



PALATINE HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO CHAPTER, PALATINES TO AMERICA

February 1997 Columbus, Ohio U.S.A. ISSN 0896-8721 Vol., XX No. 1

SPRING CONFERENCE Saturday April 19, 1997

"Finding Your German Ancestors"

Co-sponsored by:
Palatines to America &
Fairfield County Chapter of OGS
Lancaster, Ohio

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES LODGE

East Main St. Lancaster, Ohio
(On US. Rt. 22, (Main St.) 3.3 miles east of Rt. 33)

Agenda

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration, Coffee, Donuts, Books
- 9:00 - 9:10 Welcoming Remarks
- 9:10 - 10:15 Roland Paul
- 10:15 - 10:30 Coffee Break - Book Browsing
- 10:30 - 12:00 "Lancaster German Church Records"
Patsy Kishler & Carol Swinehart
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch (At the Lodge. Cost included
in registration fee.)
- 1:00 Pal Am Business meeting. Election
of Officers
- 1:15 - 2:30 Roland Paul
- 2:30 - 2:45 Break & Browsing
- 2:45 - 3:45 Panel Discussion-
"Questions? - Ask the Experts"
Roland Paul, Pat Mooney, Patsy
Kishler
- 3:45 Door Prizes and closing of conference

Member Fee \$20.00, Non Member.\$22.00

Registration at Door \$24.00

Members will receive final meeting
announcement in a special mailing in
March.

ROLAND PAUL,

Roland Paul is a native of Landstuhl, Germany and was educated at Universities in Landau and Mainz where he majored in History, German language and Folklore studies.

Since 1978 he has been Deputy Director at the "Institut Für Pfälzische Geschichte und Volkskunde" (The Institute for Palatine History and Folk Culture) in Kaiserslautern. Formerly known as the "Heimatstelle Pfälz". The Institut is a research center for the history of emigration.

He is a member of the German Huguenot Society, the Society of Germans in foreign countries (VDA), the Genealogical Society of Rheinland-Pfalz and of the Historical society of the Palatinate.

Roland was the featured speaker at the Ohio Chapter Fall Conference, Oct 3 1987, in Marietta, Ohio. At those meetings he demonstrated his broad knowledge of genealogical research in two sessions.
1. The Palatinate, its Immigration and Emigration from the 17th to the 19th Century.
2. Reasons and conditions for the Palatinate Emigration to North America in the 18th and 19th century. His topics will be announced in the special meeting announcement to be mailed in March

Herr Paul has written numerous articles and was editor of local histories such as "300 Years Of Palatines In America." He is preparing an edition of letters written by Palatine Emigrants. These letters were written from America to Germany in the 18th and 19th century.

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Willkommen new Members

Our Ohio Chapter roster includes the following:

- 9 Life members
- 699 memberships expire in 1997
- 8 memberships expire in 1998
- 137 family memberships
- 853 total individual members

The following new members have been added to the roster.

Jean Hall, Membership Registrar

Members and their state of residence:

NAME	CITY
	California
Flomerfelt, David R	San Clemente
	Florida
Blonigen, Paul	Tampa
	Hawaii
Rohrer, Michael M	Mililani
	Indiana
Kinsel, David J	Columbus
Robinson, Virginia C	Indianapolis
	Massachusetts
Bassett, Lona M	Groton
Riley, Janet H	Sherborn
	Maryland
Noel, Earl A	Derwood
Noel, Jeann F	Derwood
	Michigan
Hartmann, William G	Ann Arbor
Innis, Jane S	Kalamazoo
Monroe, Joy Ann	Fenton
Settlemoir, Glen B	Utica
Underwood, Barbara J	Clawson
Zimmer, Paul	Laurium
	North Carolina
Crowell, Vanda L	Salisbury
Mengel, Joseph W	Cary
Mengel, Marian	Cary
	Ohio
Armstrong, Janet E	Worthington
Burgy, Robert A	Toronto
Burtanger, Don	Dublin
Cheney, Gene H	Columbus
Cheney, Richard G	Columbus
Davison, Kenneth	Tiffin
Denig, Elizabeth V	Columbus
Goldinger, Douglas C	Akron
Gombert, Richard W	Sagamore Hills
Herrold Jr, Russell P	Columbus
Hinkle, Roscoe C	Columbus
Hoon, Jayne Fabian	Westlake

Hoon, Zackary K
 Hutchinson, Lillian L
 Johnson, Gene O
 Kavage, Virginia G
 Kiefer, Dr Alan R
 Kray, Elaine L
 Lybarger, Lee H
 Miller, Gerald E
 Miller, Jeannine
 Miller, Marilyn J
 Neudorff, Jeanette I Betts
 Neudorff, Warren William
 Pontsler, Gary
 Selzer, Mary J
 Stevenson, Lynne R
 Smyers, Faith
 Uhrick, David A

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 Columbus
 Dublin
 Sunbury
 Wooster
 Avon Lake
 Delaware
 Columbus
 Columbus
 Gahanna
 Cincinnati
 Cincinnati
 Willshire
 Perrysburg
 Parma
 Englewood
 Columbus

Pennsylvania

Mcintyre, Marian F
 Wollaver, James P

West Chester
 Philadelphia

Texas

Valentine, Robert F

Arlington

Query:

Seeking information on George Kuntz and wife, Elizabeth of Reading Twp. Perry Co. Ohio. When did George and Elizabeth die and where are they buried? George's will named the following heirs; wife, Elizabeth, George Kuntz and wife, Susanna, John Kuntz and wife, Catherine(Overmire); Catherine Kuntz and husband John Dennis; Mary Kuntz and husband, Michael Lyday; Jacob Kuntz and wife, Mary(Boyer); Henry Kuntz and wife, Susannah (Ream); Thomas Kuntz and wife, Eliza (Ridenour); This estate was settled 6 Oct. 1832. Will share info: Doris Owen 4824 Mobile Drive Ft. Worth, Tx 76137-402

Queries are welcome! Please address to: I. W. Simons Editor, Palatine Heritage. 975 Amberly Place, Columbus, OH 43220-4101

HOW TO FIND THE PALATINE LIBRARY

- The Library is located in the Basement of Saylor-Ackermann Hall (room B-15) on the Capital University Campus at Columbus, Ohio.
- * If you are driving west on I-70, exit at James Rd and drive N to Livingston Ave. Turn L and drive 1.1 miles and turn R on College Ave.
 - * If you are driving E on I-70, exit at Bexley-Main St and drive N to E Main St. Turn R on E Main St and R on College Ave.
 - * Please park in the visitors parking lot behind the security building on Mound Street.

CURRENT LIBRARY HOURS

Each Wednesday 12:30-4:00PM
 1st Saturday 10:00AM - 2:00PM
 3rd Friday 9:00AM - 4:00 PM
 Closed Legal Holidays

THE EMIGRATION OF MATHIAS SIMONIS and MARIANNE KRAUS

In the 1830's and 1840's, the people of the Rheinland Pfälz (or Palatinate) province of Bavaria experienced a worsening of what economists call "population pressure on the land." That is, population grew much faster than the economy; the creation of jobs in handicraft industries and in trade and the professions did not keep up with the increasing numbers of people, and there wasn't enough land for those who had to try to earn a living by farming. Such an abstract description of the situation is accurate as far as it goes, but at least a brief explanation is needed for why that situation developed, and the ways in which it affected different groups in Palatine society. Such is the background needed for understanding the very human story of the emigration and marriage of Mathias Simonis and Marianne Kraus.

The Rheinland/Pfälz had suffered population losses of more than 50% in the Thirty Years War (1618-1648), and severe losses again in the Reunion Wars (1672-1699). Both times the rulers of the area (Counts, Dukes and Archbishops) issued calls for settlers, to bring their land back into production, and the area was repopulated by migrants from German-speaking areas of Luxembourg, Alsace and Lorraine, Switzerland, and the Austrian Tyrol. The Pfälz was spared major devastation from war in the 18th century, and by the 1760's the area had "surplus" population to export. Parish records in the "County" (Grafschaft) of Sickingen (to which Heinrich and Margaret Simonis had migrated in 1700) show, for example, that from Queidersbach alone 138 men, women and children answered the call for settlers issued by the Hapsburg Empress Maria Theresa and migrated in the 1760's to the Banat region of Hungary; and 25 migrated in the 1780's to Galicia. Given the fact that (according to the census of 1802) Queidersbach had 309 inhabitants, those large numbers of emigrants to the Hapsburg Empire showed that already land hunger was acute. By the end of the 18th century most of the land near Queidersbach that was worth farming had been cleared or reclaimed; so adding more land to the area under cultivation was not a real option. Further, to satisfy local needs a village could support only so many craftsmen (carpenters, masons, blacksmiths, weavers, etc.), and there were too few new jobs in the crafts and in trade in the nearby towns and cities. That is why families that had inadequate amounts of

land took up Maria Theresa's offer of travel expenses to the Banat and Galicia, and farming rights there to generous-sized farms, and emigrated.

Many more young people would have been forced to emigrate from Queidersbach had it not been for the switch from cereal farming to diversified farming that, in the Rhineland, began early in the 18th century. That revolution in agriculture, developed and carried out over several generations by peasants, increased the productivity per acre by 50-100 percent. The greater yields of food per acre meant that the amount of farmland needed to support a family was reduced, and the original 12 shares in the communal strip fields of Queidersbach (shares which in 1700 were about 130 acres each) could be subdivided in the following generations among more of the descendants of the original purchasers. Yet, despite high infant mortality, families were large, and often there was not enough land to provide a minimum (10-15 acres) for all the children; surviving to adulthood; and competition for more acreage caused land prices to rise, so that it became impossible for peasants to buy more land. You had to inherit a farm, or marry into one, or a combination of both. Those who could not earn a living by farming or crafts became servants at very low wages, or day-laborers, whose income was from seasonal work (plowing and harvesting) and occasional odd jobs. Many of them were too poor to marry.

The wide inequalities in economic well-being led to the social stratification of village communities, and shaped marriage customs as well. Dowries became common for young men as well as for young women; the parents on both sides had to help the young couple or they would be unable to set up housekeeping and support a family. In return, by law, parental permission was required for the marriage of young people under 25. A further complication: due to inter marriage over a number of generations the choice of mates within a village was limited by the Church's rule on consanguinity. The parish records of Queidersbach show that in the 18th & 19th century a growing percentage of young people married someone from a neighboring village. All that helps explain why marriages arranged by the parents became increasingly common and remained so until after World War I. The annual festivals or fairs held by villages were the occasion for much visiting that afforded parents the opportunity to prospect for suitable mates for their teenage children. As cousin Leoni Brewi told me a few

years ago, the two sets of parents would reach an understanding about the dowries they would provide, and then the young people would be introduced. If they did not dislike each other on sight, it was then agreed that the couple would marry at an appropriate age (usually 24-25 for the man, 21-23 for the woman).

The Pfälz was annexed by France in 1799, and the Revolutionary government abolished the tithes and levies (amounting to about 15% of income) that peasants owed to the feudal lords; and the peasants were given clear title to the land they farmed, all without having to compensate their erstwhile lords. The resulting net income gain, plus the exemption from conscription into his army that Napoleon granted to married men for some years, lowered the average age at which young people married. Population growth was further enhanced after 1815 when the Bavarian government (to which the Congress of Vienna gave the Pfälz, as a reward for its part in Napoleon's defeat) made it compulsory that all babies be vaccinated for smallpox within the first year of life. It was an important measure, for smallpox had been a major killer of children under age 10. For all those reasons, population grew rapidly. In Queidersbach the census figures rose dramatically: 1802 ... 309; 1810 ... 462; 1818...530 and 1833...669. Bavaria did not join the German customs union (or Zollverein) until 1834, so in this period there was little increase in jobs off the land, in handicraft industries and trade. Reliable emigration figures for Queidersbach in the period 1830-1840 have not been published (the civil records on it have been lost). For the Pfälz as a whole, the combination of population pressure and the availability of land at low cost in the USA, produced a very large wave of emigration to America. Based on a tabulation of places of origin given on the New York passenger lists, I estimate that the number of immigrants from the Pfälz totaled over 6000 in the years 1831-1835, and over 12,000 in the period 1836-1840.

Such is the socioeconomic context of the story of Mathias and Marianne. Now to their family background.

Johann Simonis (1742-1810) and Maria Eva (Theis) had 11 children, of whom 5 survived to maturity: sons Karl, Peter and Mathias; daughters Maria Elizabetha and Anna Margarete. Johann had inherited 100 acres of the 130 that Heinrich and Margaret purchased in 1700. He also owned several

houses and was an Innkeeper at "The Sign of the Golden Stag," located at the intersection of the Hauptstrasse and Steigstrasse ("*Main" street and "Mount" street*). To avoid the requirement of Napoleon's Civil Code (which went into effect in 1804) that all heirs be given equal shares of any land in an inheritance, Johann decided in 1807 to use a "Deed of Gift" to divide his property as he wanted. The elder son Karl (1775-1840) received about 60 acres; Peter (1778-1841) received about 30 acres and the ancestral Simonis house on Brunnenstrasse ("*Spring" street*); the youngest son Mathias (1782-1852) received about 10 acres, a house and the Inn of the Golden Stag. The shares of the two daughters are not recorded; both married and presumably their dowries were in household goods or in cash. It is quite possible that Karl was asked to contribute money to his sisters' share of the inheritance. According to a Queidersbach tax list provided by cousin Otto Brewi, the two younger sons paid about the same amount of local property taxes, so the value of their shares may have been about equal.

The 1807 Deed of Gift was registered with the Tax Collector in Homburg (Saar), and a copy of it was not preserved. However, when Johann decided in 1809 to retire from farming he had his farm tools and livestock auctioned by a Notar or property lawyer, whose papers are now on file at the Pfälz State Archives in Speyer. The details on what was auctioned gives us a good idea of the crops and farming equipment of the period. Johann died in 1810, the year after he wound up his affairs.

Mathias had 8 children by two marriages. At age 26, the year after he received his inheritance, he married Gertrud Conrad, by whom he had 2 daughters. Gertrud died in 1813, and in 1814 Mathias married Elizabetha Hartmann. They had 4 sons (1 died in infancy) and 2 daughters. Mathias (born in 1817) was the eldest son. Mathias attended the village school and helped farm the land of his father, now Mathias "der Alte." He fell in love with a neighbor girl, Marianne Krause, daughter of a linen weaver. In May 1835 she became pregnant. Mathias was 18 so the permission of his parents to marry was legally required. From their point of view he undoubtedly was too young, and his age group was due to be drafted that summer into the Bavarian army for 2 years service; and army pay for draftees was a few cents a month. Nor, in all probability did Marianne have a dowry. Her father had died in 1832. One of her

brothers was a weaver, and the other two were day laborers. So if Mathias' parents opposed his marriage with Marianne (and family lore is that they did), there were practical grounds for that: in the economy of Queidersbach, the couple could not support a family.

(I asked cousin Leoni Brewi whether scandal was a factor, and she doubted it. In the 1830's, perhaps 10% of the young people could not afford to get married at the normal age - and some never could - so children born out of wedlock were not rare. The label "illegitimate-" was not used on their birth certificates -

The alternatives that Mathias and Marianne faced were: either stay in Queidersbach and hope that after he had completed his army service they would somehow earn sufficient income to support a family; or Mathias could emigrate to the USA, get a job and save money for Marianne's fare so she could join him and they could get married, and together build their life in the New World. Since we know that they decided to emigrate, and that they were successful, our tendency is of course to think that emigration was obviously the right decision. But they didn't know that, and the problems of emigrating to America were formidable. Going as a Redemptioner (bound into service for 6 years, in return for the cost of the fare across the Atlantic) was no longer possible because of the U.S. Passenger Act of 1819. So, to start with they needed cash.

Where could they get the money for Mathias' trip to the port and his fare from Le Havre to New York? At \$40 in steorage, the fare was a large sum in a time when common labor earned 25 cents a day.) Permission to emigrate and a passport would not be given to a young man about to be drafted, so how to manage that? (Slipping across the frontier into France was possible but a passport would be necessary for the 400 mile trip across France because gendarmes regularly checked travelers papers.) Would Mathias be able to get a well-paying job promptly in America? (If business was slack when he arrived in the US, jobs would be scarce.) How would Marianne manage alone with a baby on the 3-4 week trip across France, and the 5-8 week passage to America? And somewhere on the list of questions: if Mathias evaded the draft, would the Bavarian government make his parents pay for a substitute? (That had happened, but there is no indication it did in this case.)

Only on the first of those questions do we have a firm answer: Mathias had a small parcel of land he

sold to Marianne's brother on the eve of departing (it was done by private sale and registered after he left, in order not to alert the authorities to his intentions.) Given the tax collector's appraisal of its value in the 1845 Kataster, we can assume that its sale in 1835 yielded the amount of Mathias' fare. For the rest, some information would be available in Queidersbach, perhaps from one of the "Handbooks for Emigrants" that were being published. More likely, however, were letters home from emigrants, who usually wrote about conditions on the trip, the problems they had and how they coped with them, what to bring, and wages and prices in the USA. (Those letters were of such great interest that often they were read aloud in the village Inn.)

There also were several other young men later marked "Amerika" on the list of Queidersbach draftees. Perhaps one of them had a relative who was a wagoner on the imperial highway that linked Frankfurt and Mainz with Paris and Le Havre, which passed through nearby Landstuhl. On the trip west, freight wagons normally carried the baggage of emigrants (and allowed women and children to ride at least part of the day). Young men were employed to help manage the horses, and load the return cargo (which usually was large bales of cotton). If one of the wagoners had a helper who asked to stay home for the harvest, his passport could be used (illegally) by anyone who matched a rather imprecise written description: age, height, color of hair and eyes, complexion, etc. Perhaps Mathias went as a helper, in return for food and lodging on the trip. Freight wagons averaged 20-25 miles a day, and stopped overnight in villages and small towns where prices were lower. Sundays customarily were rest days, but if they had been delayed by bad weather, wagoners would push on in order to be at the port before the published dates of departure of the American Packet Ships (Post Schiffe), to avoid the costly wait at the port. The usual route for freighters was via Saarbrucken, Metz, Verdun, Chalons sur Marne, Rheims, Beauvais, Rouen, avoiding the high costs of a stop in Paris and the special customs levies on belongings brought into the city.

At Le Havre the paperwork for embarking for the USA was simple because neither passport nor visa nor permission to emigrate were required to enter the country. To comply with the law that a list of passengers be provided on arrival, the ship's purser asked for name, age, state of origin, and destination (New

York or America was sufficient). Supposedly, Mathias could have used his own name but apparently he did not do so, lest it be spotted by a clerk from the Bavarian consulate, either in Le Havre or in New York. (I have twice scanned the New York passenger lists for vessels arriving from Le Havre in 1835 and 1836, to no avail.) In New York did he get in touch with his cousin Johann Simonis, who was working as a licensed Carter, and lived with his family on Thompson Street in Grenwich Village? We do not know; all we can say is that his real name does not appear (even in anglicized version) in the New York City directory for 1835/36 or 1836/37. He must have stayed in the New York area, because jobs were available and he needed to be near the port in order to meet Marianne.

For the ocean trip of Marianne Kraus my search was successful. She arrived with her infant daughter Magdalena (born 29 Feb. 1836, aboard the Ship Ann on 25 Feb. 1837. The Ann was a "regular," bringing cotton from one of the southern US ports to Le Havre or Liverpool, and returning via New York with a load of emigrants. She was a small vessel (345 tons and probably less than 100' long), and slower than one of the larger packet ships (which had especially heavy spars and sails); but the fare was probably less. This particular passage was 66 days, long even for winter because (the Captain told the newspaper reporter) they "Experienced severe gales on the passage. Lost sails, etc." This is known from the Marine List column of the New York Commercial Advertiser, 25 February 1837. The severe buffeting such a small vessel would take from the 25-30 waves raised by a North Atlantic storm must have made most of the passengers seasick, a problem made worse by the fact that they were imprisoned in the hold, which was without ventilation. (The cover had to be put on the hold and battened down because otherwise the waves breaking on the deck would fill the hold and sink the ship.) After the repeated ordeal of storms, Marianne must have been very thankful to reach the tranquility of New York harbor, and her reunion with Mathias must have been joyous. Where they were married neither I nor Melane (Simonis) Zietlow have been able to discover.

Marianne's older sister Maria Elizabetha had a baby boy in March 1836, and in 1837 she emigrated to the USA; I was not able to find her on the passenger lists. Neither did I find Mathias' younger brothers, who emigrated to the USA sometime in the 1840's.

About that time Mathias retired and apparently sold the Inn of the Golden Stag to give them a share of the inheritance. The bulk of his property went to the youngest daughter, Barbara, who in return agreed to provide for her parents in their last years as shown in the "Deed of Gift.

A final word about Mathias' evading conscription. The people of the Pfälz were not consulted when the territory and its inhabitants were awarded to Bavaria in 1815 by the Congress of Vienna.; Nor did most people have any say in government; only the wealthy had the vote, and the King of Bavaria was virtually an absolute monarch. Being his subjects brought few if any benefits to most of the people of the Pfälz, though they paid heavy excise taxes. (The province produced a large revenue surplus for the Bavarian crown.) It was village property taxes that paid the salary of Queidersbach's midwife and school teacher (as well as the cost of building and maintaining the town hall in which classes were held). Nor did the Bavarian government pay for improving the roads linking the village to Kaiserslautern and Landstuhl, roads that were in such poor shape that Queidersbach did not have regular postal service until late in the 19th century. And as to army service, as the uprisings of 1830 showed, the most likely duty of conscripts would be to put down revolts of peasants demanding emancipation from feudal dues and services. Small wonder that many young men felt no loyalty to the King of Bavaria, and that they evaded conscription by emigrating without permission to America.

Richard B. Simons Arlington, VA October 1996
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The article reproduced above was written by Dr. Richard B. Simons in response to a request from a Simonis descendant who wished to write a book for her children about the family. The editor feels that the response went into such depth about Palatine history that it would be of interest to others who are doing family research on their German ancestors and therefore decided to include it in the *Heritage*..

German FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP WITH ERNEST THODE

Saturday, March 29, 1997, 9:00 - 4:30

(registration at 8:00)

American Legion,

**812 Beverly Place (8th and Wooster Streets),
Marietta, OHIO**

- 9:00 Welcome and Announcements
- 9:15 SOURCES TO USE IN YOUR GERMAN RESEARCH - Ernest Thode
- 10:15 Hands-on Time to Use Resources *
Hundreds of resource books to look at!
- 10:45 FINDING THE PLACE OF ORIGIN OF GERMAN ANCESTORS - Ernest Thode
- 11:45 Hands-on Time to Use Resources * Ernest Thode's personal library!
- 12:00 Lunch provided at the Legion Hall. More Hands-on Time
- 1:30 HOW NAMES HELP IN YOUR GERMAN RESEARCH - Ernest Thode
- 2:30 Hands-on Time to Use Resources * Unique opportunity!

* CD-ROMs of German phone books with about 30,000,000 names

* Microfiche/phone books from Germany, Austria, Switzerland

* German emigration books listing emigrants from regions

* Germans to America series, 54 volumes, arrivals 1850-1887

* Bremen-New York arrivals (partial substitutes for destroyed Bremen lists)

Bring research questions, copies of old documents, Family Group Sheets, Pedigree Charts.

\$30 per person. Register by March 22

For Registration Form or questions contact:

Ernest Thode, RR 7, Box 306,

Marietta OH 45750-9437

Phone (after 5 P.M.) (614)373-3728

Calendar

Ohio Chapter Spring Conference April 19.

Lancaster, Ohio. Featured speaker Roland Paul from Germany.

Ohio Chapter Genealogy Workshops

**Grandview Library, 1685 West First Avenue,
Columbus. 9:am-12.**

February 15 Saturday.

(1) "Resources of State Library of Ohio". Speaker-Petta Khouw, Director of Genealogy Department, State Library.

(2) "Trip to Germany", Norman Knapp

March 15, Saturday . Frank Schwartz (Topic and second speaker to be announced)

April. No workshop in April. (Spring Conference)

Franklin County Genealogical society

February Sat AM

FCGS/Cols Pub Lib

Courthouse Rsch & V Stats

March Sat AM

FCGS/Cols Pub Lib

Probate Research

April 17-19

Cleveland OGS Annual Convention

June 15-21

Mansfield

OGS Genealogy Workshop

Books for Sale

OHIO CHAPTER HISTORY 1976-1996 ...by Robert S. Rudy
\$2.50..TAX..17¢ .

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Ramblings.....

It's refreshing to know that people do read the newsletter. I know they do because from time to time I receive a letter that questions some inaccuracy in a previous edition. A recent letter from a new member, Richard Gombert of Sagamore Hills, Ohio questioned the volume number of his first issue which declared it to be XVIV. He wrote that he and his wife tried to figure it out and decided it makes no sense. It is not a valid number. He suggests that if it is volume number 19 it should read XIX. Right on! The editor wonders if anyone else noticed it? The editor took over the newsletter when it was volume XII and has been merrily adding "I" and "V" in various combinations since then. This worked very well until the end of volume XVIII (18). For volume 19 the last two letters were changed to IV or 4 plus the previous XV (15) = 19. Looked good to me but XIX would have been a lot cleaner.

Thank heavens volume 20 is an easy XX. In formatting the newsletter the front page is done at the beginning of the year and is seldom looked at again. This saves some time.

There is another "glitch" in the volume numbering- it should be on the society's fiscal year, October to September. The editor has always placed it in the calendar year. Mea culpa.



Ira W. Simons, Editor

PALATINE HERITAGE NEWSLETTER is published by the OHIO CHAPTER, PALATINES TO AMERICA.

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Address newsletter correspondence to the Editor, I. W. SIMONS, 975 Amberly Pl. Columbus, Ohio 43220-4101, (614) 451-9099
Ideas and articles for the newsletter are welcome. Published four times a year in February, May, August, November. Deadline for receipt of articles: The 15th of the previous month. Other chapters may quote "Heritage" if appropriate credit is given.

CHAPTER OFFICERS 1996-1997

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