

# Palatine heritage

OHIO CHAPTER, PALATINES TO AMERICA, NEWSLETTER

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No.1



*German ancestry from quill pen to...*

**CYBERSPACE**



## About National Conference 2003

Reserve the dates June 19, 20, and 21, 2003. You won't want to miss the Pal Am National Conference to be held at the Ramada Plaza Inn Hotel on Sinclair Road, in Columbus, Ohio

The committee has put together, what we think, is going to be an experience you won't want to miss. A conference to be remembered for years to come. There will be great speakers, interesting tours, grand food and, of course, fellowship in sharing your latest genealogy conquests.

The Pal Am Library will be available for your private research at different times during the conference. FREE one hour tours will be arranged via the hotel shuttle during the conference. (register for the free shuttle times when you sign in at the registration desk.)

The program and your registration forms will be arriving the end of February or beginning of March.

A big highlight for the conference is Roger Minert. He will make himself available all three days, to hold 1/2 hour sessions to assist you in your personal searches of ancestors. (see registration form for details) He is bringing his files and computer with him. There will be a minimal charge of \$40 for each half hour. You must be registered for the conference to take advantage of this offer.

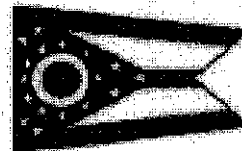
The Keynote Address will be given by S. Christopher Anderson. Anyone who has ever heard Chris speak knows this event will be one not to miss.

This issue is going to be full of National Conference business, so please take time to review all the articles. We appreciate any comments you might have.

Here's hoping we see all our OHIO members at the conference and lets not forget our out-of-state members. The committee is looking forward to making your conference an enjoyable time.

Mary Hess, Conference Chairperson

**CELEBRATING OHIO  
BICENTENNIAL**



## Celebrate Ohio's Bi-Centennial in 2003

Take time to support the Ohio Bi-Centennial activities taking place around our state during the year.

### Memorial Page

The conference committee would like to reserve a Memoriam Page for families who would like their family name preserved in the Pal Am Conference Program. Send the family name and the donors name with \$10 to cover handling and printing to: *Ohio Chapter PO Box 611 Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 attn.: Memoriam* (please print)

Example: Hanz Schmidt Family donated by John Schmidt Family

### Volunteers Needed

Please don't wait to be called to volunteer your help at the June Conference. E-mail Mary Hess at *MHess138@aol.com* or call one of the Ohio Board Members. There are plenty of areas that can use your help. The more volunteers the less work for all of us.

# Willkommen

The following new members have been added to the  
Ohio Chapter Membership roster:

## Florida

Young Jr., Harry L. ....Ft. Lauderdale

## Georgia

Parrish, Lillian C.....Marietta

## Indiana

Heyen, Lorretta M.....Terre Haute

## Michigan

Blagdon, Naomi S. ....Portage

Burke, Majorie.....Portage

Merriam, Esther.....Battlecreek

Merriam, George .....Battlecreek

## North Carolina

Walnut - Black, Rita .....Vale

## Ohio

Behm, Jane .....Troy

Creasy, Tishie Y. ....Bucyrus

Fairchild, William J. ....Reynoldsburg

Knotts, Martha M. ....Lancaster

Lehr, Mark .....Blacklick

Macke, Woodrow R. ....Westerville

Moore, Dixie .....Tipp City

Morehouse, R. Paul .....Akron

Sheets, Richard E. ....Gahanne

## Rhode Island

Snyder, Harold E. ....Barrington

Ohio Chapter Membership Roster  
15 Life Members  
862 members  
Total members 877  
Jean Hall Registrar

## BEAUTIFUL OHIO"

"Beautiful Ohio." in dreams I again see  
How many remember the strains of that old song  
I am sure you have already heard, Ohio is  
celebrating 200 years of statehood. As  
genealogists we know the importance of history.

Ohio history goes back many years  
before 1803. German immigrants played an  
important part in making Ohio what it is today.  
From the earliest shoemakers, brewers, farmers,  
community leaders to the German newspapers  
and societies that kept the traditions alive for the  
new generations to follow.

Take sometime during this year to visit  
some of Ohio's landmarks. Whether it be  
looking back to Native American culture,  
pioneer villages, or any of the hundreds of sites  
available to us. A great idea would be to share  
these visits with your grandchildren. Talk to  
them about days gone by. Share with them your  
story and those told to you, when you were  
young.

One suggestion might be to travel to one  
of the homes of our US presidents that claim  
Ohio as their home.

A special place of my grandchildren is  
the Slate Run Farm, outside of Canal  
Winchester. Admission is free and it takes you  
back to an 1870 working farm and how living on  
a farm used to be.

A drive through Ohio's landscape, is  
well worth the trip. The drive through our  
forests, farmlands and the rolling hills with a  
picnic lunch can be a special time. There is still  
peace and quiet in many comers of Ohio.

Many guidebooks are available that suggest  
places to visit. You say, "I can't get away from  
home!" Don't let that stop you. Pick up a copy of R.  
L. Clayton's book "Ohio: The History of People. "  
Let's not forget a trip through those old photograph  
albums. I am sure many of these will bring back those  
memories of the past, to share.

## Obituary

Robert Trapp November 2002 Columbus,OH

## In This Issue

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## Debt of Gratitude

At the start, I should state that I very seldom wear a hat of any kind, but on this day I had just gotten a haircut-pretty short, I might add-and it was very cold and windy, so I got out a service-inscribed cap. You know what I mean-the cap has your service affiliation inscribed on it.

So my wife and I set out to do some Christmas shopping. Now, I am a veteran of World War II, albeit I had no actual combat service, being a Navy Ptm. 3rd Class; that's a Navy corpsman to all you non-military people. The closest I ever got to actual combat was being a corpsman on a DSR-610 designated search-and-rescue vessel equipped to rescue downed pilots off the Atlantic coast. Anyway, here's the purpose of this letter. We arrived at Columbia Mall and were proceeding with our shopping when a young man approached me and stuck out his hand to me. I did not know this young man. "Thank you for serving," he said. For a minute this went right over my head, but then I realized he was thanking me for serving this country.

Although it has been some 57 years since my Navy tour of duty, all the memories came rushing back, and a chill ran up my spine. At that moment I was so proud to be a part of "the greatest generation" but in my mind, my contribution was so very small, compared to the many who had given their all, and to those who were wounded and those who spent many months in prison camps. These are the true heroes of the greatest generation.

Explaining the makeup of the greatest generation can never be done. The mood, the heartbeat, the emotional character are beyond comprehension. Picture this, if you will: World War II ... 1940-1945 ... walking down the streets of a small town ... in house after house, you would see banners hanging in front windows with service stars on them. One star, one son or father in the military good many fathers, because the draft age was 18-36 years. If you saw a gold star, it meant that someone was killed in action.

Do you remember the dead and wounded from your community? I do! I enlisted in the Navy in 1944, when I was 17 years old. But before that, I was the local telegram deliverer on my trusty Black Beauty bicycle. I can remember many, many trips to homes with the telegram in my hand, some with gold stars on signifying someone had been killed in action, and many more stating that a son or husband or daughter was wounded or missing.

My instructions were to always wait to see if there was a reply in these cases, and to offer assistance to the bereaved. I remember many cases of trying to revive many who passed out from the trauma. I was thankful for my Boy Scout first-aid badge. Many times doctors and ambulances had to be called.

You also had to know the mood of the home folks: every man, no matter what age, wanted to join the military and get in the fight. Men with families were being drafted; exemptions were few, granted only to those in essential vocations such as farmers or war production workers, which later were dominated by the young women who went to work to make tanks, planes, ammunition and guns for our fighting forces. If you were a young man walking down Main Street during the war, you got that certain look from passersby that said, "Why aren't you in uniform?" Many of those killed and wounded in the early years of the war were members of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

They were called to duty in 1942 or 1943 and were sent to North Africa to fight Rommel's Afrika Corps. When Rommel made his push on Kasserine Pass, many were killed, wounded and taken captive. These were the men whose names were on many of the telegrams from the War Department. The message always started with, "The War Department regrets to inform" that a son, husband, etc., had been killed in action or wounded or missing. I knew most of these men and their families. These were the real heroes.

Many of these men came home from the war, but many did not. To this day, I think of them as my friends and neighbors. I know them, and so do you. We should all give thanks to these men who suffered so much. There are people out there who recognize what you have done and are awaiting the opportunity to tell you so-wonderful people who really appreciate your sacrifices on their behalf. I'm not writing this to call attention to myself; just serving with these men was honor enough for me. To the real heroes of the war, the real fighting men, God bless you all!

This young man was not the only person to thank me that day. At our next stop at the supermarket, a woman stopped to ask what the initials and numbers on my cap stood for. Well! This particular cap had been given to me by my granddaughter's husband, also a Navy man. And most of you veterans out there will remember the battle the ship was christened for in 1992 at the Norfolk Naval Station- The U.S.S. Anzio-CQ 68- "Stand and Fight."

I just want you veterans to know you are not forgotten. People still remember and still thank you in their own little ways. Remember the old saying, "You brave men will all go to heaven, for you've served your time in hell."

God bless our great country.

An old Navy veteran

## Did you pay you dues?

## What's In A Name

After the 12th, hereditary surnames were adopted according to fairly general rules and names

that were derived from occupations were particularly common in the region of Bavaria..

In the medieval times, very few people were literate and scribes often recorded names as they sounded rather than according to spelling les. As the result of a multitude of local dialects in Germany, it was entirely possible that a name would even change between father and son. Additionally, the German language was divided into the many distinct dialects of High and Low German. High German has become the standard modern German language, whereas Low German is closer to Dutch. Many German surnames may be recorded as belonging to a particular region by their suffixes. It was also common in Germany to add phrases to a name, in order to express something about a person's place of origin, religious background, or character. Thus, German surnames are distinguished by scores of regional spelling variations. The development of surnames in Germany occurred much later than in Italy, Britain, or France. During the Middle Ages, the practice of adopting hereditary surnames began in southern areas and gradually spread northward. The first hereditary surnames in German-speaking regions were found in the second half of the 12th century when the nobility began to call them after their ancestral seats. Among the townsman's surnames was not adopted until the 14th century and did not become stabilized in form from one generation to another until the 18th century, when Emperor Joseph II, decreed that all people throughout the Empire were to assume surnames.

The great European flow of migration to North America, which began in the middle of the 17th century and continued into the 20th century, was particularly attractive to those from Bavaria who wished to escape either poverty or religious persecution. Many Bavarian farmers with the chance to own land proved to be a major incentive. The process of the widespread colonization of the United States began in 1650, when many immigrants from Germany.

Americans with German surnames do not know what their ownes mean, and many do not even know that their names are of German. Interest in genealogy and ethnicity rouses many Americans to search for the meaning of their surnames. Once when a gentleman was told that his name Holthusen, was a Low German name he was grievously offended and was assured that his forebears had been very respectable people. What he did not understand was that Low German just means North German, he said. North Germany is mostly a low coastal plain as opposed to the mountainous south, where High German is spoken.

Ancient German names always consisted of two roots, usually terms denoting weapons, war, annies, courage, fame, victory and domination, such as brand (sword) ger (spear) rand (shield) and hehn (helmet); hilti, gund and wig (battle) her (army), volk or diet (armed folk); hart (brave and strong), mund (protection) and rich (rule or ruler). They also took the names of brave animals such as Wulf (wolf), her (bear) and eber (wild boar)

From these popular roots came meaningful names such as Ad@lb-recht (brilliant through noble birth) and Hartmut (strong and brave). Sometimes the roots were combined with no rational connection; perhaps one root was favored by the father's family and one by the mother's. Thus we find Wilhelm (determination plus helmet), and periphrases such as Heldegiinde (battle plus battle).

Irish and English missionaries who brought Christianity to the "heathen" Germans in the 8th and 9th centuries disapproved of the Germans warlike names. They encouraged them to take peaceful ones, especially the names of saints. Then, during and after the Reformation, saints names were discarded to be replaced by Old Testament names such as Abraham Adam, Benjamin, Daniel David, Jacob, Joachim, Jonas, Samuel and Solomon. Biblical names differed little between German and English, so many families named Adams, Benjamin, Daniels, Martin, Peters, Petersen and Thomas are not aware that their ancestors may have been German rather than English.

Originally only one name was used, but as populations increased and it became necessary the name of the father was often used. Thus Heinrich, the son of Ludwig, became either Ludwigs Heinrich, Heinrich Ludwigs or Heinrich Ludwig. Many hereditary surnames began as patronymics.

If there were two men in a locale named Heinz, the one living near on a hill (buehl) might be called Heinz Buehler, whereas the one on the brook (bach) might be Heinz Bachmann. Surnames based on terrain features at first were preceded by the preposition von meaning "from," but gradually the preposition was dropped by all but the nobility. Names taken from professions and occupations were especially popular in Germany. Hans, the shepherd would first have been called Hans der. Scoffer, with the article (der) being dropped until he was just Hans Scoffer.

Many German surnames are nicknames referred to the bearer's appearance: Gross (large), Klein (small) Lang (tall), Kurtz (short), Weiss (blond) Braun or Schwatz (brunet) Roth (red-haired) and Kraus (curly). Some were uaind: Grosskopf (bighead) and Spitznas (pointed nose). And once long ago, your German ancestor may have been nicknamed "Hans mit dem Bauch" (Hans with the belly). A man named Schultz may be predominantly Irish, and a man name O'Leary may be predominantly German.

Thanks to Jim Ameral &  
Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG

## New Board Members Appointed

Odell Miller, president has appointed Wayne Dreier to fill the position of Treasurer for National Pal Am, left by Don Hutchison. Welcome Wayne and all the best to you in your new position with Pal Am.

Patrica Berens has been appointed as National Registrar to fill the position left by S. Jean Hall. Thanks to Jean for many years of work and all the best to Pat in her new position.

## Ohio Nomination Committee

It is time to start thinking about election of officers for 2003 - 2004. The nominating committee will be looking for volunteers to be on the next Ohio Chapter Board. If you have a yen to help guide the Ohio Chapter in the next year, call Jerry Miller or email him at [jmille48@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jmille48@columbus.rr.com)

## WEBSITE

Put in your *favorite file* the Pal Am website and check it often for up-dates of happenings. Go to [www.Palam.org](http://www.Palam.org) you can reach the Ohio Chapter website from there too.

## Cancellation

This is to notify that there is a cancellation of the trip to Ft. Wayne, to check in at the library. There was not enough interest in the project.

## Ancestral Upgrades

I'm not suggesting that we trade in dear old g-g-g-whosiewhat for Marie Antoinette or Napoleon. That's silly. What I am suggesting is that we modestly upgrade those inconsiderate ancestors who hid in the cellar no doubt thinking he was the tax man; the thoughtless ones who never bought land or left a forwarding address; who "forgot" (ha ha very funny grandpa) to post banners to have your children christened.

Surely there are leftover ancestors somewhere who have been neglected despite having been compulsive record-keepers = who left reams of diaries, Bibles, deeds, wills, etc. These poor neglected chaps would be delighted, I'm sure to be incorporated into some nice modern-day pedigree. Why struggle with lackadaisical ancestors who obviously didn't care a fig about us, when perfectly respectable highly annoyed ancestors are being wasted? Wasted!

We see evidence of those well behaved, but underutilized ancestors all over the place. They show up as the legible name on the census record, right.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Ohio Chapter fall conference was a hit with all those in attendance. We missed those who were not there; we had ample room to accommodate you. The attendance was good but there is always room for more. Bob Rau, Kenny Burck and Carol Swinehart gave excellent presentations. A beer tasting and talk on brewing and types of beer by Scott Francis followed an excellent lunch of pork, kraut and German potato salad with an apple pastry desert.

Kenny Burck made a comment during his presentations regarding genealogical conferences. He made the point that the Internet, the library or any of the various archives are not all there is to a full field of research. The networking with others, the research tips available and the resources of the vendors you find at a conference are necessary to enrich your experiences. Your chapter volunteers put a lot of effort into designing programs that are beneficial and interesting. They are always interested in your input and feedback.

The chapter finances are in good shape and membership continues to increase, however we are always looking for ways to increase membership and participation. We are recruiting volunteers to speak to various societies and clubs around the state that would be interested in German genealogy. Examples would be local OGS chapters, historical societies and similar organizations. If you would like to volunteer, let me know at the address listed in the officer's box in this issue. If you know of an organization that may invite a speaker, let me know that also and we will get someone to share the resources available through membership in PalAm.

Tell a friend about PalAm. Take them to the library to see and use the resources. Get them to join and there will be no user fee. Ann Scott and the volunteers are there for our members. They will welcome you and provide any needed assistance. Also, this is a reminder that our spring conference will be the national conference. Ohio chapter is honored to host the national conference on the 200th anniversary of our statehood. There is more on that elsewhere and you will continue to receive information. We hope to see you there.

Jerry Miller

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above the faded smudged we suspect might be great-grandpa. The sibling whose every achievement was recorded in minute detail - in stick vivid ink while his younger brother (the birth ancestor nature unfortunately assigned us) barely made it into the margin of the family Bible in No. 3 pencil, etc., etc. So, let's give ourselves permission to select the ancestors we truly deserve

## **Topics to be presented by Speakers at the 2003 Conference**

**Christopher Anderson - Keynote Speaker, "Germanics"**

**Cyndi Howells "The Woeld Wide Web" - "Quit Surfing & Start Researching Q &A  
- "10 Commands of Internet Genealogy" - " Customize your Windows  
Destktop for Efficiency in Genealogy"**

**Donald Heinrich Tolzmann - "German Immigrants & Settlements in American"  
"German Immigration & Settlements in American"**

**Beth Stahr - "Germans in the Lone Star Texas Ports & Settlements" " Des  
Allemands: German Migrations in New Orleans & Up the Mississippi"**

**Joan K. Mitchell - "The Image in the Mirror Importance of Knowing Your Family  
Health History" - "Genetic Technology An Exciting New Research Methodolgy  
for Genealogists"**

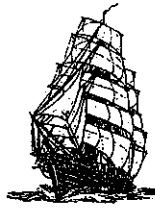
**Richard N. Polling - After Dinner Speaker "The Spirit of the Western Front  
Christopher "Stoffel" Stamp"**

**Roger Minert - Consulations will be held on request**

**MAKE SURE YOU BECOME PART OF THE OHIO CELEBRATION IN COLUMBUS  
OHIO IN 2003**

**National Pal-Am Library  
Library Hours**

Wednesdays 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm  
1st Saturdays 10:00 am- 2:00 pm  
3rd Fridays 9:00 Closed -  
am- 4:00 pm Sundays &  
Holidays Open by  
appointment most  
weekends.



*Always call before you visit  
the Library!*

The Librarian and volunteers make up the support staff. The Librarian and staff are available to assist you during your visit.

While driving in Columbus take I-71 to Weber Road, get off at exit (# 113) Turn WEST at Weber Road just past the Speedway Gas Station turn left into our parking lot. at 611 East Weber Road the library is a two story, brick building, with a green awning over the doorway, Enter through the EAST doorway

cut here

**Mail Order Publications & Other Sale Items Price List  
Effective October 1, 2001**

- aGeorgia Lands by M. Merle Baker..... \$2.50
- aBeginning Genealogy: Start It Right!  
by Dr. A. F. Johnson ..... \$5.50
- aThe Very Basics of German Genealogy by K. Smith... \$5.50
- aGermans Into & Out of Ohio Before 1850  
by Ernest Thode .. \$4.50
- a Beginning Genealogy: Start It Right;  
by Dr. Arta F. Johnson.....\$5.50
- a Beginning Genealogy Paths & Pitfalls  
by Kathleen Goodner Marine.....\$6.50
- a 1999 Ohio National Conference Syllabus . \$6.50
- a 1999 National Conference Logo Sale Items
- a Sweat Shirts - S,M,L,XL in gray only w/logo on front  
include size with order.....\$10.50
- a Tee Shirts - S,M,L,XL in white only w/logo on front  
include size with order.....\$10.50

**Tote Bag with PAL-AM Ship Logo:**

- a Clipper Ship: \* New Items
- a Large Boat Tote: 17"x16"x4", w/pocket & panel zipper,  
natural top & pocket w/black base, hand sewn 25" black  
handles.....\$15.50
- a \*Shoulder Tote: 16"x14.½"x3", natural w/25" handles,  
Clipper Ship plus Palatines to America in script..... \$10.50
- a 1999 Conference Logo:Clipper Ship/German-American  
Flags Flat Tote 14" x 14", natural w/13"handle.....\$10.50
- aBaseball caps: tan one size fits all w ships logo in blk..\$15.50
- a German-American Flag T Shirts M.L.XL.XXXL in white  
flags design on front..... \$10.50
- aGerman-American Flag Pin, enameled with mil/.back. \$4.50

*All prices are postpaid*

Ohio Residents only Sales Tax of 5.75%

**Attention Central Ohio Members:**

The Palatine Library and Headquarters Office in Columbus is still in need of volunteers. We need volunteers to help process books (stamp and attach labels, etc.), stuff envelopes, etc. We also need Library hosts and co-hosts --- could you work a four-hour shift the occasional (negotiable dates) Wednesday, Saturday or Friday during the new membership year? We also need someone to come in two to four times a month to dust, vacuum, water plants, empty trash, etc. Complete training provided for all tasks. Contact Ann or Martha at 614-267-4700 for more information.

**Have you sent in your dues?  
If Not. Be sure you don't lose all your Palatine  
benefits**

.....ch  
eck off items wanted

**Dr. Arta F. Johnson Publications For  
German-American Research**

- Aids for Research in Europe: Germany: Bibliography, Source Materials, Emigration, Immigration, Research Aids & Maps, Published in 1988 with some items out of date .....\$3.50
- Migrations West & Backtracking East: With Merlin C & Eva M. Finnell, Two articles, maps, book lists.....\$5.50
- People of the Palatinate (revised edition)A background book: what it was like in the German villages 1616-1815...\$5.50
- Begin With The Beeswiggers Sloswhines & Worse

two volumes, sold as a set only. A hilarious spoof on genealogy in general & German ancestry in particular.....\$10.50

- The Origins, Development & Meanings of German Names  
Given names, nicknames, surnames.....\$8.50
- How To Read German Church Records Without Knowing Much German: Patterns of records, vocabularies, examples of script.....\$5.50
- A Guide to The Spelling & Pronunciation of German Names: How to arrive at the German spelling of misspelled and garbled personal names, surnames, place names .....\$8.50

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Amt.\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Columbus, OH 43220-2941

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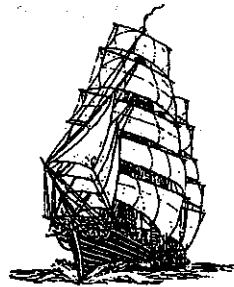
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**National Office**

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*Pal-Am.Lib@Juno.com*  
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**Upcoming Events**

Apr 5, 2003 - Indiana Genealogical Society, Annual Conference Chesterton IN  
 Apr 6, 2003 - Salt Lake City Research Skeen 63523@aol.com  
 April 24-26 - Ohio Genealogical Society 2003 Annual Conference Columbus, OH  
 May 3, 2003 - NY Spring Meeting, New Paltz, Ulster County  
 Jun 2003 - Palatines to America National Conference Columbus, OH  
 Oct 4, 2003 - Meeting New York Chapter  
 May 28-31 National Genealogical Society Annual Conference Pittsburgh, PA



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