



Chronicle Unserer Leute

Oregon Chapter - American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, Vol. 32, Issue 3

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.

The Presidents Message

The months of April and May have provided a full range of activities for AHSGR and Concordia University involvement. Here is a brief summary of opportunities that have been available to all who wish to attend as officers or observer/participants:

THE AHSGR NATIONAL BOARD MEETING APRIL 7 – 9, 2011 @ AHSGR HQ in LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

Your President and BRENT MAI represented the OREGON CHAPTER through a full schedule of Board Committee meetings. BRENT MAI presented a new vision for the 2012 AHSGR CONVENTION scheduled for CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY here in Portland, Oregon. BRENT is to be complimented for his creative approach to the University setting. This will be the first time we have had the convention in a University Campus without the constraints or costs of a Headquarters Hotel. BRENT envisions an emphasis on presentations on both Saturday and Sunday of the convention to entice and enable more local people within driving distance of Portland to experience the opportunities, contacts, and assets at our National Conventions. For those of you who have never attended an AHSGR convention – PLEASE RESERVE:

JUNE 14 – 17, 2012 PORTLAND, OREGON – MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR NEXT YEAR

Our April 16, 2011 AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY can only be described as SPECTACULAR ! The seated luncheon celebrated the CHAPTER'S 40th ANNIVERSARY and included impromptu memorial recognition for our very own BELOVED RAY KOCH. The KOCH family was well represented by DIANE KOCH, Ray's brother NORMAN KOCH and daughter, Ray's son R. B. KOCH, and DIANE'S daughter DEBBIE MATTSON. The entire west end of new LIBRARY MAIN HALL provided the setting for our ANNIVERSARY AND MEMORIAL CELEBRATION. CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STAFF provided the entire set-up with tables, chairs, display tables, stage setting and full food service.

Truly, our AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER and our entire NATIONAL AND NORTHWEST NETWORK of LOCAL CHAPTERS are blessed with the hospitality and generosity of CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY here in PORTLAND. We are thankful to have become an integral part of the CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY.

THANK YOU CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY for hosting our CENTER FOR VOLGA GERMAN STUDIES.

THE AHSGR COUNCIL OF NORTHWEST CHAPTERS (CNC) met April 27 – 29 in LEAVENWORTH, WASHINGTON. LEAVENWORTH is always a refreshing and inspirational venue for German folk and the town was an exceptionally delightful experience with excellent weather and very light tourist activity. The town was not crowded and we could roam and explore without hassle and congestion. The CNC MEETINGS are always an inspirational experience, and LEAVENWORTH itself is an added bonus. JEAN ROTH once again excelled with a SERIES of PRESENTATIONS including BRENT MAI speaking on the VOLGA RELIEF SOCIETY and THE 2012 AHSGR CONVENTION scheduled for Portland, Oregon; DR. RICHARD SCHEUERMAN sharing his research on the origins of the NORTHWEST AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY and with grain varieties introduced by the GERMANS FROM RUSSIA; and JEAN ROTH'S own presentation of

her "HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE OF WALTER" which we will see at our May 22, 2011 meeting.

The TED event at CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY held May 14, 2011 showcased contemporary issues, activities, ideas and talents—all unrelated to AHSGR or the CVGS. The format is part of an international effort known as TED. TED stands for TECHNOLOGY, ENTERTAINMENT, and DESIGN, and is a non-profit activity which originated 25 years ago in California. Check it out on the INTERNET. The event was attended by almost 400 participants and volunteers; CONCORDIA STAFF coordinated the event marvelously. The warm weather made the Quad a joy for mingling and sharing with food carts and displays. The entire day provided an excellent preview of what our 2012 AHSGR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION can be at CONCORDIA. BRENT'S vision and planning will provide an inspiring venue. We are all in for a great treat. CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY deserves a HEARTY THANK YOU.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Our May 22 meeting will feature a DVD presentation of JEAN ROTH'S "HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE WALTER" with discussion to follow. Please note the meeting notice included herein:

Our June 25 meeting has some exciting potential. Come to our May 22 meeting and join the discussion regarding a SURPRISE EVENT for June 25. It should be fun for all. Final plans will be made Sunday, May 22. Come and share.

July 10, 2011 is planned for a very special event to HOST SPECIAL GUESTS. BILL WIEST'S cousins from Germany (and formerly KAZAKHSTAN) will be our guests at Concordia. Everyone is welcome to come and hear their story. Please save July 10, 2011 for this special event. NOTE the larger notice included herein...additional details will follow.

BLESSINGS AND CONCERNS:

OUR EDITOR AND VICE PRESIDENT BOB THORN is recovering from surgery (triple by-pass) and could use our prayers. Our club is deeply grateful to BOB for his many volunteer efforts. We all pray for BOB'S speedy return.

OUR VERY OWN ERNA MARKWART has been blessed with almost a full recovery and has returned to her home to complete her progress. ERNA thanks everyone for their kind thoughts and prayers. She firmly admits the many prayers played a big role in her recovery.

Sarah reports that LEON MAUL is continuing on a path of recovery from Pacemaker surgery. Sarah also reports that she has attained the role of MAIN DRIVER but Leon retains control of the REMOTE. Good Going, LEON! Whatever happens, do not sacrifice access to the remote. ☺

LELA and ZANE MILLER report they are recovering from colds and will not be able to join us for the May meeting. They also thank us all for the caring prayers offered up on their behalf.

THELMA WIEST continues a slow recovery from a flu-like illness that caused BILL and THELMA to cut short a long-planned trip to California. We are happy to learn THELMA is improving.

OUR COMPUTER – BASED WORLD:

We have recently included a listing of WEBSITES and TOPICS relevant to our Germans from Russia History. This list will be updated as we receive your input and suggestions. If you see VOIDS or ERRORS, please let us know so that we can include your recommendations. Thank you, everyone.

GET TO KNOW CONCORDIA

As friends and members of AHSGR and the CVGS we are part of the CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY. Everyone is WELCOME to get to know the campus better and enjoy a WIDE VARIETY of cultural events and activities throughout the

year. MUSIC and THEATRICAL PRESENTATIONS, ART and HISTORICAL SHOWS, DISPLAYS, GAMES, ETC., are all part of the UNIVERSITY WORLD AND LIFE. Most are free or of little charge and available to all who wish to enhance their lives with these special opportunities.

Thank you all for your involvement and participation in our wonderful chapter and the center for Volga German Studies.

See you at the meetings,

ED WAGNER
Your President

SPECIAL MEETING

SUNDAY

JULY 10, 2011

2:30 P.M.

BILL and THELMA WIEST'S relatives WILLI and VALENTINA (DECKER) HELAMBOWSKI

Of NEUSS, GERMANY (near DUSSELDORF)

(formerly from KAZAKHSTAN)

Everyone is welcome to hear their story and share

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Family Favorites

This column appears time to time in your Newsletter. It will be a place for you to share a story, and recipe, for what has become a tradition in YOUR family:

Dill Pickles

Put small fresh cucumbers in a sterilized quart jar. Add one red pepper (if they are big, break in half), one or two cloves of garlic, one level Tablespoon uniodized salt, fresh dill, and 1/8 tsp. of alum. Optional is one tsp. pickling spices. Fill jar with boiling water. Carrot or green pepper slice may be added for color. Seal with sterilized lids. Store in cool place after sealed.

American
Historical
Society
of Germans
from Russia

Support the AHSGR by giving the gift of membership to someone close to you!!

The benefits which are to be gained from participation in your Oregon AHSGR Chapters activities include:

Discovery and preservation of the history and culture of the Germans from Russia.

- Building of your family genealogical tree.
- Much of the information is now available to allow you to purchase or acquire the genealogical tree of your ancestors starting with the ones who left Germany in the 1700s or 1800s to seek a new life in Russia.
- Finding your relatives presumed lost forever within the Soviet empire. Many Germans from Russia are locating long lost relatives within the former Soviet Union, or who have returned to Germany.
- Finding your cousins right here in the US, as you share the experience of tracing your family tree.
- Meeting and sharing experiences with people who share your German from Russia culture.
- Traveling to the Volga German or Black Sea German ancestral homelands.
- See where your parents or grandparents lived. Try to find their home.

**Remember the Library is open prior to our meetings
10:00 am on Saturday meetings, and 12:00 noon on the Sunday meetings.**



April Board Meeting



Setup For Lunch



Research in the Library before the meeting



AHSGR – Oregon Chapter Upcoming Events

AHSGR Monthly Meeting, Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor

May 22, 2011	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Sunday	Coffee and Cake
Jun 25, 2011	12:00 am – 2:00 noon	Saturday	Potluck Meeting
Sep 25, 2011	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Sunday	Coffee and Cake
Oct 22, 2011	12:00 am – 2:00 noon	Saturday	Potluck Meeting
Nov 27, 2011	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Sunday	Coffee and Cake

AHSGR Monthly Board Meeting, Concordia University Library, CVGS Room 3rd Floor

May 7, 2011	10:00 am – 11:30 noon
Jun 4, 2011	10:00 am – 11:30 noon
Sep 3, 2011	10:00 am – 11:30 noon
Oct 1, 2011	10:00 am – 11:30 noon
Nov 5, 2011	10:00 am – 11:30 noon

The library will open at 10:00am on the 4th weekend date of the general meeting and each Tuesday morning from 9:00am – 2:00pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MEETING CHANGES:

At the January meeting it was decided to change our future membership meetings to the fourth weekend of each month, alternating from Saturday to Sunday, month-to-month. Please check the above calendar of events.

-



**All Membership dues are due and payable now
Please remit payments to Lois Klaus – see form on page 8.**



*Renew your
Membership today!*

Who Should Make the Coffee?

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee."

The husband said, "You are in charge of the cooking around here so you should do it, because that is your job and I can just wait for my coffee.!"

Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides it says in the Bible that the man should do the coffee!"

Husband replies, "I don't believe that! Show me!"

So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him that at the top of several pages it indeed stated, **"HEBREWS."**

Suggested Websites and Resource for Historical Research from the AHSGR Website
<http://www.ahsgr.org/FindAncestors/links.htm>

GERMAN RUSSIAN GENEALOGY

- [Cyndi's List- German Russian Genealogy](#)
- [FamilySearch Research Wiki Portal: Germans from Russia](#)
- [German Russian Mail Lists](#)
- [German Russian Research Marketplace](#)
- [German Russian Village List](#)
- [Germans From Russia Heritage Collection at NDSU](#)
- [Germans from Russia in Portland, Oregon](#)
- [Immigration Center Applications EWZ](#)
- [Janet's Germans from Russia Research](#)
- [Odessa German Russian Digital Genealogical Library](#)
~ aka pixel
- [Saratov, Russia](#)
- [Sidney Heitman Germans from Russia Collection](#)
- [Volga Germans](#)

GERMAN RUSSIAN ORGANIZATIONS

- [American Historical Society of Germans From Russia AHSGR](#)
- [AHSGR Village Web Sites](#)
- [Bukovina Society of the Americas](#)
- [Federation of East European Family History Societies](#)
- [Germans from Russia Cultural Preservation Foundation](#)
- [Germans from Russia Heritage Society](#) ~
- [Gluckstal Colonies Research Association](#)
- [Society For German Genealogy In Eastern Europe](#) ~

GENERAL GENEALOGY

- [Along Those Lines](#) ~ by George Morgan
- [Ancestry.com](#)
- [Ancestry Corner](#) ~ Free forms to print
- [Courthouse Direct](#)
- [Census Forms to Print](#)
- [Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet](#)
- [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) ~ by Dick Eastman
- [Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)
- [Genealogical Resources On The Internet](#)
- [Genealogy.com](#)
- [Genealogy Home Page](#)
- [Genealogy Unlimited](#) ~ maps & supplies
- [Handwriting & Script](#)
- [Heritage Quest](#) ~ census records on CD
- [JewishGen TownSeeker](#) ~ Search for cities in Europe & Russia
- [Julian Calendar Conversion](#)
- [LDS Ancestor \(Surname\) Search Site](#) ~ use this for ancestor search
- [LDS Family Catalog Search](#) ~ use this for location, film, book, or author search
- [LDS & Family History Centers](#)
- [LDS Source Guides](#) ~ comprehensive guides on many topics
- [Library of Congress / Local History & Genealogy](#)
- [National Archives-The Genealogy Page](#)
- [Polish Genealogical Word List](#)
- [Polish Terms](#)
- [RootsWeb](#) ~ outstanding genealogy resource
- [Rootsweb Surname Search](#)
- [Seventh-day Adventist Obituary Index](#)
- [Shaking your Family Tree](#) ~ by Myra Vanderpool Gormley
- [Social Security Death Index at Rootsweb](#) ~ SSDI
- [South Dakota State Historical Society](#)
- [Surname to Soundex Converter](#)
- [US Genweb Project](#)
- [USGS Mapping: Geographical Names Information System](#)
- [Vital Check- Vital records by phone or fax](#)
- [Vital Records for the United States](#) ~ Vitalrec

Other sites

Oregon Chapter website for this newsletter
 Germans from Russia in Portland website
 The Center For Volga German Studies - Concordia

www.ahsgr.org/findancestors/links.htm
www.ahsgr.oregon.com/
www.volgagermans.net/Portland/
www.cvgs.cu-portland.edu/

Oregon Chapter's Februarys Board Meeting

AHSGR MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

FEATURES

Sunday

May 27, 2011 (4th Sunday)

2:30 P.M. for 90 minutes

Bring cookies and other goodies.

Coffee, etc. will be provided

CVGS Room on the 3rd

Floor of the Library @ Concordia University,

2800 N.E. Liberty, Portland, OR

AHSGR Oregon Chapter Membership Form – 2011

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
Newsletter Only \$ 12	

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City, State and ZIP _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Make checks payable to AHSGR OREGON CHAPTER and send your membership dues and application to Lois Klaus, 111 N.E. 67th Ave, Portland OR 97213-5209 Phone (503) 232-3065 lklaus@gmail.com

Please Pay Dues for 2011 Now!!!

+++++

CHAPTER OFFICERS 2010-2011

President: Ed Wagner	(503) 228-0007	
	(503) 221-1837	
Vice-President: Bob Thorn	(503) 635-6651	bobthorn@hotmail.com
Secretary: Mary Burbank	(503) 639-4381	
Treasurer: Lois Klaus	(503) 232-3065	lklaus@gmail.com
Directors:		
Jene Goldhammer	(503) 771-5813	Gold520@comcast.net
Dr. Bill Wiest		
Zane Miller	(360) 573-5628	
Ken Prickett	(503) 661-6720	kenjoy.com@juno.com
Steve Schreiber	(503) 774-9753	steven.schreiber@gmail.com
Chuck Williams	(503) 252-0902	f26ruth@comcast.net