



# PALATINE HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER of the Ohio Chapter PALATINES TO AMERICA

November 1987

Columbus, Ohio, U. S. A.

Vol. X Issue No. 4

## PRES. T.W. CUNNINGHAM'S MESSAGE

A new term with new officers has just begun. It is my hope that this year's crew will carry on as forcefully as did the outgoing team. In this regard, our past-president, I.W. Simons, is to be commended for his dynamic leadership during his two years in office.

As we look to this coming year, we will need continued support and ideas from the membership. What kinds of services, for example, can be rendered by the Chapter and at what level of our budget? What will be our thinking on improved access to our facilities, namely the library? What suggestions are there for keeping up the high quality of our conferences?

Inasmuch as a society such as ours concerns itself with acquiring and disseminating information, I would urge our organization to embark on more projects, piloted by knowledgeable and helpful volunteers. Such undertakings could make heretofore inaccessible material more available to researchers.

Obviously, we want to keep expanding the ancestor map project. Some other projects worth considering might be for us to index the naturalization records in a given county, or to begin locating early German churches and their records, or maybe to start collecting letters to and from immigrant facilities. These are merely a few ideas; there are surely more.

To facilitate gathering and then passing on so much information to others, we will need to avail ourselves of the computer. It would be good to have some standardized software. In my mind I can already visualize future genealogists, with their telephones hooked up to a computer, making use of Palatine library files in Columbus without ever having to leave the confines of their own homes

Keep your thoughts about the year's activities coming in. Your input and involvement should send us on our way to yet another rewarding year.

(Editor's note. President Cunningham's message was inadvertently omitted from the August Heritage number)

## A NOTE ON THE AMISH

By Dr. Arta Johnson

We all know that the Amish are very conservative, keeping to the ways and the customs of their ancestors. That is why the men are bearded (but only after they marry). But no Amishman (or Mennonite, either) ever wears a moustache. The reason? In 17th and 18th century Europe, soldiers sported a fine military moustache. Anabaptists will not bear arms, and therefore will not wear a moustache, a sign of the military to them.

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## INSTANT HELP

Success always thrills me, and probably does most of you. We recently held a committee meeting at our library. After the close, two of us remained. Phil said, "I have ten minutes to spare; please advise me where I will find something in that time." This was a large order because I knew Phil was an avid searcher of many years' experience. So thinking no such source could be produced, I nevertheless suggested that he look in *Kuby's Genealogical Queries & Reports of Research, 1983*. To my surprise, he had hardly turned to the index when I heard a whoop! He'd found his 5th Great Grandfather. Johannas Herrgeroder had arrived in 1733 at Philadelphia and gone to Tulkpehocken. Phil Beltz was able to leave for his appointment in a very happy mood.

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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Robert Wm. Rudig (no relation to your Editor) offers German-American genealogical research services in Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky. His address is 1086 Coronado Ave., Cincinnati, OH, 45238

E. Buegge-Wood, offers German technical, genealogical, gothic script translations. Box 09831 Columbus, OH 43209. Tel. (614)-237-4972.

*Palatines To America assumes no responsibility for the competence of any professional services offered*

## A PROFILE OF A VOLUNTEER PHILIP R. BELTZ

Having reviewed the backgrounds of many officers, we turn now to a "plain" volunteer. Since 1982, Philip R. Beltz has been known as "The Man with the Books". Originally the activity was to organize book dealers for the Spring and Fall conventions. As such he was invited to the Ohio Board meetings. Phil came a bit late to a 1984 Board Meeting and found a motion to establish a \$1,000 revolving "Books For Sale" fund, had passed and, furthermore that Phil Beltz was to administer the "Books For Sale" activity. He had no foreknowledge of the proposal but nevertheless graciously accepted the responsibility. "Actually", Mr. Beltz says, "working with the books is the best job in the organization. Working with the other people as they seek that vital missing g-g--grandmother can be vicariously exciting. I also get to order whatever potentially might be of personal genealogical interest".

Fortunately, Phil's genealogy is consistent with many of the Palatine membership. This includes Mathias **Schluemer** on the 1710 New York Hunter List. Another family, led by Valentine **Herrgeroeder** migrated in 1724 from the Schoharie Valley to the Tulpehocken in Penna. On August 27 1733; his brother, Johannes, arrived on the Elizabeth into Philadelphia.

Eventually, the families: **Beltz** and **Harcelrode**, joined the hundreds in The German Settlement around Lovettsville, Loudoun Co. Va. Around 1785 to 1795, they were joined by the **Axline**, **Bickel**, **Deihl**, **Newswonger** and **Turner** families in a migration to Friend's Cove, Bedford Co., Pa. By 1810, the **Beltz**, **Bickel**, **Davis** and **Fowler** families were on the Hamilton/Clermont County line just East of Cincinnati.

Phil's wife Shirley has ancestors who came to Manhattan from Amsterdam in 1613. Her Jean **Vigne** was the first European child born in these parts (1614). Amazingly, Philip and Shirley are 8th cousins, zero removed. Their common ancestors are Jan Roelofse **Sebring** and Adrianna **Polhemius**.

Phil's two Mayflower children (desc. of John **Alden** and Priscilla **Mullins**) accompany him to our meetings. Andrew, aged 6, was at the recent Marietta one. Amy, aged 10, is now entering her genealogical information into a Mormon \$35. computer system.

Professionally, Beltz is a Personal Financial Planner with IDS/American Express. In recognition of his service the Ohio chapter last Spring awarded him the Certificate of Outstanding Achievement. Phil plans to continue hanging around the books although his business has caused him to pass the chairmanship to another. He would like to spend more time in other areas such as Fund Raising, Bequeaths, and Library Donations. Volunteer Phil Beltz is indeed, one of our most precious assets

## NEW BOOKS IN LIBRARY

Recent donations to your library include: The *Harsh Family Genealogy*, donated in memory of the late President of Palatines To America, Rev. Harvey Edgar Harsh by Dr. Robert C. and Clara H. Harsh, compilers; *Maps of the German Empire of 1871* given by Past President Joyce Thompson; *Genealogical Collections in Illinois Libraries*, also donated by Mrs. Thompson; *Proposed Palatine Settlement* sent us by The Palatine Settlement Society of St. Johnsville, New York; *Some Descendants of John Fry of Licking County, Ohio*, donated by Charles Recker; *The Augustan*, book 7, given by The Augustan Society of Torrance, California; *The Hohenzollern Castle* sent by Mark Zollar; *The Descendants and Antecedents of Alfred and Catherine (Dowley) Fellows*, donated by Charles M. Otstot; *Atlas, State of Ohio, 1868*, given by Paul Smith; *Union List of Ohio News-papers Available in Ohio*, presented by Martha Agler; *Society of the Descendants of George Washington's Army at Valley Forge*, (newsletter) donor, Samuel C. Craver; *Pennsylvania-German Poems*, given by the Estate of Louise Blankenship, and also *Survivors of the Thirty Years War*, donated by Bernard Golzer. We are pleased to have these and again thank the donors.

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## DENVER '88

The 1988 annual convention of *Palatines To America* is slated for June 16-18 at St. Regis College in Denver, Colorado. Arlene Eakle, co-editor of **The Source** and co-author of **Ancestry's Guide To Research** will make the theme presentation. She will devote two sessions to the resources for tracing German-speaking immigrant ancestors.

German research at the Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City will be another of the many presentations in the two -and- a- half day conference. Salt Lake City is only one day away from Denver by car or train and but one hour by air. Those who come to Denver will have made a fine beginning for research at SLC. They will enjoy the quiet campus of St. Regis and find that Denver, the "Mile-High City" itself has excellent resources for genealogical research. The National Archives, Denver Branch, and the genealogical collection of the Denver Public Library are particularly helpful.

For further information, you may contact Paul Peak at 7833 East Hampden Circle, Denver CO 80237; or by telephone (303) 773-2555.

## KINGDOM OF BAVARIA (BAYERN)??

By Paul T. Millikin

Münich (Munich) is the capital. Today, Bavaria borders Austria on the south and southeast, Czechoslovakia on the east, Hesse, Thuringia and Saxony on the north, Baden and Württemberg on the west. By 1813, however, Bavaria included most of its present area, plus some on the west side of the Rhine River, which it held until 1918.

Before 1918, the area west of the Rhine lay between Karlsruhe and Ludwigshafen, west and southwest through Kusel to Saarland, with the border of France on the south (see map of area in *Atlantic Bridge to Germany* by Charles M. Hall, Everton Publishers Inc.; Vol. III, Bavaria, p xxvii and in Vol. II, Rheinland -Pfalz, Part B, p ix and p xi for landkreis lists and location in the present Rheinland-Pfalz [Palatinate]). Applying for citizenship, some ancestors stated that they were from the Kingdom of Bavaria. Throughout history, the borders of Bavaria have shifted. It pays to check the area's jurisdictional genealogy for dates and changes.

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### SOME NEW OHIO MEMBERS

James Fry, Cincinnati Ohio; Mildred A. Thompson; Iowa; Phyllis Bentley and Dr. C. J. Shaneyfelt, Indiana; Charles E. Gasper, Michigan; Ralph Erner, Minnesota; Helen L. Ferranti, Arkansas; Lila Leedy, Ottawa Canada, and Alberta Killie, Illinois. **Wilkomen.**

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### QUERIES

The earliest records of my family are in North Carolina, Johnston and Old Dobbs counties, in the 1740s. They were recorded by the Land Patent clerks as **Toaler**, very similar to the phonetic spelling of many Germanic names such as *Toehlehr*. Believe the English Tolers in Virginia are entirely unrelated to the name of *Tolar* in NC. Desire info on Germanic settlers in the eastern portion of NC pre 1740s. Ron Tolar, 604 Highland Dr. Ridgeland MS, 39157

Caral Bennet Mechling, 3456 N. 13th St., Arlington VA, 22201 would like to buy the 200-year-old **Mechling** Homestead in Lehigh Cnty Penna. Would appreciate practical advice from someone who has actually acquired historic property, and formed a non-profit group for that purpose. Has already received info from National Trust.



Theobald Mechling Home, log portion, 1734

## THE MARIETTA MEETING

By Dorothy Limbach

Well, those who missed Marietta sure messed up. We had a really fun day and the weather cooperated, sort of. I went after sun-down on Friday so was not able to see them on the way down, but what a treat while there and on the way home to see those gorgeous colors in southeastern Ohio. They were picture perfect.

At 9:30 A.M. President Ted Cunningham opened the meeting and introduced the Washington County Career Center Superintendent David Barrett. He welcomed us in English and then his wife Friedel did the same in German.

Our first speaker was Ken Smith, Columbus, substituting at the last minute for scheduled speaker Dr. Richard Knopf. He gave a very fine illustrated lecture on "Using the Camera in Genealogical Research". Ken was a real inspiration for us all to try it.

Next was Roland Paul of "The Institute For Palatine History and Folk Culture (formerly "The Heimatstelle Pfalz"). His talk title was "Reasons and Conditions of the Palatine Emigration to America in the 18th and 19th Centuries". This was a concise and condensed history lesson of Central Europe. Roland pointed out that knowing the history of the area is a must in doing any logical research.

At noon we were served a buffet lunch by the Food Service Classes of the Career Center. After lunch we started off with a question and answer session. A panel of Ken Smith, Roland Paul, Ernie Thode and Arta Johnson fielded many questions. It was a lively period and after a short break Roland Paul spoke again, this time about his "Institute" at Kaiserslautern and what it can offer the Genealogist. He gave us a brief history, mentioned their several publications and books and noted there are over one million names in their files. He said causes for emigrating included poor crops, the high cost of living, the military draft, gold in California and the 1848 rebellion. Migrating continues to this day. He ended his talk with a lovely slide show of churches, castles, towns, homes, etc. His last slide was my favorite. It was the sort you hold in your mind. It was the so-called *Kaiserstrasse*, (Route 40 or Vierzig in Germany, and the *Route National* in France) which was the main road from Mainz to Paris. The slide showed a straight road going off into the distance with trees along it, but all was covered with frost and the distance view was rather misty. I'm sure many of our ancestors saw this sight as they left The Palatinate.

There was the usual visiting and book and map browsing. Some folks stayed over Saturday night. The travel group that Ernie Thode had led to Germany had a reunion dinner. (your Editor did so and won a Lufthansa carry-on flight bag in a drawing).

**FISCAL YEAR DUES--HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER**

Membership dues cover from October 1 to September 30. Both National and Ohio Chapter dues are included in the single payment of \$19 INDIVIDUAL membership, or \$21 FAMILY ( 2 persons-single address). Add \$3 per membership if outside of USA. Include SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) with your check payable to PALATINES TO AMERICA, Box 101, Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, 43209-2394. Members receive both the National and Ohio publications and any member discounts for events.

CORRESPONDENCE pertaining to or addressed to NATIONAL should be sent to Palatines To America, Box 101, Capital University, Columbus, Ohio 43209-2394. Phone (614)-236-8281; to OHIO CHAPTER same Box 101 same address. We have no telephone there.

OFFICE HOURS: OHIO Chapter & OHIO Chapter LIBRARY. Each WED. except 5th in mo., 1pm--4pm. Other times subject to advance confirmation with Jean HALL, Columbus, (614)- 885-4223.

LOCATION--Renner Hall Bldg. at SE cor. of Main St. & College Ave. on Capital University campus. Rm.#339 on 3rd floor.

**PALATINE HERITAGE** is published 4 times per year by the OHIO Chapter. We are a genealogical society dedicated to finding origins of German-speaking ancestors in Europe. Members also receive, periodically, informative mailings from the National organization. Your communications and ideas are welcome.

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