



NEWSLETTER of the  
Ohio Chapter  
PALATINES TO AMERICA

Issued January, 1979 : Columbus, Ohio : Volume I Number 4

A LOOK  
BACKWARD

Before we face forward into the coming year's activities, let's take a glimpse backward. The Ohio Chapter was successful in bringing well-known speakers to talk with our members. Dr. Don Yoder, University of Pennsylvania, talked about problems and resources in Pennsylvania-German genealogical research; Berndt Gros, an immigrant, spoke of his experiences in America, and Rev. Harvey Harsh informed members about the Palatine tour at our November meeting. For their work on this well-attended program, thanks go to the program chairman, Ernest Thode, and members of his committee: Jean Hall, Ada Heckendorn, Edith Jackson, Helen Koons, Florence Beck, Marie Gill, Hazel Marx, Mary Hughes, Helen Wikoff, and Vic Thomas.

Dr. Robert E. Ward held an all day German-American workshop in December. This meeting was co-sponsored by the Ohio Chapter and the Franklin County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. Only 175 registrations could be accepted. 25 percent of the registrants were members of the Palatines to America. All those attending received valuable material containing a list of sources for German research. A copy of the outline of the meeting may be bought from Dr. Ward, 21010 Mastick Road, Cleveland, Ohio, 44126. Inquire from Dr. Ward the cost of the outline and include an SASE in your request. We thank Mrs. Emily Garner and Mrs. Mary Piton and their committee members from the Franklin County Chapter

of the OGS for their excellent work.

We remarked in the last issue of the NEWSLETTER about the trip to the Palatinate sponsored by our Society. Members should be aware of the articles written by Robert Rudy, our national president, in the December 9, 16, 1978, issues of the Tri-State Trader. These articles not only describe events of the tour but include names and addresses of archives visited. This information should be helpful to any researching members.

A GLIMPSE INTO  
1979 ACTIVITIES

Now, let's turn our attention to events of the coming year. Nominations for officers of the Ohio Chapter for the year starting June 1, 1979, are requested; elections will be by mail ballot; our Spring meeting will be in April; the program committee is planning meetings or workshops in various areas throughout Ohio; the language committee will present courses in German Conversation and the National Convention will be in June.

NOMINATIONS FOR  
OHIO CHAPTER OFFICERS

A Nominating Committee has been appointed by the Executive Council of the Ohio Chapter. Members are Nova Weller, Lisa Jo Thompson, Vic Thomas, Geart Droege, and Montford Schaffner, chairman. The Committee is actively looking for a slate of four officers to be elected to the Executive Council of the Chapter; president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary.

Terms are for one year and commence June 1, 1979. The Executive Council meets four to six times a year and members are in touch by phone. The Council appoints the editor of the Chapter Newsletter and committee chairmen. The president is a member of the National Executive Council representing the Chapter. The past president is an ex-officio member of the Executive Council of the Chapter.

The nominating committee is accepting names of nominees and asks members to send in names of those members they consider could best represent our Chapter. Nominations will be accepted up to and including February 20, 1979. Please send names of your nominees to Chairman, Nominating Committee, Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America, P.O. Box 03291, Columbus, Ohio 43203.

#### ELECTION OF 1979-1980 OFFICERS

Election will be by mail ballot so that all members will have the opportunity to vote. Ballots and full voting instructions will be included in the next NEWSLETTER, March 1979 issue, Vol. II, No. 1. Election results will be announced at the meeting on April 28, 1979.

#### SPRING MEETING APRIL 28, 1979

The Ohio Chapter will meet on Saturday, April 28, 1979, at the Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio. The session will include a business meeting and announcement of election results with a presentation of the elected officers for the 1979-1980 year. The featured speaker will be Pastor Frederick S. Weiser, editor of publications for the Pennsylvania-German Society.

The meeting agenda and reservation forms for this meeting will be included in the Ohio Chapter NEWSLETTER for March, 1979. Please mark

April 28, 1979, on your engagement calendars now.

#### CHAPTER MEETINGS AROUND OHIO

The Program Committee, chaired by Ernest Thode, is working on plans to hold workshops in various sections of Ohio. Such workshops will enable members to meet in a local situation, to hear speakers on ancestral sources, how-to talks and exchange information. When plans are completed, you will be informed of the details.

#### LANGUAGE COMMITTEE REPORTS TO YOU

The Language Committee proposes to start a course in German Conversation in September 1979, provided there is a positive response from members. In 1978 members were asked to send in a list of workshops or seminars they would like to attend. The workshop most asked for was one in German conversation. The Executive Council set up a Language Committee to look into the matter. The Committee has been working on details such as a certified teacher of German, a back-up teacher in case of illness or inability of the first teacher to attend, texts and dictionaries to be used and a place to hold classes.

And there were questions about the ability of people to learn a language and whether or not there was a sufficient enough demand for such classes. We believe we can answer the first, but you'll have to answer the second question. The first question: Can a person over 50 years of age with no language training learn to converse in German? (This question and answer applies to most other languages.) A considered answer of teachers, tutors, and a few students of language answered "yes." Yes, if the student had 60 hours of classroom work AND studied assigned work at home between classes.

Another question: Could such a student, after 60 hours etc., go to a city in Germany and find a place to sleep, to eat, a market, a library, an archives? Considered opinion is "Yes. They could." They could make themselves understood as well as understand what they heard.

The third question is: Are there enough members who are interested in joining such classes? Only the members themselves can answer that question.

Briefly, what the Language Committee offers are three courses of 20 hours each of German Conversation. Each course to be held for 10 Saturday mornings with 2 1/2 hours per session. There will be two 15 minute rest breaks per session. Actual study time is two hours for each class meeting. The first course of 10 Saturdays to start in early September. The second course of 10 weeks to follow with time out for year end holidays. The third course of 10 weeks to follow with time out for Easter. Graduation day in May.

The cost of each course for members of the Palatines is estimated at \$65.00 per student, payable in advance. This amount is about one-half the cost of what a tutor for a small group would charge. The course cost includes a textbook and a pocket-size English-German dictionary. Each student will supply their own notebooks, pencils, and pens.

The total cost of 60 hours of classroom work will be \$195.00 for members and a non-member will pay a small premium. There is the possibility that a discount will be offered those who take the full 60 hours.

In order that each student will receive personal attention, the

classes will have no more than 15 students.

What happens at the end of 60 hours of study? The Language Committee is considering offering a trip to the archives in the Rhine area to all those students finishing the full term of 60 hours. About 30 students would be needed. The class would be accompanied by their teacher as well as a guide. Consideration is being given to also accepting a spouse or companion of a student for the trip.

The cost of the tour would be additional to the cost of the courses. Other details are being worked out.

Those members who want to attend the German Conversation classes should inform the Language Committee by letter. Write to: Chairman, Language Committee, Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America, P.O. Box 03291, Columbus, Ohio 43203. Arrangements will be made to meet you at the meeting on April 28. Final commitments should be made by May 15, 1979.

#### NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE IN JUNE, 1979

The Fifth Annual Convention of our Society will be held June 15 and 16 at Messiah College near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Chapter is host. The featured speaker is Hank Jones, specialist on the 1709 immigration of Palatines in New York. The National newsletter will carry complete information in its April issue.

#### PALATINES TO AMERICA MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

On Saturday, February 17, Dr. Helen Wikoff will lecture on family organizations and how to start one at a meeting of the Franklin County Chapter of OGS at the Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio.

BOOKS FOR  
BEGINNERS (AND OTHERS)

Several good basic books for beginners in genealogy should be brought to your attention. Even those ancestor searchers who are well on their way can profit from reading these:

"Writing Your Genealogy" by Eileen S. Jennings, 1978.

"Your Family History: How to Use Oral History, Personal Family Archives, and Public Documents to Discover Your Heritage" by Allan J. Lichtman.

"How to Find Your Family Roots" by Timothy Field Beard with Denise Demong.

"How to Climb Your Family Tree" by Harriet Strigher-Rhoda, CG.

ADDENDA

Ye Olde Genealogie Shoppe, they have the book display at our meetings, has opened a branch in Columbus, Ohio, at 4823 Dierker Road. Martha Whitesell is in charge.

She will be glad to see you anytime - including evenings and weekends. Phone (614) 457-2988 to be sure she is in.

For examples of and a vocabulary for German church records, be sure to read Arta Johnson's article on pages 61 through 64 in the "Immigrant", Fall 1978 issue. Invaluable for researchers.

Read the "Finding Your Ancestor" columns by Joy Wade Moulton in the Columbus Sunday Dispatch issues of January 14 and January 21, 1979, regarding your collected data on your ancestors. Her remarks should stimulate your thinking about publishing.

Frau Ilse Edse has been at The Ohio State University for twenty-five years. Her radio programs on courses in German have been favorites of listeners in Central Ohio for many years. Now Frau Edse is presenting a series of German operettas in addition to her language course. Tune in on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. on WOSU - AM radio, 820 on your dial.

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