



# PALATINE HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO CHAPTER PALATINES TO AMERICA

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## PRESIDENTS REPORT

These past weeks since our last report have been eventful. The most prominent event was our successful Fall Conference. Our Program Chairman, Ernest Thosee, has again awarded the Chapter with a gem in this latest conference held at the Leiderkranz in Mansfield, 23 September. The hospitality of the Leiderkranz staff and the generosity of the Ohio Genealogical Library Officers, Board and Staff, in opening their facilities prior to and following the conference were gratefully accepted. The feature was Dr. Arlen Eakle, Managing Director of the Genealogical Institute of Salt Lake City, in a day long presentation that was not only instructive, but lively. Dr. Eakle revealed through experiences of research that she had found both *smerz* and *lustig* (pathos and humor) demonstrating genealogical research is anything but a dull subject.

Also at the Conference I announced that several days earlier, the Society had been advised by the Internal Revenue Service that our non-profit status had been approved. The effort of this success in large measure belongs to our Ohio Chapter Treasurer, Clara Harsh.

I was pleased that you, the membership, supported me at the Spring Conference in expanding the governing board. And, I was doubly pleased over their election at the Fall Conference. I offer again my congratulations to- Margaret Dieringer, Greenfield; James Overhuls, Norwalk; Alice Shaffer, Bryan; Glenn Stanhope, Chillicothe and Darrell Tussing of Weston.

These electees join the 1989-90 Officers and Board in conducting the business of the Chapter. I specifically charged these new Board Members to become the "eyes and ears" of the Chapter in their area and to publicize their presence and the purpose of the society for the greater benefit of the Society. These new Board Members have risen to their charge; four have published articles locally, and two have (or will) speak to local groups. An excellent beginning! All members should attempt to make themselves aware of Palatine related activities in their locale. Your Chapter Officers and Board will respond to timely notification to participate in or support this local commemoration.

The addition of several large bookcases to our Library has alleviated a display problem, thanks to Bob and Clara Harsh whose pecuniary abilities are not limited to budgets, balance sheets and expenses, they recognized exceptional value at an auction recently. *Robert F. Schnetzer*

## THEY CAN GET YOU IN THE END

*by Ken Smith*

Those who have done any work in German records should by now be well aware that German is an inflected language; that is, it uses grammatical endings on words to indicate their function in the sentence. What some people often seem to forget is that proper names can also have grammatical endings. It is very important that you recognize this fact so that you don't think that the ending is part of the name.

The use of endings on names does not seem so unusual, when you consider that English also adds endings to proper names in certain circumstances. If you heard someone say "He's John Smith's son," you would not conclude that the family name was "Smith's." You know from experience that the "s" merely indicates a possessive form and that the name is "Smith." German also adds possessive endings to names, but more than one form is found. The German possessive (also called "genitive") endings that can be used on surnames are "s," "en," and "ens." In older documents "s" may be replaced by "ß." While there are rules that govern which form should be used on a name (depending on the letter (s) with which the name ends in its base form), these rules are often ignored. You should be prepared to find any of them in any surname.

How can you tell when to expect an ending on a surname? The context should tell you. If it is obvious that someone is being called "the son of," "the daughter of," "the wife of," etc., you can expect that a possessive ending might be found on the surname that follows. In some cases the possessive nature of the name is conveyed by a preposition (e.g. "von") or by a possessive ending on an article (e.g. "des") or a noun in apposition to the proper name (e.g. "Einwohners"). It must also be remembered that some German names actually end in "s," "en," or "ens," and you may have to determine from another record what the base form of the name is.

Unlike English, German sometimes puts a feminine ending on the surname of women. The ending is "in" as in the name Anna Maria Schmidin. Although it is not as common, names may also take an "en" or "n" ending in the dative case. This must also be deduced from the context and is often more difficult for beginners to determine.

If you keep in mind that surnames may have grammatical endings on them, they won't catch you in the end.

## DER WAHRHEITS FREUND

BY ROBERT WILLIAM RUDIG

The Minster Ohio Historical Society has donated early copies of *Der Wahrheits Freund* to the German-American Collection of the University of Cincinnati. This German language Roman Catholic periodical was published in Cincinnati from 1837. *Der Wahrheits Freund* includes notices of marriage, death and other valuable genealogical and historic events as well as news of the Catholic German community in about Cincinnati. The following editions are held by the German Americana Collection:

Vol. 1, #1 (20 July 1837) to #52 (19 July 1839)

Editions #49 and # 50 are missing.

Vol. 2, #1 (26 July 1838) to #22 (20 December 1838) with editions #7, #10, #13 missing.

Miscellaneous issues of 16 January 1840, 12 May 1842, 13 June 1844 and 31 July 1845 are included with the January 1840 issue being badly damaged. I have abstracted vital record notices for these issues and indexed same. For further information write; Hamilton County Chapter, Ohio Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 15851, Cincinnati, OH 45215, and include a SASE.

For information on the German-American Collection write to Dr. Don H. Tolzmann, Blegen Library, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221.

...from the *Tracer, Hamilton County Chapter, Ohio genealogical society, Vol. 10, #3, september, 1989.*

### ANNETTE BURGERT PUBLICATIONS

Those interested in a list of publications by Annette Burgert should send a SASE to her at **AKB Publications**, 691 Weavertown Road, Myerstown, Pennsylvania, 17067.

There are now 9 publications in her series of *Pennsylvania Origin Monographs* and 5 in the series, *Aids for Pennsylvania German Genealogical Research*.

Also available from her are the 2 volumes on *Eighteenth Century Immigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America.....from Our Name's the Same*, Newsletter of the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, Inc., Vol. 15, #8, July / Aug 1989

### ANCESTORS IN BERKS CO., PA.?

Paul T. Millikin

The county courthouse is a *second home* for many genealogists. This important data source is often overlooked or avoided by novice searchers who are mystified by the operational variations by counties and by states. A most illuminating, detailed, but-easy- to-understand article, by Laurel Miller, Berks Co. records specialist, appeared in the "Journal of the Berks County Genealogical Society", Vol. 9, No. 3 Spring 1989, pages 37 through 47. Discussed: Register of Wills; Recorder of Deeds; Quarter Sessions; Prothonotary; Assessment; Veterans' Bureau; Misc. Estate Papers (with many eye-opening subheadings); Revolutionary War Pensions; County Public Officials since 1752 The Author has formatted each of the underlined offices as to *records avail-*

*able, facilities, and research tips.* Where to write and phone numbers are given. This presentation highlights the types and usefulness of records found in most courthouses, regardless of the nomenclature in other states. Page 48 reviews a lecture given on the "Welsh in Berks Co.". Your Local library or a fellow- researcher may have this publication.

### LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS IN OHIO

by Arta F. Johnson

There are ten branch Family History Centers in Ohio. At each of them, you will find the International Genealogical Index (IGI), the Family History Library Catalog (FHLC), and other resources to help with your research. You may also use microfilms on loan from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Each center is staffed by volunteers who will help you use these resources (but will not do your research for you).

If you have never visited an LDS library, the librarian will almost certainly steer you to the IGI. On microfiche by the country, including both the USA and Germany, are alphabetical listings by surname of persons with birth or marriage data. This is a tremendous source, particularly if you are on a "fishing trip," but you may find 15 people of the same name-- and the IGI is only as comprehensive as the information that has been fed into the computer.

If you don't know a definite place where your ancestor lived, you will want to check out the FHLC, which is also on microfiche. For Alsace, most of Germany, and several Swiss cantons, church records and some other documents are listed. For the USA, listings are by state and then by counties, and include courthouse and church records. By renting the microfilms for a nominal fee, you can make the records come to you, if you can't make a trip to where the records are.

The centers are open various days and hours. Before you visit, contact the center to find out when it is open.

(Saturday is a good day to phone.)

AKRON	735 N. Revere Rd.	(216)864-0203
CINCINNATI	Cornell & Snyder Rd	(513)489-3036
"	550 S. Bosworth St.	(513)531-5624
DAYTON	1500 Shilo Springs Rd	(513)854-4566
DUBLIN	7135 Coffman Rd.	(614)761-1898
FAIRBORN	3060 Terry Dr .	(513) 878-9551
KIRTLAND	8751 Kirtland Rd.	(216)256-8808
REYNOLDSBURG	2135 Baldwin Rd	(614)866-7686
TOLEDO	1545 East Gate	(419)382-3498
WESTLAKE	25000 Westwood Dr.	(216)777-1518

### WRITING OVERSEAS

In April 1989, the West German Postal Service increased its rates, so enclose three international postal coupons instead of two.

*To forget one's ancestors is to be  
a brook without a source, a tree without a root.*

-Chinese proverb

## CHAPTER PUBLICITY

Our chapter should try to obtain more publicity in local newspapers. The following example was placed by Robert Schnetzer in "THE NORTHWEST NEWS". Perhaps you can get a similar one placed in your local newspaper- using yname, address, and phone instead of Bobs.

### *German heritage is group focus*

*Palatines to America is a national genealogical society of persons researching German speaking ancestry with emphasis on European migrations from the Germanic (including Swiss, Dutch and other) regions of Europe.*

*The purpose of the society is to promote the study of German immigration to North America, to publish information of general interest, and to help members in their own research.*

*Membership is open to all with an interest in Germanic genealogy. For more information contact \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, or the Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America, Capital University, Box 106, Columbus, Ohio 43229.*

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

The Ohio Chapter participated in the observance of GERMAN- AMERICAN DAY by giving four presentations on genealogy for those interested in tracing their German Heritage. The workshops were held at the German Village Meeting Haus Saturday Oct 7. The program was organized by Phil Beltz who introduced the speakers and gave a "hands on" demonstration of the use of the computer with the program Personal Ancestor File" (PAF) from the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Clara Harsh and Florence Beck gave talks on the organization and projects of the Palatines to America. Ira Simons spoke on his personal genealogy and the reasons for immigrations. Bob Harsh talked about his genealogical experiences. Several exhibits were brought to the session and books were available for sale.

Bob and Clara harsh have both been very active in the National Office filling in for the lack of a regular office employee. The last person left in early August and a replacement was not found until October 1. The national now has a regular employee in the person of Vivian Rose. We hope she will remain with us and find the experience an interesting one.

Bob and Clara Harsh are closing their home and moving into an apartment in the near future. Their new address will be 2551 Charing Road Apt.6. Columbus 43221.

Florence Beck reports new members and the chapter membership seems to be doing very well. This is due, in large part, to the addition of new board members at large which is expanding our endeavors into other regions of the Ohio Chapter.

## NEWS ARTICLES

Your "Heritage" editor welcomes articles of interest or queiries for publication. Address to Ira W. Simons, 975 Amberly Place, Columbus, OH 43220-4101

## GENEALOGICAL COMPUTER PROGRAM

*Ira W. Simons*

I have recently worked with two genealogical programs for Macintosh. The first of these was a share ware program (public domain) called "MacRoots" version 4.0 which was found at a local library. It is capable of printing Descendents chart, Family Group sheets, Individual records and Pedigree Charts. It is rather cumbersome and slow to use and considering that the author of the program desires a registration fee of \$25 it is not much of a bargain although it does do what it claims.

The program of real interest is "PERSONAL ANCESTOR FILE" ,(PAF) ,Version 2.1 by Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for the Apple and Macintosh. This is the same program Phil Beltz demonstrated except that his was IBM compatible. The system requirements for the Macintosh are; 512K memory of larger (preferably larger), two 400K disk drives or one 800K disc drive, or one disk drive and a hard disk. At \$35 it is one of the least expensive genealogical programs around and it is also one of the easiest and fastest to use. It is quite a bargain and comes with a large well written manual in a ring binder and two 800K disks. Order from Church of Latter Day Saints/Family History Division. 50 E. North Temple St. AFOU/2WW, Salt Lake City, UT 84150

The software combines three basic programs:Research Data Filer, to enter information and document sources and other research information about individuals who may not be related; Family Records to record genealogical information about your family; and PAFCOM a communications program to transfer and receive information electronically. It includes an export option that creates a GEDcom file( a standard format for exchanging genealogical information) which makes it easy for you to share your data with other genealogists. It also contains a utility that converts the multiple-file format used in the MOS-DOS and CP/M versions into the single file the Macintosh PAF version uses.

Print options include "Blank Forms Only", Pedigree Chart,Family Group Record, Individual Entry, Marriage Entry. The pedigree chart has options of four or five generations per page or "Overview showing up to 8 generations of ancestors. The program supports both Image Writer and Laser Writer and offers size reductions to 50% in the Image Writer.

## MEETINGS

The Spring Conference of the Ohio Chapter has been tentatively set for May 5, 1990 , at Columbus, Ohio. Ernest Those suggests George Switzer as a possible speaker. More details will be announced in the February issue of the "Heritage".

The next meeting of the **Board of the Ohio Chapter** will be held Saturday December 2, 9:30AM, at Capital University. Members desiring to have input into this meeting should contact one of the board members for further details.Participation of the membership is welcome.

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A non-profit organization dedicated to finding the origins of German-speaking ancestors in Europe.

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**MEMBERSHIP DUES** per year (Oct. 1 to Sept 30) , \$19 for individual or \$21 Family (2 persons, single address). Add \$3 per membership if outside the US. Include SASE wuth check payable to palatines to america, box 101 capital university, Columbus, Ohio 43209-2394. National and Chapter dues are included in this payment. Members receive both National and Chapter mailings.

**LIBRARY**; The library is located in the Ohio Chapter office in room #339, Renner Hall at the SE corner of Main St. and College Ave. on the Capital University campus. The library is open each Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Other hours subject to advance confirmation with S. Jean Hall.

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