their affairs in an open and even-handed manner.
- (3) If more than one person desires to be nominated, the committee shall list all qualified nominees for each position on the ballot. The mailing shall also include brief biographies of the candidates and a ballot to all members in good standing.

##### Section 2 - Election Procedure

- (1) Each ballot shall indicate the number of votes available and shall specify a final date certain for return, such date being no less than 49 days after mailing of the ballot.
- (2) Each individual member in good standing shall have one vote.
- (3) Small organizations (100 members or less) in good standing shall have four (4) votes. Medium-sized organizations (101 members to 300 members) shall have six (6) votes. Large organizations (over 300 members) shall have eight (8) votes. The vote of each organization shall be cast by the board member representing that organization.
- (4) Member organizations which publish periodicals may count subscribers as members under Section 2 (3) above. Institutions and other organizations without members or subscribers, such as institutes, libraries, archives, etc. shall have four (4) votes.

- (5) Elections shall be conducted by mail ballot. The ballot shall be counted by the chair of the nominating committee in the presence of others not running for office, no later than 30 November. The board of directors and winners shall be notified by mail in a timely manner. The general membership shall be notified through the newsletter.

#### Article VIII - Vacancies in Office

##### Section 1 - Temporary Replacement of an Officer

- (1) If the president is incapacitated or unable to serve for a short time, the 1st vice-president shall serve as acting president with the advice and consent of a majority of the executive council.
- (2) The president, or in his absence the next highest ranking vice-president shall make such arrangements as may be needed on a temporary basis to ensure the proper functioning of FEEFHS if another officer is unable to serve for a short time.
- (3) The president or acting president shall notify the board of directors in a timely manner.

##### Section 2 - Replacement of Board Members

- (1) Member organizations have the right to establish their own rules and procedures for selecting and replacing their representative on the board of directors.
- (2) Officers who also serve as board members may be replaced as board members by their organization. If this occurs, they shall retain their elected position for the balance of their term of office.

##### Section 3 - Permanent Replacement of an Officer

- (1) If an officer resigns, dies, is removed from office for cause, or becomes permanently incapacitated or otherwise unable to serve, a permanent replacement shall be chosen.
- (2) If the president or a vice-president needs to be replaced, the next highest vice-president willing to serve shall become elevated to fill the vacancy. Other vice-presidents shall be elevated to the subsequent vacancy or vacancies in order of succession. A new third vice-president shall be chosen by the executive council from the ranks of the board of directors or from among individual members.
- (3) If a secretary or treasurer needs to be replaced, the president, with the advice and consent of the executive council, shall appoint a replacement.
- (4) The board of directors and general membership shall be informed of these changes in a timely manner.

#### Article IX - Terms of Office



## Section 1 - Officers

- (1) All officers shall serve for a term of two years.
- (2) No officer shall serve in the same elected position for more than two consecutive terms.
- (3) All terms of office shall commence on 1 January of an even-numbered year, and end on 31 December of the next odd-numbered year. The first elected officers shall start as soon as elected and serve through 31 December 1995.

## Section 2 - Members of the Board of Directors

- (1) Board members representing member organizations serve at the pleasure of that organization. They shall have no fixed term.
- (2) The appointment and replacement of a board member by each organization shall be promptly reported to the FEEFHS secretary and president.
- (3) All board representatives are responsible for maintaining their current address and telephone number with the FEEFHS secretary and president.

## Article X - Decision-Making Process

### Section 1 - Consensus

- (1) In keeping with Article II goal (2) above, a serious effort shall be made by all to achieve consensus on important issues prior to placing them to a vote.

### Section 2 - Telephone and Mail Communication

- (1) Due to the geographic dispersion of the membership, it is expected to be difficult to assure adequate and representative attendance. All issues requiring a vote by the board of directors shall be by mail ballot unless the president or a majority of the executive council concludes the matter is sufficiently urgent as to call for a telephone consultation and vote or a vote is taken at an annual meeting as specified by the by-laws.
- (2) The executive council shall establish such means of communication and decision making as is considered appropriate for these officers.

## Article XI - Use of Funds

### Section 1 - Non-Profit Status

- (1) FEEFHS is a non-profit organization. It shall limit the use of its funds to accomplish the purposes and goals specified in Article II of this constitution.
- (2) No part of the funds of FEEFHS shall ever inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its officers, directors,

members or subscribers, except as reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of FEEFHS or as reasonable compensation for services rendered to FEEFHS for furtherance of non-profit or tax-exempt purposes.

## Section 2 - Compensation

- (1) No compensation shall be made for services rendered to FEEFHS unless the executive council determines an individual has devoted a substantial amount of time and effort to FEEFHS over and above the reasonable amount of time persons are expected to devote to FEEFHS as unpaid volunteers.

## Section 3 - Paid Staff

- (1) Paid staff may be hired, provided a 75% majority of the executive council approves such a decision.
- (2) The board of directors shall be notified in advance of such a proposal and shall be given the opportunity to express their opinions and advice to the president and executive council prior to a final vote of the executive council.

## Article XII - Ratification of this Constitution and Amendments

### Section 1 - Effective Date of Ratification

- (1) This constitution and by-laws shall become effective the day ratification notice is received from two-thirds of the members of the board of directors.
- (2) Notification to the general membership of ratification shall occur in the next regularly scheduled issue of the FEEFHS newsletter.

### Section 2 - Amendment of the Constitution

- (1) Proposals to amend the constitution require a majority vote of the executive council or a one-third vote of the board of directors.
- (2) In voting on amendments, each member of the board of directors shall have one vote for their organization.
- (3) Each board member is responsible for communicating the substance and issues associated with the amendment to the organization he or she represents. Board members shall certify on the ballot they have the approval of their organization to cast their vote.
- (4) A final tally will occur no later than 60 days after the proposed amendment has been mailed with a ballot to all board members in good standing.
- (5) Member organizations whose representatives fail to vote within 60 days will have their vote excluded from the vote total used to calculate the two-thirds requirement.
- (6) A constitutional amendment shall be adopted when two-

thirds of the board of directors has ratified the proposed amendment.

- (7) A constitutional amendment shall become effective immediately upon ratification unless a different effective date is specified.

#### Article XIII - Termination and Dissolution

- (1) Upon dissolution and/or termination of FEEFHS, any remaining assets existing after the payment of debts and obligations shall be distributed to a non-profit foundation, federation, society or other organization dedicated to educational purposes, specifically one concerned with genealogy and which has been established under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as amended.

#### Article XIV - Transition from Pro-tem Status

##### Section 1 - Proposed Constitution

This proposed constitution shall be submitted to all members of the board of directors for ratification, after approval by the executive committee.

##### Section 2 - Ratification Procedure

- (1) Board members shall have 60 days to vote on this constitution.
- (2) Board members shall each cast one vote on behalf of the organization they represent.
- (3) This constitution shall become effective when ratified by two thirds of the total number of founding members of the board of directors casting their vote within the prescribed period.

##### Section 3 - Board Members Not Voting

- (1) Should a board member fail to cast a vote by 60 days after mailing, that vote will be considered an abstention and excluded from the total number of votes considered cast by the founders under Article XIV, Sec. 2 (3) above. Abstentions shall not be counted in determining the two-thirds majority required for ratification.

##### Section 4 - Resolution of Differences

- (1) If more than three board members reject ratification prior to ratification by two-thirds of the board members, the executive council shall consult with them as to reasons for rejection and consider whether a revised constitution would be more likely to achieve consensus.
- (2) The executive committee may propose a revised constitution if convincing evidence exists that such a revision would promote harmony and cooperation more

effectively. Such a revision would then be ~~sub~~ Sections 2 and 3 above.

#### Section 5 - First Term of Elected Officers

- (1) The first set of FEEFHS officers elected ~~under~~ constitution shall serve from the date of election ~~to~~ general membership until 31 December 1995.

#### Section 6 - Deletion upon Ratification

This article shall be automatically deleted from constitution upon ratification.

CONSTITUTION RATIFIED BY VOTE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: 27 August, 1993.

CONSTITUTION RATIFIED BY VOTE OF BOARD DIRECTORS: 7 December, 1993.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHENTICATING OFFICIAL:



# FEEFHS BY-LAWS

## Article I - Headquarters and Library

### Section 1 - Headquarters

- (1) The headquarters of FEEFHS shall be located at Salt Lake City, Utah.
- (2) A permanent FEEFHS mailing address shall be established, made available to all members and subscribers and made available to be published in directories, publications and elsewhere.
- (3) Mail addressed to officers and other members living outside the Salt Lake City area shall be forwarded in a timely manner.

### Section 2 - Library

- (1) The library of FEEFHS shall be located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

## Article II - Membership Classes and Responsibilities

### Section 1 - Societies and Organizations

- (1) Any genealogy-related society, association or other organization shall be accepted as an organizational member of FEEFHS.
- (2) Three organizational membership categories shall be recognized for purposes of assessing dues and providing recognition:
  - (a) Member: Any organization that pays US\$15 or such other minimum membership dues per year as may be set by the executive council.
  - (b) Sponsor: Any organization that pays US\$25 per year dues or such other additional amount as may be set from time to time by the executive council.
  - (c) Patron: Any organization that pays US\$50 per year dues or such other additional amount as may be set from time to time by the executive committee.

### Section 2 - Individual Members

- (1) Individual members are eligible to serve as committee members, committee chairs and in other volunteer capacities. They are encouraged to volunteer and assist in promoting awareness of the existence of FEEFHS.
- (2) Individual members are eligible to be nominated and elected to office.

### Section 3 - Responsibilities and Privileges

- (1) All organizations and individual members are encouraged to submit items, information and articles on relevant topics

to the newsletter and the database chair.

## Article III - Membership Dues

### Section 1 - Period of Membership and Administrative Year

- (1) All memberships shall be by calendar fiscal year. Memberships received after 30 September will be held presumed to be intended to start on 1 January of the next year unless the member states to the contrary and specifically requests all back issues of the current year's newsletters.
- (2) Good standing: To maintain good standing, all dues shall be received by the treasurer by 1 February of the new year. Good standing will be restored when dues in arrears are paid.

### Section 2 - Individual Membership Dues

- (1) Individual membership dues shall be US\$15 per year, or such other amount as may be set annually by the executive council.
- (2) Dues shall be reviewed each year in conjunction with the budget. Dues may be changed no more than once a year by a majority vote of the executive council, after soliciting the advice of the board members.
- (3) Life Member: Any person who pays US\$250 or such other additional amount as may be set from time to time by the executive committee shall be a life member of FEEFHS.
- (4) Persons who contribute the amount required for the class of Sponsor or Patron under Article II Section 1 (2) or for Life Member shall receive recognition in the newsletter.

## Article IV - Subscriptions

### Section 1 - Subscription Price and Changes

- (1) Subscriptions to the FEEFHS newsletter shall be US\$10 per year for the United States and Canada and US\$15 per year for other countries, or as changed by the executive council.
- (2) Subscription fees may be changed annually by the executive council upon recommendation of the newsletter editor.

## Article V - Functions and Services

FEEFHS shall provide such services and undertake such activities in furtherance of the purposes and goals of the federation as the executive council or the board of directors shall approve. These shall specifically include the following

services and activities as time and funds permit:

- (1) Publish four newsletters per year, unless unforeseeable circumstances prevent the publication of a specific issue.
- (2) Establish databases to help to members, without knowingly duplicating the databases of existing organizations.
- (3) Prepare lists of the main ethnic, religious, geographic or topical interests of each organizational member, with a brief description of its resources and the services it provides.
- (4) Answer correspondence and queries from (a) organizational and individual members of FEEFHS and (b) to the extent possible, from other individuals, organizations or institutions.
- (5) Refer individual members and East Europeans seeking information to organizational members and those individual members who have offered to provide such information.
- (6) Sponsor or co-sponsor conferences, conventions, workshops and meetings on genealogy to the extent that its resources permit and membership support warrants.
- (7) Represent FEEFHS and its member societies at as many major regional and national genealogy conventions as possible.
- (8) Encourage individuals who have ethnic, geographic, religious or other interests in genealogy which are not currently being covered by existing genealogy societies to become members of FEEFHS and to help them organize new genealogy societies by maintaining a database of individuals with such shared interests and informing them of each other.

#### Article VI - Cooperative Regional and Continental Activities

- (1) FEEFHS shall hold continent-wide conferences, conventions, workshops and meetings to the extent its resources permit. Such events may be held in conjunction with:
  - (a) a major event of an organizational member
  - (b) a convention of the Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies, Inc., the National Genealogical Society or the Federation of Genealogical Societies
  - (c) any other event likely to attract substantial attendance, such as the series of summer seminars on genealogy offered by Brigham Young University.
- (2) Member organizations are encouraged to engage in independent cooperative activities, which may include non-member organizations, at the local, state, provincial, regional or national level.
- (3) Local, state or provincial, and regional multi-ethnic committees, groups, or organizations may be established,

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on an ad hoc or ongoing basis, to facilitate coordination.

- (4) Member organizations are encouraged to solicit display promotional materials of other organizations at their conferences and meetings for sake of making their members more aware of supplementary sources of information and promoting mutual membership growth.

#### Article VII - Amendments

##### Section 1 - Amendments at Annual Meetings

- (1) FEEFHS by-laws may be proposed at any regular meeting.
- (2) Amendments proposed for a vote at an annual meeting shall be mailed to all board members at least 30 days before said annual meeting.
- (3) Mail ballots will be accepted from organizations where a board member cannot attend.
- (4) Proxy voting shall be permitted.

##### Section 2 - Amendments by Mail Vote:

- (1) FEEFHS By-Laws may be amended by mail provided notice of intention to amend and a copy of the proposed amendments shall have been mailed to each voting member of FEEFHS at least 45 days before the deadline for receipt of ballots. The FEEFHS newsletter can be used for the purpose of this notification with the consent of the Executive Council.


##### Section 3 - Adoption and Effective Date of By-law Amendments

- (1) Amendments passed at an annual meeting are effective immediately.
- (2) Amendments passed by mail vote shall become effective when accepted by a majority vote of the board of directors within 45 days after a ballot has been mailed. Each board member shall cast one vote. If a board member fails to cast a ballot within 45 days, that vote shall be considered an abstention and deducted from the total vote used to determine a majority.

ADOPTED BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: 27 August 1993

ADOPTED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 7 December 1993.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHENTICATING OFFICIAL:

  
FEEFHS

Federation of East European Family  
History Societies

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History Societies*

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# FEEFHS

## Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

Vol 2, No. 2

March 1994

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### PRELIMINARY FEEFHS CONVENTION SCHEDULE

May 14-16, 1994  
by Ed Brandt, Program Chair

All sessions will be held at the Howard Johnson Hotel, 122 West South Temple, except where the Family History Library (which is in the same block) is specified.

#### Registration and Payment of Fees

Saturday, May 14, 4-6:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 15, 10-11 a.m.

Later registration can be arranged on request.

FEEFHS is not set up for payment by credit cards; checks will be accepted.

#### Book Sales Room (handled by Ancestral Nostalgia)

Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 14th, and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, March 16.

N.B.: This will be the most diverse and one of the largest selections of books relating to East European genealogy ever offered in North America.

### TENTATIVE PROGRAM

(including United Polish Genealogical Societies' convention schedule)

#### Thursday, March 12

8:45-9:45 a.m.: (UPGS)

**Daniel Schlyter**, "Using Polish Civil and Parish Records to Compile your Pedigree"

10-11 a.m.: (UPGS)

Orientation to the Family History Library

11 a.m.-10 p.m.: (UPGS)

Individual research

10-11 p.m.: (UPGS)

Informal information-sharing session.

#### Friday, March 13

8-9 a.m.: (UPGS)

**Jolanta Setmajar**, "Beginning Polish Research"

9:15-10:15 a.m.: (UPGS)

**Daniel Schlyter**, topic to be announced

10:15 a.m.-10 p.m.: (UPGS)

Individual research

4:00 p.m. (FEEFHS)

Meeting of FEEFHS Executive Council (old and new members). Those attending the convention are welcome as observers.

10-11 p.m.: (UPGS)

Informal information-sharing session.

#### Saturday, March 14

7:30-9:45 a.m.: (UPGS)

**Marek Koblanski**, "Advanced Polish research"

10 a.m.-5 p.m.: (UPGS)

Individual research

2:30 p.m. (FEEFHS)

Meeting of the FEEFHS Board of Directors (old and new members). All FEEFHS convention attendees are welcome as observers.

4:00 p.m. (FEEFHS)

Informal general membership meeting, which will give all those attending the convention an opportunity to express their views about what FEEFHS should do and what they are willing to do to help accomplish our goals. By having this member-input session on Saturday, we hope to keep the business meeting at the Sunday luncheon brief.

6:30 p.m.: (UPGS/FEEFHS)

Joint Banquet

Keynote speaker: Marek Koblanski (who has just returned from Poland with a lot of new information)  
**FEEFHS President Charles M. Hall** and representatives of all participating Polish genealogical societies will speak briefly.

Cost is included in the registration fee of \$50 for the FEEFHS convention of \$75 for both conventions.

Sunday, May 15

Optional breakfast buffet sponsored by UPGS (cost: \$15/person)

11-11:50 a.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Jonathan Shea**, "Researching Catholic, Jewish, and Orthodox Records in Poland"
- (2) **Duncan Gardiner**, "Multi-Ethnic Research in the Archives of Slovakia and the Czech Republic"

12-2 p.m. (FEEFHS)

FEEFHS luncheon (cost: \$15)

Keynote speaker: **President Charles M. Hall**, "East European Field Research"

Business meeting

FEEFHS member societies and individual members of FEEFHS or member societies are welcome to suggest agenda items for the business meeting. Please send suggestions to Charles Hall, P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121, or call (801) 278-4586, by April 20 (no later than 8:30 p.m. MST).

2-2:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Patricia Eames and Vladislav Y. Soshnikov**, "Current Status of Access to Archival Records of Genealogical Value in the Former Soviet Archives"
- (2) **Thomas Hrudifik**, "Establishing Links with the Past: Find Your Relatives and Plan a Family Gathering"

3-3:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Irmgard Hein Ellingson**, "The Swabian Migration to West Prussia and Bukovina"
- (2) **Tom Noy**, "LDS Resources for Jewish Genealogical Research"

4-4:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **William F. (Fred) Hoffman and Jonathan Shea**, "Linguistic Aspects of Research in the Territory of the Former Kingdom of Poland"
- (2) **Gwen Pritzgau**, "LDS Resources for Black Sea Germans"

5-5:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Eva Lipták**, "Hungarian Research"
- (2) **Jo Ann Kuhr**, "The Genealogical Resources of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia"

6-7:30 p.m.

Dinner on your own

7:30 p.m. -

Informal information-sharing session

Monday, May 16

9-9:50 a.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Larry Jensen**, "Researching Ancestors from the Pre-World War I German Empire"
- (2) **Thomas Edlund**, "LDS Resources for Croatia and Slovenia"

10-10:50 a.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Ewald Wuschke**, "Protestant Research in Central Poland and Volhynia"
- (2) **John Alleman**, "How to Handle Foreign Languages on the Computer"

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Lunch on your own, with time to visit the book sales room

1-1:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Barry Kirk**, "Beginning Ukrainian Research"
- (2) **John D. Movius**, "New Computer Tools (Software & Hardware) for Genealogy"

2-2:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

**Daniel Schlyter**, "Overview of the Family History Library's East European Holdings" (to be held in the Family History Library, probably in the classroom on floor B-1)

3-3:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Margarita Choquette**, "LDS Resources for the Baltic Countries, with Brief References to Russia and Belarus" (to be held in the Family History Library in the classroom on floor B-1)
- (2) **Brian Lenius**, "Multi-Ethnic Research in the Former Austrian Crownland of Galicia"



4-4:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Douglas Holmes**, "Migration Into and Out of Old Hungary"
- (2) **Roy Rushka**, "Video of Visit to Ancestral Villages in Western Ukraine and Meeting Relatives"

5-5:50 p.m. (FEEFHS)

- (1) **Howard Krushel**, "A Visit to the Archives in Žitomir and Rovno"
- (2) A panel of short presentations by the following (and probably others):
  - (a) **Robin Neumann** on Lithuanian research
  - (b) **Douglas Holmes** on using East European telephone books

6-7:30 p.m.

Dinner on your own

7:30 p.m. -

Informal information-sharing session

### Additions and Changes

**Helene Cincebeaux** "Adventures in Researching Ancestors from Slovakia" (accompanied by slides)

**Nancy Svet Burnett** "A Visit to the Archives in Slovenia"

The times for these presentations will be set after we determine whether any of the speakers desire to change to a different time slot, since the time schedule has not yet been cleared with all the speakers. In all likelihood, however, we will have two late Sunday presentations, either at 6 p.m., postponing dinner, or at 7:30 p.m., with informal information-sharing thereafter.

We could use 2 or 3 more short presentations for the panel. If you wish to volunteer or to recommend someone, please contact Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave., S. E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101, or phone him between 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. no later than April 7 at (612) 338-2001.

### About Our Speakers

1 **Charles M. Hall** (founding president of FEEFHS) is a professional linguist, has taught Russian and German at the college level, has taught Esperanto, and knows Latin and Norwegian. As a professional genealogist, he was a co-founder of Palatines to America. He has made 10 extended research trips to Europe, including Germany, Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine. His best known

publication is *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany* (8 volumes to date). P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-1346.

2 **John C. Alleman** (FEEFHS newsletter editor) is a linguist and computer specialist with a graduate degree in linguistics. As a professional linguist, he translates many languages, including Finnish, Hungarian, German, French, Spanish, Swedish, Russian, Italian, Esperanto, and other European languages into English, is a member of the Finno-Ugric Society and has done research on Silesia. He was employed by the LDS Church Translation Department for over 18 years, most of that time as manager of their computer systems, which he developed to handle over 100 non-English languages. 204 West, 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108.

3 **Dr. Nancy Svet Burnett** is a board member of the Slovenian Genealogical Society and head of its translation projects. Her series of articles is now being published as a book, *Slovenes in Rural Appalachia: An Oral History*. She knows some Slovenian, often visits Slovenia, and is planning another trip this fall. P.O. Box 1676, Sandpoint, ID 83864.

4 **Margarita Choquette** has served as an international reference consultant at the Family History Library (FHL) for the former Soviet Union and Scandinavia for 16 years. She has a graduate degree in Russian, presented a paper on the FHL at the 1992 International Conference on Genealogy at St. Petersburg, Russia and was instrumental in bringing Dr. Sakharov of the Russian Genealogical Society to the U.S. She knows Russian, Finnish, Swedish and German. She has taught summer seminars on genealogical research at Brigham Young University and at the FHL. 3846 Barbara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84124.

5 **Helene Cincebeaux** is the founder of the Slovak Heritage and Folklore Society, International, which has 1200 members in 10 countries. She edited the book *Slovak Pride* and is the editor of *Slovakia, Slovak Heritage Newsletter*. She leads annual summer tours to Slovakia. In addition, she is a board member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. She speaks Slovak, Czech, and Ukrainian. 151 Colebrook Dr., Rochester, NY 14617.

6 **Patricia A. Eames** is a Public Affairs Specialist in the Office of Public Programs of the National Archives and Records Service and the coordinator of the Russian-American Genealogical Archival Services (RAGAS). She was the leader of archival exchange delegations to the archives in Moscow, Minsk, and St. Petersburg. She translates Russian and spoke at the 1992 International Conference on Genealogy in St. Petersburg on one of her

four research trips to Russia. c/o RAGAS, Box 236, Glen Echo, MD 20812

- 7 Thomas Kent Edlund of the FHL is now indexing the cataloged, microfilmed 1833-1900 German Lutheran parish registers for the Consistory of St. Petersburg (which included Volhynia and the Black Sea regions) by locality. His recent publications include *An Introduction and Index to the German Minority Census of 1938* and 2 important German-language books. He knows Russian, Latin, Greek, Coptic and Nahuatl (Aztec) and is now cataloging the LDS Croatian and Slovenian microfilms, 2223 Carriage Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84117.
- 8 Irmgard Hein Ellingson is the author of *The Bukovina Germans in Kansas: A 200-Year History of the Lutheran Swabians*. She was also a co-founder of the Bukovina Society of the Americas and serves on its International Board. She was a high-school German teacher and made two extended historical and genealogical research trips to Germany, Austria, and the Czech Republic, researching Germans from Bukovina and Volhynia. P. O. Box 97, Ossian, IA 52161-0097.
- 9 Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner (founding board member of FEEFHS), a certified genealogist, taught Russian and Czech in college, is also proficient in Slovak, German and French, and reads Polish, Latin, Serbo-Croatian and Hungarian. He is a board member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and editor of its yearbook, *Ročenka*. He has researched over 200 Czech, Slovak, German, and Rusyn names in 8 research trips to Czechoslovakia and authored *German Towns in Slovakia & Upper Hungary: A Gazetteer*. 12961 Lake Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107.
- 10 William F. (Fred) Hoffman is a translator and author, having written *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings* and co-authored *Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Guide*. He is the editor of *Rodziny: The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America* and co-editor of the PGSA's *Bulletin*. He knows German, Latin, Polish, Russian and has a reading knowledge of French, Spanish and Italian. 60 Old Northville Road, New Milford, CT 06776-2245.
- 11 Douglas P. Holmes is the founder and director of the Hungarian/American Friendship Society of Sacramento, whose periodical *Régi Magyarország* he edits. His area of interest encompasses all ethnic groups in pre-1919 Hungary, including Slovakia and parts of Romania and the former Yugoslavia, with special emphasis on Lutherans. He has made 3 research trips to Hungary, where he succeeded in tracing his Slovak ancestors back to the beginning of the records. He knows-genealogical-oriented Hungarian, Portuguese, Spanish and Latin. 2811 Elgin Way #236, Sacramento, CA 95821.
- 12 Tom Hrnčirik is the founder of the Slavic Research Institute and co-founder of the newsletter *Morava Křesťanství*. He is a Moravian specialist and has made eight research trips to the Czech Republic, where he has spent over 100 research hours in the Archives of Moravia. He serves as an LDS advisor for genealogy and family history in Visalia, California. He knows Spanish and Czech. 31910 Road 160, Visalia, CA 93292.
- 13 Larry O. Jensen is the editor of the *Genealogical Digest*. He has written a 3-volume *Handbook of German Research*. He regularly holds summer sessions on German research and the *Genealogical Digest* script, including an intensive advanced course that prepares genealogists for accreditation, at Brigham Young University. P.O. Box 441, Pleasant Grove, UT 84062.
- 14 Barry Kirk has worked for the FHL for 13 years and is an accredited genealogist in four different areas. He is a specialist on the former Soviet Union and has taught seminars on Ukrainian research throughout the United States and Canada. He served on the board of directors of the Utah Genealogical Association (not to be confused with the LDS-affiliated Genealogical Society of Utah) for several years. He reads Latin and is learning Ukrainian. P. O. Box 11806, Salt Lake City, UT 84150.
- 15 Howard Krushel is a member of the Alberta Genealogical Society and is active in the local chapter of Germans from Volhynia and Central Poland. He recently travelled to Volhynia and frequently contributes articles to *Wandering Volhynians*. He knows German and has a large collection of books on Germans from the old Czarist empire, including many old German books. He has done research on Germans from the former Russian Empire for 25 years and is knowledgeable about Russian and Ukrainian sources. 136 Silver Springs Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta T3B 3G4, Canada.
- 16 Jo Ann Kuhr is the Research Director of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, for which she has worked for 15 years, following her experience as a German instructor. She formerly edited the *AHSGR Journal* and is still responsible for *Clues*, the annual AHSGR genealogical publication. She has conducted extensive oral interviews with ethnic Germans who recently moved to Germany from the former Soviet Union. c/o AHSGR, 631 D Street, Lincoln, NE 68502-1199.
- 17 Brian J. Lenius (founding 1st vice-president of FEEFHS) was a co-founder and the first president of the Manitoba

- Genealogical Society's East European Branch, which has many members from throughout western Canada and Ontario. He is co-editor of its multi-ethnic periodical, *East European Genealogist*, and writes articles for it. He recently published a *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia*. He served on the Manitoba Genealogical Society council and belongs to societies in Saskatchewan and Minnesota. He can read genealogical documents in German and Polish. Box 18, Group 4, RR1, Anola, Manitoba R0A 0C0, Canada.
- 18 **Eva T. Lipták** is a native of Hungary, graduated from the University of Budapest with majors in Hungarian and Latin, and also knows German and French. She came to Alberta in 1963 and then to Utah, where she received a degree in Library Science from Brigham Young University in 1968. She has worked as a librarian/cataloger at the FHL since 1968, except for 7 years as an LDS Church translator, and continues to do so on a part-time basis, despite her "retirement." 781 North 1100 East, Provo, UT 84606.
- 19 **John D. Movius** (founding 3rd vice-president of FEEFHS) is 1st vice-president of the Sacramento German Genealogical Society and columnist for its newsletter *Der Blumenbaum*. He is an engineer and a management science graduate from Stanford. His research interests extend back to the Roman and medieval eras, the Baltic countries including former Livonia and the Teutonic Knights, Pomerania and the Friuli. He is a member of 20 genealogical societies devoted to East European, German & computer research and has done on-site research in Germany, Italy, Poland, Austria and Switzerland. He has written and lectured on European University Matrikel Registers and new computer tools for genealogy. P. O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327.
- 20 **Robin J. Neumann** was the founding president of the Lithuanian-American Genealogical Society. He has worked at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture as a genealogical volunteer. He knows some Lithuanian, is knowledgeable about American resources for Lithuanian-American genealogy and has some familiarity with Lithuanian sources as well. 6211 West 87th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.
- 21 **Tom Noy** is the founding president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Salt Lake, now being established, and a member of several other Jewish genealogical societies. He is a professional German translator, knows some Hebrew and has a certificate in professional genealogical research from Brigham Young University. He serves on the Committee of Professional Jewish Genealogists, did extensive research in Germany during 9 years of military service there, and has made two research trips to Israel. 3510 South Fleetwood Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84117.
- 22 **Gwen B. Pritzgau** is a professional genealogist and a cataloger for the Salt Lake County Library System. She has conducted genealogy workshops at the conventions of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society and the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, as well as at the World Conference on Records. She has been researching Germans from Russia for 45 years and has given seminars on them at Brigham Young University on three occasions. 3092 West 12600 South, Riverton, UT 84065.
- 23 **Roy J. Rushka** of Rush Associates is a genealogist with 25 years of experience in the United States Foreign Service. He is the author and publisher of a 4-volume book about 50 inter-related ancestral families with 300 individuals and over 10,000 descendants from western Ukraine, with roots going back to antiquity in western Bohemia. He has done genealogical research in Ukraine, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Austria, and in several English-speaking countries. He has a limited knowledge of Ukrainian, Russian, Czech and Polish. 1455-C Holly Bush Drive, Fairborn, OH 45324.
- 24 **Daniel M. Schlyter** is the senior reference consultant at the FHL for Germany and Eastern Europe. He speaks many languages including Czech, Slovak, Polish, Russian and German, is an accredited genealogist with specialization in Czech/Slovak and Polish research and has given lectures at genealogical seminars throughout the United States and New Zealand, primarily on German, Polish and Czech/Slovak research, but also on Hungarian, Yugoslavian and Jewish research. He has been a board member of the Polish Genealogical Society of America since 1984, has written *A Handbook of Czechoslovak Genealogical Research* and co-authored *Sources for Genealogical Research in the Soviet Union*. c/o European Reference Section, Family History Library, 35 North West Temple Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84150.
- 25 **Jonathan D. Shea** is the founder and president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, as well as the editor of *Pathways and Passages*. He is a university faculty member and professional Polish/Lithuanian/Irish genealogist who is proficient in Polish, Russian, Spanish, French and Italian, with a reading knowledge of Byelorussian and Portuguese as well as some training in German, Chinese and Vietnamese. He is the author of *Russian-Language Documents from Russian Poland* and co-author of *Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Guide*. He was the first recipient of the Wigilia Medal awarded by the Polish Genealogical Society of America for

accomplishments in Polish genealogical research. 8 Lyle Road, New Britain, CT 06053.

26 Vladislav Yevgyenerick Soshnikov is a graduate of the Russian State Institute for Humanities (formerly the Moscow State Institute of History and Archives). He has studied extensively under the guidance of the two renowned historian-genealogists Professors A. L. Stanislovsky and V. B. Kobrin. His thesis involved the study of the Russian provincial gentry in the first third of the 17th century. In 1990 Mr. Soshnikov served as the research specialist for early 17th century sources at the Moscow Central State Archive for Ancient Acts (TsGADA). While there, he also provided genealogical research for historical accounts of the 17th and 18th century Russian gentry. Since 1991 he has been a staff member of the Archives of Russia Society (AROS), performing the research and preparation of genealogical reports necessary for fulfilling requests of the Russian-American Genealogical Archival Society (RAGAS). He is fluent in English and computer-proficient. c/o AROS Society Ltd., 15 Pushinskaya ul., 103821 Moscow, Russia.

27 Ewald Wuschke (founding board member of FEEFHS) is the publisher of *Wandering Volhynians: A Magazine for descendants of Germans from Volhynia and Central Poland*. This magazine, which has official representatives in Canada, the United States, and Germany, has subscribers from all over North America, as well as in Europe. He knows German and frequently speaks at conventions and on lecture tours, since he is recognized as the leading North American expert on the Volhynian Germans. He has also published a detailed booklet on German parish registers in Central Poland. 3492 West 39th Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia V6N 3A2 Canada.

28 Edward Reimer Brandt (founding 2nd vice-president of FEEFHS and convention program chair) is a member of about 25 genealogical societies in four countries, including German, Polish, Hungarian, Czechoslovak and multi-ethnic societies. He is an accredited genealogist, specializing in Germanic (especially East European German) research. He worked in Europe (mostly Germany) for seven years and did extensive research in pre-1785 parish registers. He is fluent in German, lectures on genealogy and has published many books and articles on German and other East European topics. He is a master decipherer and translator of German Gothic handwriting and a professional genealogical research consultant. 13 - 27th Avenue S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101.

## Notes on Convention Arrangements

### Taping

Although an effort has been made to avoid conflicting sessions of special interest to people with specific ethnic or topographical interests, some genealogists will inevitably be unable to attend all the sessions they would like to. Therefore, FEEFHS will try to arrange for taping the presentations and making tapes available for sale. This should also be valuable to libraries, including genealogical and historical societies, as well as for genealogists who are unable to attend.

### Consultation and Research Services

Some speakers have indicated that they could be available for consultation and to provide assistance with personal research after the convention. If you are interested, please contact the speaker directly to make arrangements. Call as soon as possible, because if the speakers have already made flight reservations, such assistance may be impossible or more expensive, because there is sometimes a fee for changing flight plans.

### Hotel Reservations

Rooms at the Howard Johnson Hotel for those attending the FEEFHS convention are guaranteed until April 14, (not April 21 as previously indicated). Thereafter, reservations will be accepted on a space-available basis. We have set aside a block of rooms only for Saturday, Sunday, and Monday nights, so if you plan to stay longer, it is advisable to make early reservations.

When making reservations, be sure to mention that you are attending the FEEFHS convention in order to get the reduced rate. Moreover, we need to receive credit for a certain number of rooms actually used by people attending our convention in order to obtain the conference rooms free of charge.

The hotel prefers to receive reservations on its toll-free number (800-366-3684) rather than in writing. To make sure that FEEFHS gets proper credit, it would be helpful to mention our group number, 76358. If you already made your reservation without mentioning this number (which we just learned about), please call the 800 number and get it added to your reservation.

Each room has two queen-size beds, and roll-aways are available at no extra charge, so you can lodge your whole family (unless it is a large one) for \$56, a discounted rate as low as, or lower than, any organizational discounts (such as AAA or AARP).

Tours for accompanying family members who do not wish to

attend the convention can be arranged at the hotel. You may pay for the Saturday banquet (\$25) and/or the Sunday luncheon (\$15) for those who do not attend the rest of the convention, without paying the registration fee.

FEEFHS member societies and individual members of FEEFHS or member societies are welcome to suggest topics to be placed on the agenda for the FEEFHS business meeting. Please send suggestions to President Charles Hall, P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121, or call (801) 278-4586, by April 20 (no later than 8:30 p.m. MST).

All organizational members of FEEFHS are encouraged to send 100-200 copies of the membership brochures to John C. Alleman, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108, for distribution to people attending the convention who may be interested in their respective societies. Any leftovers will be used by John D. Movius, who plans to attend all the major genealogical conferences in California this year.

Member societies are also invited to send a sample issue of each of their periodicals (journals, newsletters, yearbooks) to John Alleman for display at the convention, so those attending the FEEFHS convention will get an idea of what their organizations have to offer.

## REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

by John C. Alleman

As reported in the last issue of the *FEEFHS Newsletter*, following ratification of the FEEFHS Constitution and By-laws and in accordance with its provisions, President Charles Hall appointed myself, Duncan Gardiner, Ewald Wuschke to serve as a Nominating Committee to arrange for elections for permanent FEEFHS officers.

Since none of us was very well acquainted with the wide spectrum of FEEFHS members, a form was distributed with that issue, soliciting suggestions for nominations from all interested persons. We had hoped that as a result of the form that was sent out, we would receive at least one nomination for each office. This did not happen. The only people that were nominated by anyone for President and the three Vice Presidents were the present officers, Charles Hall, Brian Lenius, Ed Brandt, and John Movius. No one was nominated for either Secretary or Treasurer, and the people holding those offices at that time could not continue serving. There had been a question about whether Brian Lenius could continue in his position, but he has assured us that he can, as he is no longer involved in some of the projects that have occupied him in recent months.

Charles Hall, Ed Brandt, John Movius and I met here in Salt Lake early this month to discuss the situation. We concluded that in order to give Charles the help he needs to make FEEFHS function well, the Secretary and Treasurer need to be people that live near him and that he knows he can work with, regardless of whether they have expressed interest in Eastern European genealogy or not.

Charles then looked for suitable people by this criterion, and has proposed the names of Kathleen Fisher for secretary and Azra Jojić for treasurer. They are both professionals in the secretarial and financial fields, respectively. Azra happens to be an Eastern European. Kathleen is a close friend of Charles's wife, but has no Eastern European connection.

Accordingly, we enclose with this issue a ballot on which you can indicate approval or disapproval with these names. Please return the ballots as soon as possible, so that the permanent officers can be installed at our May convention. We are aware that the By-laws specify that there should be a 49-day period in which ballots may be returned, and there are not quite 49 days remaining before the convention. We shall therefore request the convention to approve a one-time waiver of that requirement as one agenda item for the business meeting. In view of the fact that there are no contested elections, we anticipate no problems with this slight variation in the prescribed procedure, but members will have an opportunity to express possible objections.

Biographical information on the President and Vice Presidents appears above in connection with the Convention Program. Following are biographical sketches of the nominees for Secretary and Treasurer:

**Kathleen Fisher**, Secretary, was a legal secretary in Los Angeles, California, until she and her husband decided to move to Salt Lake City, Utah, to raise their family. She is the mother of 5 children. She has worked as a PTA president, room mother, and in almost every other capacity as a volunteer at her children's school. She is presently working part-time at Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City in the Patient Accounts Department. 3242 East Joyce Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84109, phone (801) 487-5264.

**Azra Puzić Jojić**, Treasurer, was born in 1952 in Moštar, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Her husband, Tomislav Jojić, was born in 1951 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. They have 2 children - ages 14 and 11. She was educated at Teachers College, Moštar, 1967-71 and University Law School, Moštar, 1971-1976. She has worked as an elementary school teacher, law-school instructor, and income-tax auditor. She emigrated to Salt Lake City, Utah, in September 1993. She speaks Serbo-Croatian, Russian, and English, and is beginning to research her genealogy. 4896 S. Highland Cir. #8, Salt Lake City, UT 84117, phone (801) 278-4952.

## THANKS TO OUR STAUNCH SUPPORTERS

by Ed Brandt and John Movius

FEEFHS gives an especially hearty thanks to the following patrons who contributed US\$50.00 or more by February 11, 1994.

Die Pommerschen Leute  
Glückstal Colonies Research Association  
German-Bohemian Heritage Society  
Minnesota Genealogical Society  
Polish Genealogical Society of America  
Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut, Inc.  
Sacramento German Genealogy Society  
Slavic Research Institute  
Wandering Volhynians  
European Interest Group, West Australian  
Genealogical Society

We also wish to express our sincere thanks to the following sponsors who have made cash contributions of US\$25.00 or more: East European Branch, Manitoba Genealogical Society; German Research Association, Inc.; Hungarian Genealogical Society; Polish Genealogical Society of California; Puget Sound Chapter, Germans from Russia Heritage Association; Rusin Association; Saskatchewan Genealogical Society; Slovenian American National Art Guild; Edward Brandt, Leona Janke, James H. Wittak and Evelyn Wolfer.

Furthermore, the president, newsletter editor, all vice-presidents, several board members and all out-of-state convention speakers have incurred unreimbursed travel and other expenditures (or made a commitment to do so) which amount to considerably more than \$50 in each case.

### ...AND A REMINDER

We are pleased with the renewal response we have had so far. You received 4 issues of our ever expanding newsletter for 1992-93. In 1994 you will also receive the benefit of a convention with presentations by two dozen speakers having star-studded credentials. We hope that many subscribers to the newsletter will become members (at a cost of only \$5.00 more). We hope that more members will become sponsors or patrons, so we are able to expand our services, such as such as the database, which will enable us to respond to inquiries more fully and quickly. This is the last issue of the newsletter that will be sent to those who have not renewed their memberships/subscriptions for 1994.

The FEEFHS Executive Council is determined not to incur any obligations which are not covered by our resources in

hand. As fiscal conservative stewards, several of the founding officers and executive council members have incurred substantial expenses without thought of reimbursement. This is also why all the speakers at the 1994 convention have agreed to attend and make their presentations without reimbursement of expenses or any honoraria.

## FEEFHS NEWSLETTER REPRINTED -- BOUND COPIES OF VOLUME I AVAILABLE by John D. Movius

The first four issues (Volume I, including Index) of the FEEFHS Newsletter have now been reprinted and bound in booklet form. Most libraries and individuals will prefer to have an easy-to-find book, without the cost of binding our newsletters. Will it become a collector's item? We hope so. The regular price of this book is US\$8.00 plus postage and handling. However it is now available at a special members price of US\$4.95 per copy plus postage and handling through September 1, 1994. Thus the total price, including postage and handling, is as follows:

FEEFHS Member Prices		Non-Member Prices	
U.S. & Canada	Overseas	U.S. & Canada	Overseas
First class (airmail):			
7.00	9.00	10.00	12.00
Surface mail:			
--	7.50	--	10.50

Please direct your order with check or payment in \$US to FEEFHS, c/o John D. Movius, P. O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327.

### OTHER COMING EVENTS

*(Editor's note: We have had many requests for information on upcoming conventions and other events of interest to FEEFHS membership. The following are a few interesting ones we had learned about, but we cannot attempt to make a complete list. Items for mention in future issues are always welcome. The deadline for our next issue is June 30, 1994.)*

#### June 1-4, 1994:

National Genealogical Society Conference in the State: "Explore a Nation of Immigrants -- Houston Style," Houston, TX. For more information, write to: National Genealogical Society, 4527 St. North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

#### August 4-6, 1994:

Great Lakes Conference 1994, Fort Wayne, IN. Over 90

lectures highlighting resources and collections in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Ontario, and Wisconsin. Research opportunities at the Allen County Public Library's Historical Genealogy Department. Other activities in connection with Fort Wayne's 200th anniversary. For more information, write to: Genealogy Department, Allen County Public Library, P.O. Box 2270, Ft. Wayne, IN 48601-2270.

August 20, 1994:

3rd Annual Meeting/Conference of **The Hungarian Genealogy Society of America**, Toledo, OH. Featured speaker: Edward R. Brandt (a FEEFHS vice-president, see biographical sketch above). The next day will be the 20th Annual Birmingham Ethnic Festival, featuring Hungarian music, dancers, food, etc. For more information write to: The Hungarian Genealogy Society of America, Inc., c/o 124 Esther Street, Toledo, OH 43605-1435.

September 17, 1994:

1994 Michigan Genealogical Council seminar, hosted by Northeastern Michigan Genealogical and Historical Society, Alpena MI. A grassroots seminar with an ethnic edge. Topics will include: the probate court process; federal and state land grants; inter-library loan, etc. Ethnic groups included will be French-Canadian, Irish, Scotch, and Central Europe (Polish/German).

## WHO ARE THE MORAVIANS?

If you would like to learn more about Moravia, its history and culture, send for a complimentary copy of *Morava Krasna*. The lack of written information in English about Moravia is frustrating to its American descendants who want to know more about their ancestral land. *Morava Krasna*, a quarterly newsletter, will cover such topics as: Moravian history and culture; Moravian music and folklore; the Great Moravian Empire of the 9th century; Thomas Masaryk, the "George Washington" of Czechoslovakia; Jan Amos Komensky, the educator; Tomas Bata, the shoemaker tycoon; archeological findings and historic sites; your genealogical roots in Moravia, and who are the Moravians?

The publication will feature articles, photographs, and illustrations by cultural and historical specialists in America and abroad. This newsletter is sponsored by Helene Cincebeaux, whose ancestry is from the Slovacko region in Southern Moravia, and Tom Hrcirik, whose roots are in the Valachian region of Northern Moravia. To obtain your free copy of *Morava Krasna*, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Helene Cincebeaux, 151 Colebrook Dr., Rochester, NY 14617-2215 or Tom Hrcirik, 31910 Road 160, Visalia, CA 93292.

## GALICIAN GRAPEVINE

*Galician Grapevine* is "an informal sporadic newsletter to the dispersed descendants of the 1880's emigrations to North America from the Austrian Crownland of Galicia (at times referred to as Kleinpolen) who are vitally interested in preserving this part of their past for present and future generations." For more information on obtaining this publication, write to: Glen Linscheid, P.O. Box 194, Butterfield, MN 56120.

## REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Eunice B. Larson, 57 Aalapapa Place, Kailua, HI 96724-3118, requests help on the following problems:

Information on descendants of Johann MATTHEWS, b. 31 Dec. 1777 in Prussia, wife Anne Elisabeth MITTELSTÄDT, sons Johann Gottlieb Matthews, b. 1820, wife Anna Caroline KRÜGER, and Wilhelm Matthews, b. 24 April 1825, both went to Kansas City; daughter Anna Caroline Matthews, born about 1918, Prussia, married Gottlieb REKOV, emigrated to Faribault Co., MN, in 1881. His sister, Christine WUSKE/FURSTENAU also emigrated, date and destination unknown, parents Christoph REKOW and Anne Justine FIEDLER.

Information on Carl Wilhelm WOYTE, born 25 Sept. 1817, Schonewalde bei der Sande, Prussia, location unknown, wife Anne Dorothea MACHMÜLLER, born 10 Oct. 1822, Neu Langsow, Brandenburg, Prussia, daughter of Friedrich Machmüller and Henriette PÖHLE(N). Living 1856 in Tucheband, emigrated to Mayville, WI area 12 March 1856, traveling with Heinrich August WOITHE, born 5 April 1830, Seelasgen, working in Golzow 1856, destination unknown. Also traveling with Johann Heinrich LINDORF, b. 6 Oct. 1829, Zechin.

## MAP SOFTWARE

by John C. Alleman

FEEFHS Vice-president John D. Movius is making available the MILLENIUM Map Software, a yearly genealogy map program covering 1000 A.D. to 1993. The cost is \$80 post-paid to all FEEFHS societies, members, and subscribers. Elsewhere, it usually sells for at least \$89 + tax, shipping, and handling. He can also provide a free demonstration disk if you send him a 3-1/2" high-density diskette. The program shows the boundaries of European countries as they change each year in amazing detail. It requires at least 512K of memory on an IBM-compatible computer with color monitor

and 3-1/2" high-density disk drive. I have seen the demo, and recommend the program highly. Contact: John D. Movius, P.O. Box 13774, Sacramento, CA 95616.

## EASTERN-EUROPEAN LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES

*(Editor's note: The following information was provided by Stanley D. Brescoll of 8910 Graham, Dearborn, MI 48126-2334. It is an extract from a much more extensive document, published in 1992 by The National Research Bureau in Chicago, containing details about U.S. newspapers in all foreign languages. Contact Stanley Briscolli or John Alleman for information on papers in non-Eastern European languages. If readers know of any corrections or additions to this list, we would appreciate learning about them. Do any of our readers have similar information for Canada?)*

### BULGARIAN (see MACEDONIAN)

### CARPATHO-RUSSIAN

*U.R.O.B.A. Messenger*  
333 Blvd. of the Allies  
(412) 261-4277  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Published bi-weekly

*The Truth*  
225 Hause Ave.  
Pottstown, PA 19464  
(215) 326-6282  
Published monthly  
\$3.50 per year

### CROATIAN

*Danica - Morning Star*  
4851 Drexel Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60615  
(312) 373-4670  
Published weekly  
\$30 per year

### CZECH

*The Czechoslovak Daily Herald (Denni Hlasatel)*  
6426 W. Cermak Rd.  
Berwyn, IL 60402  
(708) 749-1891  
Published 3 days per week  
\$80 per year (Sunday only \$40 per year)

*Nasinec*  
206 E. Davilla  
Granger, TX 76530  
(512) 859-2238  
Published weekly  
\$20 per year

*Hospodar*  
P.O. Box 301  
West, TX 76691  
(817) 826-3838  
Published monthly  
\$14 per year

*The West News*  
214 W. Oak  
West, TX 76691  
(817) 826-3718  
Published weekly  
\$15 per year

### ESTONIAN

*Vaba Eesti Sõna (Free Estonian Word)*  
243 E. 34th St.  
New York, NY 10016  
Published weekly  
(212) 686-3356  
\$37 per year

### GERMAN

*California Staats-Zeitung*  
1201 N. Alvarado St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
(213) 413-5500  
\$18 per year

*Abendpost & Milwaukee Deutsche Zeitung*  
55 E. Jackson Blvd., Ste. 1820  
Chicago, IL 60604  
(312) 368-4884  
Published twice weekly  
\$12 per year



*Amerika Woche*  
4732 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60625  
(312) 275-5054  
Published weekly  
\$32.50 per year

*Der Deutsch-Amerikaner*  
4740 N. Western Ave., 2nd floor  
Chicago, IL 60625  
(312) 275-1100  
Published monthly  
\$6 per year

*Sonntagpost*  
55 E. Jackson Blvd., Ste. 1820  
Chicago, IL 60604  
(312) 368-4884  
Published weekly  
\$12 per year

*Eintracht*  
9456 N. Lawler  
Skokie, IL 60077  
(708) 677-9456  
Published twice weekly  
\$25 per year

*New Jersey Freie Zeitung*  
500 S. 31st St.  
Kenilworth, NJ 07033  
(201) 245-7995  
Published weekly  
\$22 per year

*New Yorker Staats-Zeitung und Herold*  
36 - 30th St.  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
(212) 786-1110  
Published weekly  
\$44.50 per year

*Aufbau*  
2121 Broadway  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 873-7400  
Published bi-weekly  
\$44.50 per year

*Pazifische Rundschau (Pacific Review)*  
P.O. Box 0-1  
Blaine, WA 98230  
(604) 270-2923  
Published bi-weekly  
\$16 per year

*Milwaukee Herold*  
2321 W. Kenboern Dr.  
Milwaukee, WI 53209  
Published weekly

#### GREEK

*Greek Press*  
P.O. Box 99  
Wood Dale, IL 60191  
(708) 766-2955  
Published weekly  
\$20 per year

*Greek Sunday News*  
231 Harrison Ave.  
Boston, MA 02111  
(617) 426-1948  
Published monthly

*Hellenic Chronicle*  
324 Newbury St.  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 262-4500  
Published weekly  
\$20 per year

*National Greek Tribune*  
32618 Bunert Dr.  
Detroit, MI  
(313) 294-7335  
Published monthly  
\$28 per year

*Campana*  
600 W. 188th St.  
New York, NY 10040  
(212) 923-3580  
Published twice monthly  
\$15 per year

*Hellenic Times*  
823 11th Ave., 5th floor  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 986-6881  
\$20 per year

*National Herald*  
257 Park Ave. S.  
New York, NY 10010  
(212) 477-2550  
Published daily  
\$95 year

## HUNGARIAN

*Californiai Magyarok* (California Hungarians)  
P.O. Box 74773  
Los Angeles, CA 90004  
(213) 463-3473  
Published weekly  
\$21 per year

*Hungarian Word*  
130 E. 16th St.  
New York, NY 10003  
Tel. (212) 254-0397  
Published weekly  
\$25 per year

*Hungarian Insights*  
6020 Pearl Rd.  
Cleveland, OH 44130  
(216) 842-4651  
Published quarterly  
\$10 per year

*Catholic Hungarians' Sunday*  
P.O. Box 2464  
Youngstown, OH 44509  
(216) 799-2600  
Published weekly + yearbook  
\$25 per year

## LATVIAN

*Latvian News Talks*  
7307 3rd Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11209  
(718) 836-6382  
Published twice weekly  
\$65 per year

## LITHUANIAN

*Sandara (The League)*  
P.O. Box 241  
Addison, IL 60101  
Published monthly  
\$10 per year

*Lithuanian Daily News Naujlenos*  
1739 S. Halsted St.  
Chicago, IL 60608  
(312) 421-6100  
Published daily except Sunday  
\$45 per year

*Vilnis*  
3116 S. Halsted St.  
Chicago, IL 60608  
(312) 842-7325

*Dirva*  
P.O. Box 03206  
Cleveland, OH 44103  
(216) 431-6344  
Published weekly  
\$20 per year

*Garsas*  
71-73 S. Washington St.  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701  
(717) 823-8876  
Published 10 times a year  
\$5 per year

## MACEDONIAN

*Macedonian Tribune*  
124 W. Wayne St.  
(219) 422-5900  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
Published bi-weekly  
\$20 per year

## POLISH

*Polish Daily News*  
5711 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60646  
Published 5 times a week  
\$52 per year

*Glos Ludowy (People's Voice)*  
5854 Chene St.  
Detroit, MI 48211  
(313) 921-2161

*Dzennik Polski*  
12021 Jos Campau St.  
Hamtramck, MI 48212  
(313) 366-4900  
Published weekly  
\$20 per year

*Post-Eagle*  
3478 Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 1  
Jersey City, NJ 07307  
(201) 473-5414  
Published weekly  
\$15 per year

*Am-Pol Eagle*  
1335 E. Delavan Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14215  
(716) 893-0913  
Published weekly  
\$12 per year

*Polish-American Journal*  
774 Fillmore Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14212  
(716) 852-8211  
Published 6 times monthly  
\$12.80 per year

*Polish Star (Gwiazda)*  
3022 Richmond St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19134  
Published weekly  
\$10 per year

*Sokol Polski (Polish Falcon)*  
615 Iron City Dr.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205  
(412) 922-2244  
Published semi-monthly

*Rola Boza (God's Field)*  
529 E. Locust St.  
Scranton, PA 18505  
(717) 343-6017  
Published bi-weekly  
\$8 per year

*Straz*  
1004 Pittston Ave.  
Scranton, PA 18505  
(717)347-1911  
Published weekly

*Point Publications*  
1100 Centerpoint Dr.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
(715) 345-0744  
Published weekly  
\$33.50 per year

#### RUSSIAN

*Russian Life Daily*  
2460 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
(415) 921-5380  
Published 5 times weekly  
\$75 per year

*Russky Golas*  
130 E. 16th ST.  
New York, NY 10004  
(212) 475-7 597  
Published weekly  
\$24 per year

#### SERBIAN

*American Srbobran*  
3 Gateway Ctr., 6th floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Published weekly  
\$40 per year

#### SLOVAK

*Prosveta*  
166 Shore Dr.  
Hinsdale, IL 60521.  
(708) 887-7660  
Published weekly  
\$12 per year

*Jednota*  
P.O. Box 150  
Middletown, PA 17057  
Published weekly  
\$15 per year

*Slovak v Amerike*  
P.O. Box 350  
Middletown, PA 17057  
(717) 944-0461  
Published monthly  
\$15 per year

*Narodne Noviny -- National News*  
2325 E. Carson St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203  
(412) 488-1890  
Published monthly  
\$5 per year

#### UKRAINIAN

*Samostigna Ukraina*  
2315 W. Chicago Ave.  
Chicago, IL 276-0066  
Published bi-monthly

*Svoboda*  
30 Montgomery St.  
Jersey City, NJ 07302  
(201) 434-0237

## YIDDISH

*Der Yid*  
13 Hooper St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
(718) 797-3900  
Published weekly  
\$36 per year

*Yiddisher Kemfer*  
275 5th Ave.  
New York, NY 10011  
Published weekly  
\$30 per year

## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

by Charles M. Hall

In the March 1993 issue of our FEEFHS newsletter, p.11, item #2, our FEEFHS Mission Statement is found:

PROMOTE HARMONY BETWEEN ALL EAST  
EUROPEAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

SET AN EXAMPLE BY MAINTAINING A SPIRIT  
OF COOPERATION AMONG OURSELVES

with the motto:

DIVERSITY - UNITY - HARMONY.

As we have completed the task of drafting and ratifying a Constitution and By-laws, in 1993, and planning and preparing for our first Convention, in 1994, our UNITY and HARMONY have been put to the test. Our ability to staff the organization in such a way as to assure the smooth flow of membership expansion has been taxed.

As we send out a ballot to move our organization from "Pro-Tem" to permanent status, you will see that our three Vice Presidents are still in place and ready to continue their tireless service. Eva Maria Bates, has continued to serve us well even while working on her PhD studies, although we had promised to replace her last September. Those of you who attend the convention, in May, will have an opportunity to meet her, since she will be helping to register guests, at that time. We thank Kathryn Lichfield, Anna Hudgins and Eila Schiffer for their help during our "Pro-Tem" period. There are others who have accepted assignments, whom you will have the privilege of meeting at the convention.

I am really pleased to have two new names on the ballot to

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present to you, in the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. As you see from their brief biographical sketches, they are well qualified for their positions. I am especially pleased to have a candidate like Azra Jojić, who was actually born and raised in Eastern Europe and who comes from an area mentioned in the U.S. media daily these days.

I am also very excited about the phenomenal growth of FEEFHS in the last year, and with the outstanding slate of speakers we have for our convention. I have reason to believe that FEEFHS will emerge from its first convention, on the 17th of May even much more widely known than it is now. A meeting that we, as President, Vice Presidents and Newsletter Editor, had with David Rencher, National Program Chair of FGS, in early March, is a sample of the type of correlation that is happening to give FEEFHS credibility in the world of genealogy.

Finally, I want to mention the reassuring fact that the faithful service of our Newsletter Editor, John Alleman, will continue without interruption, since his is an appointed position.

*Organizational membership in FEEFHS is available to societies interested in Eastern European genealogy at the following rates:*

*Regular: US\$ 15 per year  
Sponsor: US\$ 25 per year  
Patron: US\$ 50 per year.*

*Individual memberships are US\$ 15 per year or US \$250 for a life membership.*

*The FEEFHS Newsletter is published quarterly. Subscriptions without voting membership are available to libraries and others who desire this status for US\$ 10 per year. Send dues or subscriptions to Charles M. Hall, FEEFHS president, P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121.*

*Contributions to the newsletter (preferably on diskette in WordPerfect) are welcomed from both organizations and individuals, whether members or not. Paid advertisements will be accepted at the rate of \$25 per page per issue or \$100 for camera-ready copy is provided. Send items for publication to John C. Alleman, FEEFHS Newsletter editor, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103.*

### FEEFHS

*Federation of East European Family  
History Societies*

*eMail: feefhs@feefhs.org  
WWW: http://feefhs.org*

*P. O. Box 510898  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA*



GERMANY

ESTONIA

CZECH REP. POLAND

RUSSIA

LITHUANIA

LATVIA

RUSSIA

AUSTRIA REP.

BELARUS

SLOVENIA

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CROATIA

BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA

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WWW: <http://feefs.org>

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P. O. Box 510898

Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# FEEFHS

## Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

Vol 2, No. 3

ISSN 1077-1247, PERSI #EEFN

July 1994

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### THE FIRST FEEFHS CONVENTION, MAY 14-16, 1994

by John C. Alleman

Our first FEEFHS convention was successfully held as scheduled on May 14-16, 1994, at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Salt Lake City. The program followed the plan published in our last issue of the *Newsletter*, for the most part, and we will not repeat it here in order to save space. Anyone who desires more information on the subjects presented in the conference addresses is encouraged to write directly to the speakers at the addresses given there.

The most important business of the convention was the installation of permanent officers. Charles M. Hall, Edward R. Brandt, and John D. Movius had been elected and were installed as president, 1st vice president, and 2nd vice president, respectively. Brian J. Lenius, who had been elected 3rd vice president, informed us that he would not be able to serve in this capacity. In his place, the officers and directors approved the appointment of Walt Rusel of Calgary, Alberta. I have been asked to continue as *Newsletter* editor. Also elected to FEEFHS offices were Kathy Fisher, secretary, and Azra Jojić, treasurer, and Kathy H. Felt of Plano, Texas, was appointed as auditor. For different reasons these last three were unable to attend the convention, but they will be functioning in their respective offices. All elected and appointed officers are to serve through December 1995.

There was some discussion about a possible need for amendments to the FEEFHS Consistution that was approved earlier this year, but it was noted that according to that Constitution, no amendment could be decided on at the convention. Proposed amendments should be submitted to President Charles Hall in writing. If approved by the executive committee or supported by a sufficient number of members, the amendments will be submitted by mail for ratification.

A total of about 75 people registered for the convention, and many others assisted in various capacities. There were a few unexpected problems, of course, but altogether the meetings provided a valuable service, enough so that at the end of convention it was tentatively decided that next year we will try to hold two conventions, in Calgary, Alberta, and Cleveland, Ohio, in order to help serve the interests of people who have difficulty coming to Salt Lake City.

### THANK YOU, CONVENTION SPEAKERS

by Ed Brandt, Program Chair

Many people attending the FEEFHS convention commented favorably on the quality of our convention speakers and their presentations. I have heard from quite a few who could not attend, who were similarly impressed with the qualifications of the speakers, although they did not have the opportunity to hear them.

As program chair, I would like to express my great appreciation and admiration to those who unselfishly donated their talented services, without any reimbursement of their travel costs, much less honoraria. Indeed, most of them paid the same fee for attending the convention as their listeners.

After schedule changes, which continued until the last few hours of the convention, we ended up with the following speakers from Utah (about half of whom work at the Family History Library): John Alleman, Danielle Caswell, Margarita Choquette, Thomas Edlund, Charles Hall, Larry Jensen, Marek Koblanski, Eva Lipták, Kahlile Mehr, Tom Noy, Gwen Pritzkau, Horst Reschke, Daniel Schlyter, Steve Summers, and Richard Woodruff. Thank you very much for sharing your expertise.

The out-of-state speakers, besides the program chair, were: Patricia Eames (District of Columbia), Irmgard Hein Ellingson (Iowa), Duncan Gardiner (Ohio), Doug Holmes (California), Tom Hrcink (California), Jo Ann Kuhr (Nebraska), John Movius (California), Walter Rusel (Alberta), and Jonathan Shea (Connecticut), who gave two presentations.

These speakers spent thousands of dollars of their own money (and more than the total balance in the FEEFHS treasury), because of their dedication to the goals of FEEFHS, embodied in the words "UNITY, HARMONY, DIVERSITY."

They certainly deserve recognition as super-super-patrons of FEEFHS. We hope that our other organizational and individual members, who have been beneficiaries of the information provided through FEEFHS, will follow this model and contribute as generously as possible to FEEFHS (instead of paying only the minimal dues, which we have kept low in order to encourage maximum membership), so that we can speed up the development of other FEEFHS services and resources.

Roy Rushka deserves thanks for making his videotape available for showing at the convention, even though he himself could not attend.

I would also like to thank our guest speaker from the Russian archives, Vladislav Soshnikov, who not only made a presentation, but also offered individual consultation services. Since genealogical research (other than that for the nobility) is new to Russia, we hope that he gained useful knowledge, as well as imparting it. We anticipate benefiting from this increased familiarity with American family history through future services provided us by the Russian archives.

Finally, I want to thank Jacque Penstone, coordinator of the United Polish Genealogical Societies convention, and others who worked with her, for their great help and cooperation in making the FEEFHS convention much more effective in maximizing participation than would have been the case otherwise.

## FEEFHS NEWS SINCE THE CONVENTION

by John D. Movius

### EXPANDED COVERAGE

In response to requests from many people, it has been decided to add the countries of Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Finland to the area served by FEEFHS.

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## FEEFHS PUBLICATIONS

**FEEFHS Newsletter Volume #1 Reprint:** This soft bound 50 page publication is a well-indexed reprint of our first four issues (October 1992 - October 1993). The purchase price is US\$5.00 each postpaid (members) or US\$10.00 postpaid (non-members) in America and Canada. Please add US\$2.00 for overseas postage.

**Resource Guide -- East European Genealogy:** This is the name of the *FEEFHS Addressbook, Resource Guide and Database*, first issued as a 7-page document to attendees of our May convention. Since then it has added a section on professional translators and genealogists, and with the growth of FEEFHS it is now a 22 page document. It will continue to grow in size and will be published twice a year (Summer in August; Winter in February).

The Summer 1994 issue of the 22+ page *Resource Guide* will be mailed to all members of record thru October 1994 on a one time basis only. Then it will become available only on a separate subscription basis. This is to keep membership costs down while covering the costs to publish this expanding document.

The single-copy price of the *Resource Guide* is US\$4.00 postpaid in America and Canada or US\$5.00 postpaid airmail overseas. Subscription price of the semi-annual guide is US\$8.00 postpaid America & Canada; US\$10.00 postpaid airmail overseas. Both the Reprint of Volume 1 and the *Resource Guide* can be purchased by sending a check or money order (payable to FEEFHS) to John D. Movius, P. O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327. No credit cards, please.

## DISTRIBUTION OF FEEFHS PUBLICATIONS

A goal is for our FEEFHS Newsletter to be the most widely available and read English language publication on East European genealogy in the world. One of our initiatives to make this come true is donation of sets of our publications (Reprint of Volume No. 1 of the Indexed *FEEFHS Newsletter* and the *Resource Guide*) to selected archives, libraries and family history centers in America, Canada and Europe.

This list is starting to grow. It includes the Library of Congress, the Family History Library (Salt Lake), the Allen County Public Library (Ft. Wayne, IN) and Sutro (California State) Genealogy Library (San Francisco) and the Omaha Nebraska Public Library.

Many of the larger Family History Centers in California (Concord, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento (from SGG), San Diego (from GRA), Palo Alto, Placer County/Auburn and



Vacaville now have FEEFHS sets. In Ontario Canada, all seven of the largest (stake) Family History Centers now have FEEFHS sets.

Copies were delivered by FEEFHS member Marilyn Wellauer (The Swiss Connection) to four archives in Wisconsin and by Jacques de Guise to five major libraries in Switzerland. Copies have been taken by SGGs officers Vic Boisseree and Shirley Riemer to archives in Köln, Munich, Stuttgart, while Margaret Freeman (Glückstal-GCRA) has delivered them elsewhere in Germany. Margarita Choquette of Salt Lake City left five sets in Finland and Russia during her recent trip. We continue to seek FEEFHS members traveling to European archives who agree to deliver a set of FEEFHS documents for us, saving us the postage.

John Skibiski, president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts (PGSMa) suggested that sets be mailed to four major Massachusetts libraries indicating they are a joint gift of FEEFHS and the PGSMa. Other FEEFHS member organizations have the same opportunity.

FEEFHS Representatives are requested to nominate/send us of the names and addresses of several of the most important genealogy libraries in their state/province that should receive sets of these documents. Please send your recommendations to John Movijs at his address listed above. This is a one-time donation. We hope each archive or library will either become a FEEFHS member organization or at least subscribe to the FEEFHS Newsletter.

### FEEFHS GROWING FAST

FEEFHS began in July 1992 with 11 societies. By the end of 1993 we had grown to 22 societies. By mid 1994 we are now growing at the rate of one new organization a week. Presently the 54 FEEFHS societies and organizations represent 43 American organizations from 19 states, 6 Canadian organizations from 4 provinces, 3 Polish, 1 Russian, 1 German and 1 Australian member organization. We have been growing in individual memberships too and welcome all our new members. At mid-year, here is our current roster:

American Historical Society of Germans from Russia  
(AHSGR Headquarters)  
AHSGR Sacramento Valley Chapter  
Bukovina Society of the Americas  
California Czech and Slovak Club  
Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International  
Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies  
Croatian Genealogical and Heraldic Society  
East Europe Connection (formerly The Slavic Connection)  
East European Branch of the Manitoba Genealogy Society  
German-Bohemian Heritage Society

German Genealogical Digest  
German Genealogical Society of America  
Germanic Genealogy Society  
German Research Association, Inc.  
Germans from Russia Heritage Collection at NDIRS  
Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS  
Headquarters).  
GRHS Puget Sound Chapter  
Glückstal Colonies Research Association  
Gottscheer Research and Genealogy Association  
The Gottschee Tree  
Hungarian Genealogical Society of America  
Hungarian-American Friendship Society  
Immigrant Genealogy Society  
Knobloch Genealogical Archives: Lithuanian American  
Genealogy Society  
Mennonite Family History  
Mennonite Historical Library  
Minnesota Genealogical Society  
Moravian Heritage Society  
Polish Genealogical Society (PGS) of America  
PGS of California  
PGS of Massachusetts  
PGS of Michigan  
PGS of Minnesota  
PGS of The Northeast (CT)  
PGS of Wisconsin.  
Die Pommerschen Leute  
Rusin (Ruthenian) Association  
Russian Heritage Society  
Sacramento German Genealogy Society  
Saskatchewan Genealogy Society (SGS Hdqts)  
SGS Swift Current Branch  
Silesian Genealogical Society  
Slavic Research Institute  
Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International  
Slovenian American National Art Guild  
Slovenian Genealogy Society  
Stammbaum  
The Swiss Connection  
Ukrainian Genealogical & Historical Society of Canada  
Wandering Volhynians  
Western Australian Genealogical Society European  
Interest Group  
Worsten Genealogical Society  
Zielke Verlag

Addresses and other details about each organization can be found in our *Resource Guide*.

### SEVEN NEW GENEALOGY SOCIETIES FORMING

Faced with growing requests for genealogy assistance where

no society presently exists in Canada or America, last June at the Genealogical Jamboree in Pasadena, President Charles M. Hall announced a series of new efforts to assist in the grass roots formation of seven new genealogy societies. Initial efforts will focus on these East European nations for which there are no existing family history societies in America or Canada.

- Austrian Genealogy Society
- Bulgarian Genealogy Society
- Estonian Genealogy Society
- Finnish Genealogy Society
- Latvian Genealogy Society
- Romanian Genealogy Society
- Russian Genealogy Society

Others under serious consideration include societies for Armenia, Galicja, and Silesia. "We are being approached by a growing number of persons wanting to join such societies, but none have been found. A goal of FEEFHS is to help establish new societies where none exist.

"Once created, each society will be independent, just as other FEEFHS member organizations", said Hall. "Our first task is to get the publicity needed to attract a critical mass of potential members and volunteer leaders for each society. We then will link them up with persons having the needed language skills and with a genealogical specialist who has the needed genealogical research skills for that country.

"As qualified candidate leaders and persons with language and/or genealogy skills step forward, we'll mention their names in our *FEEFHS Newsletter*. We'll then turn over our database of interested persons to these leaders so they can get organized, while continuing to seek out more members.

"When each society feels it's ready to announce its officers, set dues, select a name and start publishing a newsletter, they'll make their own decision to do so and then will be off and running. We'll wish them well, continue to help publicize their existence and continue to pass on any inquiries relating to them, just as we are doing now for our other FEEFHS member societies."

Hall assigned 2nd vice-president John Movius the responsibility to establish computer databases for each of these seven new societies, lead FEEFHS's efforts to publicize this initiative and obtain the needed level of interest to activate each group. Hall, 1st vice-president Ed Brandt of Minneapolis and 3rd vice-president Walt Rusel of Calgary, Alberta, will also be available to advise the new leaders if requested.

Future issues of the *FEEFHS Newsletter* will periodically report on progress toward the formation of each new society.

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A leader has already been found for the *Bulgarian Genealogy Society* and will be announced in our next report.

You can help create one of these new societies. Please send a letter of interest, describing your country, province/region of interest, any language skills, other abilities or help you can offer toward organizing such a society.

Please include two self-addressed stamped envelopes (50¢ from America) or several International Postal Reply Coupons (IPRC's). One will be sent to you by FEEFHS with the address of a leader when he/she is found. The second envelope will be given to the new leader to help them start the organization of the society. Please mail to John D. Movius, 2nd vice-president FEEFHS, at his address shown elsewhere in this issue. Please send a separate letter and SASE's and IPRC's for each society of interest.

## REPORT ON ACTIVITIES RELATED TO RESEARCH AND OTHER ACADEMIC WORK IN RUSSIA

By Lawrence Klippenstein

At the conclusion of a tour to the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States = former Soviet Union), which I took from Sept. 1-20, 1993, a number of North Americans and Europeans joined a group of Russian scholars in Moscow for a four-day conference dealing with the topic of Pacifism in Russia. Walter Sawatzky and I had been invited among many others to present short papers on themes of our choice related to the topic. Walter Bergen, then from Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Canada, took the opportunity to come along also. He would become a country representative in MCC Russia a year later.

When the conference ended on Sept. 26, a number of people were asked to form a committee to discuss publishing the proceedings. Since I would be coming to Moscow shortly and stay for a year, I was invited to join a steering committee for this project. Dr. Peter Brock of the University of Toronto, Ontario, and Dr. Michael Holman from the University of Leeds in England were also appointed, as was a certain Rev. Michael Zykov, a priest in the so-called Leo Tolstoy church who was rumored to have connections with the Moonies and access to a lot of funds! Several other professors from the World History Institute of the Academy of Sciences were also on the committee. We began our meetings only a few days before Christmas, because the chairperson, Dr. Ruzanna Iliukhina had been having some health problems.

I was also encouraged to take on the task of editing the

English-language papers which would be contributed to the volume. Russian scholars are to be asked to translate them into Russian for the Russian edition, and translate Russian ones into English for an English edition. The project is moving along slowly. Much, of course, hinges on whether money will be available to pay translators and to publish the volumes. It has been proposed that persons with completed papers come to Moscow for another conference in October this year to have them critiqued (at their own expense, needless to say).

Since then, I have come to know several others working with questions related to conscientious objectors in Russia today. Already at the conference I met Dr. Bruno Coppieters from Belgium, who is doing a book on Russian COs, together with Alexei Zverev, a lay scholar who has good access to the former Lenin Library archives. Also I met Lieutenant Colonel Anatoli Pchelintsov of the Russian Army, who was leaving the Forces so that he could write a book on conscientious objectors. All along in recent years, he had been working to improve existing Russian legislation related to getting exemption from military service. Anatoli asked me for a Russian-language copy of my dissertation, *Mennonite Pacifism and State Service in Russia, 1789-1936*. I asked Alexei Zverev if he would do some translating on it for me, and he agreed. He has two chapters done and handed in, with another one promised. I then hired Alexei Gumilevski to translate chapters from chapters 4 on, and have recently heard that he has finished 4 and 5. He and his wife have moved to Mississippi to study at the University of Mississippi, so I must continue my contacts there. I have just learned that the MCC office and the Quakers in Moscow want to work together on CO concerns, and have been officially asked by Walter Bergen in Moscow to get the translation finished as soon as possible. Some funds to help may be forthcoming from there, but more will be needed, I think, to finish.

Zverev also agreed to search libraries for dissertations on topics related to Mennonites, and to make copies of them, if possible. The Khimki collection of the former Lenin Library is alleged to have several such items. I don't know what success he will have, but I expect more results from Terry Martin, who is working in Moscow now, doing research on his PhD dissertation. He has promised to keep looking for Mennonite-related materials and to copy for us what he can. When he was back in Chicago recently, he called to say that he was noting quite a few things, but expected to see more. He will complete his work there around June 30 this year.

Terry also introduced me to some Ukrainian scholars who are working on topics related to Germans and Mennonites in Ukraine. We met only one in person, someone named Oksana, who is a graduate student in Dnepropetrovsk working on a dissertation about German influences on the Ukrainian

evangelical movement of the 19th century. She recently sent a letter indicating what she had found in the Odessa archives, but it would not be too significant for us so far. I promised to send her some things we had gathered and written here on that theme, and have forwarded it through Terry. He will return to Moscow on Jan. 26, and quite possibly meet her there again. I am hoping to forward the Pashkov papers microfiche to her somehow, but have not figured out how so far. Dr. Sergei Plokhi, who was with us a few years ago, from Ukraine, called recently to tell us where he is (Edmonton), and to say that Oksana had been his student in Dnepropetrovsk for a time.

Terry and I talked about setting up a Canadian conference with Ukrainian scholars working on German topics in Ukraine, but we are not sure if this idea can fly. There are certainly people there who would come if invited and paid for, and who could present things in English. Right now, conditions in Ukraine are very difficult, and Terry has lost touch somewhat with the people he met in Dnepropetrovsk several years ago. Leonard Friesen has been out there also, but various factors have made his connections there somewhat more tenuous than they once were.

I also met a group of American scholars who were together on a seminar related to religious topics during the month of July. By attending one seminar session, I could meet their director, Dr. Gregory Freeze from Brandeis University, and get some information on Russian archivists who might be helpful to us if we could ever direct our energies solely to archival matters there. I did not get to spend any time in any archival center myself, but did mandate someone to look for some records (Mennonite Sanitäter in Moscow) after I left. I am not sure if this will bear any fruit, however. I thought it might be useful to organize a tour of archivists from Canada to meet Russian counterparts, and share some of the things we do, and perhaps eventually a little more archival material as well.

Contacts with scholars of German background became a distinctive aspect of this broader experience. In Moscow I met Dr. Hugo Wormsbecher, who edited the Russian German periodical *Heimatliche Weiten* (from Vol. 1, 191, on) for a number of years, and who has good contacts with the office of *Neues Leben*. Both publications came out of Moscow. The former is defunct now (since 1991), but *Neues Leben* lives on. Unfortunately, I did not get to go with him to meet the editor of that paper, although Dr. Wormsbecher was very willing to make arrangements to do so. I am planning to send him some German books we have published here and follow up the connection if possible. He presently heads up an organization of Russian Germans trying to find ways to improve the lot of Russians of German background who will probably not be emigrating, as many others have.

Our visits to Siberian points, such as Barnaul, Novosibirsk, and the Mennonite village of Neudachino near Omsk, may open some doors to get Mennonite-related materials from those communities. Barnaul is the center of a large Russian German community, with a German Cultural Center led by Kornelius Petkau at the present time. I met Dr. Leo Malinovsky there, a writer and historian, who has dealt with Siberian German topics, although much of it was colored by the socialist restrictions of communist times. If we had stayed there longer, we might have been able to meet more writers and poets of Mennonite background who still reside in the area, notably people like Peter Klassen, Johann Schellenberg, and others. Petkau gave us some of his lyrics, also videos of the work of this Center, and the history of Germans in Russia (a three-hour presentation). I also obtained several issues of a new journal, *Unser Wort* (1991), which soon folded due to lack of funds. Kornelius gave us a copy of a new study of Germans in Siberia, written by Manfred Klaube, and published in Germany.

In Neudachino, I was given a copy of the memoirs (of sorts) of Jacob Schroeder, who had written a long poem about his personal life experiences, and put it on tape for me (he also gave me a hard copy on paper of the same). On another occasion, on a visit to city near Moscow, called Novomoskovsk, we also got a taped poem and the text written down about the broader tragic German experience in Russia. It was all produced and recited for us by an elderly member of the German community there, Aron Willms.

On our return from Siberia, we became acquainted with Garri Wallmann, related to the owners of the famous factory in Chortitza. He gave us a substantial chunk of genealogical and a bit of other material in German, which we could copy and bring home to deposit in the archives. In Moscow too we got the story of a certain Rempel, the father of young Peter Rempel, who did a great deal of research, travel, and photography to obtain the story of his father, who died in the Gulag many years ago. Part of the story was published in *Der Bote*. I have the full text now, but need to get the photos for the article yet. Peter has just publicized an offer to do this kind of research for other who would like information of that sort.

In summary, I would say the year was a fine opportunity to make many contacts with people who are ready to help us procure materials, if we can follow this up with future connecting and can give the needed time for gathering things in Russia and Ukraine. I realized eventually, though, that it is difficult to do very much serious research and collecting — alongside another major assignment — except for incidental acquisitions and perhaps a few "lucky strikes."

I have concluded that Russians want very much to work

together with westerners and will go to considerable lengths to be helpful, if some of their own visions and dreams can be realized more fully through these contacts also. Exchange is a key word, that is, and of course, the opportunity to provide financial assistance in some form is very significant for them also. They have almost no means of their own when it comes to finances, and, for that matter, materials, equipment, etc.

*[Editor's note: This article and the next are reprinted with the permission of the author, who retains the copyright. The originals appeared in the Genealogical Journal of the Utah Genealogical Association, the first in Volume 21 (1993), No. 4, and the second in Volume 22 (1994), No. 1. Note also that the article after these two, by John Movius, contains updated information on the status of microfilming projects.]*

## GENEALOGICAL SOURCES AND FILMING ACTIVITIES IN EASTERN EUROPE

by Kahlile B. Mehr, AG

In 1992, the Genealogical Society of Utah signed a contract with Russia to film genealogical sources in their archives. The contract was the culmination of protracted negotiations over the twenty-three year period beginning when Genadi Belov, head archivist of the Soviet Union, spoke at the 1969 World Conference on Records. Freed from political oversight, the Committee for Archival Affairs approached the Genealogical Society of Utah in 1991 and offered to grant filming permission. As is the case in many projects, the Society did not send in its own filmers but contracted to have the filming done by local operators. Western filming equipment was shipped into Russia. In February 1992, a training seminar was held in Moscow for camera operators to learn how to best operate the western equipment.

At this seminar the representatives of the Society got their first look at Russian records. Knowledge of genealogical sources in Russian archives circulated only sparsely in the West prior to 1990. No description of what the sources actually looked like, their arrangement, or their extent, was available. It was somewhat of a surprise then when a few ponderous volumes two or more feet (not inches) thick were brought to the cameras. The two primary sources for pre-revolutionary genealogy in Russia are revision lists (poll tax census) and parish registers (more precisely, parish register transcripts). In both cases the annual returns for a particular region were often bound together no matter how many folios existed for

that region.

This was surprisingly different from the more petite volumes encountered during fifty previous years of filming in Western Europe. It was immediately recognized that cameras would need to be adjusted in order to deal with a constantly diminishing focal length as filming proceeded through a multi-foot volume. On the spot engineering solved the problem. It was only the first of many problems, such as un-grounded electrical circuits, freezing conditions, indifferent work attitudes, shipping delays, and so on. But the prize was worth the risk and films will soon begin to arrive from Russia as well as from many other countries in Eastern Europe.

Contracts have been signed and filming initiated in the former Soviet republics of Belarus, Estonia, and Armenia. In Eastern Europe projects have been established in Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovenia, and Slovakia. In addition, new cameras have been placed in Poland and Hungary. Negotiations continue in the other countries where archives have been inaccessible to the West for seventy years.

In April 1992, a delegation of archivists from Russia, Belarus and the Ukraine visited Salt Lake City. Their trip was sponsored by the U.S. State Department. In addition to visiting in Washington D.C., they requested permission to visit Salt Lake City to become better acquainted with the institution that had for so long importuned them for authorization to film their records. I was able to meet and converse with the group, asking questions that I had long wanted and waited to ask. In return the Russian Committee of Archival Affairs sponsored my visit to Russia in May 1992.

It was with feelings of excitement and hope that I exited the plane in Moscow. The delegation to greet me was surprised to learn that I knew some Russian, a little rusty after twenty years, but still there. Soon I was ambling along the cobblestones of Red Square surrounded by St. Basil's, the Kremlin Wall, and the other well known sites of this oft photographed site. The next day I was ushered into an archive, not knowing exactly which archive nor what I would encounter. I was surprised to see fire prevention, air filtration, and air conditioning systems, along with rows of metal containers protecting the archival materials. Then I was told that this was the archive of the Communist Party and was shown a few papers of Vladimir Lenin. I had never imagined such an experience, even in my wildest dreams. This was the first of many exceptional experiences during a three week visit that took me to St. Petersburg, Minsk, and Kiev. And I have since returned twice and not only to these places but to other countries such as Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, and Romania.

The purpose of these visits has been to identify the nature and extent of genealogical sources in archives of the former

European communist world. The following observations hopefully reflect the general nature of what is there, but are still very preliminary. At first count there are approximately 200 archives with genealogical sources in the area of the former Soviet Union alone.

While it is commonly assumed in the West that the Communists destroyed Church records as part of their anti-religion campaign, nothing could be further from the truth. Indeed, under Russian archival law decreed by Lenin, all records became property of the State and were accordingly gathered into archives. Of course, many were not, but sizeable collections were established and then left untouched for the next seventy years. If anything, it was the anti-religion bias of the Communists that helped preserve the records since it did not permit access to the sequestered volumes. Only now are these volumes becoming accessible.

Church records in Russian archives are not centralized in a single collection but are scattered in various record series. The archivists do not know how many church books exist in their collection and can provide only a rough estimate. One archivist became quite irate when I asked him how many church books he had (probably because he did not know the answer). He told me it was none of my business. Other archivists were less antagonistic but asked, "Who would want to know that?" or "Why is that important?"

Most of the church records in the archives are parish register transcripts, compiled annually and, in the case of the Russian Orthodox Church, are those normally sent to the Consistory Office. It appears that volumes kept in local churches are not as well represented in archival collection. However, many of these were gathered into civil registration offices after the Russian Revolution. Those gathered by these offices are supposed to be transferred to archives seventy-five years after the date of the record. This regulation is not always promptly obeyed.

The parish register transcripts for a region are normally bound together into annual volumes. This will greatly complicate cataloging and access because numerous films will have to be retrieved to identify the entries for a single parish church. As mentioned previously, these volumes can be several feet thick. To further complicate the picture, church books are kept in the same accession groups in which they were received by the archive. For instance, accessions of church books received from civil registration offices are kept separate from earlier books for the same churches.<sup>1</sup>

Church books are not the best research source for Russian genealogy. Both archivists and researchers told me that the best place to begin research on Russian nobility and royalty are the separately classed nobility records and the best place

to begin research on other social classes is in the revision lists. Nobility records were compiled by governmental offices to establish noble privileges. Revision lists were kept between 1719-1858 to support a national poll tax.<sup>2</sup> They covered 95% of the population. They are necessarily very easy to use. For instance, the lists are divided by social class. As a result there may be six or seven census lists for the same locality in the same year.

Most archives are not staffed to do research for clients but they will do limited searching. They might expand their services because the government has instituted a program of self-finance, so that many archives are looking for new forms of revenue. Currently, archives do nobility research, which is the easiest to do. The genealogy for noble families is often compiled in the archival record. Archives will also search in revision lists but will normally not search church records because it is too time consuming. The arrangements for doing client research probably vary from archive to archive. I asked in Minsk (in 1992) and they said at that time that they require a \$50 retainer and charge \$2-3 per hour for research. The address is Central Historical Archive, 26 Kozlova St., 220038, Minsk, Belarus.

The Russian government has instituted an official genealogical organization to answer research requests from the West, known as AROS (Archives of Russia). Information can be requested directly from them at 15 Pushkinskaya ul., 103821, Moscow, Russia, or through the National Archive Volunteer Association at PO Box 236, Glen Echo, MD 20812. As of 1992 the fee for AROS service was a \$50 non-refundable request fee and \$6 per hour research fee, minimum requirement of \$120 for the first 20 hours. I recently received a letter from one of the AROS staff that mentioned he had already performed client research in Kiev, Kamenetz-Podolsky, Lviv, Saratov, Engels, Minsk, Zhytomir, and Odessa.

Below, I have summarized some general information on some of the other countries I have visited.

#### ARMENIA

There are approximately 7,500 volumes of church books and tax census records in the Central Historical Archives of Armenia, located in Yerevan. The Armenian church books do not only pertain to Armenia but also Armenian congregations from throughout the former Soviet Union. There are virtually no books for the period of historic Armenia now in Turkey.

#### ALBANIA

The country was under Turkish domination until World War I. The Archives were established only recently and many of

the records have not yet been gathered to them. Also, 70% of the population is Moslem. The church records for Moslems are much more limited than those for Christians. What church records do exist are interfiled with all other documents created by the churches. For example, in one record group of 3,500 volumes, there were only about 27 parish register volumes. Consequently, it is not clear exactly how many records are available, although it would appear that the number is small.

#### BELARUS

There are two main historical archives in the country, located in Minsk and Grodno. The church records in the archival system have been gathered into these archives. It must not be overlooked, as noted above, that many church records are located in the civil registration offices. In the Minsk archive there are approximately 7,000 church books and 2,000 revision lists. In Grodno there are less than 1,000 volumes of church books. However, there are 297 volumes of the names lists from the 1897 Russian imperial census. Films are currently being received from Belarus but none are yet available for public use.

#### BULGARIA

Bulgarian civil registration began in 1893. The records are held at civil registration offices or transferred to any of twenty-five regional archives. The 2,000 volumes in Sofiya (Sofia) are currently being filmed. The national archives system was only established in 1951 so there is comparatively less in the system than in other countries. The church books are all in the churches. Due to the Turkish occupation that lasted until 1878, most church books start quite late. The Roman Catholic register, primarily in the Plovdiv area, are older, going back in some cases to 1797. The main records for Bulgaria under Turkish domination are the Nufus census records located in the National Library.

#### ROMANIA

Romanian civil registration began in 1832-1834, which is very early in comparison to surrounding countries. For the traditional provinces of Romania, namely, Valachia and Moldova, church books have been kept since the end of the 18th century. For Transylvania they go back to the 16th century. Many Lutheran records have been transferred to civil archives. However, the Lutheran church is now collecting the records, still in the churches, to an archive in Sibiu (formerly Hermannstadt). The first census in Valachia and Moldova was taken in 1810-1811. The only genealogical organization in Romania is the Romanian Genealogical Commission, a private, unfunded organization drawn together by their common concern for genealogy. The organization does not

handle research accounts.

## UKRAINE

Most of the church books have been gathered to the historical archives in Kiev and Lviv (or, Lvov, or Ukr: Lwiw; Pol: Lwow; Ger: Lemberg). As is the case in Belarus, most of the church records have been gathered into these archives, though many are still in the civil registration offices. I identified approximately 15,000 church books in Kiev and 10,000 in Lviv. There are twenty-six regional archives, some of which still have church books, but which all probably have revision lists. Many of the Jewish records have been lost or destroyed. In Kiev, there are only 1,469 volumes from nineteen rabbinates. In Lviv there are only 419 volumes of Jewish records. The historical archives Kiev does handle research requests from the West. Their address is: 24 Solomenskaya ul., 252601, Kiev, Ukraine.

The Lviv collection is distinguished by the fact that all of the Greek Catholic church books have been gathered into one record group. In addition, the individual volumes pertain to only one locality rather than numerous localities (as is the case with most of the extant Orthodox records). The inventory for this collection has an alphabetical locality index. There are approximately 7,500 church books in this record group.

## CONCLUSION

Information on genealogical sources in the West has been compiled for many years and consists of countless volumes. This brief sketch hardly even begins to identify the broad range of sources that exist in Eastern Europe. Truly, research service there is in its infancy, filming has only barely begun, and most archives are not well acquainted with the extent of their genealogical sources. Under the Communist regimes, genealogical activity was a non-issue. This is now changed. The first conference of Russian genealogists was held in St. Petersburg during the fall of 1992. Genealogical queries are receiving responses, and microfilming cameras are beginning to preserve invaluable volumes that tomorrow's world will know its kindred of ages past in these eastern lands.

## FOOTNOTES

1. I asked one archivist what they did with duplicate volumes for the same parish. The response was that they are burned.
2. Revision lists were the basis for the novel, *Dead Souls*, a parody of the fact that a landlord was taxed for people listed in the census if they had died. An adjustment was only made when the next revision was taken.

## GERMAN-RUSSIAN GENEALOGICAL RECORDS

by Kahlile B. Mehr, AG\*

A 1763 invitation of the Russian Empress, Catherine II, precipitated the immigration of many Germans into the Russian Empire during the 18th century. In earlier centuries, many Germans settled the Baltic states. The priests in these congregations kept original parish registers on a local basis and for some years made parish register transcripts that were then forwarded to the bishop and filed in the records of the consistory office which supported the operations of the diocese. The Genealogical Society of Utah is identifying where many of these records are located and has begun to film them. This article will provide some details on the preliminary results of this effort.

The predominant faith among the Germans in Russia was Lutheran. Statistics from the 1897 census indicate that 76% of the German-Russians were Lutheran and 13% Catholic. Reformed, Mennonite, Baptist, Russian Orthodox, Jewish and miscellaneous categories comprised the other 11% of the population. Germans in the Baltics, Volhynia, Crimea, and the Caucasus were almost exclusively Lutheran.<sup>1</sup> With respect to the Volga Germans, Protestantism prevailed in 72 of the original 104 German colonies, with four-fifths of these being Lutheran.<sup>2</sup> These figures held up over time. A 1910 estimate is that 80% of the 1909 population was Protestant, of which 78% were Lutheran and 22% Reformed.<sup>3</sup>

Most of the church records identified to this point are those of the consistories. In 1734, Tsarina Anna issued a decree placing the consistorial affairs for Protestant (Lutheran and Reformed) congregations throughout Russia under the College of Justice (established at St. Petersburg in 1718). The College has supervised these affairs in the Baltics since its inception.<sup>4</sup> It is not clear exactly when consistorial offices began to function in St. Petersburg and Moscow. The Imperial Church ordinance of 1819 established the Imperial General Consistory at St. Petersburg and defined jurisdictions for eight consistories, establishing a new one in Saratov. This consistory was officially constituted on January 23, 1822. The Imperial Church Ordinance of December 28, 1832 redefined the eight Lutheran consistorial districts.<sup>5</sup> These eight districts were those in Russia proper - Moscow (65 parishes) and St. Petersburg (87 parishes) - and six in the Baltic states: Courland (120 parishes), Livonia (113 parishes), Estonia (52 parishes), Saaremaa (then Oesel, 14 parishes), Riga (11 parishes), and Tallinn (then Reval, 5 parishes).<sup>6</sup> As a result of this ordinance, the Saratov Consistory was absorbed into the one in Moscow.<sup>7</sup> The ordinance of 1832 mandated the creation of transcripts; it is not clear if they were created

before then.

The St. Petersburg General Consistory collection contains parish register transcripts for German congregations not only in the St. Petersburg area and northern Russia but also in Volhynia, the Black Sea region, and Bessarabia. This consistory is located in the Central Historical Archive in St. Petersburg, record group 828, series 14. A total of 276 volumes exist for the period 1833-1885.<sup>8</sup> These registers were filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah during 1993.

The films are currently being received in cataloging. Film numbers will not be available in the catalog until the 1994 edition. However, they can be obtained at the International Reference Center. The material is poorly arranged for research purposes. The consistory filed the returns for each year separately. Consequently, the researcher must look at a different film for each year of the parish being searched. Recognizing this problem, the cataloging section with the assistance of volunteers is preparing a locality index that will permit a researcher to find the film number and page numbers for all returns from a single parish.

While the St. Petersburg collection will be a great boon to those with German Protestant ancestors in western and southern Russia, it does not provide any information on either the lower Volga Germans, the Baltic Germans, or the Catholic Germans throughout Russia. The records for these groups have been partially identified but not yet filmed, except for Estonia (as will be discussed later.)

The transcripts from the Protestant Volga parishes are probably located in the records of the Saratov and Moscow consistories respectively. The records of the Moscow Consistory are located in the collection of the Moscow City Archive (formerly the Moscow Regional Archive). A 1961 description of this collection lists 62 items in this record group for the period 1803-1917.<sup>9</sup> More may exist but no published description is yet available. The author has not surveyed this collection to see if it contains parish register transcripts but hopes to do so or learn more about it from others who have investigated what these records are. The records of the Saratov Consistory may be interfiled with the records of this consistory. The author found no records for the Saratov Consistory in the archive located in that city.

The original parish registers for the Protestant German churches of Ingermanland (St. Petersburg area) are located in Finland. The original registers for Bessarabia are in the *Zentralstelle für Genealogie* in Leipzig, Germany. Extensive collections of original registers for the Baltic states have been preserved in their archives. The author has not inventoried these records extensively and there is not sufficient time to do so for this article. However, it should be noted that the

Genealogical Society of Utah has been filming parish registers and transcripts in Estonia since 1992 for a total production of approximately 400 rolls to date. The registers cover congregations throughout the country. They extend back to the early 1600s in some cases and continue through the 1940s. The rolls are being cataloged as they arrive and the parishes filmed can be found in the current edition of the catalog.

The location of the registers for other Protestant German churches, in general, is not known. Twenty-four original parish registers for scattered churches are in the records of the Religious Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Mary, record group 849, Saratov Government Archive. Sparse samplings are found in the St. Petersburg City Archive (18 churches for the period 1712-1926), Minsk Central Historical Archive (record group 1952), Grodno Central Historical Archive (record group 649 and others), and L'viv Central Historical Archive (record group 427). Original registers can also be found in civil registration offices as seen by the author at the central civil registration office in Moscow in 1992. But the evidence suggests at this point that the original parish registers for the most part, were not preserved and were either scattered, lost, or destroyed in the many political and social upheavals that have occurred in this area during the last century.

As mentioned previously in this article, the next largest religious grouping of Germans was Catholic. Many Catholic colonies were established in the Black Sea region. In Kherson was the largest number while large groups were also found in Taurida, Ekaterinoslav, and the Don region.<sup>10</sup> Thirty-two of the original 104 Volga German colonies were Catholic.<sup>11</sup>

The Catholic consistory initially responsible for these parishes was established in 1783, at Mogilev, Belarus.<sup>12</sup> It is not clear to the author if another consistory had jurisdiction for the Volga Germans during the first twenty years of their colonization and he welcomes information from those who have researched this topic more extensively. In 1848 the Kherson Consistory was established and assumed jurisdiction from the Mogilev Consistory for southern Russia. This consistory was moved to Kherson in 1847, to Tiraspol in 1852 and to Saratov in 1855.<sup>13</sup> Even though it was seated in Saratov, it continued to be known as the Tiraspol Consistory.

The records of the Mogilev and Tiraspol consistories, a total of 647 parish register transcripts, are located in the Saratov Government Archive. They are found in two record groups; number 1166 for Mogilev (1801-1852), and number 365 for Tiraspol (1853-1918). In both record groups the transcripts are in series 1, where they are interfiled with many other record types.<sup>14</sup> The registers cover the period 1801-1918, and appear to be complete. The transcripts are filed in two



sets of volumes. One set is for the provinces of Saratov, Samara, and Astrakhan; the other for the Black Sea region and Bessarabia.

In addition to parish registers, the Saratov archive has revision lists (poll tax census records) for six of the ten Russian revisions. These contain information on both the Protestant and Catholic Germans, who began paying taxes during the 6th revision, conducted in 1811. Other revision lists cover the years 1815-1816, 1834-1835, 1850, and 1857-1859. These records are interfiled with other records of the Saratov Financial Administration, record group 28, series 1. These types of records are normally compiled by district (uezd) but are not in any particular order. Consequently, the only way to search a volume is page by page.

The Genealogical Society of Utah has not yet been given permission to film these records. However, the researcher can write to the archive asking for information. I would suggest that the letter be written in Russian and sent to this address:

410710 Саратов  
ул. Кутякова 15  
Областной государственный архив

410710 Saratov  
Kutyakova St., Building 15  
Regional Government Archive

No one in the reference section speaks English and though a correspondent might get a response, it would probably be delayed. A photocopy costs \$3.18 per page (\$3 for the information and \$.18 for the actual copy). It is not known what the current rate is for staff to do research. In October it was 800 rubles, about \$.65, for reviewing the contents of a single volume; but the financial crisis in Russian archives has caused the cost of research services to skyrocket. For example, while in October it cost a researcher on site only \$.08 (100 rubles) to order a single item for research, it now costs \$.40 for every 250 pages.<sup>15</sup>

Research service is available through AROS/RAGAS (Archives of Russia and its American affiliate, the Russian American Genealogical Archival Service). Requests can be made in English. There is a \$22.00 charge for obtaining a single birth, marriage, or death record. There is a \$50 charge to set up an account for extended research and \$6 per hour research fee. These rates may go up because of the increased costs to do research as noted above. The author is personally acquainted with AROS researchers and vouches for their honesty and research credentials. For further details contact:

RAGAS  
P.O. Box 236  
Glen Echo, MD 20812  
(tel. 202-501-5205;  
e-mail INTERNET:IN%\*ragas@sovusa.com\*)

The most expensive route to have research performed is through an independent researcher in Saratov, Dr. Igor Pleve. The average fee for researching a complete family is \$500. One can contact this researcher at:

(Home)	(Work)
410005 Saratov	410601 Saratov
B. Gomaya St. 272-2	Radisheva St. 41
Dr. Igor Pleve	Dr. Igor Pleve
(e-mail INTERNET:IN%*igor@pleve.saratov.su*)	

An American point of contact for Dr. Pleve is:  
Arthur E. Flegel  
1895 Oakdell Dr.  
Menlo Park, California 94025  
(tel. 415-322-8694; e-mail through Compuserve, Arthur E. Flegel 73014,2714)

There may be other independent researchers of whom this author is not aware.

As was mentioned initially, this information is preliminary. Because these records have not been available for over seventy years and the information concerning them has only been received in smattering, much is yet to be learned and probably the author will need to be corrected for what he has already provided in this article. However, the exciting news for those who have long awaited this day is that the records are no longer totally beyond reach. The great yearning for knowing one's heritage, amply demonstrated in the research groups and associations descended from German-Russians, can begin to be satisfied.

#### NOTES AND REFERENCES

\* 412 South 400 East, Centerville, Utah 84014. Mr. Mehr is the Supervisor of the International Cataloging Section of the Family History Library. He is the author of many articles, as well as co-author of the forthcoming history of the Family History Library. He is an Accredited Genealogist in LDS Church Records, and attended Brigham Young University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Russian, a Master of Library Science degree, and a Master of Arts degree in Family and Local History. He is fluent in Russian and Portuguese. Kahlile is also a Major with the Utah Army National Guard, assigned to a linguist unit.

## FOOTNOTES

1. Karl Stumpp. *The German-Russians; Two Centuries of Pioneering* (2nd ed. New York: Edition Atlantic-Forum, 1971), pp. 20-21.
2. James W. Long. *From Privileged to Dispossessed* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1988), pp. 42.
3. Fred C. Koch. *The Volga Germans* (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1977), pp. 117.
4. Edgar C. Duin. *Lutheranism Under the Tsars and the Soviets* (Ann Arbor: Xerox University Microfilms, 1976), pp. 173-174.
5. A few of the far flung congregations were administered by the Department of Alien Faiths of the Ministry of the Interior; the Lutheran and Reformed congregations in Archangel, the Mennonite and Pietist colonies of South Russia, the Brethren congregation at Sarepta on the Volga, and the Lutheran colonies in Gruzija.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 297.
7. Long, p. 45.
8. Entries for Bessarabia (approximately 40% of the total) are duplicated by films of original parish registers already in the Society's collection.
9. S. O. Schmidt, ed., *Gosudarstvennyi Istoricheskiy Arkhiv Moskovskoi Oblasti; Putevoditel* (Moskva, 1961), p. 324.
10. Stumpp. *Ibid.*
11. Long. *Ibid.*
12. Gottlieb Beratz. *The German Colonies on the Lower Volga* (Lincoln, Nebraska: American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, 1991), p. 238.
13. Inventory of the Tiraspol Roman Catholic Consistory, Record Group 365, Regional Government Archive, Saratov, Russia.
14. Many series in Russian record groups contain a variety of record types. These are not broken out into separate series as is the custom in Western archival practice. Rather they are arranged together chronologically by the first year represented in the contents of the item.
15. These current figures are based on information obtained from RAGAS and the earlier figures from a personal visit of the author to the archive.

## PROJECT STATUS REPORT: EAST EUROPEAN FILMING

by John D. Movius

At the FEEFHS convention last May, Family History Library (FHL) librarian Thomas Edlund provided a well prepared summary outline and lecture on Slovenian and Croatian archival sources now available on microfilm thru the FHL in Salt Lake City and its 2000 Family History Centers

worldwide. Tom is well placed to offer these insights, having cataloging and indexing responsibilities for a large number of East European extraction (filming) projects of the Genealogical Society of Utah at the FHL.

Hoping to learn more of specific interest to many of our various FEEFHS member societies, an interview with Tom was obtained at his FHL office on 22 July 1994. My interview notes reflect the following status of various projects:

**SLOVAKIA** -- Five major archives exist in Slovakia. Top priority is given to extraction of parish records. Camera crews working here have shipped over 700 reels of film since starting here in 1993. Presently Slovakian church books are being filmed by three camera crews -- one each at the archives of Košice, Prešov and Levoča.

**CROATIA** -- Nine filming projects have been undertaken in Croatia, four of which are still active, as follows:

Zagreb: Filming of parish records at the State Archive here is complete. This includes Roman Catholic parish records starting circa the 1750's to 1820's and then continuing until World War I. Typical record group spans are from 1820 to 1915.

Blaski Diocese: The Greek Orthodox records here are completely filmed.

Osijek: This archive near the Serbian border took hits from artillery shells during a recent conflict. It burned and most or all records were destroyed. Fortunately all vital records there had been microfilmed before this terrible destruction. This accomplishment stands as a shining example of the paramount importance of the many microfilm projects of the Genealogical Society of Utah. These Osijek records consist of Bishop's transcripts of all Orthodox and Roman Catholic records existing there. The starting dates vary from 1769 to 1808. The records continued until the start of World War I (1914-1915).

Zagreb (local region): For the last few years a film crew has been working with vital records periodically delivered to it in Zagreb by a government van. The van travels thru the surrounding countryside, borrowing church books from archives nearby to bring them in for filming before returning them the same way. This interesting project has generated the bulk of the large amount of film from Croatia. This local project is expected to continue to be a major source of records extraction film from Croatia in the foreseeable future.

Varazdin: The Historical Archive here has been done, in so far as filming its Orthodox and Catholic records.

Zadar and Split: Filming of all Roman Catholic records in the Historical Archives at these two coastal cities is complete. Now this crew is starting on the Orthodox records there.

Dubrovnik and Rijeka: Two new projects have been started at Dubrovnik and Rijeka where Roman Catholic and Orthodox church records are being filmed.

Languages on Croatian records: Edlund noted the Croatian films catalogued to date reflect the rich and broad range of languages used in this land over the last few centuries: Croatian, Latin, Hungarian, Italian, and Glagolitic.

**HUNGARY** -- In the past, Hungarian parish records were filmed up to an 1895 cutoff, as defined by the Hungarian 90-year privacy law. While no church books after 1895 have been filmed, civil records are being filmed for the period of 1895-1903. Camera crews are active at Pécs and Budapest on this project.

**RUSSIA** -- Ten camera crews are now at work here. The major current effort is to film the Russian Orthodox Church books at six provincial consistories (equivalent to Catholic dioceses): These are Astrakhan, Kazan (central Russia), Tobolsk, Tomsk (Siberia), Tula and Tver.

Pskov: This Russian border city just east of Estonia has two camera crews currently active. In addition to filming the Pskov consistory Russian Orthodox church books, some German-Russian records have been filmed.

German-Russian films: The 136-reel St. Petersburg Lutheran consistory church records have been microfilmed and catalogued. These records are now available from the FHL. However, only the Salt Lake City FHL has them on its computer catalog. A 178-page index and a 452-page register are in process as of late July and is expected to be on the annual update of the FHL Catalog on CD-ROM when it is released this fall -- look for it around November 1994.

**UKRAINE** -- Four camera crews are here. One camera crew is in Cheringof and two are in the capital of Kiev. They are all concentrating on Russian Orthodox church records. One crew in Ukraine's Lviv (Polish: Łwów; German: Lemberg) is now filming Greek Catholic records. These are of major interest to the hundreds of thousands of this faith who emigrated to western Canada and their descendants.

Second priority at Lviv now is Russian Orthodox records. These are so extensive they may well take up to 15 years to complete the filming project, however it is not unusual to have filming projects of such a duration due to the size of certain archival collections. Jewish synagogue records exist at Lviv, and these will eventually be filmed too.

**BELARUS** -- Two camera crews are active here. One in Grodno is filming consistory records of the Russian Orthodox Church. Some of these start in the mid 1700's. A film crew in the capital, Minsk is filming Russian Orthodox consistory records and Lutheran consistory records. They also have some tax revision (= census) lists to film in Minsk.

**BULGARIA** -- One crew in Sofia is now filming post-1890 civil registration records.

## DIE AHNENSTAMMKARTEI GERMANIC PEDIGREE COLLECTION, 1221 REELS OF "LEIPZIG FILMS" NOW AVAILABLE AT FHL/FHC's

by John D. Movius

The *Deutsche Zentralstelle für Genealogie* at Leipzig, with an origin dating back to 1904, has recently been designated by the German government as the lead archive for genealogy in all of united Germany. But long before the iron curtain went up or came down, this major archive was well known throughout Germany for its genealogy holdings.

According to professional genealogist Henning Schröder of Gummersbach, this archive was the main reason West Germans took the trouble to travel to Leipzig during the cold war era. And when they got there? Most headed for its premier holding -- a huge card file collection - *Die Ahnenstammkartei des Deutschen Volkes*. It is sometimes called by the acronym "ASTAKA" in the literature. It is best known as the "Leipzig Films" at the international reference desk of the Family History Library (FHL) at Salt Lake City. Others as well as myself call it "Die Ahnenstammkartei."

Started in 1922 and still being added to, this collection is estimated to contain from five to six million individual names. It survived the fire bombings of World War II and the benign neglect of the East German government during the cold war. Note that this collection spans the entire German Empire of the last century, not just the Leipzig region.

In 1991 the Genealogical Society of Utah filmed both parts of this collection. Part I is a mammoth 617-reel A-Z index plus 19 reels of six other supporting indices. Part II is an additional 583 rolls of multi-generation pedigree information called Ahnentafels by the Germans. Cataloging was finally completed this year by librarian Thomas Edlund, who prepared a preliminary index for the Family History Library Catalog (FHLC) last fall. The complete index, due out on the

next FHLC update this fall, takes 133 pages to index all the films.

I first came across this collection in a lead article in the *German Genealogical Digest*, Vol 9 No. 4 (Winter 1993), pp. 110-124, published by FEEFHS member Larry Jensen. This is still the best article on how to use the collection. I began to use it last March but found some films had not arrived at the FHL and others were not in the microfilm stacks on floor B1.

Using it requires several steps, starting with converting the surname you are searching for into a Germanic form of a Soundex-like phonetic spelling, finding the correct film number in Part I for that spelling, and finding the card of the name you are searching for. This index card will provide considerable information, including vital data for the subject and two generations back including place of birth.

It also includes the AL file number in Part II, where the Ahnenliste are found. Returning to Part II of the Edlund catalog index, the AL number is matched up with another film number that contains the ancestor list you are looking for. But there is more to it than we have space to cover here.

It would seem that for unique and relatively uncommon Germanic surnames that it may be possible to bypass passenger lists and go directly back to the village of origin with the Part-I index card and the three-generation ancestor list. This may not be a panacea for everyone. But properly used, I feel this collection will solve a great number of German genealogy problems that so far have defied solution. So if you have ancestors from Germany and have been unable to locate a city or village of origin in the past, then it's time to try again.

A partial index was placed in the FHLC last fall but it has a dozen or more "missing films" that had not been cataloged by the cutoff time. Since then, a full and final index to this collection is now available through the FHLC on computer. It will appear in the annual update of the FHLC this fall (best estimate: October or November). In the meantime, to provide an overview for your access to various indices, access the catalog using these film numbers:

- Introduction in English, catalog pp 1-2
- Vorwort -- Complete explanation, film #1799712, item 3

#### Part I:

- A to Z index (617 reels):  
starts with film #1797918 (Aa - Appenzeller), catalog p. 3  
ends with film #1799235 (Zoepfel - Zutzenheimer,

Sossenheimer), catalog p. 64

- Einsenderkartei -- Submitter list (6 reels), catalog p. starts with film # 1798338 (Aarden - Eichenauer) ends with film #1798343, item 1 (Stuler - Zwirner)
- Ahnenlisten-Nummernkartei -- Ancestor Lists indexed submission no. (5 reels):  
starts with film #1798343, item 2 (0001 - 0595) ends with film #1798336 (9141-11352)
- Berühmtenkartei -- Index of Famous People/VIP's (reel), catalog p. 65:  
film #1798337, item 1 (Abbe - Zschokke)
- Ortskartei -- Index of Places (1 reel):  
film #1798337, item 2 (Aachen - Zwickau)
- Sachkartei -- Miscellaneous Index of Things (1 reel):  
film #1798337, item 3 (Apotheker - Zwillinge)
- Nummernkartei -- Index of Sources (13 reels):  
starts with film #1798327 (A 0001 - A 02170) ends with film #1798332, item 7 (S 0001 - S 00106)

#### Part II:

- Ahnentafeln (AL) -- Index of Manuscript Numbers (about 538 reels):  
starts with film #1809152 (00001 - 00019), catalog p. 66 ends with film #1809542, item 2 (Z. 00065-00098), catalog p. 133

### NEW GERMANIC PARISH REGISTERS

Any Germanic record searcher who becomes a frequent user of the Leipzig Films' Part II above will notice some very interesting German parish records interspersed with all those AL's. It seems the *Deutsche Zentralstelle für Genealogie* in Leipzig also has a large collection of old German church registers (Kirchenbücher). It is estimated the number may be upwards of 5000. These also cover all of the old German Empire, not just the Leipzig area.

The filming of some/all of these old Kirchenbücher occurred at the same time as Die Ahnenstammkartei, and somehow they became intermingled with Part II above. These church books have not been indexed as a group. They will show up in the FHLC main catalog as additional church records for the place (village, city, Kreis) where the church was located.

Example: Of great importance to me is that in Pommern-Naugard church records from the year 1800 forwards have been filmed. They start with film #1768409. One church record for Bukovina starts with film #1768385. The fact that Posen, Bessarabia and the Baltics are also well represented should give Germanic record searchers pause to think. You will want to return to try again for a city where a lack of church records meant a dead end in the past. I sense there are new lights turned on at the ends of many dark tunnels that

to this fortuitous act -- so be sure you should check again.

Remember, these new film numbers will not show up in the November 1993 catalog now at your Family History Center (FHC). You will either have to wait for the new Family History Library Catalog to get to your FHC this fall for these new entries to appear -- or make a trip to Salt Lake City where that master FHL catalog on computer is updated by the librarians each working day with newly cataloged films.

### GERMANS FROM RUSSIA FILMS

The 136 rolls of films from the St. Petersburg Lutheran Consistory have been catalogued recently. Access in the Salt Lake City FHL computer to these records can be obtained by using the computer number (CN) 710545. Examples here include the Glückstal Colonies, appearing on film #1882636, item 2, on pages 112 thru 145. These are now being calendared and mapped by Tom Edlund for the FHLC and will also appear in this fall's updated FHLC.

When Larry Jensen spoke at the Sacramento German Genealogy Society last April, instead of repeating the lecture he had given to the Immigrant Genealogy Society last fall, he opened with fifteen minutes on Die Ahnenstammkartei, and he also spoke about it at the FEEFHS convention.

## THE IMMIGRANT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

by Jean Nepsund

The Immigrant Genealogical Society (IGS) is among the charter members of the Federation of Eastern Europe Family History Societies. The IGS was founded in 1982 to preserve and make available to the public the genealogical collection begun by Elisabeth Sharp and Gerda Haffner. Today it is one of the major contributors to German Research.

The Immigrant Genealogical Society moved from its original location in a redevelopment area in North Hollywood, CA, to its present location in Burbank, CA, in 1989. The past five years have seen steady growth in membership and dramatic expansion of a "research by mail" program that has assisted thousands of persons of German ancestry. The Society now also offers research by mail to persons in Germany attempting to trace their relatives who emigrated to the United States. During 1993, the diligent IGS volunteers completed 1256 U.S. orders, many of which utilized more than one resource. Many of those orders came from a rural route or small town address, where there is no genealogical library within 75 miles, much less on that has materials for German research.

While the IGS German Collection consists mostly of books from and about West Germany, some of the gazetteers, maps, and guides have help with former Eastern Germany and the areas of eastern Europe where Germans settled in earlier centuries. As genealogical societies are once again organizing in former Communist areas, the IGS will add materials from those areas as they become available.

Some of the basic resources for Eastern Europe in the present collection include the following:

*Gemeindeverzeichnis für Mittel- und Ostdeutschland und die früheren deutschen Siedlungsgebiete in Ausland* [Index to Communities in East Germany and Eastern European Areas of Earlier German Settlements].

Angus Baxter, *In Search of Your European Roots*

Degner, *Genealogical Guide to German Ancestors from East Germany and Eastern Europe*

*Großblatt* -- many unindexed 1:100,000 maps of Europe, including eastern areas.

*Ortnamenverzeichnis der Ortschaften jenseits von Oder und Neisse* [Index to Place names beyond the Oder and Neisse] -- Multi-language place-name index.

Stumpp, *From Germany to Russia in the Years 1963-1862*.

The Immigrant Genealogical Society does not seek to acquire records of individual eastern European villages. It concentrates on reference works to help locate villages and to provide addresses for contacting appropriate governmental jurisdictions. It can often refer you to a U.S. organization that specializes in your area of research once you identify the place from which your ancestor emigrated.

Membership in the Immigrant Genealogical Society is presently \$15 per year per person or \$20 per family. This includes free use of the IGS Library, a monthly newsletter, two periodicals per year, monthly meetings the first Friday of each month, and at least one seminar each year.

It is wise for the researcher of an eastern European family or village to exhaust all the resources for research available here in the United States before writing to government offices in Europe. Through the extensive filming of records done by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, more records are available here in the United States than most researchers realize. Securing records from Europe is both time consuming and expensive. The "fall of the wall" has opened many more possibilities than existed under the Communist regime. The coming years will see a dramatic increase in availability of records for eastern European research. IGS is excited to be part of that process.

## WINNIPEG CENTERS FOR MENNONITE GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

by Alf Redekopp

Winnipeg, with its population of 650,000, has well over 19,000 Mennonites located within its limits. Their roots for the most part trace back through Russia and Prussia to Dutch and North German origins. Genealogical researchers coming to Winnipeg can find valuable sources in the following centers:

1. Mennonite Genealogy Inc., 790 Wellington Avenue, mailing address Box 393, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3C 2H6, phone (204) 772-0747; director Margaret Kroeker.

The collection at this center includes a card file with over 186,000 individuals, a computer database with over 20,000 individuals, a historical library and newspaper collection, maps, photographs, and charts. Mennonite Genealogy Inc. is a non-profit organization. Research services are free of charge; donations are accepted to cover the costs.

2. Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies in Canada, 169 Riverton Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R2L 2E5, phone (204) 669-6575; director Abe Dueck, archivist Alf Redekopp.

The holdings of this archive consist mainly of the congregational, institutional, and agency records of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. This denomination originated in Southern Russia in 1860. This collection includes personal papers, maps, periodicals, photographs, sound recordings, and rare books. The Katie Peters Genealogical Collection donated to the center in 1985 is the single largest Mennonite family history collection in Western Canada. *A Guide to Genealogical Resources at the Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies*, prepared by Alf Redekopp in 1989, is available for \$10.00.

3. Mennonite Heritage Centre, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3P 0M4, phone (204) 888-6781; historian-archivist Lawrence Klippenstein, assistant archivist Peter Rempel.

The holdings of this archive focus on records related to Mennonites in Western Canada and Russia. major collections of interest to genealogists are the Prussian Mennonite church records (on microfilm), the church registers of the first Mennonite groups to settle in Manitoba in the 1870's, the records of the Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization (1924-1930, 1947-1956), and the most recent acquisition of the Peter J. Braun Russian Mennonite Archive 1803-1920, consisting of 140,000 pages of documents on microfilm from the State Archives of Odessa Region, Ukraine, received in July 1993. Lists prepared by Adolf Ens in February 1992,

entitled "Basic Genealogical Sources at Mennonite Heritage Centre -- Mennonites in Russia" and "Basic Genealogical Sources at Mennonite Heritage Centre -- 1870s Immigrants to Canada from Russia," are quite helpful.

## FROM VOLHYNIA TO THE UNITED STATES

by Lois Ann Mast

One hundred and twenty years ago, in 1874, Swiss-German Mennonites emigrated from Volhynia to the United States. Based on Andreas D. Schrag's previously unpublished journal entries, Orpha V. Schrag of Nashville, TN, has compiled an illustrated article titled "Andreas D. Schrag: Volhynia to Dakota," that is printed in the July 1994 *Mennonite Family History*.

In late August 1993, Orpha V. Schrag traveled to the Ukraine on a pilot project to search for the former Swiss-German villages located between Zhitomir and L'vov. Using a pre-written itinerary, Victor I. Selivonov of Intourist-Kiev organized the travel arrangements. Orpha and her husband Oswald, together with interpreter Dina Nemnay, and drivers Antonio Decktyr and Vladimir Manuuelov visited fifteen villages.

A mass emigration of four Swiss-German congregations scattered in present-day Ukraine began with a dream and a trip to America by Andreas D. Schrag to see if it was feasible. Andreas D. Schrag was a great-great-uncle of Orpha V. Schrag.

Eleven families (Müller, Schrag, Schwarz, and Waldner) were the first to say goodbye to their homeland in 1874, and set out for what Andreas Schrag thought would be northern Dakota near the Red River. Somehow, this changed to southern Dakota between the Little Vermillion River and Turkey Ridge Creek. On June 1, 1874, Andreas purchased 40 acres of land for \$500.00. Three weeks later, he purchased another 40 acres for \$190.00.

In July 1874, 14 more families arrived, and in August, 13 more families. Virtually all of these families took the train from New York a week later, the last group arrived in 1875. They settled primarily in Kansas. In one summer, almost 1,000 families numbering about 500 persons had the will to begin a new and challenging phase of their lives -- to pioneer another Ukraine, a word that means "frontier."

Copies of the July 1994 *Mennonite Family History* that include

a full front-cover photograph of rural Kutusafa in Ukraine, where many emigrant families left, along with Orpha Schrag's article, can be purchased for \$4.00 plus \$1.00 shipping from Mennonite Family History, P.O. Box 171, Elverson, PA 19520-0171.

## GERMAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

When the ship *Concord* arrived in Philadelphia on 6 October 1683, it brought the first organized group of German immigrants to the New World. Since then, about 7 million Germans have left their homeland to start a new life in America. Many settled in Canada and Latin America, most came to the United States. About 20 % of the population or 50 million are either immigrants or descendants of German immigrants.

In spite of man-made and natural disasters, many records of your ancestors do exist. With assistance from books and translators, the language need not be a handicap. The biggest roadblock is believing that the best place to bein one's research is in Europe. Many Europeans, however, come to the United States to do their personal and professional research.

In the fall of 1986, the German Genealogical Society of America was founded to assist family historians in locating records of their ancestors. The society has an extensive library of books, periodicals, and fiche, including passenger lists, archives, atlases, family histories, and more. We welcome your visits. The Library hours are Saturday from 1:00 to 5:00, other times by appointment. Although the GGSA Library is not always accessible to our out-of-the-area members, much research by mail is accomplished with the aid of this collection.

For more information, contact the Society at 2125 Wright Avenue, Suite C-9, La Verne, CA 91750, tel. (909) 593-0509.

## NAME CHANGES

We have received notification from the United States Board on Geographic Names of the following new geographical names for countries in the region served by FEEFHS. This is a continuation of the list published in the first issue of the *FEEFHS Newsletter*, p. 5. People interested in receiving this kind of information regularly should request the free publication *Foreign Names Information Bulletin* from the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at (301) 227-2495 or (800) 826-

0342. Be sure to request back issues as well.

### Old

Berēza  
Dribin  
Gantsevichi  
Glubokoye  
Gorki  
Kalinkovich  
Komlishche  
Lepel'  
Logishin  
Lukomer  
Mormozhevo  
Mstislavl'  
Narutovich  
Novogrudok  
Novopolotsk  
Novosēlki  
Osovtsy  
Pervomayskaya  
Perschanka  
Samoylovichi  
Selets  
Slavgorod  
Soshitsa  
Uglyany  
Vorozhbity

### New

### BELARUS

Byaroza  
Drybin  
Hantsavichy  
Hlybokaye  
Horki  
Kalinkavichy  
Komlischchy  
Lyepyel'  
Lahishyn  
Lukamyer  
Mormazhava  
Mstislav  
Narutavichy  
Navahrudak  
Navapolatsk  
Navasyolki  
Osawtsy  
Pyershamayskaya  
Pyaschanka  
Samoylavichy  
Syalyets  
Slawharad  
Sashytsa  
Uhlyany  
Varazhbity

### BULGARIA

Avramov  
Barutinska  
Belanitsa  
Bodrovo  
Boyka (41°54' N, 23°35' E)  
Boyka (43°21' N, 25°58' E)  
Chukarite  
Dimitŭr-Ganevo  
Filevo  
Georgi Traykov  
Kapinovo  
Khlebarovo  
Lazar-Stanevo  
Michurin  
Mikhaylovgrad  
Mirovo  
Monchil  
Muletarovo  
Oresnik  
Peshterite

Mokren  
Gorna Arda  
Kosharite  
Stambolovo  
Gorno Kraishte  
Lom Cherkovna  
Todorcheta  
Pobeda  
Vŭrbitsa  
Dolni Chiflik  
Kŭpinovo  
Tsar Kaloyan  
Toros  
Tsarevo  
Montana  
Vratsa  
Tsarichino  
Rupite  
Novo Khodzhovo  
Genchovtsi

Pilashevo  
Shishmanovo  
Stanke Dimitrov  
Stanke-Lisichkovo  
Süevo  
Temelkovo  
Vürbanovo  
Yordankino  
Zhitarovo

Bukovo  
Tsar Shichmanovo  
Dupnitsa  
Logodazh  
Staro Selo  
Batanovtsi  
Tsareva Livada  
Eleshnitsa  
Vetren

Soroki  
Stepanovka  
Strasheny  
Tarakliya  
Teleneshty  
Tiraspol'  
Ungeny  
Vulkaneshty  
Yaloveny

Soroca  
Stefânești  
Strășeni  
Taraclia  
Telenești  
Tiraspol  
Ungheni  
Vulcănești  
Ialoveni

#### CROATIA

Kardeljevo

Ploče

#### ESTONIA

Tahku

Tahkuranna

#### LITHUANIA

Ipilties Piliakalnis  
Karklynė  
Naujaupe  
Šuneliai

Naujoji Ipiltis  
Karklinė  
Jaunakaimis  
Anavilis

#### MOLDOVA

Bendery  
Bessarabka  
Bolotino  
Brichen'  
Chernenko  
Chimishliya  
Dondyushany  
Drokiya  
Dubossary  
Faleshty  
Floreshty  
Glinoye  
Glodyany  
Grigoriopol'  
Kagul  
Kalarash  
Kamenka  
Kantemir  
Kaynary  
Komrat  
Kongaz  
Kriulyany  
Leovo  
Oknitsa  
Orgeyev  
Salkutsa  
Slobodzeya

Bender  
Besarabeasca  
Bolotina  
Briceni  
Șoldânești  
Cimișlia  
Dondușeni  
Drochia  
Dubăsari  
Fălești  
Florești  
Hlinaia  
Glodeni  
Grigoriopol  
Cahul  
Călărași  
Camenca  
Cantemir  
Căinari  
Comrat  
Congaz  
Criuleni  
Leova  
Ocnița  
Orhei  
Sălcuța  
Slobozia

Gheorge Gheorgiu-Dej

Titovo Velenje

#### ROMANIA

Onești

#### SLOVENIA

Velenje

#### UKRAINE

Arbuzinka  
Artsiz  
Bolgrad  
Borschchovka  
Chermerovtsy  
Chornivody  
Chortkov  
Demkovtsy  
Dolina  
Dombrovka  
Dunayevtsy  
Frunzovka  
Glybokaya  
Gailyakovo  
Gorodok  
Gradenitsy  
Gritskov  
Ivakhnovtsy  
Kamenskoye  
Kel'mentsy  
Kolésnoye  
Konstantinovka  
Kremannaya  
Kupin  
Kutkovtsy  
Kuz'min  
Lesogorka  
Lesovody  
Lossogorka  
Lysaya Gora  
Lyubashëvka  
Malaya Yaromirka  
Mogilëv-Podol'skiy  
Novaya Ushitsa

Arbuzynka  
Artsyz  
Bolhrad  
Borshchivka  
Chemerivtsi  
Chornyvody  
Chortkiv  
Demkivtsi  
Dolyna  
Dubivka  
Dunayivtsi  
Frunzivka  
Hlyboka  
Hnylyakove  
Horodok  
Hradenytsi  
Hryts'kiv  
Ivakhnivtsi  
Kam'yans'ke  
Kel'mentsi  
Kolisne  
Kostyantynivka  
Kreminna  
Kupyn  
Kutkivtsi  
Kuz'myn  
Lisohirka  
Lisovody  
Lysohirka  
Lysa Hora  
Lyubashivka  
Mala Yaromyrka  
Mohyliv-Podil's'kyi  
Nova Ushytsya



Novoarkhangel'sk  
Novoye Perch'ye  
Obodovka  
Obzhiloye  
Ozernoye  
Petrovka  
Plakhteyevka  
Radkovitsa  
Shevchenkovo  
Skipcha  
Skotynyany  
Staroye Porech'ye  
Svirchikovtsy  
Syrvatintsy  
Tarutino  
Teremkovtsy  
Troitskoye  
Trostyanets  
Velikaya Levada  
Velikaya Yaromirka  
Velikiu Bychkov  
Velikiu Karabcheyev  
Velikoploskye  
Vilkovo  
Vilok  
Vinogradov  
Vishnevchik  
Vradiyevka  
Yampol'chik  
Yurkovtsy  
Zakupnoye  
Zavadovka  
Zverkhovtsy

Novoarkhanhel's'k  
Nove Porichchya  
Obodivka  
Obzhyle  
Ozerna  
Petrivka  
Plakhtiyivka  
Radkovytsya  
Shevchenkove  
Skypche  
Klynove  
Stare Prochchya  
Svirshkivtsi  
Syrvatyntsi  
Tarutyne  
Teremkivtsi  
Troyits'ke  
Trostyanets'  
Velyka Levada  
Velyka Yaromyrka  
Velykyy Bychkiv  
Velykyy Karabschiyiv  
Veolykpolske  
Vylkove  
Vylok  
Vynohradiv  
Vyshnivchik  
Vradiyivka  
Yampil'chik  
Yurkivtsi  
Zakupne  
Zavadivka  
Zverkhivtsi

#### YUGOSLAVIA (Montenegro)

Rožaj

Rožaje

## COMING EVENTS

*[Editor's note: Following is a list of a few important genealogical conferences we have been informed about that should be of interest to FEEFHS members. We would appreciate receiving announcements about future events to be included in our next issue, due to appear in October 1994.]*

#### Great Lakes Conference 1994

August 4-6, Grand Wayne Center, 120 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN. Contact Joan A. Griffis, 105 Poland Road, Danville, IL 61832, or Allen County Public Library Historical Genealogy Department, (219) 424-

7241, extension 3315.

#### Hungarian Genealogy Society of America's Third Annual Conference

August 20, 1994, Toledo, OH. Featuring FEEFHS 1st Vice President Ed Brandt. Contact HGSA, c/o Kathy Karocki, 124 Esther, Toledo, OH 43605.

#### Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan Annual Workshop

October 15, 1994, Madonna University Science Lecture Hall, 36600 Schoolcraft Road at I-96, Livonia, MI. Featuring Jonathan Shea. Contact PGSM, c/o Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward, Detroit, MI 48202.

#### Polish Genealogical Society of America Annual Conference

October 21-22, 1994, Ramada O'Hare Hotel, 6600 North Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL 60018. Featuring Stan Schmidt, Fred Hoffman, and Dan Schlyter. Contact Dr. Gregory J. Gazda, 280 Forest Trail Drive, Oak Brook, IL 60521.

## REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

### TURZA

Mrs. Helen Stross of 2032 Malbrook Rd., Oakville, Ontario, Canada, L6J 1Y7, is seeking information regarding her deceased father, Stephen Turza, who participated in some kind of rebellion or war around 1918 and was taken prisoner to Siberia for six years. She would like to ascertain which war/rebellion her father took part in.

### BETLACH

Kathryn Betlach Dankowski, 727 Appleberry Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903-1205 writes: My relative, Frank Betlach, had a one-person, traveling marionetter or puppet show and performed in the Czech language in the mid to late 1800's. He traveled in the Czech communities throughout the Midwest area, and I have heard he went as far away as California. I am interested in learning two things: 1) if anyone has any information or mementos remaining from one of his shows or any shows of this type, 2) I would like to know if anyone has a copy of a book he wrote in Czech in 1894 called *Český marionetář a břichomluvec; jeho životopisné a cestopisné vzpomínky, Stručný popis českých osad v Sev. Americe*

(translation:) Czech puppeteer and ventriloquist; reminiscences of his life and travels. A brief description of Czech settlements in North America), 71 pages.

### SHIP EASTLAND

Kathryn Betlach Dankowski is also interested in getting information on the passenger vessel called the *Eastland*, which turned over in the Chicago River, Chicago, IL, on July 24, 1915. 812 passengers perished.

### MATTHEWS, WOYTE

Eunice B. Larson, 57 Aalapapa Place, Kailua, HI 96734-3118, is seeking information about:

Descendants of Johann Matthews, born 31 Dec 1777, Prussia, wife Anne Elisabeth Mittelstädt; sons Johann Gottlieb Matthews, b. 1820, wife Anna Caroline Krüger, and Wilhelm Matthews, born 24 Apr 1825, both went to Kansas City; daughter Anna Caroline Matthews, b. about 1818, Prussia, married Gottlieb Rekow, emigrated to Faribault Co., MN, 1881; his sister, Christine Wuske/Furstenau, also emigrated, date/destination unknown, parents Christoph Rekow and Anne Justine Fiedler.

Carl Wilhelm Woyte, born 25 Sep 1817, Schönnewalde bei der Sande, Prussia, location unknown, wife Anne Dorothea Machmüller, born 10 Oct 1822, Neu Langsow, Brandenburg, Prussia, daughter of Friedrich Machmüller and Henriette Pöhle(n). Living 1856 in Tuchband, emigrated to Mayville, WI, area 12 Mar 1856, traveling with Henrich August Woihte, born 5 Apr 1830, Seelasgen, working 1856 in Golzow, destination unknown. Also traveling with Johann Heinrich Lindorf, born 6 Oct 1829, Zechin.

### BOOKS OF INTEREST

The book *Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Translation Guide*, by Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman, has been mentioned in passing before in this *Newsletter*, but we feel it important to call special attention to it here. It is published by Avotaynu, Inc., a leading publisher of books on Jewish research, but this book will be helpful to people working with records of all ethnic groups. It provides detailed help with language problems in German, Swedish, French, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Czech, Polish, Russian, Hungarian, and Lithuanian, with specific reference to genealogical records, as well as a bibliography and a list of genealogical organizations. Order from Avotaynu, Inc., P.O. Box 1134, Teaneck, NJ 07666.

The Crossroads Resource Center, of Minneapolis, MN, and the German-Bohemian Heritage Society, of New Ulm, MN,

have published *Border People: The Böhmisches (German Bohemians) in America*, by Ken Meter and Robert Paulson. The history of the Germans from Bohemia and Moravia (now the Czech Republic) who settled in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North Dakota. Order from Robert Paulson, 800 West Idaho, St. Paul, MN 55116, or Ken Meter, PO Box 742 Minneapolis, MN 55407.

Zdeňka Urbancová, secretary of the Society of Friends of the USA in Ostrava, Czech Republic, has prepared a series of bilingual books and tapes of Czech fairy tales and legends. She requested our assistance in informing people about them. There are four sets available at \$10 each for a tape and a 45-page color-illustrated book. Write to her at Žilinská 1375 70800 Ostrava-Poruba, Czech Republic.

The European Cultural Centre of Geneva, Switzerland, and the European Centre for Regional and Ethnic Studies, located in Bydgoszcz, Poland, have published a book entitled *Regionalism in Europe: Traditions and New Trends*, edited by Janusz Slugocki, consisting of presentations made at a conference held in Bydgoszcz in 1990. It is of special interest to FEEFHS, because it contains an article by President Charles Hall, "The Contribution of Genealogy to European Regionalistic Studies." Contact European Cultural Centre, 122, rue de Lausanne, CH 1202 Geneva, Switzerland, or European Centre for Regional and Ethnic Studies, ul. M. Skłodowskiej-Curie 11A, PL 85-094, Bydgoszcz, Poland.

People planning to visit or do business in Russia may wish to obtain *The Russia Survival Guide: Business and Travel*, published by Russian Information Services, Montpelier, VT. Call (800) 639-4301 for their free catalog, "Access Russia."

*The Oldest Families in Slovakia* (Najstaršie rody na Slovensku) is a collection of remarkable contributions from the symposium held on 4-6 October, 1993, by the Slovak Genealogical and Heraldic Society at the Matica slovenská, the Slovak Historical Society of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Department of Archiving and Auxiliary Historical Sciences, and the State District Archives, Bratislava. Send US\$35 to: Slovenská genealogicko-heraldická spoločnosť pri Matici slovenskej, Novomeského 32, 036 52, Martin, Slovakia.

### NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES

It has come to our attention that many people may have requested and/or paid for back issues of the *FEEFHS Newsletter* and not received them. We have found several such requests in our files with no indication of whether they were fulfilled, though probably most of them were. Also those that have joined FEEFHS during 1994 are entitled to

receive issues 2:1 and 2:2 without additional charge, and we have usually failed to send those out.

Please contact John C. Alleman, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108, if you have not received copies you are entitled to or if you would like to order additional back issues. We apologize for any inconveniences these oversights have caused.

We are striving to correct these problems in various ways. If you receive this issue of the newsletter by mail, your address label should contain a symbol in the upper right hand corner. These symbols were devised by our secretary, Kathy Fisher, to assist in her record keeping. If your symbol is \*, #, or +, it means you are on her records as being a paid member or subscriber or entitled to this copy on an exchange basis. If your symbol is O, we have no record that you have paid your 1994 membership or subscription, but we are sending you this issue in hopes that you will be joining, subscribing, or renewing soon.

## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

by Charles M. Hall

The greatest desire of our FEEFHS executive committee, relative to the convention we held in conjunction with UPGS between May 12 and 16 this year, was to fulfill at least some of the 10 stated goals of the one page information sheet we use to answer inquiries about FEEFHS, and do it consistent with our motto of "UNITY - HARMONY - DIVERSITY":

1) Publish and newsletter dealing with new genealogical research developments in Eastern Europe, sharing information of interest to two or more ethnic or religious groups; 2) Develop data bases of pertinent genealogical organizations and resources; 3) Maintain liaison with federations, state, provincial, and national societies in the U.S., Canada, and overseas that have similar interests; 4) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on member societies; 5) Hold conferences in conjunction with conventions sponsored by one or more member societies or national societies; 6) Cosponsor genealogy-related educational events of interest to two or more ethnic groups with member societies; 7) Help to develop new ethnic societies where they are needed but none exist; 8) Promote genealogy research and publication of the results; 9) Publish important resource material of interest to two or more Eastern European ethnic groups; 10) Promote public awareness of our member societies and publications and of their many valuable membership services, resources, and activities.

This issue of the *Newsletter*, reporting on the convention and

many exciting developments in Eastern European family history research, goes a long way toward fulfilling our first goal.

The "Address Book" compiled by 2nd Vice President John Movius, makes a major contribution to fulfilling our 2nd goal.

The interaction with Vladimir Soshnikov from Moscow and Patricia A. Eames of RAGAS, at our convention, represented a positive step to fulfilling our third goal. The formulation of the "Russian Heritage Society" as a result of our participation in the Genealogical Jamboree in Pasadena, California, was another step in the fulfillment of this goal. The Russian Heritage Society has now become a member of FEEFHS.

Relative to the 4th and 5th goals, seeds of several new societies were planted during the convention. An excellent example of this is the in process formulation of a genealogical society dealing with the former Austrian Province of Galicia, which currently lies in southeastern Poland and southwestern Ukraine. At one point, in the process of my lecture during the convention, I became aware that there were several people in our group who had specific interest in the Galicia area. Therefore, I asked for a show of hands of those interested, and got a count of 13, which was about one fourth of those present. One of the amazing things about the ancestors of those 13 people, was that they represented several different ethnic groups; Poles, Austrians, Ukrainians, Jews and Romanians.

Although we made plenty of mistakes, and learned some valuable lessons during the convention, we were very pleased with the success of our program chair, and 1st Vice President, Dr. Ed Brandt, in being able to gather such a variety of speakers, covering a diversity of topics, and ethnic origins to make our first attempt at a convention so financial feasible.

Even though our committee was exhausted by the end of the convention, we were already getting excited and planning what we were going to do next year, in the area of fulfilling goals relative to promoting conventions in Calgary, Alberta, and Cleveland, Ohio. We therefore wish to express special thanks to the attendees of this year's convention, for giving us the courage to go on to bigger and better things.

Some of these attendees came to our rescue at the registration table when we had a staffing dilemma, as did some people who had no direct connection with FEEFHS, including Normandie Nunez,Carolynn Zenk, my wife Frankie, and Carol Meyers, who was our photographer. Whoever you are, and wherever you live, "Thanks, from the bottom of our collective hearts."

*Organizational membership in FEEFHS is available to societies interested in Eastern European genealogy at the following rates:*

*Regular: US\$ 15 per year*

*Sponsor: US\$ 25 per year*

*Patron: US\$ 50 per year.*

*Individual memberships are US\$ 15 per year or US \$250 for a life membership.*

*The FEEFHS Newsletter is published quarterly. Subscriptions without voting membership are available to libraries and others who desire this status for US\$ 10 per year. Send dues or subscriptions to Charles M. Hall, FEEFHS president, P. O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121.*

*Contributions to the newsletter (preferably on diskette in WordPerfect) are welcomed from both organizations and individuals, whether members or not. Paid advertisements will be accepted at the rate of \$25 per page per issue or \$10 if camera-ready copy is provided. Send items for publication to John C. Alleman, FEEFHS Newsletter editor, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103.*

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**FEEFHS**

*Federation of East European Family*

*History Societies*

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*WWW: <http://feefhs.org>*

*-----  
P. O. Box 510898*

*Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA*  
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FEEFHS OFFICERS, 1994-1995



Charles M. Hall, President



Edward R. Brandt, 1st Vice President



John D. Movius, 2nd Vice President



Walter Rusel, 3rd Vice President



Kathy Fisher, Secretary



Azra P. Jović, Treasurer



John C. Alleman, Editor



Ed, Charles, Walt, John M., and John A. at the convention

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# FEEFHS

## Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

Vol 2, No. 4  
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December 1994

### *FEEFHS RESOURCE GUIDE* AVAILABLE

by John D. Movius

Copies of the latest 22-page *FEEFHS RESOURCE GUIDE to East European Genealogy* were mailed to all member organizations and individual members of record as of 1 October 1994. Please contact John Movius, P. O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327; tel.: (916) 753-3206 if you did not receive a copy. As new organizations, translators and professionals are added, the master copy is updated. Thus interim copies will represent the latest resources available from FEEFHS members.

The next semi-annual *FEEFHS RESOURCE GUIDE* will be mailed to all members of record as of February 1995. It will include an every-name index of organizations, individuals and newsletters. Translation services will also be indexed by country. Member organizations, translators and genealogists are requested to send all corrections, additions and updates to John Movius ASAP.

Copies of the latest *FEEFHS RESOURCE GUIDE* are available for sale (members: US\$4.00 postpaid; non-members US\$5.00). If you expect to attend a local, state or regional genealogy gathering this year or next and are willing to help genealogists become better aware of FEEFHS by taking FEEFHS flyers or selling the *RESOURCE GUIDE*, please contact John or another officer. We need more visibility and more members.

### 1995 CLEVELAND CONVENTION

by Duncan Gardiner and Ed Brandt

FEEFHS will hold a convention at the Holiday Inn Middleburg Heights in Cleveland on August 4-5, 1995. Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner, C.G., 12961 Lakewood, OH 44107-1533, is the convention chair and is in charge of local

arrangements and publicity. Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101, will serve as program chair, with Duncan as assistant program chair.

We are looking for volunteers to serve on at least three convention committees: publicity, program, and local arrangements. Other committees may be added later, if needed. We would appreciate hearing from any FEEFHS members who are willing to help.

We also solicit the support of member societies in identifying speakers of their choice and providing some financial support for them, if needed. The balance in the FEEFHS treasury is not large enough to guarantee speakers any reimbursement. Although all the North American speakers at the 1994 convention came without any financial support, a few potential speakers were unable to come for this reason.

There will be a Friday evening banquet and a Saturday noon luncheon. Tom Edlund of the Family History Library has tentatively agreed to speak on the current status of microfilming in Eastern Europe at one of these events.

Dr. Nancy Burnett of the Slovenian Genealogical Society, who is visiting her ancestral homeland this fall, is expected to speak on Slovenian genealogy. Jessie Daraska of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture and the Lithuanian Genealogical Society is expected to be on the program. Robert J. Paulson, possibly together with Ken Meter, has tentatively agreed to speak on the Bohemian Germans. He likewise will visit his ancestral homelands in the Czech Republic and Germany prior to the FEEFHS convention.

FEEFHS vice-president John D. Movius of the Sacramento German Genealogical Society has agreed to speak on new genealogical resources in Germany and/or FEEFHS resources for East European genealogy. Duncan Gardiner will speak on Czech and Slovak genealogy. FEEFHS President Charles Hall, author of the multi-volume series, *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany*, will speak on a subject to be determined later.

The final program is expected to include presentations on all East and Central European ethnic groups to which a sizeable number of genealogists within a day's drive of Cleveland trace their ancestry, as well as some multi-ethnic and generic topics. This will include topics on Czechs, Slovaks, Poles, Hungarians, Jews, Germans (particularly from east of the present Germanic countries), Slovenes, Lithuanians, and Rusins, as well as any other groups for whom we can find speakers.

We hope to have a majority of the convention speakers lined up in time for the next issue of the *FEEFHS Newsletter* and a near-final program by April.

## MICROFILMING IN GERMANY, POLAND, BULGARIA and ARMENIA, A FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY UPDATE

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During a September visit to the Family History Library, I had a meeting with librarian Thomas Edlund, in which I learned some interesting new details of film-crew activity in Germany, Poland, Bulgaria and Armenia:

**Germany** - Since the Berlin wall came down, there has been major filming activity in Eastern German areas. Considerable additional film is now arriving from the camera crew at the *Zentralstelle für Genealogie* at Leipzig, the lead archive for genealogy in United Germany. Important examples include:

- **Ostpreußen Kirchenbücher** -- This represents a collection East Prussian church books, originally obtained by Eric Suberlich. His collection fills 25 reels of microfilm.
- **Central European Genealogy -- *The Kietze Sammlung*** -- This card file of generic central European genealogy has been filmed. This collection fills 25 to 30 reels.
- **Mappenstücke Collection** -- This is described as a "monstrous" collection of family-history pedigree charts. They could not be bound in book form, as they consist of about 30,000 envelopes, some containing published data, some not, all indexed by name. While this collection will take several more years to film, the next edition of the FHL catalog on CD-ROM or microfiche is expected to show the cataloging of some of these films.
- **Saxony** -- A major project in civil-record extraction is now underway in Saxony.
- **Saxony Amtgerichtebücher** -- One of the major problems

for German record searchers has been the lack of records, because of the inability of the Genealogical Society of Utah to gain approval to microfilm the Lutheran church books in Saxony, Thüringen Hannover. Typically, all that has been available in Saxon towns has been a population register, except for a few locations covered by the Staatsarchives at Magdeburg and Weimar.

A major project is underway to film the court and land records throughout Saxony. This involves going to the court house at each "Amtgericht" to film civil records. Some of these records start in the 1600's, others begin about 1768.

An example of this is the town of Adorf (Ölitz, Saxony). Prior to the 3 Nov 1993 FHLC CD-ROM Catalog, no records were listed for this town. Now there are 47 reels of Adorf records from 1739-68 to 1839-40. They include all types of court and land records: 9 reels of contractual agreements (starting with film #1,816,666), 5 reels of inheritance and estate records, 6 reels of estate law suits, 4 reels of Superior court law suits, 7 reels of liens and leases and 16 reels of city court law suits. They are fully cataloged by year, but they are not indexed.

As of last September, Amtgerichts in Saxony from A through the alphabet through Falkenstein were filmed, cataloged and in the Salt Lake City FHL computer catalog. The incredible project involves upwards of 15 camera crews and it may take a decade or more to complete Saxony. Estimates of the size of this project range from 10,000 to 30,000 reels of microfilm.

- **Bayern (Bavaria)** -- A long term project, started over 20 years ago, to film marriage banns and other civil record documentation of vital data continues in Bayern this year and next:
- **Bayerische Heiratbelege** -- These civil records, the marriage banns, as well as birth and death documentation related to marriages, are being filmed all over Bayern. They cover prior centuries. For example, two reels of Leimersheim, Bayern civil registrations span the era from 1816 to 1836 (starting with film #0,574,130). They are not indexed, but they are filmed in chronological order. Thousands of microfilm reels are involved and are found in the catalog under the town name.
- **Brandenburg** -- This is another sizable project involving Amtgericht court records:
- **Brandenburg and Berlin Amtgerichts** - While there are a fair number of church records on microfilm for Berlin



and the province of Brandenburg, virtually no court records have been available on microfilm until this project recently came on line. Started in 1993, this involves an extensive amount of court records. Filming continues at this time. The resulting records will be similar to those described above for Saxony. Some may have been cataloged and show up in the next CD-ROM catalog, now expected out in the spring of 1995.

- **Poland:** Five camera crews are now active in Poland. They are filming civil records throughout the entire country, as well as the following church-book projects:
- **Breslau/Wrocław:** Roman Catholic and Greek Catholic church books, some dating from 1600 are being filmed. While not indexed, they are being filmed in chronological order.
- **Tarnopol/Ternopol:** Roman Catholic church books (1650-1900) have been filmed for this city formerly in Galicia and Poland, now the Ukraine. Greek Catholic church books to 1900 are now being filmed.
- **Poznań:** Filming of both the Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox church books were completed here in 1992.
- **Danzig/Gdańsk:** This is a new project to film parish records from the start of these records through 1900.
- **Leslau/Włocławek (in Bydgoszcz):** This new project is filming Catholic parish books here.
- **Bulgaria:** Filming of the civil registration for the city of Sofia from 1893 to 1912 has now occurred. No permission has been given to microfilm any Bulgarian church books yet.
- **Armenia:** Only two records are currently indexed in the FHLC CD-ROM for Armenia and neither is a church book. While the former kingdom of Armenia is split between Turkey, Iran and Georgia, most Armenian localities in the FHL Catalog are for villages in Georgia. This is the only portion where filming can currently occur. One camera crew is now in the Armenian region of Elizabetopol, west of Baku. They are filming Armenian church records that are written in Armenian.

## ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UKRAINE

by Walt Rusel

After seventeen years in the making, the preparation of the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* has been completed. A milestone in Ukrainian scholarship has been reached, and one of the

significant scholarly publishing ventures undertaken in Ukrainian studies has been successfully concluded. The final five-volume product, published by the University of Toronto Press, is the most comprehensive English-language work ever printed on Ukraine, its people, history, culture, geography, and economy. The *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* is a basic reference tool that will retain its value for many years to come in university, research, and government libraries worldwide. In scope and size, the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* is larger and more comprehensive than the *Canadian Encyclopedia*, which was a milestone in the Canadian publishing industry. The *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* has already been sold outside the English-speaking world in China, Taiwan, Japan, Germany, France, Sweden, Austria, and Ukraine. The publication not only represents the completion of a major Canadian publishing venture, but has an important international impact.

As a comprehensive repository of information on Ukraine and Ukrainians, the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* is also useful to people of Ukrainian descent in Canada, the USA, and elsewhere. For them, the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* can serve as a key to a better understanding of their cultural and historical heritage. The *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* is an updated, expanded, and revised version of the Ukrainian-language *Entsyklopediia ukrainoznavstva* (Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Studies), which was largely prepared by Ukrainian emigré scholars of an older generation, organized and headed by Dr. Volodymyr Kubijovyc (1900-85) under the auspices of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, headquartered in Sarcelles, France.

Scholars who know Ukrainian recognized that an English-language version would reach a significantly wider readership and make a much greater overall impact, especially within the scholarly community and among governments, where accurate information on Ukraine and Ukrainians was sorely lacking. Part One of the *Entsyklopediia* was translated and published as the two-volume *Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia* (1963 and 1971) by the University of Toronto Press. This publication was sponsored by the Ukrainian National Association.

Preparation of an English-language encyclopedia was undertaken by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, which was founded in the summer of 1976.

From the very beginning, it was understood that the encyclopedia would be, basically, an updated and revised translation from the Ukrainian, to be published in four consecutive volumes over a period of several years. However, it was evident that much more work was required than originally envisaged by the founding fathers of the project. Volume I (A-F) was published in 1984 and volume II (G-K) in 1988.

Following the death of Dr. Kubijovyc in 1985, the essential work on the encyclopedia became centered at the CIUS Encyclopedia Office at the University of Toronto. Dr. Danylo Husar Struk, who had been managing editor from the beginning, took over as editor-in-chief following the publication of Volume II: the burden of work was passing to a younger generation of scholars. Under his direction, the Encyclopedia Office was computerized, and more resources were allocated to the work. It was decided that a fifth volume was needed and that the last three volumes would be published simultaneously: Vol III (L-Pf), Vol IV (Ph-Sr), Vol V (St-Z). This last adjustment proved to be prudent, given the rapidly evolving political changes in Ukraine.

Beginning in 1988, nation-democratic movements in Ukraine and throughout Eastern Europe grew and the Soviet empire was shaken to its foundation, until in 1991 it crumbled like a sand castle. The new opening to Ukraine provided the opportunity to utilize the work of its scholars and add new material. At the same time, constant updating and even more revisions were required to keep pace with fast-moving events.

In 1993, the project was finally completed. While the first two volumes took about twelve years to complete, the last three volumes were prepared in about five years -- an almost Herculean accomplishment, due to the leadership of Danylo Husar Struk, the work of an international editorial board, the staff and editors at the Encyclopedia Office, and the CIUS staff in Edmonton.

Publication of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine was the result of international efforts. More than five hundred individuals contributed to the work as scholars who wrote articles, editors, computer programmers, and cartographers. The project could not have been carried out without the preparatory work carried out by the Shevchenko Scientific Society under the leadership of Volodymyr Kubijovyc. Nor could the work have been undertaken without the continuous financial support of the University of Alberta's Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, which devoted about one-third of its annual budget toward its realization. CIUS also provided overall management, and it was CIUS's Encyclopedia Office that prepared all the entries.

The project received crucial grants from the Canadian federal government and the provinces of British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. In addition, much money was collected from individuals in the Ukrainian community by the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies, now based in Toronto.

As completion of the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* coincided with Ukraine's independence, its appearance could not have been more timely. With independence, the need for objective

information on Ukraine for scholars, business people, and the government has become greater than ever. A genealogical resource for information on people.

All five volumes, the complete set, are available for \$770. Vol. I \$120, Vol. II \$130, Vols. III-V \$480. Prices include shipping and handling. Outside Canada in US dollars. Send money to: Ukrainian Genealogical and Historical Society of Canada (UGHS of Canada), RR #2, Cochrane, AB, Canada T0L 0W0. Members of UGHS of Canada can reduce prices above by 15%. Membership in UGHS Canada is fifteen dollars annually, which includes four issues of *Nashe Leude Bulletin*, the communication link with other Ukrainian genealogists.

## SLOVENIAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY by Albert Peterlin

The Slovenian Genealogy Society, 2018 Springdale Drive, Martinsburg, WV 25401, was founded in 1986 to preserve and make available to the public records documenting the lives of individuals with Slovenian Ancestry. The society is a non-profit educational organization that collects and distributes information on Slovenian family history. A goal of the Society is to help members make use of available information in their own research. The Slovenian Genealogy Society is a member society of the Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS).

The SGS has been enjoying a slow but steady growth in membership for the past few years, and there has been an extremely dramatic increase in "research by mail" requests. Membership dues are \$10.00 annually, January through December. Checks should be made payable to "Albert Peterlin," with "Slovenian Genealogy Society dues" placed on the memo line.

The Society library is private, but is available to members by appointment. Mary Pavlic, 3212 Parkridge Crescent, Chamblee, GA 30341-3110 is the curator for the society. She is actively working to increase the size of the collection. We accept donations of books, magazines, photographs, and other publications. The society has an extensive collection of church histories or jubilee books. Our collection includes Slovenian telephone books, Koledars, bibliographies, lexicons, and gazetteers. Mary has recently completed agreements with several ethnic libraries to exchange duplicate publications.

Some of the basic resources for Slovenian genealogists in the present collection include the following:

*The Atlas of Slovenia*, Ljubljana, 1992  
*Cerkev na Slovenskem*, Nadskofijski ordinariat v Ljubljani

1971.

*Narodni Adresar*, Ivan Mladineo, 1937.

*Krajevni Leksikon Ljudske Republike Slovenije*, 19r54.

*Vodnik po Maticnih Knjigah za Objocje Sr Slovenie*, I, II, III, Ljubljana, 1974

Dr. Nancy Burnett, P.O. Box 1676, Sandpoint, ID 83864-0871, is director of translation projects. Individuals able to read and translate from Slovenian to English are asked to contact Nancy directly. Projects available range from single-page personal letters to extensive several-hundred-page publications. Group translation projects are encouraged, and we are now seeking translators to work on texts published by archives in Slovenia outlining their holdings.

Mr. Ed Skender, 6340 Stephens Crossing, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, is the society historian. Ed has already prepared a history of the Gottschee section of Slovenia, and is now engaged in writing a reader-friendly history of Slovenia that will be available through the society.

Rose Marie Jisa, 546 North Walnut Street, East Palestine, OH 44413, is our director of special projects. Rose Marie coordinates typing, editing, and indexing projects. She is available to help establish local working groups. Past projects include every-name indexing of church jubilee books and compilation of newspaper marriage and obituary indexes. The publications of the many Slovene fraternal organizations could support many additional working groups.

Current indexes maintained by the society include:

Index to obituaries appearing in the Forest City News, Forest City, Pennsylvania, 1898-1990 (several thousand entries),

Every-name index to United States Slovene Church jubilee or historical publications (15,000 entries),

Slovenian Ancestry Index, the primary index of the Slovenian Genealogy Society. Each member is asked to complete 3"x5" cards and update them as additional information is uncovered.

The society publishes a quarterly newsletter. We actively seek single-page articles from our membership outlining successes and failures. Shared experiences are the hallmark of an active genealogical society. Newsletter articles and queries should be mailed directly to: Albert Peterlin, 2018 Springdale Drive, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

## AVAILABILITY OF RUSSIAN REVISION LISTS

by Ed Brandt

The 1798 Russian revision list for the Volga Germans (and various other material) has been received by the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, a FEEFHS member. The list is now being translated, but AHSGR is not in a position to do any research.

The 1835 Moltchna Mennonite revision list has been in the hands of the Mennonite Heritage Centre, also a FEEFHS member. Henry N. Fast, 497 Ash Ave., Steinbach, MB R0A 2A0, has completed a rough translation of it, which will facilitate use of this vital information.

## FACTS OnLINE MITEK Information Service

by Julia Petrakis

Facts OnLine of Camano Island, WA has taken over the services of Urbana Technology and is U.S. agent for MITEK Information Services of Moscow, Russia, providing United States customers diplomatic, business, and other archival information, as well as regional reports and analyses from the former Soviet Union. Facts OnLine and MITEK also provide genealogical and location research for those with relatives, living and deceased, from the CIS countries. Travel services for those wishing to visit the area are available.

Queries regarding possible research projects are sent to Facts OnLine either by U.S. Postal Service or by e-mail (CompuServe and the Internet) and are forwarded to Moscow for prompt reply. Orders are sent to Facts OnLine either by U.S. Postal Service or by e-mail. They are then forwarded to Moscow by e-mail. After order completion, which may take several weeks, the located materials are returned to Facts OnLine for shipping and invoicing within the United States.

The following price schedule has been established for all clients:

\$25.00 per document or bibliographic list plus costs incurred by MITEK. These costs may include:

development of a detailed estimate: \$25.00

searching: \$15.00/hour

archive processing fees: \$25-50/archive

copying fees: \$1.00/page

photocopying fees: \$5.00/page

rush service: \$25.00

transportation and lodging if travel is required, long-distance telephone and fax charges, purchasing costs, delivery charges.

The quality and quantity of the information located by MITEK cannot be guaranteed. Travel and living expenses to archives in the various cities outside Moscow are not included in these prices. Customers are given an estimate of and charged separately for these expenses.

MITEK has research agreements with the following Russian information providers:

Historic archives:

- Archive of National Economy
- State Archive of the Russian Federation (formerly Archive of the Great Revolution)
- Archive of Ancient Acts

Diplomatic Archives

- Moscow Archives

- military archives

- St. Petersburg Archives

and other archives of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltic States.

State libraries

- Russian State Library (formerly V. I. Lenin Library)

- Patent State Library

- State Medical Library

- Saltykova-Zhedrina State Library of St. Petersburg

Databases

- Law and regulations

- Science and technology

- Specifications and standards

- Patents and chemistry

- Inter-industry Institute of Scientific and Technical Information

TASS

Archives in all locations in the former USSR are accessible to MITEK. Genealogy customers must provide information on places and dates of births and deaths, information on employment or professions, and information on associated historical events.

It may take many months for MITEK to locate information. The Russian archival industry, lacking any automation and with little indexing, lags far behind that of the United States. All materials must be searched manually page by page for the specific information requested.

Services not explicitly described above are available on request on a case-by-case basis.

For further information, contact Julia Petrakis, 812 Vista

Drive, Camano Island, WA 98292. Telephone and fax: (206)-652-3059. CompuServe: 75000,2263. Internet: petrakis@delphi.com.

## USA TO YOU by Diane Connolly

Hello to all genealogists and others who have relatives or friends in Russia or who are simply interested in that part of the world!

My name is H. Diane Ellingson Connolly. Over the years many of you may know me from TREE TRACER GENEALOGY BOUTIQUE.

For some time now I have been exporting into the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Through these efforts, it came to my attention that by using my export company, "USA TO YOU," help can be provided from us in the western world to those in need in Russia.

For those of you familiar with the dreadful plight of the people in that country after so many years of oppression, what I can share with you is nothing new. But for those of you who have never heard the stories, it is painful even to recount.

After personally visiting and living with many families in Russia (on business trips I choose to give the money I would normally spend for a hotel to a family), I continually see people do without even the simplest necessities, which are so often taken for granted in our country.

My background is on a small farm in rural Canada in the 1930's and 1940's. I can attest to the hardships of that kind of life. But I find it almost surreal to go back in time to see others living in a major city, somehow surviving on precious little, having no knowledge of or ever seeing anything like a thermometer and knowing families making medicine out of urine.

Because I do export, the systems to conduct a "GIFT OF CARING" program are in place. These systems keep the program out of the hands of "notorious" open palmed organizations. It is for this reason that I maintain an extremely low profile in this venture.

Working with one of my U.S. suppliers of over-the-counter western-made health and personal-care products, these products are available for your friends and family in Russia. No money changes hands on their part or in their country. We collect the money here, pay our supplier in the United States, and fax or Federal Express the orders to the USA TO YOU representative in Russia for processing. Our

representative will have the products you have selected available for your recipient.

The kinds of products available would include adult cold medications and pain relievers, children's cold medications and pain relievers, baby and infant products, deodorants, shampoo, hand cream, antacids, and much more.

Or, you can give a gift to a needy person or family in that part of the world whom we will select. Specifics of the family you have helped will be given to you once the gift has been delivered.

This venture not only provides work for people in this country, but also for people in Russia. The warehouse is established in Moscow, and I will be travelling there soon to oversee personally this wonderful "gift of caring" program for the upcoming holidays.

So now you can give the gift of health and happiness to folks in Russia without ever leaving your home!

For more information, please contact me, Diane Connolly, at: P.O. Box 364, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-0364. Tel. (81) 991-0242, Fax (818) 991-6752.

## GALIZIEN GERMAN DESCENDANTS by Evelyn Wolfer and John Movius

If you are a descendant of Germans who immigrated to and from Galicia (the present day Ukraine and Poland) and are interested in finding information on your ancestors, you may wish to join our new group. You will find that many of us in the group have had problems similar to yours in locating ancestral villages, finding the records available for areas of interest, or tracing our ancestral family's earlier migration from Germany or Galicia.

At the May 1994 conference of FEEFHS in Salt Lake City, Utah, many of the attenders were people whose ancestors were Germans from Galicia. FEEFHS already has separate members of genealogical and historical societies for Bukovina, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Ruthenia, Silesia, Slovenia, Ukraine, and others, but none specifically for Germans from Galicia. Our new group would continue to coordinate research with the other FEEFHS groups, because our research often extends into one or more of their ancestral areas. We encourage our members to maintain their membership with societies that have been helpful to them. Our emphasis would be on helping FEEFHS societies and each other with specific problems relating to our ancestral Germans from Galicia. Our group will be able to share data on research material, information gleaned from

trips to Galicia, ancestral villages, our ancestors' religious affiliations, and family surnames. Much of this information is not obtainable through the more general societies of individual research efforts. We have found that by sharing our successes in researching our families, new avenues of investigation often presents themselves. We believe research for our German ancestors and their descendants can be furthered through this specialized group.

Founders: Brian Lenius, Glenn Linscheid, Don Mueller  
Provisional president: Evelyn Wolfer  
Newsletter editor: Betty Wray

Because we are just getting started, it would be appreciated if you would pass this information along to your family and any other interested parties. We plan to publish a quarterly newsletter starting in January 1995. Founding memberships are still available. U.S. and Canada yearly dues are (U.S.) \$12.00, and overseas mailings \$15.00. These dues are for actual mailing and material costs, and may be adjusted once we become established.

If you cannot join at this time, please share with us our family surnames, ancestral villages, and any other information we can add to our database. Also, please feel free to share with us information about your research problems, successes, or suggestions.

If you are interested in joining Galizien German Descendants, need additional information, or wish to share information with us, write to me, Evelyn Wolfer, at 12367 S.E. 214th Street., Kent, WA 98031-2215.

## *HISTORICAL ATLAS OF EAST CENTRAL EUROPE* by Judith Rosenblatt

*The Historical Atlas of East Central Europe (A History of East Central Europe, Volume 1)*, by Paul Robert Magocsi, Professor of History and Political Science at the University of Toronto and Director of the Multicultural History Society of Ontario, was published last December by the University of Toronto Press and the University of Washington Press. It covers all of East Central Europe, from the early 5th century to January 1993, encompassing lands within present day Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Yugoslavia, Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria, and Greece. Also included are the eastern parts of Germany (historic Mecklenburg, Brandenburg, Prussia, Saxony, and Lusatia), Bavaria, Austria, northeastern Italy (historic Venetia), the lands of historic Poland-Lithuania (present-day Lithuania, Belarus, and Ukraine

up to the Dnieper River, Moldova, and western Turkey. The text and maps illustrate changing boundaries, economic developments, ecclesiastical structures, education and culture, demography and ethnicity, and military affairs. An index contains 5000 names in 26 languages.

The Immigration History Research Center is making this important book available at the price of \$60.00, which represents a 20 % discount. Send check or money order for \$63.00 in US currency (to include postage and handling) to: Friends of IHRC, University of Minnesota, 826 Berry Street, St. Paul, MN 55114. Those ordering from outside the United States should contact the IHRC before ordering to determine the correct postage charges. Our telephone number is (612) 627-4208, fax (612) 627-4190. Minnesota residents must add 6.5 % sales tax, St. Paul residents an additional 0.5 %.

### BOOKS OF INTEREST by Ed Brandt and John Movius

*Note: While it is obviously impossible to review every book in this newsletter, significant books which have a substantial multi-ethnic or multi-national component will be reviewed whenever possible. Books that deal only with a singly ethnic group emigrating to a single country will presumably be mentioned by the relevant FEEFHS member organization in their publications, and we encourage individuals to join them. The role of FEEFHS is supplementary to that of the member organizations, but as opportunities arise, we like to alert genealogists of other ethnic groups or countries to books that may be of interest to them and might otherwise not come to their attention. We are grateful for any notifications we receive about publications that should be listed here.)*

A genealogical counterpart to the historical atlas described in the Judith Rosenblatt's article above is the second edition of Angus Baxter's *In Search of Your European Roots* (1994), published by the Genealogical Publishing Co., 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202-3897, also a FEEFHS member. It covers every European country (except Vatican City). The biggest change from the first edition is the expanded coverage of Eastern Europe.

Most of the book is devoted to a description of the kinds of records which are available and where, with some historical material. Nearly a third of the country sections are concerned with Eastern Europe, with an equal amount of coverage of Germany and Austria. This edition lists five or more specific addresses for the following East European countries: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Macedonia, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Yugoslavia, and the Commonwealth of Independent States (former Soviet Union). For countries like the Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary,

about which a great deal was already known earlier, it gives the locations, but not the exact addresses of many additional archives.

The book costs \$16.95, plus \$3.00 for postage and handling.

The same publisher has also published the third edition of Baxter's *In Search of Your German Roots* (1994). Although focused on the former German Empire, it provides more material on the Germans in Eastern Europe than the former edition did. This 114-page book costs \$11.95 plus shipping.

A different kind of book, which is a good example of what FEEFHS is all about, is Rosemary A. Chorzempa's *Korzenie Polskie: Polish Roots*. This 240-page book was published in 1993 by the Genealogical Publishing Co. The cost is \$17.55 plus shipping.

Chorzempa is a pioneer in that hers is the first truly multi-ethnic book on a single European country, although her emphasis is obviously on the ethnic Poles. She recognizes the distinct identity of the Silesians and the Kashubians and provides in chapter 5 some coverage of all the many minority groups that lived on Polish territory: Germans, Jews, Caraites, Scots, Dutch, Irish, Armenians, Russians, Bohemians, Tatars, Gypsies, English, and Italians.

Chapter 6, which is based on the sixteenth-century Commonwealth of Poland-Lithuania, deals with Lithuanians, Belarussians, Ukrainians, and Rusins. There are also brief references to Romanians, Czechs, Hungarians, Sorbs, Lipovians (Old Orthodox Russians), and various early-day Baltic tribes.

The Jagiellonian commonwealth was a haven for all, when the rest of "Christian" Europe still persecuted people on the basis of religion. Chorzempa is a genealogical Jagiello.

The Germanic Genealogy Society will publish a new edition of its *Research Guide to German-American Genealogy* in January 1995 under the title *Germany Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns*. This book, by Mary Bellingham et al. is a different kind of trail-blazer, with a common language, rather than a common nation, as its theme. It is the first English-language guide to deal with the family history of descendants of German-speaking immigrants to all parts of the globe.

The 1991 edition already covered all European countries with Germanic residents, but coverage of East Europe has been expanded greatly. The new guide will include the Southwest Pacific (Australia, New Zealand, former German Pacific colonies), Latin America, Africa, and even Asia (where there were few Germans outside the former Russian Empire).

There is a separate chapter on Jewish genealogy, based mostly on information provided by guest contributor Dr. George E. Amstein. Another chapter covers the history of the migration of German speakers to all countries.

What has had to be sacrificed in depth for the sake of comprehensiveness is compensated for by extensive bibliographies.

You can order this 300-page book from either of two FEEFHS members: FEEFHS vice-president Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., MN 55414-3101 (one of the co-authors), or the Germanic Genealogy Society, P.O. Box 16312, St. Paul, MN 55116-0312 (the publisher), for \$20 plus \$2 shipping.

## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

by Charles M. Hall

In our efforts to fulfill our motto of "UNITY - HARMONY - DIVERSITY," we naturally make some mistakes. In fact, if we did not make at least a few mistakes, one would have cause to wonder if we were really accomplishing anything.

To begin this presidential message, I would like to express gratitude to UGA (Utah Genealogical Association), to AJGS (Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies) and others, for the magnanimous way they called attention to our errors. Others in similar situations might have made life extremely unpleasant for all of us.

I have already written a personal letter of apology to Gary Mokotoff, President of AJGS, for having passed on information that should not have been shared. I have talked on the phone to George Jordan, President of UGA in regard to our having reprinted two articles from their *Journal* in previous issues of the *FEEFHS Newsletter* without written permission. I would like to take this opportunity to repeat those apologies. We will do everything we can to make sure these errors are not repeated.

We were informed by one of our members, Myron Gruenwald, that when we published requests for assistance from individuals in previous issues of the *FEEFHS Newsletter*, we inadvertently undermined efforts that member organizations were making in this direction. Ed Brandt has responded to him with appropriate apologies, and our policy from here on will be not to publish such requests here, but to forward them to interested member organizations in every case.

Another group of people we would like to apologize to are those who have sent in newsletter subscription or membership applications without getting a Newsletter. We will list below,

those from whom we know we have received money whose addresses we have lost. If any of you, reading this issue, can help us with these addresses or any others, we are not aware of, we will greatly appreciate it.

We expect to be able to alleviate the above problem with the increased staff we have here in Salt Lake City. We would like to introduce the new chair of our Membership Committee who is becoming a great asset to us. Her name is Radmila "Mila" Ranovic.

Mila was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia. Her father is Serbian and her mother is Croatian. She attended high school near Zurich, Switzerland. She spent 1-1/2 years as an LDS missionary in Quebec, Canada. She has a master's degree Physical Therapy from BYU in Provo, Utah, and works in that profession in the Salt Lake area.

We also have Olga Lipilina of Moscow, Russia helping on the Membership Committee. Olga was born in Irkutsk, Siberia, and is very excited about the prospects of learning how to trace her ancestry.

Our goals for the near future include getting more committees (in addition to the Membership Committee) organized and functioning and getting tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service. Our attorney, Gary Schwendiman, has been making good progress on the tax problem: we now have our own tax number, and official approval of tax-exempt status is expected early in 1995.

We apologize for the lateness of this issue of the *Newsletter*. There were a number of technical problems, but we also felt it was desirable to wait for up-to-date information on the Cleveland convention and John Movius's interview with Tom Edlund. Because of the delays, We are sending out this last issue of Volume II without the annual index, which will be included with the first issue of Vol. III. Contributions for that issue are welcome any time between now and the end of February 1995.

### FEEFHS

*Federation of East European Family  
History Societies*

eMail: [feefhs@feefhs.org](mailto:feefhs@feefhs.org)

WWW: <http://feefhs.org>

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P. O. Box 510898

Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA  
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**FEEFHS**

*Federation of East European Family*

*History Societies*

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WWW: <http://feefhs.org>

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P. O. Box 510898

Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA

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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



## INDEX TO FEEFHS NEWSLETTER, VOL. II

*(Editor's note: This index is being distributed with Volume III, no. 1 of the newsletter, but constitutes part of Vol. II and will be bound with it and not with Vol. III in reprints. If you encounter mistakes in the Index, we would appreciate knowing about them. We apologize for such errors and omissions. Send comments to: John C. Alleman, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103. Back issues of the newsletter are available from the same address at a cost of \$2 each.*

*Names of books and periodicals are printed in italics. The number before the semi-colon denotes the issue number and the number after it denotes the page number. The letters a and b, respectively, refer to the left and right columns of the page.)*

- Abendpost & Milwaukee Deutsche Zeitung* 2;10b  
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*Access Russia* 3;20b  
*Address Book* see *FEEFHS*  
 Adorf, Saxony 4;2b  
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