



# AHSGR Oregon Chapter Newsletter Chronicle Unserer Leute

Volume 46, Issue 4  
October - December 2025



## Mark Your Calendar

- Saturday - November 15 2pm  
Chapter Meeting Herb Femling
- Saturday - December 13 1pm  
Christmas potluck at Marilyn  
Schultz's home for all members.
- Saturday - January 17 2pm  
Chapter Meeting (TBD)



**Catherine II, the Great**  
Empress of Russia

**AHSGR Oregon Chapter**  
P.O. Box 55218  
Portland, OR 97238-5218

[oregonahsgr.org](http://oregonahsgr.org)

## AHSGR Oregon Chapter

Newsletter Editor's Report

**Michael Frank**

We at the Oregon Chapter of AHSGR are back after several months of summer fun and hope you all enjoyed your time with family and friends. During this time AHSGR International hosted their 55th annual International convention in Lincoln, Nebraska (July 30 to August 1). The next convention will be held August 5th through August 7th, 2026 in Hays Kansas, in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the first Volga German settlers arriving in Ellis County, Kansas. Registration will open in April 2026.

On August 16th, Lela Miller hosted a summer potluck picnic at her backyard retreat near Battleground, Washington. Emily Schmidt was on hand, cooking Grebble, continuing the tradition. There was an abundance of food, friendship, and good weather. Thank you Lela and Emily!

This Saturday, November 15, Herb Femling will be giving another fine DNA presentation, this time titled:

### **DNA Trail Tools & Techniques.**

Submitted by,

*Michael Frank*

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- 01 NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT—MICHAEL FRANK
- 02 FLORENCE BAUDER REPRINT FROM 2014
- 03 FLORENCE BAUDER OBITUARY AND SERVICE
- 04 NORKA PHOTOS FROM 2016 TOUR
- 05 TOP 15 ANCESTRY GROUPS; MOBILE RESEARCH LIBRARY  
REQUEST FOR IDEAS FOR NEWSLETTER TOPICS
- 06 BEEROCK AND CABBAGE ROLL RECIPES
- 07 SWEET AND SOUR SPARERIBS RECIPE  
MIKE HEIL (ODESSA REPORT)
- 08-12 VOLGA GERMAN PHOTOS (KAUTZ, SIBERIA) - PART 2
- 13 MEMBERSHIP FORM
- 14 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

# Spotlight: Florence Bauder

(Reprinted from Newsletter 2014 July-August)

This month's SPOTLIGHT falls on Florence Bauder. We are especially pleased to feature her because it is on her beautiful Camp Emerald Forest property that our summer picnic will be held on August 30, 2014.

Florence Elizabeth Schmunk Bauder was born in 1927 in Oregon on a Sunnyside Road farm in the S.E. Clackamas area. Her parents were Katherine Margaret Schafer Schmunk, born in Alexandertal, Volga region, Russia and Henry Schmunk, Sr. born in Rosenberg, also in the Volga region. Florence isn't sure from where in Germany her ancestors left for Russia, but one of her brothers, while in the U.S army, visited Heidelberg, Germany and thought that might be the place where some of their ancestors originated since he saw family names there.

Her parents left Rosenberg, Russia as newlyweds about 1905 and settled first in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Her father went into farming with a friend but because of a farming accident that left him severely injured, her parents lived there only 1½ years, during which time their first child was born and unfortunately died. They sailed to Baltimore, MD in 1907 after which they moved to Herrington, Kansas. Florence's mother had two Schafer brothers living there so it was a logical place for them to put down roots. After the birth of five children the Schmunk family moved west to Portland where the rest of the children were born. Florence was the 11th child in the family! From the age of two years on, Florence and her family lived on N.E. 15th Ave. on the west side of the street between Prescott and Going streets in the second large house with a porch. Later her parents purchased two houses on the east side corner of Going St. It was from one of these houses that Florence left to be married in 1949 to Rudolph Mathias Bauder, Sr. He was born in Montana and worked as a sheet metal journeyman.

Florence and her husband's first home after their marriage, was on S.E. 41st and Tibbetts St. where their first two children were born. They subsequently lived in several more homes in N.E. Portland. Eric, their fifth child, was born in N.E. Portland and years later he and his father Rudy moved to what is now known as the Emerald Forest, 15 miles west of St. Helens. Florence stayed in Portland during the week to work for seven years at Tektronix as an executive secretary. Her work enabled the family to pay the bills, build the Wilark Lodge at the Emerald Forest, and continue tree planting in what is now a large acreage tree farm. Buying and building on this property represented a vision Florence had of developing a Christian Retreat on their 240 acre "stump farm." It was her husband Rudy's hard work and creative spirit that helped Florence realize her dream. They later added another 100 acres to the farm. Florence states that she has missed Rudy's love, wisdom, and labor since 2001. Her son Eric has taken over responsibility for harvesting logs and poles from the trees that he and his father planted over 40 years ago.

Florence took classes to obtain a Commercial Food Preparation Certificate and also studied psychology and accounting to prepare for future development of their forest retreat. In the following years they have hosted many groups who have used their facilities for conferences and group activities.

Florence's early education was at the Vernon School on N.E. 20th and Killingsworth. For high school she went to Commerce High, graduating from the Commercial/Secretarial program. During her senior year she worked as a private legal secretary for Mr. Frank Hollister, an attorney in Portland.

Florence has led a very active and interesting life. She has been involved in church activities her whole life and has taught every age group in Sunday School. She is now enjoying being a part of "The Seekers," grades K through 2 at Yankton Community Fellowship in St. Helens.

Another of her great interests and talents is music. She has written religious music through the years and to her credit and honor the University of Portland's Chapel Choir recently performed her musical composition of Psalm 139.

Her life now centers on her family, landscaping, hosting retreat guests, and creative writing. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren are her greatest inspiration. She is pleased that her family enjoys making the family's ethnic dishes.

Florence and her husband had five children, all accomplished in their own right. There is not space here to list all their achievements. Two of them, Eric, Rita, and her husband Ray, are members of our Oregon chapter.

Florence has been a member of AHSGR for a few years and what she likes most about it is making new friends and learning about the many facets of the history of the Germans from Russia from the CVGS and Concordia Library and from working at the recent AHSGR convention on campus. Being a member allows her and her children to feel a part of a common heritage from Germany and Russia.

Florence invites everyone to their beautiful forest retreat known as Bauder's Emerald Forest Certified Tree Farm for our summer picnic. Thank you, Florence. It will be a pleasure to see you there.

For more information on the Bauder's forest retreat see their website: [campemeraldforest.org](http://campemeraldforest.org).

Thank you, Thelma Wiest, for bringing this SPOTLIGHT to the fore. Look for more member Spotlights in future issues.

## Florence Bauder Obituary

With solemn reverence, we commemorate Florence Bauder (Saint Helens, Oregon), whose life came to an end on September 14, 2025 at the age of 98, leaving behind cherished memories. Family and friends can [send flowers](#) and/or light a candle as a loving gesture for their loved one. Leave a sympathy message to the family in the guestbook on this memorial page of Florence Bauder to show support.

In the sacred silence of farewell, Florence is released into the embrace of eternity, knowing that her light will continue to shine brightly in the tapestry of the lives of her loved ones. And as her memory is carried forward, may comfort be found in the knowledge that love is eternal, and that Florence's spirit lives on in the beauty that surrounds us.

She was predeceased by: her parents, Katherine Schmunk (Katherina) and Henry (Heinrich) Schmunk ; and her husband Rudy (Rudy). She is survived by: her children, Rita Biggs (Ray), Deborah Bauder, Andrea Doell (Peter), Rudy Bauder, Jr. (Carolyn) and Eric Bauder.

Viewing was held on Thursday, September 18th 2025 at the Columbia Funeral Home (681 Columbia Blvd, St Helens, OR 97051).



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## Service for Florence Bauder, Sunday, September 21st.

Sadly, we've been informed that longtime Oregon Chapter member Florence Bauder has passed away this weekend at the age of 98.

Florence was featured in our July/August 2014 newsletter which is reprinted in this issue on page 2.

There was an open casket viewing at Columbia Funeral Home at 681 Columbia Blvd. in St. Helens.

A memorial service was held for Florence on Sunday, September 21st at Sunset Park Community Church in St. Helens.

The family had a private interment on Tuesday, September 23rd at Camp Emerald Forest, the family property.

# Norka (Russian name Nekrasovo)

Translation: **Mink** in English

Photos from 2016 Russia Tour

Thanks Lynn Williams


















From Norka Museum

Norka Library and Museum



Norka WWII Memorial

## Top 15 Ancestry Groups in the U.S.

1.  German 12.5%
2.  African American 12.1%
3.  Mexican 10.9%
4.  Irish 9.5%
5.  English 7.8%
6.  Italian 5.1%
7.  French 2.6%
8.  Polish 2.8%
9.  Scottish 1.7%
10.  Norwegian 1.3%
11.  Chinese 1.2%
12.  Native American 1.1%
13.  Puerto Rican 1.6%
14.  Dutch 1.0%
15.  Swedish 1.0%

## MOBILE RESEARCH LIBRARY

AVAILABLE AT ALL OUR  
CHAPTER PROGRAMS ARE  
MANY PUBLICATIONS OF  
GENERAL VOLGA-GERMAN  
INTEREST FOR OUR  
MEMBERS.



? If you have ideas or articles which you would like to see published or topics you would like to see presented at our monthly meetings, please contact any officer, board member, or me, the newsletter editor: Michael Frank (dm48@comcast.net) ?

## Beerocks

from Elizabeth Diel

**Dough:** Make any regular yeast dough and put filling in.

**Filling:**

2 1/2 lb. cooked beef (short neck of beef, after it is cooked, chop or grind)

1-1/2 ground round, sauté, until it turns color.

Set aside.

9 quarts of Cabbage, sliced

4 quarts of onions, diced

Sauté onions first in 1/4 cup Wesson oil for 10 minutes.

Add cabbage to onions, sauté 10 minutes more

Remove from heat, mix meats with cabbage mix.

Salt and pepper to taste.

Add a little allspice to taste.

Makes about 30 Beerocks.

Bake 375 degrees for 20 minutes.



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## Cabbage Rolls

from Margaret L. Diel

1.2 lb. Ground chuck or ground round

1/2 Lb. Ground lean pork

1/2 tsp. pepper

1 tsp. salt

2 tblsp. Chili sauce

1/2 cup chopped onion

1 egg, beaten

1/2 cup uncooked rice

Mix in order given.



Wilt 12 or 14 cabbage leaves in hot boiling water for 2 or 3 minutes.

Divide meat mixture into even portions and wrap in wilted cabbage leaves; fasten with toothpick.

Arrange cabbage rolls in Dutch oven.

Mix 1 can tomato soup and 1 can water, pour over rolls.

Cook slowly 1 hour.

## Sweet and Sour Spareribs

from Margaret L. Diel

**Sauce:** 2 tablespoons Cornstarch  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup vinegar  
1 tablespoon soy sauce

Cook until thickened then add:

- One large bell pepper
- One red sweet pepper
- One small can pineapple chunks—cook very little

Have a side of spareribs cut in about 2 inch pieces; flour and season with salt and pepper.

Pan fry a nice brown then drain all of the fat off.

Add the sweet and sour sauce and serve with rice.



## Mike Heil

### Update on the Odessa, Washington Gathering

The weather was great and it was such a nice experience to see the small town (with a still remaining GR presence) come together and share. The events from the youth tricycle and bed races, to the parade, to the vendors, to the musicians, to the elbow to elbow bake sale (if you have been there, you know what I mean), and to the Runzas, Bierocks, Cabbage Burgers, Kraut Burgers, Piroshkia. There is an amazing museum with a small heritage center and I spent quite a bit of time perusing some old AHSGR Newsletters from the 80's with some amazing stories in them. Great resource, a lot closer than Lincoln. Our group breakfast and evening potluck was a good “gemütlichkeit” experience.





Johann Conrad Frank  
(Judge)

Eva Elisabeth  
Schreiner

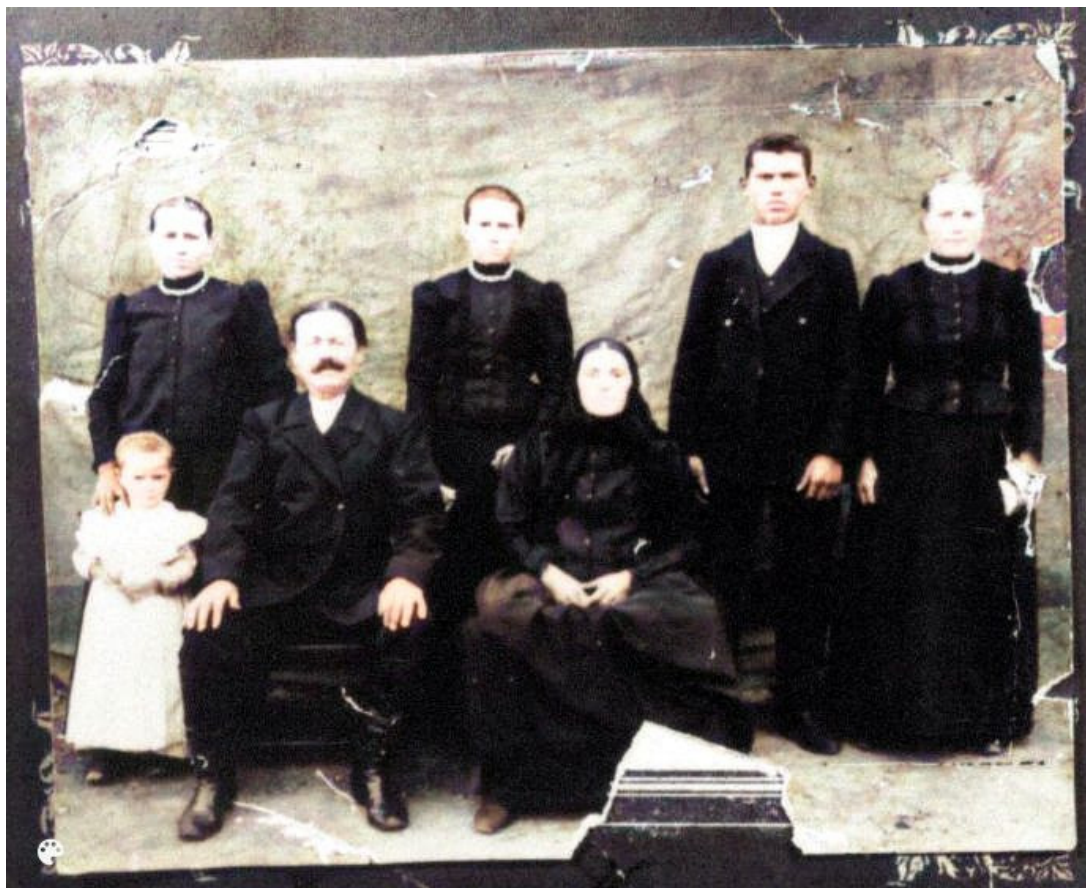
Johann Conrad Frank  
(Con)

Great-Grandparents  
and Grandparent of  
Michael Frank

Gradwohl Family

Kautz, Russia

Individuals not yet  
identified



Johann Adam  
Schreiner Family

Photo taken in  
Kautz about  
1902



Adults L-R: George Jacob Koch, Katrinlis Koch, Katherine E. Hardt,  
John Philip Frank, Marie Fuchs, John George Fuchs  
Photo taken in Kautz, Russia (year unknown)



Philip  
Frickel  
Family

Kautz,  
Russia



**Catharina Elizabeth "Dinis" Frank**  
and Grandchildren

Daughter of Johann Conrad Frank (Judge)  
Grandaunt to Michael Frank

Born 16 November 1888 in Kautz  
Died 15 April 1979 Ivdel (Ural Mts),  
Siberia, USSR

Taken by boxcar to Siberia in 1942.



**Conrad Frank  
(Andance)  
Marie Elizabeth  
Neibauer  
and Family**

Family Picture  
from Kautz about  
1912



**Kautz Band**

**Back Row:** Johann Jacob Schreiner, Jacob Schreiner, Johann George Schreiner, Philip Frank, and George Philip Schreiner

**Front Row:** Christian Fox, George Gratwohl, Henry Frank, Jacob Fox, and Philip Schreiner.



**Frank and Hermony Families (Brothers, Sisters, and Spouses)  
Three Men Holding Blanket not Related**



**Phillip David Frank & Family (From Kautz)  
Taken in Siberia...date unknown**

# AHSGR Oregon Chapter Membership Renewal Form

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

Annual dues for the **AHSGR Oregon Chapter** membership are \$25.

Membership Year **2025**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I want my Oregon Chapter newsletter delivered electronically. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

I want to receive my Oregon Chapter newsletter in the mail (paper copy)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

In order for us to serve our membership more effectively, please list all of your German Russian family surnames and all of the villages that you believe your ancestors are from:

Villages	Surnames
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Please make all checks payable to **AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER** and send your membership dues and application to:

**AHSGR Oregon Chapter**  
**PO Box 55218**  
**Portland, OR 97238-5218**

You can also send dues & donations electronically via PayPal to our chapter email address:

[oregonahsgr@gmail.com](mailto:oregonahsgr@gmail.com)

The Oregon Chapter of AHSGR is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization organized under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). As such, your dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. (Federal Tax ID # 93-1313164).

Additional dues are required for [membership in the AHSGR International Organization](#).

(See <http://www.ahsgr.org/membership.htm> for current International membership levels and dues).

Please remit International dues directly to AHSGR headquarters at 631 D Street, Lincoln, NE. 68502-1199.

**AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER**  
**P.O. Box 55218**  
**Portland, Oregon 97238-5218**

**Address**

**Address**

**City**

**State, Zip**



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.

**Chronicle Unserer Leute**

(Chronicle of Our People)  
is published bimonthly by the  
Oregon Chapter of AHSGR.

Members can find the current schedule of chapter events and newsletters on our Facebook page at:  
[facebook.com/groups/AHSGR.Oregon/](https://facebook.com/groups/AHSGR.Oregon/)

Oregon Chapter Website  
[oregonahsgr.org](http://oregonahsgr.org)

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