



Chronicle Unserer Leute

Volume 33, issue 3

September/October 2012

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

Oregon Chapter Website:
ahsgr.org/orportla.html
[Germans from Russia in Portland web-site:germans-russia-pdx.com](http://GermansfromRussiainPortlandweb-site:germans-russia-pdx.com)

Inside this issue:

<i>The Thrill of Knowing Who You Are</i>	2
<i>The Archivist</i>	3
<i>All Hallows' Eve</i>	5
<i>1895 Census of Argentina</i>	6
<i>The Ancestral Kitchen</i>	8
<i>OR Membership Form</i>	11
<i>Officer Names & Contact Information</i>	12

President's Message



Concordia University and the Center for Volga German Studies

Your Oregon Chapter of AHSGR has been blessed with a very welcome and early Christmas present. Her name is Lake Boggan and she is a new member. She is also an experienced professional who has volunteered to apply her skills as our Newsletter editor. We welcome Lake's energies and talent. We sincerely thank Bob Thorn for his many years and dedicated service to our Newsletter but acknowledge Bob deserves a rest and recovery period. We have missed Bob for the past months and hope to see him again soon. His photographic record of our activities has been a welcome addition to the Oregon Chapter and to all CVGS functions.

We have all enjoyed a slow and sunny re-

covery from the 43rd International Convention of the AHSGR in June and thank everyone for making it an enormous success. Very special thanks go to each volunteer who helped with the authentic German lunches. **FOR ALL FOUR DAYS.** I'd like to extend a special thank you to the Ladies and members of the German American Society from Portland. Their meals and deserts were the best ever for any convention we have ever attended.

Our Oregon Chapter members (and yes, that means you) are all welcome to attend German American Society meetings and become members of this wonderful group. Contact them at info@germanamerican.org

or call 503.775.1585. Here is an excellent opportunity to connect with our roots and culture. The food and music is fantastic, the parties rejuvenating and you are all welcome.

Your president also serves as an alternate to the German American Society Board of Directors and will be happy to negotiate a special deal for membership if we can get enough folks to join.

Cont. page 7

Upcoming CVGS Event Highlighted

250th Anniversary of the Coronation of Catherine the Great, October 6, 2012 Celebration.

Concordia University and the Center for Volga German Studies, offers a full day of presentations, celebrations, and study. A sack lunch will be included in your \$15. ticket.

Registration is available by Credit card .

Please call Linda Church at

503.493.6370.

For more information and a complete schedule, visit [CVGS Websites at cvgs.cu-Portland.edu](http://CVGSWebsitesatcvgs.cu-Portland.edu) , as it becomes available.

THE THRILL OF KNOWING WHO YOU ARE

Steve Schreiber Family Travels to Ronshausen, Germany

As many of you know, I recently discovered the origin of my Schreiber family in Ronshausen, Germany. My ancestor, Johann Wilhelm Schreiber, lived in this town until 1766 when he decided to migrate to Russia. The church records state that Johann Wilhelm "went out into the world". He married Anna Eva Moritz on May 7, 1766 in Büdingen, Germany. The Schreiber family owned a water powered sawmill in Ronshausen that began operation in the mid-1600s.

This July, my family visited Ronshausen and we were met by the Bürgermeister (Mayor), the pastor of the church, descendants of the Schreiber family



Treffen der Nachkommen von Johann Wilhelm Schreiber (von links): Ilse Völckopf, Bürgermeister Markus Becker, Heinrich Tann, Gerhardt Ziegenbein, Anastasia Schreiber, Natalja Schreiber, Sieglinde Merkert, Dieter Merkert, Anna Schreiber, Steven Schreiber, Rosalind Schreiber, William Schreiber, Elizabeth Schreiber, Karl Röhn mit Pfarrer Thomas Nickel.

Erinnerung an Urahnen

In Ronshausen trafen sich die Nachkommen von Johann Wilhelm Schreiber

that live in Ronshausen today and members of another Schreiber family from Russia that are now living in Germany. We all met in the church where Johann Wilhelm was baptized and I was presented with photos of the home he lived in and a complete genealogy of the Schreiber family in Ronshausen.

The mayor, Markus Becker, sent me this newspaper article about our visit and unexpected family reunion. It was a day we will never forget.

The visit was part of a family summer vacation to Europe. I have been researching the origin of my Schreiber family for close to 15 years and with

some luck this past year, I narrowed it down to this small town in Germany. I contacted the pastor of the church in Ronshausen, Rev. Nickel, to see if he could tell me if there is a Johann Wilhelm Schreiber (who is the right age) listed in the church books. He told me that there was such a person and promised that if I visited Ronshausen during our vacation, he would show me something interesting written about him in the church books. I only expected to meet briefly with Rev. Nickel when we were in Ronshausen and it was a great surprise to have such a large group greeting us. Luckily for me, the church bookkeeper in Ronshausen (Heinrich Tann) is also a genealogist and had done quite a bit of work on the Schreiber family.

He found a note in the church records about my ancestor that states "he went out into the world" in 1766. No further mention of him is made in the church records, so I'm 99.9% sure I have the right person.

I have recently accepted an invitation by AHSGR to serve as the Village Coordinator for Norka, Russia. Many people living in Oregon and Southwest Washington have connections to this village. Please contact me if you need help researching your family and please stop by and take a look at our Norka website and Facebook page.

www.volgagermans.net/norka

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Norka-Russia/304585349571817>



Steve Schreiber

THE ARCHIVIST: Oregon Chapter History

By Lee Ann Schlager



Lee Ann Schlager

From the September, 1985 AHSGR Oregon Chapter, Botschaft--Zeitung, edited by June Druse of McMinnville:

"DANKE SCHON, DANKE SCHON EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE FOLKFEST-NEIGHBORFAIR. It was a tremendous success! Our special thanks to President Cliff Haberman who spent many hours working on the affair--planning, marking the grounds for the placement of booths, obtaining health permits, buying sausage, rounding up 'sterile' cooking utensils, etc., etc. What a thrill it must have been for him to be interviewed by KGW and to appear on the evening TV news. And we Oregon AHSGERers were thrilled to have the publicity. We were also pleased to have won the trophy for the best cultural display.

Did you know that Folkfest began in 1976 as part of the first Neighborfair and in celebration of our country's Bi-Centennial? After that first event, Folkfest remained organized with representatives from dif-

ferent ethnic groups (ours included) meeting every month to share their cultures and heritages."

From the October, 1986 AHSGR Oregon Chapter meeting:

Mini-Bazaar: Items especially requested are the homemade ones like noodles, rye bread, grebble, Rivel Kuchen and Kraut Kuchen. Of course, hand-craft items, white elephants, or whatever are most appreciated.

Note from the editor:

I hope you enjoy The Archivist. Lee Ann Schlager is one of your volunteers at the CVGS who is a talented archivist. She spends time researching old books and letters and retrieving mysterious documents that might lead to you connecting with an ancestor. She has been filing the past AHSGR newsletters and finding what was going on more than twenty years ago.

Since our society is formed of individuals who get his or her thrills from connecting with the past, Lee Ann felt there might be interesting information in the not too ancient past that we can recycle.

ANCESTORS IN MOVING PICTURES: 1928 Norka Film by Heinrich Wacker

Heinrich Wacker (Henry Walker) left his home in Norka, Russia and immigrated to the United States in 1909, settling for a time in Portland. In 1928, Henry returned to Norka with a 16mm movie camera and filmed scenes of village life. The film was shown many times in

Portland from the 1920s to the 1970s. I would like to learn more about this film and Henry Walker. If you have any information, please contact me at 503-774-9753 Steve Schreiber at Steven.schreiber@gmail.com

MY EXCITING DISCOVERY



By Jene Herder Goldhammer

While at the CVGS Library last Tuesday, a group of us volunteers were having a morning chat. Lee Ann Schlager was excited to tell us about the new book that she had just received. It was a huge book and she said "It was so good I

couldn't put it down and I have read the whole book in one week." We have heard this book was coming out soon but I saw no reason to order it for myself because all my ancestors came from Germany and the name of Lee Ann's newly purchased book is *The German Colonists to Denmark and their Subsequent Emigration to Russia in the years 1759 – 1766*, by Dr. Alexander Eichorn, Dr. Jacob and Mary Eichorn written, by the way, in German and English.

I hit a BRICKWALL! One of my long researched family names Herder/Herter, were they from Denmark? No, I was told Prussia/Germany. Oh well, can I look at your book? I will just look at the index, first. "Hey, look at this, there is a Jacob Herter, Page 455, let's have a look." Oh my gosh! It's him, there is his wife and three children and it says they are from Kurfalz, Amte Lindenfels! They arrived in Denmark 1760 and left for Beideck, Russia 1765. YIPPEE! That's him for sure. That will clear up some of my doubts about my family. The 1775 and 1798 Beideck census had Jacob and his wife Susanna listed with *her* children and Pleve's chart did not say where they had come from. Now I have an area to search and I feel better about the children being Jacob's.

ALL RIGHT!

Research is so exciting and the CVGS Library has so much to offer, you never know where you will find that one little tidbit that will take you to the next level. By the way Brent Mai tells me we will be getting a copy of this book in your own CVGS library

SEARCHING

John Groh gramskids2@gmail.com who attended the Convention in June, has reached out to our Portland Chapter AHSGR Newsletter, requesting the following in his search for family information:

REQUEST FROM ABROAD

Seeking to contact any descendants of Christian Jacob and Katharine Asmus Becker from the village of Grimm. Their children were Lydia, Kathryn and Frederick.

SEEKING

- Consider contributing items to the newsletter like photos, stories, births, birthdays, honors, new careers, trips, milestones, anniversaries, and obituaries. Tell us about your life and times. Connect us to your family and heritage.
- Volunteer if you are someone who wants to learn more and help others at the same time. The CVGS Library with Jene Herder is looking for a few new volunteers to support the needs of people who come to us for help with their research. Take time to work in the Library with the current volunteers who are experts so you can enjoy the level of expertise needed to go further into the world of research. It's rewarding, educating, and not that difficult.
- The Oregon Chapter wants new members and yes, lets devote time to pulling in those third generation Volga Germans who will be the next in line to keep the spirit alive.

ALL HALLOWS' EVE



Ornate Volga German iron crosses. These cemetery markers are part of their ethnic heritage.

“The iron grave cross tradition probably originated with the ancestors in southwest German provinces during the Renaissance when ironwork was popular and the cross became the principal symbol of the Christian faith. Predominately used by Catholic Volga Germans , but not exclusively, cultural anthropologists refer to the iron crosses as folk art or cemetery folk art.” –From the archives of the North Dakota State University Libraries

Unless you tell me otherwise, I don't find data showing that our German Russian ancestors celebrated All Hallows' Eve as a time to scare the children or bribe neighbors out of sweets with threats of tricks. It's so very un-Volga German.

I do have a tale of fright to share that happened in the village of Brunnental to my grandmother.. She was born in 1890. She was about 7 or 8 when an old

aunt died in the fall of the year. The relatives had laid her out on a table in the summer kitchen where it was cooler and they covered her with a white sheet. Several children, including my grandmother, were given orders to sit with the body while the adults were in the main house grieving and having Kuchen and Tea. The job included making sure cats , flies, and other undesirable opportunists were kept away, before the body was taken to the cemetery for burial.

Not being able to just sit and stare at a lifeless sheet for too long, the children began to squirm, giggle, hide, and do almost everything except the task they were given.

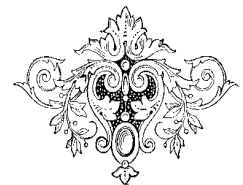
All of a sudden, my grandmother heard a loud noise coming from the table where the body was and behold, a white sheeted ghost was sitting up and coughing, gasping for air. The children screamed at a pitch that could be heard by the bereft adults who came running.

What they encountered, besides clinging and ashen faced yungen, was the nearly buried old aunt, broken free from the grip of death. It seems she had had something caught in her throat that had stopped her breathing to the point of unconsciousness, but allowed enough air into her lungs to keep a low, inaudible pulse.

When the children were running and screaming, it must have jarred her dignity and she convulsed and hacked up whatever was lodged in her throat.

It is for medical errors like this, that coffins once came equipped with bells on the topside that could be rung by the dead who made a complete recovery post-interment. This may be where we get the phrase "saved by the bell".

Lake Boggan



CVGS Begins Project to Extract Volga Germans from 1895 Census of Argentina

by Brent Mai

The first Volga German settlers arrived in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 24 December 1877. They came from Brazil where they had originally immigrated earlier in 1877. This initial group continued their journey southwest from Buenos Aires by train. They disembarked in the town of Azul, loaded their belongings onto ox-drawn carts and travelled another 35 kilometers southwest to the banks of the Hinojo Creek where they arrived on 5 January 1878. There they founded the colony of Hinojo in the Partido (Department) of Olavarria.

By the end of 1878, over 1,100 Volga German colonists had relocated from Brazil to Buenos Aires Province in Argentina. Volga Germans also began to arrive directly from Russia in 1878. The General Alvear Colonies, a group of five colonies, were established on 21 July 1878 in the Province of Entre Rios, north of the capital city of Buenos Aires. A sixth colony was founded among the General Alvear colonies in 1879 by more of those resettling from Brazil.

A census of the General Alvear colonies was taken in 1881. It was extracted by Jorge L. Göttig in 2005 and can be found at http://www.webbitt.com/volga/col_gen_alvear.txt <http://www.webbitt.com/volga/col_gen_alvear.txt> .

The Second National Census of Argentina was conducted on 10 May 1895. [The First National Census had been conducted in 1869 before the Volga Germans arrived.] For the purposes of this census, the country was divided into large provinces or territories, which were further divided into departments or partitions (partidos), and finally into districts (distritos). The census covers

most of the 5 million inhabitants of Argentina that existed at the time, and includes the colonies where the Volga Germans had settled.

The 1895 census contains the following information for everyone living in the household at the time:

- * Surname and name
- * Place of birth
- * Age at the time of the census (infants are shown in number of months old)
- * Gender: males are identified with the letter "V" for varón (male) and females with the letter "M" for mujer (woman)
- * Social status
- * Nationality
- * Religion
- * Occupation
- * Literacy
- * If a student
- * If a real property owner
- * How many children
- * How many years of marriage (women only)
- * Physical or mental health
- * If disabled (by war or accident)
- * If orphaned

The original documents of this census have been scanned and are available through FamilySearch.com. They have also been indexed there. However, as happened with many censuses, the names are often misspelled on the original, and the indexer often misread the script. Consequently, to help those trying to identify their Volga German relatives who settled in Argentina, the CVGS is undertaking a re-indexing project to cross reference these documents to more recognizable spellings and to identify the colonies from which they came in Russia.

If you are interested in assisting with this re-indexing project, please contact Shirley Hurrell for details. 503-642-4105 & shurrell1@frontier.com

President's Message

cont. from page 1

All who are interested are encouraged to see me personally. The German American Society recently purchased the Friendship Masonic Building at NE 57 and Sandy Blvd. and is in the process of a first class remodel and upgrade. We will all want to participate in this new "German Party Central". A good first step will be to attend the Heritage Ball on November 3, 2012. This event is the grand holiday party held annually by the German American Society. See the enclosed information on page 10 for details.

The Center for Volga Studies, CVGS, is hosting a special event on October 6, 2012. Brent Mai and the Oregon Chapter Volunteers will hold an open house in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Coronation of Catherine the Great. A schedule of events is going to be available on the CVGS Website prior to the event. <http://cvgs.cu-portland.edu/conf2012/intro.cfm>

This event will take the place of our usual general membership meeting for the months of September and October. Our next regular membership meeting will be held on November 17, 2012.

Our Christmas event is scheduled for December 15, 2012. We need a Christmas Event Coordinator. We really need someone to volunteer for this much anticipated season get-together. I hope you can be the one to make it happen. Please get in touch with me.

Our October festivities will include a brief period to secure volunteers for our new Board openings. All of you with strong opinions and good old-fashioned German charm, diplomacy, warm hearts, and bright ideas are welcome and encouraged to participate. Remember, **"Decisions and futures are made by those who show up."**

Our very own Jerry Schleining is a good example of one who is making a difference. He is taking a special interest in making our meetings livelier. You are all welcome to give him an earful. He is only a heartbeat away from being appointed "Exalted Ruler of the Program Committee of the Oregon Chapter Board of Directors". Thanks, Jerry, for your passion, energy, creativeness and dedication to the German Russian Culture, good parties, and better meetings!

New Membership Categories: The National AHSGR Board of Directors had recently established new membership levels. Please read your *National AHSGR Newsletter* for details.

With the 43rd International Convention now a proud part of our Chapter history, we can all move on to more pleasant and mellow meetings. I hope to see you on October 6th at the CVGS Anniversary of the Coronation of Catherine the Great. Then, we can all look forward to the German American Society's Heritage Ball on November 3, 2012.

Future events will include a January 5th, 2013 meeting hosting visitors from Argentina. We are also looking forward to a possible presentation by Tanya Schell later next year. Stay tuned for more exciting news.

Ed Wagner, President, OR Chapter

Addressing the Oregon AHSGR Chapter:

Introduction by Lake Boggan

Words matter. Current science shows brains are wired to respond to certain kinds of speech.

It is for this reason; I am pleased to volunteer for the role of editor of the *Chronicle Unserer Leute*, Portland, Oregon AHSGR Chapter Newsletter.

Most of you haven't heard of me but I've been watching you. I began working with my German Russian history in the mid-1980s and even attended some of your meetings at the Riverside Church. At that time, I was balancing a full-time job as a marketing manager with the Portland based publishing house, Timber Press and I was teaching part-time at Portland State University in the Graduate Publishing Program. I have been in the publishing industry for eighteen years, worked for newspapers, and currently have my own marketing and consulting business.

I kept up with my genealogy work by doing research, collecting the proverbial truck load of data, and invested in a Family Tree program. In about 1992, Sherry Stahl, (today Sherry is the Village Coordinator for Brunntal) reached out to me with an amazing communication sent to Lincoln, NE, from an unknown of, older cousin who had remained in Russia when my Grandmother, one of her 2 brothers and 3 sisters came to America. This cousin was the daughter of that 1 brother who stayed behind in Brunntal. I still get goose bumps remembering how doors opened to me by that one gesture from Sherry.

THE ANCESTRAL KITCHEN: Volga German Food History

Without our food heritage, we are a broken race. Our daily bread is the nourishment that connects us from one corner of the planet to the other. Think of it this way; your grandparents had parents whom he or she remembers and touched. He or she ate the food cooked by his or her grandparents hands and the same foods had been passed forward from generations deep into your ancestral kitchen, creating a direct link to a time long ago when the flavors, aromas, meats, garlic, root vegetables, everything you crave was being taken into your bloodline. We know who we are through the foods we serve and that serve our bodies best.

When we want comfort foods, we crave what our memory knows. And until you get that most desired feast, you may as well not bother to eat your way through the market. Just take the time to recreate what your DNA tells your heart it must have before you can rest.

Because it is the time of year that gardens are finishing with a flair and putting forth the root vegetables our ancestors would have been storing for winter and herbs that would be drying, I found a Borscht (Vegetable Soup) recipe to share.

Taken from pp 13 of the AHSGR cook book,

Sei Unser Gast, edited by Sam Bungardt, and published by members of the North Star Chapter of Bloomington MN.

BORSCHT

When the German Russians adopted the word borshch, into the Low German language, a “t” was added and the word capitalized. Borscht became a Low German noun.

BORSCHT

- 1-1/2 lb. beef (doesn't say what cut)
- 1 head of cabbage, cored and chopped
- 1 bunch parsley chopped
- 1 small bunch dill, chopped
- 1 C tomatoes, chopped
- 4 medium onions, chopped
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1/2 C. sour cream

Method:

Cook meat in water to cover until tender. Add all the other ingredients except tomatoes and cream. Boil for fifteen minutes. Add tomatoes and cook until done. Stir in cream and serve.

SOUR CREAMED CUCUMBERS

By Lake Boggan

One large or two med cucumbers peeled, halved, seeded, and sliced into a glass bowl or container you can cover.

- 1 large garlic glove (optional)
- 2 green onions chopped
- 2 heaping tsp. salt
- Black pepper to taste
- 1/4 -1/2 C of vinegar
- 1 C sour cream

Cover and cool 1 hour before serving.

AHSGR'S ANNUAL STORY TELLING CONTEST

The Story Telling Contest is a joint effort by the AHSGR Folklore & Linguistics Committee and the IFAHSGR Board.

First Place Award -- \$100.00

Second Place Award -- \$75.00

Third Place Award - \$50.00

"Honorable Mention" Awards Also Possible

The winning entries will be announced and featured at AHSGR's 44th International Convention at Ft. Collins, CO, June 2013. Winning entries also will be published in a future issue of the *Journal of AHSGR*. Enter Now!

ENTRY FORM FOR THE AHSGR STORY TELLING CONTEST

This completed form must accompany your story!

I have read the contest rules below, and agree to abide by them. Also, I declare that the enclosed entry represents my work and has not been previously copyrighted or published.

My signature:

Title of my Story:

I am currently an AHSGR member: _____ Yes _____ No

I plan to be at the AHSGR Convention in Ft Collins, CO in June 2013. _____ Yes _____ No

FULL NAME: (please print clearly)

ADDRESS: (Street & apt. number)

CITY & STATE:

9 DIGIT ZIP CODE: _____ AREA CODE & PHONE & EMAIL _____

Please send this completed entry form, along with 5 copies of your story and a stamped postcard with your full name and address, so we can acknowledge receipt of your entry to:

AHSGR STORY TELLING CONTEST

DEADLINE: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED

BY APRIL 1, 2013. If you are interested in entering AHSGR's Story Telling Contest, here is what we're looking for A good, interesting, unpublished story that pertains to the history, culture, folklore, language, or life experiences of the Germans from Russia.

Examples:

- Stories about the early settlement period in Russia (founding of the Colonies, adapting to the treeless steppe, raids by the Kirghiz)
- Memories of village life in the Old Country (Festivals, food ways, visits by Gypsies)
- Stories about immigration to the New World (the great voyage, Ellis Island)
- "Believe it or not" stories, love stories, humorous stories, inspiring stories.

AHSGR STORY TELLING CONTEST RULES:

1. Each entry must be typewritten, double-spaced, and in clear, dark print. Entries must be on 8 1/2 by 11 white paper. While a story can be only one or two pages long, no story can be longer than the five typewritten pages. Contestants may submit as many stories as they wish, but each entry must be separate and accompanied by a completed entry form. The entry form (see opposite page) may be photocopied. Be sure to send FIVE COPIES OF EACH STORY.
2. The name of the author/submitter, should NOT appear on the story itself. Complete the form on reverse page and attach to your entry with a paper clip. Upon receipt, each story will be assigned a reference number (to assure fair and impartial judging).
3. The title of the story (IN CAPS) should appear on the first page of each entry.
4. Each story must deal with some aspect of the Germans from Russia. To help put your story in context, you might want to begin with something like "This story is based on an actual incident that took place about 1890, in the Volga village of Straub. The story was often told by my grandfather, who was born in Straub in 1875 and who immigrated to the US in 1907"
5. If submitting a story in German or Standard German, a full translation (in English) must be included. Both versions must still be within the 5 page limit.
6. Each entry must represent the work of the entrant and must not be copyrighted or previously published. Contestants must verify this with their signature on the reverse page.
7. All submissions become the property of AHSGR and will not be returned. They will be filed in the Society's archives. Selected stories will be published in the *Journal*. Any entries that are published will be credited with the name of the author/entrant.
8. You must include a stamped postcard with your name and address, so that we can acknowledge receipt of your entry.

German American Society Heritage Ball Invitation

Kindly return this card with payment at your earliest convenience but no later than October 25, 2012 to:
 German American Day Heritage Ball, 4330 NE 37th Street, Portland, OR 97211.
 Please make checks payable to: German American Society of Portland. Please reserve

Saturday, 3 November Program

National Anthems ~ Dinner ~ Welcome~ Guest~ Speaker ~Songs by the Liedertafel Harmonie Choir~
 Dancing to the S-Bahn

Name of Payee _____

Address of Payee _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

_____ tickets for the German American Day Heritage Ball at \$40.00 per person.

Please indicate in your letter with your check, your choice of entrée for each individual attending. Clip the chart below and add more names as you need them.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PORK LOIN</u>	<u>ALASKAN LINGCOD</u>	<u>PENNE PASTA</u>

- Tables will be assigned in the order that payments are received. Tables will seat 8. If you wish to sit with certain individuals, please include their names on back:
- Hotel rooms are available at the Sheraton. Call 503-281-2500 by October 22nd at 4:00 PM for reservations.
- For ticket information and sales call the German Society at 503-775-1585, Monday-Thursday 8:30AM-4:00PM.

AHSGR Oregon Chapter Membership Form

Memberships fees are for one calendar year and you are responsible for renewing each January 1st. *\$75 will include your membership to the AHSGR Oregon Chapter and the International Chapter and you will receive both the Oregon Chapter Chronicle Unserer Leute and the International Newsletter.

New Member _____ *Renewal* _____ *Individual* _____ *Family* _____

Membership Year(s) 2013 _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

I would like my Unserer Leute Oregon Chapter newsletter delivered by e-mail Yes _____ No _____

*The total Annual membership fees are \$75 (AHSGR Oregon Chapter \$25 and AHSGR International \$50).

Please make checks payable to AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER and remember to include your application:

Lois Klaus 111 N.E. 67 Ave. Portland OR 97213-5209

503-232-3065 e-mail: lklaus@gmail.com

Ask Lois about becoming a lifetime member!

Calendar of Meetings and Events

SEPTEMBER 2012

- 9/ 4 — Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 9/11— Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 9/13-16— Odessa, Washington Deutsches Fest
- 9/18— Tuesday—CVGS Library open
- 9/25—Tuesday—CVGS Library open

BACK TO SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2012

- 10/ 2 — Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 10/ 5 — Friday— CVGS Library special hours will be open until 6:00 P.M. for attendees to Saturday's Event.
- 10/6— Saturday, 9:00A.M. until 5:00P.M. 250th Anniversary of the Coronation of Catherine the Great, CVGS Celebration
- 10/ 9 — Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 10/11-13— AHSGR National Board Meeting Lincoln, NE
- 10/ 16 — Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 10/ 23 — Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 10/ 30 — Tuesday— CVGS Library open

NOVEMBER 2012

- 11/3— Saturday— 10:00 A.M. AHSGR Oregon Chapter Board Meeting
- 11/3— German American Society Ball, cocktail hour 6:30 P.M. dinner at 7:30 P.M., dancing until 1:00 A.M., Airport Sheraton
- 11/6— Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 11/13—Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 11/17— Saturday— Noon, Pot luck, Oregon Chapter General Membership Meeting
- 11/20—Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 11/22— Thanksgiving Holiday
- 11/27— Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER 2012

- 12/4— Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 12/11—Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 12/15—AHSGR Chapter Christmas Program, details to come, waiting for a Volunteer Event Coordinator.
- 12/18— Tuesday— CVGS Library open
- 12/25— Tuesday—*Merry Christmas*
- 12/31— *Happy New Year*

SEE YOU IN 2013!



2012 Chapter Officers & Directors

President

*Ed Wagner

503-228-0007

Vice President

*Bob Thorn

503-635-6651

503-978-4466

bobthorn@hotmail.com

Secretary

*Mary Burbank

503-639-4381

Treasurer

*Lois Klaus

lklaus@earthlink.net

Directors

- Steve Schreiber
503-774-9753
Steven.schreiber@gmail.com
- Jene Goldhammer
503-771-5813
gold520@comcast.net
- Dr. William Wiest
503-771-4321
- Ken Prickett
503-661-6720
Kenjoy.com@juno.com
- Jerry Schleining
503-774-9753
Jerry.schleining@gmail.com
- Harold Kammerzell
360-573-3015



The George R. White Library & Learning Center at Concordia University is home to The Center for Volga German Studies and the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Annual membership fees are \$75 (AHSGR Oregon Chapter \$25 and AHSGR International \$50) and renew each January 1st.

Join us today by completing the membership form found at www.ahsgroregon.com or use the mail-in form on page eleven and sending a check payable to the AHSGR Oregon Chapter, in care of:

Lois Klaus, AHSGR Oregon Chapter Treasurer
111 NE 67th Avenue
Portland, OR 97213

We will insure that you are enrolled as a member in both AHSGR International and the AHSGR Oregon Chapter. Questions? Phone (503) 232-3065 or e-mail lklaus@gmail.com



OREGON CHAPTER AHSGR
2800 NE LIBERTY ST.
PORTLAND, OR 97211

Continued from page 7

My Weber and Felker (Völker) ancestors are with me now. I stand on their shoulders. I enjoy all the CVGS has to offer as much as if I am entering the rustic homes in the long ago villages, as if I am learning how to cook, sew, sing, pray, and survive in the way our ancestors did.

I was born and raised in Windsor, Colorado, among a throng of German Russians. Of course, it was never discussed. I hadn't a clue that I was part of a special tribe of people. My mother and thanks be for my very existence, broke the mold when she eloped with a Scotts/German from Montana who was in Windsor to work at the Windsor Sugar Beet factory. Her father swore never to speak to her but her mother, Marie Felker, helped her sneak away. I was born MaryAnn Davisson but through a series of marriages and careers in writing and marketing, have been Lake Boggan for over thirty years.

Volga Germans have a unique culture and I want to learn as much about the precise nature of our people as I can. If you have insight and stories that will shed light on our uniqueness, please contact me and let's have a discussion. Pass information on to me that you want to see in the newsletter that tells a classic story about a family dynamic you feel defines the Volga German nature. I am also looking for stories that break the generational barriers. For instance, my Grandmother was born in Russia; my mother was born in Hillsboro, a first generation Volga German/American. She rebelled by not liking to make bread or sewing her own clothes. Mother thought white bread was heaven sent and felt the same about her Montgomery Ward catalog.

Her mother was aghast at such waste. I am a second generation Volga German/American and hate white bread, and was angry with mother for not allowing me to learn to speak German. Tell me how the generations have assembled and reassembled their Volga German-ness in your family.

Words matter. I want your *Chronicle Unserer Leute* to be smart, current, and filled with information you can use and enjoy. This is your communication vessel, your voice. Please let me know what you like, want, and hope to see.

Editor: Lake Boggan— lake.boggan@gmail.com

