



Chronicle Unserer Leute

Vol 30, Issue 4

The **American Historical Society of Germans from Russia** is an international organization dedicated to the discovery, collection, preservation, and the dissemination of information related to the history, cultural heritage, and genealogy of Germanic settlers in the Russian Empire and their descendants.

The **Chronicle Unserer Leute (Chronicle of Our People)** is published bi-monthly by the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR. All content is copyright of the Oregon Chapter or the original copyright owners.

Oregon Chapter website
With the newsletter: <http://www.ahsgroregon.com>

Germans from Russia in Portland website: <http://www.volgagermans.net/portland>

The center for Volga German Studies - Concordia
<http://cvgs.cuportland.edu>

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our **OREGON CHAPTER OF AHSGR**, along with all chapters & members of AHSGR of the Pacific Northwest and California, are entering a new era of information, education, and vitality this fall with the long awaited completion and opening of the **GEORGE R. WHITE LEARNING CENTER** on the campus of **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY** in N.E. Portland. This beautiful new learning facility will be the home of our new **CENTER FOR VOLGA GERMAN STUDIES** under the direction of DR. **BRENT MAI**. It will be located on the third floor of the new Building and will be the first time we have a **UNIVERSITY-BASED FACILITY** and program focused specifically on our **VOLGA GERMAN HISTORY AND HERITAGE**.

The dedication ceremony for the new library building will be held **Wednesday August 26, 2009 10:30 – noon** at the **AMPHITHEATER GREEN** on the **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS**. All members and friends of the extended communities of Germans from Russia and their families are welcome to attend and show their appreciation for the opportunities made available by **Concordia University** with this new facility.

More information and answers to your many questions may be provided to all who attend this year's

GREAT AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER PICNIC to be held Saturday August 1, 2009 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at **Tualatin Community Park, 8515 S.W. TUALATIN ROAD**.

See directions in this newsletter. This is our one big event of the summer and is always a good time for all. **Shirley Hurrel** has e-mailed many of our members. If anyone needs further information please call me at (503) 221-1837.

The **40th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF AHSGR** was held June 15-21 at Medicine Hat Lodge in **MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA**. Your Oregon Chapter was represented by treasurer – **Lois Klaus**, Greyhound addicts **Jene Goldhammer** and **Molly Rimmerman**, **Helen Rolloff**, and your President **Ed Wagner**.

* BREAKING NEWS FLASH! *

Our very own **Jene Goldhammer** has been unanimously voted and appointed to the **NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AHSGR**. Please congratulate & support her. She can use all the help she can get. Congratulations Jene!

President's Message (cont'd)

As a member of the **National AHSGR Board of Directors** I attended a series of committee and board meetings for the first three days of the convention. New materials from Russia's archives continue to arrive in the U.S. **Doris Evans'** dedication to securing and processing records from **Frank, Walter, Husenbach and Kraft** continues to be a major part of her life. A number of village coordinators have not been able to find funding for archival acquisition and may have lost the opportunity when it presented itself. A delegation will visit Russian archives in Saratov, Samara, Volgograd and other centers in September. **Ed Hoak, Jerry Siebiert and Patty Sellenrick** will welcome others who may wish to join the trip.

An outstanding session of the convention was the last presentation on Saturday by **Sigrid Weidenweber** the author of the trilogy, **"THE VOLGA FLOWS FOREVER"** – book one, **"CATHERINE"** and book two, **"THE VOLGA GERMANS"** (Book three is in process). In her delivery Sigrid encouraged all of us with German from Russia heritage to take new pride in our heritage and the accomplishments and good deeds of our ancestral heritage:

"Well done, I say! So use these fruits of your work, define your purpose and fulfill your destiny! Begin to teach. To openly, loudly educate! Make this your mission. Do not allow history to repeat itself shamelessly anywhere in the world, because not one spoke out. No! All of you are stewards of one of history's greatest criminal secrets and you must divulge it to the rest of the world, because few news agencies do."

Sigrid is a truly remarkable person. She is not a German from Russia. But her early years were spent growing up in Eastern Germany under Soviet rule. So she states:

"Just as the Holocaust must never be forgotten, Stalin's gulags and the communist excesses must be remembered and held up to the American people as a reminder that horrific means never justify the purported human advancement."

I believe so strongly in the relevance of Concor-

dia's Volga German Center, that I wrote a Trilogy, chronicling the lives and history of the Volga Germans and dedicate all proceeds from the sales of these books to the Center. With my books I hope to educate the new generations of Russian German offspring to the often terrible conditions their ancestors had to overcome for survival. I have researched many publications – academic treatises, compilations of data and self-report – and frankly, although well worth to be perused, they were terribly boring. Being prepared by Germans the material is as orderly, precise and as well written as data can be presented. The self-reports, although moving in content, suffer from inadequate vocabulary and expression – farmers are seldom writers. Statistics of the dead and deported are horrific but lack powerful emotional impact. An unknown Russian writer who best makes my point, averred: "When you stand in a cemetery it is hard to cry for all the dead." When you read numbers it is hard to cry for the unknown millions.

It was for these reasons that I felt it was of importance that the Volga German people be portrayed in a way with which a reader can empathize. I wrote the Trilogy especially for students, in the hopes they would learn from history and know that when they encounter certain social changes they will recognize what must be rejected as unacceptable – as morally wrong.

As I stand here today, I ask myself what good will come from the thousands of manuscripts, the uncountable statistics of death, of suffering, torture and servitude that the Historical Society of Russian Germans has collected? Will you bury these accounts of atrocity in the drawers of your archives or will you bring them in the light? Will these heart-wrenching tales and statistics molder in folders with other sad personal accounts, or will you use them to educate today's youth, who is woefully ignorant of all history."

Sigrid deserves our sincere thanks and support for the magnificent effort she has contributed on behalf of our Russian German heritage.

Sigrid's presentation at the Medicine Hat Convention will be printed in full in one of the next AHSGR journals. Thank you, Sigrid, for a wonderful message.

On a final note, I have received a copy of Larry Jensen's "**A Genealogical Handbook of German Research**" and highly recommend it for serious research work. Larry was the presenter at the April 18, 2009 Spring Seminar of the Genealogy Forum of Oregon.

The next several months are some of the most exciting and important times in the life of our chapter and in the lives of all Germans from Russia with a true sense of stewardship for our unique and precious ethnic heritage. Everyone is welcome to come and participate when and as you wish to. This is your **Center for the Volga German Studies!**

Get Involved!

Enjoy our beautiful summer. See you at the picnic.

Ed Wagner
President



"Something of Myself" by Marie Krieger



1910 -2006

The last newsletter contained the 24th installment serializing Marie Krieger's autobiography. It has been an honor to memorialize the great work and contributions of our wonderful Marie over the past 48 months with these serialized installments. However in the interest of concluding the project in an expedient and comprehensive manner, your AHSGR Oregon Chapter Board has decided to cease the bi-monthly newsletter installments. The full volume "Something of Myself" by Marie Krieger will be posted on the Chapter website for your individual access (www.ahsgroregon.com).

If we receive sufficient requests we may be able to print limited copies on a demand basis. Please call Ed Wagner at 503-221-1837 with comments or concerns. Thank you.

A
MEMORIAL

**To The
VOLGA GERMAN ETHNIC CLEANSING
68TH ANNIVERSARY
Of the 28 AUGUST 1941**

Decree of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR “Concerning the removal of Germans residing in the Districts in the Volga Region”

Resulting in

**The evacuation of Russian Germans from the Saratov and Stalingrad Districts
August – September, 1941**

Millions of our ancestors were torn from their homes and banished to lives of cruel and inhumane servitude. Families were destroyed, millions suffered. Most died horrible cruel deaths. All Volga Germans became victims of deliberate ethnic cleansing strategies.

How many of your extended family ancestors were victims? Who were they? Did your parents or Grandparents share their grief with you or share the whole truth with you? Why not? Do we care enough to remember the silent victims? And to honor and memorialize their tragic lives? GET INVOLVED.

Special Note:

A remembrance event will be held at a special service during the grand opening of the center for Volga Germans Studies (CVGS) at Concordia University October 23-25, 2009. Complete details and schedule of events will be available soon. Everyone is welcome to share their talents and encouraged to volunteer their time. Please call Brent Mai @ 503-493-4460 or Ed Wagner @ 503-221-1837. Thank you

Upcoming Events**August**

1st August, Saturday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm,

AHSGR Picnic and Potluck

At Tualatin Community Park,
8515 SW Tualatin Road.

See the map on the next page

Drinks provided. Please bring:

1. A large hot dish **OR** chicken **Or**
2. A salad **OR** dessert to share
3. Your own plate and utensils

Friends and extended family welcome!
Please bring a guest

Come and join us in a discussion of the new
CVGS @ Concordia University, and what it
means for our chapter. Dr. Brent Mai will be
there to answer questions.

August

26 Aug 2009

Wednesday 10:30am to noon
Dedication
Concordia University
See page #8

29 Aug 2009

Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm
Community Open House
Library
Concordia University

September

5 Sept 2009

Saturday 10:00 am, board meeting at
Library
Concordia University
Members or guests are
welcome to attend.

20 Sept 2009

Saturday 10:00 am – noon
General Chapter Meeting,
Library
Concordia University

26 Sept 2009

Sunday 10:00 am to 12:00 noon,
AHSGR Library Open
Library
Concordia University
Library is open on the 4th
Saturday of the month.
Volunteers and full members
will have free access to the
Library. There is a \$4.00 charge
for non-members.

October

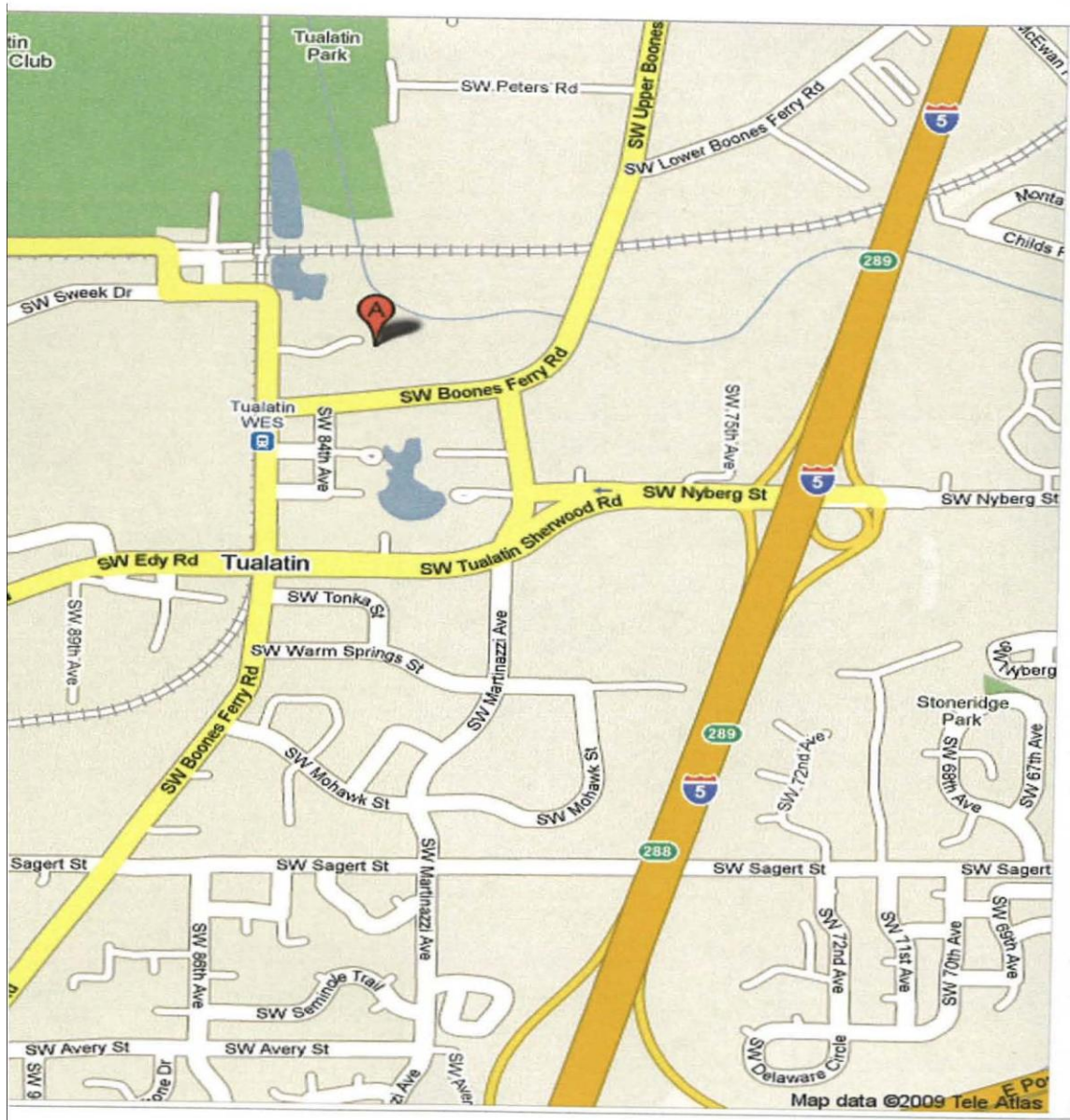
3 Oct 2009

Saturday 10:00 am, board meeting at
Library
Concordia University
Members or guests are
welcome to attend.

23-25 Oct 2009

Friday-Sunday
Grand Opening Center for
Volga German Studies
Library
Concordia University
The public is welcome to attend.

in Oregon - Google Maps

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=>

Driving directions to AHSGR Picnic and Potluck at Tualatin Community Park :

From Portland SOUTH on I-5:

1. Take exit 289. At the end of the exit turn right on to Nyberg Rd/Tualatin-Sherwood Hwy.
2. Turn right on Boones Ferry Road. Keep on Boones Ferry Road (which becomes Tualatin Road)

OR

From Salem NORTH on I-5:

1. Take exit 289. At the end of the exit turn left on to Nyberg Rd/Tualatin-Sherwood Hwy.
2. Turn right on Boones Ferry Road. Keep on Boones Ferry Road (which becomes Tualatin Road)

ALL Are Welcome to the Opening of the NEW LIBRARY & LEARNING CENTER

**At
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
2800 N.E. Liberty Street
Portland Oregon**

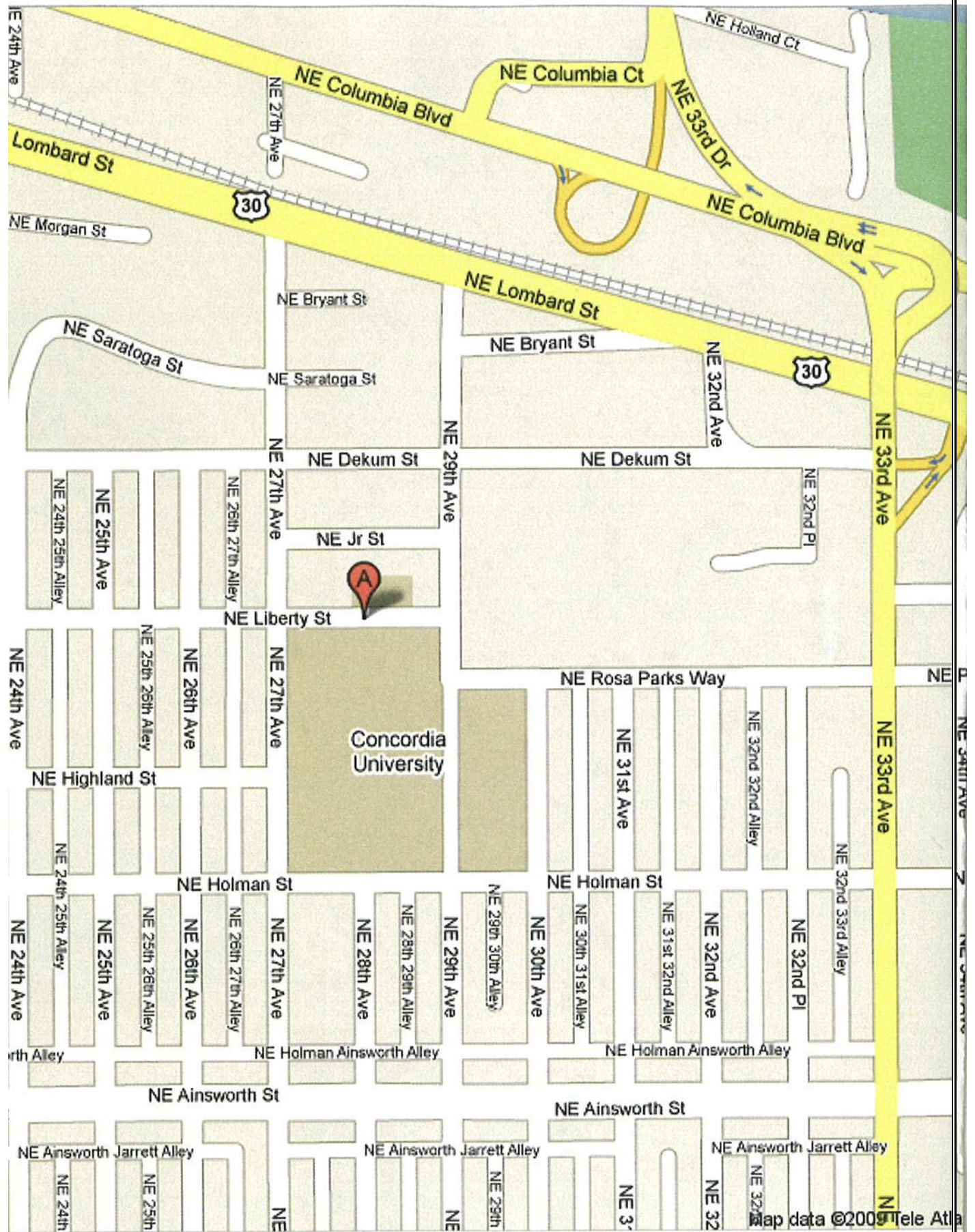
Schedule of Events

August 26, 2009 10:30 – noon Dedication

**August 29, 2009 10:00 – 4:00 Community Open
House of the Library**

**October 23-25, 2009 * Center for Volga
German Studies
(CVGS)
Grand Opening**

*** This will be our opportunity to showcase our ethnic History of Germans from Russia. Please come to the picnic August 1, 2009 where we will discuss our activities and make decisions as we lead up to this exciting event and opportunity.**



Pauline Schnell
August 1, 1915 – March 30, 2009

Pauline Schnell peacefully slipped into the arms of her Lord on March 30, 2009 at the age of 93. Pauline was born on August 1, 1915 in Portland, OR, the second of three children born to George and Mollie Spady. Her parents, both German-Russian immigrants, had settled in the German-Russian community of Albina in northeast Portland where Pauline grew up. She attended Albina Homestead grade school and Jefferson High School, graduating in 1933. Following high school she enrolled in a class to become a comptometer operator, learning to operate the sophisticated adding machine of the 1930s. She often laughed about the fact that her ability to use a comptometer helped her land every one of her jobs, but she never touched one again after she completed the class.

Pauline married Peter Schnell on January 24, 1937, and he remained the love of her life until his passing in August, 2002. Following Peter's Army service during World War II they had two children, Philip and Molly, and in 1956 the family moved to Jennings Lodge, which was Pauline's home for the next 42 years. With two children in grade school, Pauline immediately became involved in many activities, serving as a room mother, becoming a Cub Scout den mother, and organizing many of Jennings Lodge School's fund raising carnivals. Later in life she continued her desire for community service as an active member of P.E.O.

Pauline was very artistic, and the house on River Drive was an ever changing canvas upon which she demonstrated her skills. Her talent was on display throughout as over the years she learned how to make braided rugs, fancy lamp shades, macramé, dolls, toll paint, and "antique" furniture. At Christmas the house was decorated throughout with Pauline's handiwork, of which the center piece was the Christmas tree she would take all day to decorate. She was also an accomplished organist and would relax by playing her electric organ.

The most important part of Pauline's life was always her faith and her family. She started every day with a devotional and prayer, a few minutes carved out of a very busy life where she quietly communed with her Lord. She was a member of Zion Congregational in Portland for nearly 50 years, a member of First Presbyterian of Oregon City for nearly 30 years, and a member of Oak Grove United Methodist Church for nine years.

(continued on back)

Please note we have included a very personal obituary for Pauline (Spady) Schnell. While Pauline was not a member of AHSGR, she was an aunt of Life members William and Patricia Spady and sister of William Spady Sr. Pauline and "Pete" were pillars of our Volga German Community here in Portland for many years.

Throughout her life she was always an active member – church organist, member of the choir, deacon, bible school teacher.

Pauline loved to be with her family and loved to entertain, so when she could put the two together to celebrate a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary they were events to remember. There was always a party theme and a great deal of planning went in to making sure everything was perfect. Her photo albums contain hundreds of pictures taken over the years at these parties and there is one common thread amongst them all – everyone is laughing and smiling and having a good time. For nearly 40 years she and Peter annually hosted one big party – the Schnell family picnic on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Fortunately their neighbors were understanding as over 100 family members would descend on River Drive. Of course, Pauline was also the doting grandmother and great-grandmother who took great pleasure in spoiling her two grandsons, their spouses, and her five great-grandchildren.

Pauline was preceded in death by her husband Peter Schnell, her parents, and her brother, William Spady. She is survived by her sister, Elma Klein of Milwaukie, OR; her son, Philip Schnell and his wife Therese of Vancouver, WA; daughter Molly Schnell of Milwaukie, OR; grandson John Schnell and his wife Delia of Camarillo, CA; grandson Richard Schnell and his wife Dahrl of McKinney, TX; great-grandchildren Tara Schnell and Jason Schnell of Camarillo; and great-grandchildren Micarl Schnell, Kinley Pauline Schnell, and Teague Schnell of McKinney.

Pauline was loved by all and she will greatly missed. Contributions in her memory may be made to Willamette Falls Hospice in Oregon City, OR.

Ed. Note: Pauline and “Pete” Schnell were living examples of the true Christian spirit throughout the 40’s, 50’s and 60’s as dedicated members of Zion Congregational Church at N.E. 9th and Fremont. They will live in the hearts of many and be remembered for their kindness, generosity and Christian spirit.

AHSGR Chapter WEB Sites.

<http://www.ahsgr.org/news/Winter 2008.pdf/> - National Head Quarters

<http://calgarychapterahsgr.ca/> - Calgary Canada Chapter

<http://www.ahsgr.org/fresno/cacentra.html/> - Central California

<http://www.ehrman.net/ahsgr/casocal.html/> - Southern California

<http://www.ahsgr.org/denver/codenver.htm/> - Denver Metro, CO

http://www.ahsgr.org/northern_illinois_chapter.htm/ - Northern Illinois

http://www.ahsgr.org/GoldenWheatChapter/golden_wheat_chapter.htm/

Golden Wheat - Newton, KS

http://www.ahsgr.org/northeastern_kansas_chapter.htm/ - Northeastern KS

http://www.ahsgr.org/northeastern_kansas_chapter.htm/ - Sun Flower, Antonino, KS

http://www.ahsgr.org/nation_capital_area.htm/ - Washington DC

http://www.ahsgr.org/southwest_michigan_chapter.htm/ - Southwest Michigan

<http://www.northstarchapter.org/> - North Star Chapter of Minnesota

http://www.ahsgr.org/northeast_nebraska_chapter.htm/ - Northeast Nebraska

http://www.ahsgr.org/central_oklahoma_chapter.htm/ - Central Oklahoma

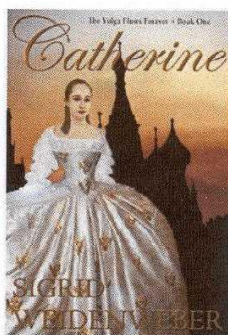
http://www.ahsgr.org/nation_capital_area.htm/ - Virginia Chapter

http://www.ahsgr.org/central_washington_chapter.htm/ Central Washington

<http://cvgs.cuportland.edu> The center for Volga German Studies – Concordia (CVGS)

<http://www.ahsgroregon.com/> Oregon Chapter of AHSGR

<http://www.ahsgrsoar.org/> - AHSGR Saving Our Ancestral Records (SOAR)



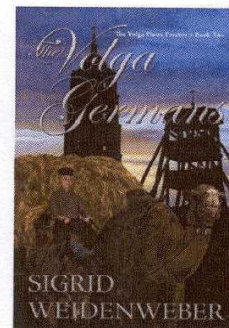
**The Center for Volga German Studies
at Concordia University**

presents

The Volga Flows Forever

a trilogy

by Sigrid Weidenweber



Catherine : hardcover - ISBN(10): 1-934961-00-0; ISBN(13): 978-1-934961-00-1

The Volga Germans : hardcover – ISBN(10): 1-934961-02-7; ISBN(13): 978-1-934961-02-5 (available December 10th)

From Gulag to Freedom : hardcover – ISBN(10): 1-934961-03-5; ISBN(13): 978-1-934961-03-2 (available April, 2009)

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Released this past August, *Catherine* is the first volume in a trilogy entitled “The Volga Flows Forever” by Sigrid Weidenweber. *Catherine* brings to life the fascinating historical character of Catherine the Great who invited her native countrymen to settle the Russian frontier. In volume two, entitled *The Volga Germans* and available December 10<sup>th</sup>, these German immigrants and their descendants convert the harsh steppe into fields of waving grain dotted with wind-driven flour mills and develop a culture that is uniquely their own. In the final volume, *From Gulag to Freedom*, coming out in April 2009, Sigrid follows the Volga Germans through the hardships of Soviet collectivization and deportation to finally immigrate to the San Joaquin Valley of Central California.

**Praise for**

**SIGRID WEIDENWEBER and *Catherine***

“Sigrid Weidenweber has carefully researched the history of the times, and presented it so colorfully that one would think she was an eyewitness to all the intrigue at the Russian court in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It’s excellent, engrossing reading!”

~ Paul L. Maier, Western Michigan University ~

“With great skill and passion Sigrid Weidenweber unveils an epic and important historical journey, bringing to life the danger, violence, and intrigue of European royalty through the eyes of one of its most prominent and fascinating members.”

~ Tim Green, *New York Times* Bestselling Fiction Author ~

**Praise for**

**SIGRID WEIDENWEBER and *The Volga Germans***

“The story of the pioneering Volga Germans spans whole centuries and whole continents. It is an epic story and novelist Sigrid Weidenweber artfully captures this epic quality in her newest book, *The Volga Germans*.”

~ Timothy J. Kloberdanz, North Dakota State University ~

“*The Volga Germans* is not only interesting but quite moving as it reveals the drama of a Volga German family.”

~ Arthur E. Flegel, Menlo Park, California ~

Please send me:

- ☐ Vol. 1 : *Catherine* only (\$29.95)  
☐ Vol. 2 : *The Volga Germans* only (\$29.95)  
☐ Vol. 3 : *From Gulag to Freedom* only (\$29.95)  
☐ All Three Volumes (\$80.00)

☐ Payment by check enclosed.

☐ Please charge my credit card (MasterCard or Visa only):

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send order form to: Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University, 2811 NE Holman St., Portland, OR 97211. You may also order with a credit card by calling 503.280.8505. [cvgs.cu-portland.edu](http://cvgs.cu-portland.edu)

[All proceeds from the sale of these books go to support the Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University.]

**CONTRIBUTION**

to the Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University

**Gift Information****I/We pledge a gift to Concordia University in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.**

Please designate my gift to the:

- ☐ CVGS Capital Campaign
- ☐ CVGS Annual Campaign
- ☐ Endowment of the CVGS Director
- ☐ Endowment of CVGS Programs

☐ I would like to make this contribution:

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

or

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information****This pledge will be paid as follows:**

- ☐ One payment
- ☐ Annual installments over 2 or 3 years (please circle)
- ☐ Quarterly installments over 1, 2 or 3 years (please circle)
- ☐ Monthly installments over 1, 2 or 3 years (please circle)

installment payments will commence:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(mm/dd/yy)**I/We will pay the pledge with:**

- ☐ Cash or Check
- ☐ Credit Card (MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or Diners Club)
- ☐ Stocks / Bonds
- ☐ In-Kind Donation

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send pledge reminders.☐ I am a Benefit Member of Thrivent Financial and would like my gift matched by the GivingPlus Program.**Donor Information**

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donor's Signature  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Donor's Signature

Gifts made to the Concordia University Foundation qualify as deductible charitable contributions under present state and federal laws. The CU Foundation is an Oregon nonprofit corporation and an organization described in sections 501(c)(3), 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation's tax identification number is 93-0771304.

***The students, faculty and staff of Concordia University are thankful for your support!***

## *Center for Volga German Studies*

### **Annual Giving Levels**

Catherine the Great Circle: \$5000+

Catherine the Great invited the Germans to settle along the Volga.

Volga German Scholar: \$2,500 - \$4,999

Scholarly study of history enhances one's understanding of the world today.

Vorsteher Club: \$1,000 - \$2,499

Each colony was led by a Vorsteher (mayor).

Engels Club: \$500 - \$999

Engels was the capital of the Volga German Republic.

Oranienbaum Club: \$250 - \$499

When colonists arrived in Russia, most disembarked at the port of Oranienbaum.

Colonist Club: \$100 - \$249

The Volga Germans were colonists in a new land.

Those who pledge \$5,000 or more to the Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University on or before 31 December 2009 will be listed as Founders of the Center on a permanent display in the



**Announcing . .**

# ***FALL SEMINAR***

We welcome....

**BEVERLY  
RICE, CG**

Of Coos Bay, Oregon  
A national speaker &  
current treasurer of the  
Board for Certification  
of Genealogists



## **Seminar Features**

- Book Vendor
- Genealogical Treasures
- Other Genealogical Societies
- GFO Surplus Book Sale

**October 31, 2009**

Milwaukie Elks Lodge  
in Milwaukie, Oregon

See seminar flyer for  
directions to the site on our website:  
[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)

*Hosted by*

**Genealogical Forum of Oregon**

*Check our website—[www.gfo.org](http://www.gfo.org)*

- Breaking Through Brick Walls
- Newspaper Research
- An Ancestral Journey
- Railroads & Their Role in Western Migration



## AN OLD FUNERAL SONG

*If you live in the river, you should make friends with the crocodile.  
Indian Proverb*

*The rich would have to eat money if the poor did not provide food.  
Russian Proverb*

Much enrichment will come from our contacts with South American Germans from Russia. From Frank Jacobs of Kansas to the Ger-Volga Lis-terve on January 11, 2009 came this interesting message:

"Hector Maier Schwerdt of Argentina presented the old Catholic V G funeral song which reflected the philosophy and psychology of the grieving at the funeral. The deceased is speaking to the survivors. The song was sung at funerals until about 2 generations ago in old dialect German. Translation:

Destiny makes no discriminations. Death pursues even the scepters and crowns and pure vanity is earthly happiness, for all must return to its origin.

And the body that was taken from the earth returns to the place from which it came. Riches, beauty, grace, splendors of power, all, all is covered by eternity of the night. All is indeed covered by the eternity of the night.

Time endures like vegetation, for the roses wither like the rue, and all is finally extinguished under the sun, and only virtues remain.

Also for you, one day death shall come, and claim you it will, and you shall disappear under the tomb. Just as today my hour has come, so tomorrow might yours be.

Now the earth covers me, until the trumpets of Final Judgement shall bring me forth for resurrection, I shall await my final sentence with the hope of achieving eternal light.

I shall not always remain in dust, for the Sacred Scriptures tell me: "That the soul shall not corrupt with the body", so happy will I be. So happy will I be!

Why do you Cry for me, my friends and brothers? If soon we will meet again and it will be Judgement Day, without fear of God or anything else.

Tears are a way to show love, that naturally bursts forth from our deepest inner selves, but only one thing do I ask of all of you: Pray daily, pray for me, oh, pray for me!"

## "FAVORS SUGAR FACTORY"

*"The Greeley potato has come to stay and the beet will keep it company." "In my opinion, the people of Greeley will make the mistake of a lifetime if they fail to grasp this great opportunity,,,"*

This headline and front page article from the Greeley Tribune, June 27, 1901, represents a time in our history when the sugar industry was just beginning. In 1901, some folks were worried about it competing with the potato industry. Over a 100 years later, the sugar factory in Greeley was razed to make way for a cheese factory. - Ed.

"W. J. Hopkins released a few days ago from Ordway, full of facts and figures about the sugar beet industry, some of which, at the solicitation of the Tribune, he gives to the public.

Mr. Hopkins has been superintendent of the big ditch that furnished the water supply for the sugar factory and also for the growing of plants at Sugar City and Ordway, and when asked with regard to the practical workings of the plan in the southern area of the state, and its general prosperity of that section, replied.

In the middle of February 1900, one small building 10x12, in the midst of a broad expanse of pasture lands, was all that marked the spot where now stands the thriving village of Sugar City. Six months later a town of 1500 population had sprung into existence, and it has steadily grown and improved ever since.

The factory employed 800 men, and the place is populated by a class of industrious, desirable citizens. They are mostly descendants of Germans who a hundred years ago emigrated to Russia. In recent years they came to America and settled largely in western Nebraska and from there came to southern Colorado. They have been trained in the culture of beets and they are an orderly, cleanly and industrious people. In their native country, the women and children worked in the fields, and the custom is still continued here.

As to what they can earn at this work, I will state that one man of my acquaintance, with his four children went into the field and earned \$13 in two days; others have earned like sums.

As to how this industry in Greeley is likely to compare with that of Sugar City, I can see no reason why it should not be even more profitable here than there. Under the methods of intense, that is to say thorough farming to which the lands here have been accustomed, the yield per acre should be better and production easier. The lands here are richer and the tonnage should be much greater.

The yield at Sugar City has averaged from 18 to 20 tons per acre, though some lands near Ordway have run to 30 tons, and some at Rocky Ford still higher. There the price per ton is on a sliding scale, being regulated by the amount of sugar found in the beet. But, here this price is to be stable at \$4.50 per ton which to my mind seems better. In my opinion the people of Greeley will make the mistake of a lifetime if they fail to grasp this great opportunity and push this matter through to a successful issue.

No, I don't see how the introduction of this new industry could possibly conflict or compete with potato culture. The Greeley potato has come to stay, and the beet will keep it company.'

W. E. Adams when asked with regard to the progress of the sugar interests here, replied that \$5,000 had already been raised toward securing the site, the well, and the right of way, and 3,000 acres secured for beet culture; this leaves \$7,000 yet to raise and 2,000 acres yet to secure. The business is progressing satisfactorily and the buildings will be begun in August or September."



## **AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS FROM RUSSIA OREGON CHAPTER**

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