



Chronicle Unserer Leute

Vol 31, Issue 1

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

Dr. Brent Mai started the Chapter's year at our January meeting with a wonderful demonstration of the **CVGS** website. The presentation was made in the classroom adjoining the **CVGS Rooms in the Concordia University Library**. The facility is equipped with the latest audio-visual technology so Brent was able to display his presentation on a very large electronic white board. Members with computers should visit the CVGS website at

<http://cvgs.cu-portland.edu/>

to see the array of information available. **Steve Schreiber, Sherry Stahl, Brent** and others are to be congratulated for their dedication in sharing their knowledge and skills in building this site.

We were all very disappointed in the cancellation of our Christmas program again this year. This is the second consecutive year the weather has been an obstacle. **We thank Joanne Hummel** and all the families and participants who had prepared to participate in the Christmas program. We can only hope 2010 will provide another opportunity.

We have received a significant amount of material for the newsletter. Two letters received by our president are included. Member **Trudy Williams** shares her **Lichtenwald** heritage. Thank you Trudy. Member **Don Walter** in Spokane Washington shares his appreciation. **Thank you Don.**

Some readers have questioned the wisdom of printing **Hugh Lichtenwald's** translations of "Die Welt-Post" articles from the 1920's and 30's. A letter by **Tim Klobberdanz** is included in this issue which illustrates the enormous value of Hugh's work. **Thank you Tim** for articulating your appreciation and **thank you Hugh** for your tireless work.

I want to thank **Mary Burbank** for stepping up to become our new Chapter Secretary. **Please give Mary a big hug** when you see her.

Jene Goldhammer and **Shirley Hurrell** continue to meet on Tuesdays to help organize the Library. All are welcome to come and join in on the fun.

Our Special Feature this month is the calendar of events for 2010. Please review it at your convenience and try to join us often. All are welcome.

Come and share in the planning for our Chapter's Hosting of the **Council of Northwest Chapters**. The Council will be meeting here at the **CVGS** in April. Please read page 13. Let me or Jean Roth know if you need a registration package for hotels and meals. Reserve Saturday April 24th for a Day at the **CVGS**.

NEWS FLASH

Our **Zion Congregational Church Structure** at NE 7th and Fremont in Portland is undergoing a restoration /refurbishment. Stay tuned for more information.

Our good friend **Sigrid Weidenweber's** trilogy, "**The Volga Flows Forever**" continues to generate a continuous stream

of compliments from the many readers who have purchased the three volumes. Many of you purchased these books for Christmas presents. **Sigrid** dedicated many years of her life and significant personal resources to make this remarkable contribution of historical fiction tell a very personal version of our ethnic heritage.

Please use the enclosed form (on page 10) to purchase your very own volumes for your family library and your children's libraries. **Sigrid** has designated our **Center for Volga German Studies** to be the recipient of all proceeds from the sales of these books.

Thank you **Sigrid** for your outstanding contribution and friendship.

Don't forget to send your membership dues to Lois Klaus. A renewal form is enclosed on page 9.

Ed Wagner, President



**Come to the Meeting on February 21, 2010.
Please join us Sunday for coffee & cookies**

**Installation of officers (at last)
and a wonderful program on
"Portland and The Volga Relief Society"
by Dr. Brent Mai.**

Hope to see you there.

Upcoming Events**February**

Feb 6, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

Feb 21, 2010 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm **AHSGR Monthly Meeting (Coffee & Cookies)**
Sunday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

March

Mar 6, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

Mar 27, 2010 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm **AHSGR Monthly Members Meeting (Potluck Lunch)**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

April

Apr 3, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

A Special Regional Gathering

Apr 23, 24 ,25 See enclosed materials **CNC (Council of Northwest Chapters of AHSGR)**
2010 on page 13 meeting at Concordia University CVGS Center.

May

May 1, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

May 15, 2010 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm **AHSGR Monthly Members Meeting (Potluck Lunch)**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

May 16, 2010 **Mother's Day**
Sunday

June

Jun 5, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

Jun 13, 2010 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm **AHSGR Monthly Meeting (Coffee & Cookies)**
Sunday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

June 20, 2010 **Father's Day**
Sunday

July

No Meetings, Summer Picnic Meeting to be announced later.

August

Aug 1-8, 2010 AHSGR International Convention of Germans from Russia to be held in Lincoln, Neb.

September

Sep 4, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

Sep 26, 2010 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm **AHSGR Monthly Meeting (Coffee & Cookies)**
Sunday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

October

Oct 2, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

Oct 16, 2010 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm **AHSGR Monthly Members Meeting (Potluck Lunch)**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

November

Nov 6, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

Nov 21, 2010 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm **AHSGR Monthly Meeting (Coffee & Cookies)**
Sunday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are welcome

December

Dec 4, 2010 10:00 am – 12:00 noon **AHSGR Board Meeting**
Saturday Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor, Members and guests are

December Program to be announced

**The CVGS library will be open on the 4th Saturday of each month from
10:00am – 1:00pm
and**

On Each Tuesday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm for Family Research

For other times please call Bob Thorn during the day at 503-978-4466

Letters from our readers

14 JAN 2010

Ed Wagner:

I have been meaning to write to you for some time. After our Spokane Chapter of the AHSGR dissolved I felt out of the loop when it came to Volga German activities, particularly in the area of research.

Even though a newsletter is primarily the sharing of local news and events, I appreciated your articles that extended beyond the Portland area.

I generally read it from cover to cover because many times I find a bit of genealogy information tucked into an article.

I found Dr Koch's articles of interest and followed Marie Trupp Krieger's story with interest. My mother and aunt knew the Trupp family from the Ruff and Odessa, WA area.

The "Street Maps of Portland" drew my attention because I had heard that a relative by the name of Phillip Stumpf and

his wife, Anna Elizabeth Klamann had possibly moved to Portland.

The last article that I read with great interest was by Brent Mai who wrote about the 1881 settlers who arrived by the Union Pacific Railroad. Some of my relatives, SCHAFER AMEN, WOLSBORN + STUMPF, were in the 1882 group.

Last, but not least, I would have been unaware of the importance of Concordia University if it wasn't for your newsletter.

Please keep up your wide range of articles

Donald Walter
(FRANK + WARENBURG)

11-19-09

Edward Wagner
1836 N. W. Couch
Portland, Oregon 97209

Dear Mr. Wagner,

I too have enjoyed the "Center for Volga German Studies" at Concordia University. I knew it was going to opened and happened to drop in there on the first day the new library was just opening.

I will go over some day soon to see it now that it is operating. I have a few books to donate to them, also.

My mother's family came to N E Portland Oregon from Russia via Canada but before all of the awful things started to happen, Family stories makes me think that my grandfather John Henry Lichtenwald's sister married a Ribeneck and moved to Winnipeg Canada. Hugh Lichtenwald was been in touch with me and my brother Rev Adolph Henry Kohler. Ad lives in Sacramento California. Ad and Hugh have been in touch.

I think Ad and I are the last of the group of the Lichtenwalds, except for my two children and his seven children and their children.

The mystery that Hugh Lichtenwald solved for me is the Ribeneck connection. *
Cousin Alex and his sister and niece lived in Winnipeg and Alex did visit us and send cards but I always thought the connection was through my grandmother Catherine Elizabeth (Scheible) Lichtenwald, but Hugh told us that it was Grandfather's sister that was the connection. I have a photograph of Grandfather and his mother and his sister.

I visited Winnipeg and took a photo of the Ribeneck family home and looked the family up in their archives. Alex work for the Railroad.

I'll get busy and fill out the forms one of these days.

My mother, Martha Lichtenwald Kohler, married Adolph Kohler in Portland, Oregon. He was from Meiringen, Switzerland and I have visited there several times. Families are very interesting.

Trudy Williams

WILLIAMS
1727 NE Multnomah St., #9
Portland, OR 97232

Williams.Trudy@6mail.com

This letter was received by your newsletter editor last week from **Willis M. Krieger**

A Most Unusual Discovery

Genealogy, what a wonderful hobby! Through the years, each discovery has added to my research. I was so excited to have my Dad's paternal line Grün (Green) and his maternal line Trüber (Treber) back to the settlement of Norka, Russia.

However my latest discovery has been something I never imagined would ever happen. I mailed the information from the top of the Grün Plevé chart to a lady in Germany. She found the village where the Grün settlers were born. Forty church records consisting of birth, baptismal, marriage, death and burial were included. These records sometimes also described their occupation and position in the church. It took me a long time to study and organize all this wonderful information going back to 1667 for both husband and wife.

One day as I was looking at the baptismal record of the first child of Johann Caspar and Gertrude Elisabeth Grün, I noticed a Trüber baby born 5 Aug 1764, one week before the Grün baby. I quickly checked my Trüber chart and discovered that the parents matched. So now, thanks to the lady in Germany, I have the Trüber lineage back into Germany also! I guess the only way to top this most unusual event would have been if both babies were born and baptized on the same day instead of one week apart!

The German villages are Wolf and Dudenrod which were located a short distance NW of Büdingen. Why two villages? The earliest records are from Wolf. The father of Johann Caspar Grün was a master tailor in Wolf, also had a major part in building the church (Kirchenbaumeister). When Johann Caspar married, he moved to Dudenrod where he became the master tailor, a trade he learned from his father.

Another interesting discovery: the baby was always named after the godparents, a tradition brought to Norka by the immigrants from Germany.

AHSGR Oregon Chapter Membership Form

Membership fees are for a calendar year that **renews each January 1st.**

Dues shown below include \$10 for an **Oregon Chapter membership.**

The remaining fee is for membership in the AHSGR international organization.

We will forward your fee to AHSGR international.

Membership Categories - Annual International and Oregon Chapter Dues

Individual & Family \$ 60 Institutional \$ 60

Contributing \$ 85 Sustaining \$110

Int'l Life Member \$750 (may be paid in 5 annual installments--add \$10 to each installment for Chapter dues)

Int'l Life Member \$ 10 (for fully paid International Life Members who pay only Chapter dues)

Student (15 - 24) \$ 15 (Receive 4 newsletters, Youth Membership packet, Membership card, and discounts)

Youth (1 - 14) \$ 8 on specially advertised books and special convention benefits.)

Newsletters Only \$ 12 For non-members

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Individual _____ Family _____ Youth _____ Student _____

Membership Year 2010

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

I want to receive my Oregon Chapter newsletter through the web (Adobe Acrobat format)?

Yes _____ No _____

In order for us to service our membership more effectively, please list all of your German family names and all villages that you believe your ancestors are from. Ancestral Villages - Please specify for each member

Surnames - Please specify for each member

There are many opportunities to help build our chapter. Let us know if you desire to participate actively.:

Genealogy Workshops _____

Other _____

Newsletter _____

Publicity _____

Library _____

Ways & Means _____

Programs _____

Reminder Calls for Upcoming Meetings _____

Hospitality _____

Sunshine _____

Please make all checks payable to AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER and send your membership dues and applications to: Lois Klaus, 111 N.E. 67th Avenue, Portland, OR 97213-5029 phone: (503) 232-3065 e-mail: lkklus@earthlink.net

**IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES PLEASE SEND THEM TO LOIS KLAUS NOW.
LOIS NEEDS TO COMPLETE THE MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR NATIONAL.**



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)

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 10th, 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 18th 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. Klobardanz, 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

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

In Loving Memory



Frances Herder Sinner

July 02, 1918 - Nov. 27, 2009

Frances Sinner passed away peacefully Nov. 27, 2009, in Beaverton, at age 91.

Born Frances Laverne Herder on July 2, 1918, Frances was the second of seven children of Lucas and Christina Herder. Raised in the Albina area of Northeast Portland, she attended Albina Homestead, Boise Elementary and Jefferson High School. After graduating from high school in 1936, Frances took classes to help her gain employment in the accounting field. Thanks to her great

work ethic, meticulous bookkeeping skills and cautious deliberation in marrying, Frances was able to afford singing lessons for her brothers, Louis and Wally, and help her family make life easier.

It was during those years that she also discovered her passion for travel which carried throughout her life.

In 1954 she married John C. Sinner, also from the Albina neighborhood. They settled in the Sabin area and shared a wonderful marriage until John's death in 1993. Their daughter, Lisa, was born in 1955.

For many years, Fran worked alongside John at their butcher shop, the Fremont Market, and stayed home to raise Lisa. In 1967, Fran went to work at Hub Tour and Travel, first as a bookkeeper and then as the comptroller. During her years at Hub, Fran was able to continue her travels around the world. She retired from Hub in 1983 to relax and enjoy her time with her family and to be beloved "Granny Franny" to her only grandchild, Shane.

Throughout her life, Frances was immersed in a large, loving extended family of siblings and cousins. She was deeply involved in church—first Zion Congregational, then Parkrose United Church of Christ and, after moving to the westside, Bethel UCC and Cedar Hills UCC.

Frances was preceded in death by her husband, John Sinner; her parents, Lucas and Christina Herder; brothers, Ellsworth and Louis Herder; and sisters, Eloise Matlack and Genevieve Miller. She is survived by her daughter, Lisa Hetzler and son-in-law, Stephan Hetzler of Beaverton; grandson, Shane Hetzler of Bend; brother, Wally and sister-in-law, Patsy Herder of Lake Oswego; and brother, Peter and sister-in-law, Margaret Herder of Portland.

A celebration of life for Frances and her sister, Genevieve, will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, in Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, 11695 S.W. Park Way, Portland, OR 97225.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests remembrances be sent to: Cedar Hills UCC, Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp, Medical Teams International or Heart of Cabi Foundation.

Please sign the online guest book at www.oregonlive.com/obits



Genevieve H. Miller

June 29, 1920 - Nov. 25, 2009

Genevieve Herder Miller passed away Nov. 25, 2009.

She was born June 29, 1920, in Portland, the third of seven children to Lucas and Christina Herder. She grew up in the Irving Park area of Portland attending Albina Homestead and Boise elementary schools and graduated from Jefferson High School in June of 1938.

She married Conrad "Brownie" Miller Jan. 19, 1946, and they had three children. Most of her employment was with First National Bank and

later Portland Public Schools in the evaluation department. She was a member of Zion Congregational Church, then Parkrose Community United Church of Christ and finally Cedar Hills Community UCC.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Ellsworth and Louis; one sister, Eloise, and her husband, Conrad. Her sister, Frances, followed her in death. She is survived by her two brothers, Wallace and Peter; three children, Peter Miller of Osaka, Japan; Christine and Keith Baker of Portland; and Louis and Paula Miller of Gresham; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services for Genevieve and Frances will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, in Cedar Hills Community UCC.

In lieu of flowers, please support Cedar Hills UCC, Northwest Medical Teams International or the Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp for the blind.



Please sign the online guest book at www.oregonlive.com/obits

Thank you Lois Klaus & Sha Spady for sharing these remembrances.

Chapter Pictures



General Meeting January 2010



General Meeting November 2009



Board Meeting January 2010



General Meeting November 2009



A collage of both meetings

CNC MEETING INFORMATION FOR SATURDAY APRIL 24, 2010

January 20, 2010

To: Chapter Presidents and Officers of the COUNCIL of NORTHWEST CHAPTERS and CNC Delegates and Participants

From: Jean A. Roth, CTC
CNC Meeting Planner

Subject: SPRING MEETING of CNC at PORTLAND, Oregon's CVGS
Saturday, APRIL 24, 2010

The Oregon Chapter of AHSGR invites all members of the Northwest Council Chapters to attend its Spring meeting in Portland, Oregon on April 24, 2010 at Concordia University's Center for Volga German Studies, hosted by its director, Dr. Brent Mai.

This will be a special Conference beginning with a day at the new Center of Volga German Studies with time for a tour of the Center, and opportunity for research, and the CNC Business Meeting in the afternoon. This will be followed by a banquet at Portland's famous Rheinlander German Restaurant. Since we anticipate that this will be a popular meeting, Chapter Presidents and Officers are asked to provide the information to their membership as soon as possible to adhere to the early hotel reservation and banquet deadlines. Details of the Conference are outlined on the enclosed program and registration form. Please feel free to make copies of these for distribution to your members.

Accommodations have been arranged for Friday and Saturday nights at the Country Inn and Suites with a special Concordia rate of \$79.00 per night plus tax. This includes a hot breakfast each morning. It is located near the Airport and is convenient to Concordia University.

Registration Costs are for an optional deli lunch buffet and all day beverage service at Concordia and the German Banquet at the Rheinlander, inclusive of beverages, and gratuities. Those who register will be send a packet of maps with directions by early April.

If there are questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me:

JEAN A. ROTH
515 N. 79th St.
Seattle, WA 98103
Ph: (206) 782-2629
Email: jeanaroth@juno.com

We are looking forward to seeing you this spring.

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the CVGS at Concordia University. There is no charge for the events at the CVGS. If you plan to join us for Lunch or Dinner let us know and we will send the reservation information.

CHAPTER OFFICERS 2010-2011

President:

Ed Wagner (term expires 2011)

1836 NW Couch

Portland, OR 97209

(503) 228-0007 - (503) 221-1837

Vice-President:

Bob Thorn (term expires 2011)

(503) 635-6651

bobthorn@hotmail.com

Secretary:

Mary Burbank (term expires 2011)

9051 SW Hill St

Tigard, OR 97223

(503) 639-4381

Treasurer:

Lois Klaus (term expires 2011)

(503) 232-3065 e-mail: lklaus@earthlink.net

Directors:

Jene Goldhammer (term expires 2010)

(503) 771-5813 e-mail: Gold520@comcast.net

Dr. Bill Wiest (term expires 2011)

Zane Miller (term expires 2011)

360) 573-5628

Ken Prickett (term expires 2010)

(503) 661-6720) e-mail: kenjoy.com@juno.com

Molly Ann Rimerman (term expires 2010)

(503) 636-1786 e-mail: makrim@aracnet.com

Steve Schreiber (term expires Dec. 2011)

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(503) 252-0902 e-mail: f26ruth@comcast.net

