



Palatine Heritage

NEWSLETTER of the
Ohio Chapter
PALATINES TO AMERICA

Jan ? 1982 Vol V no 3

NEW NAME FOR NEWSLETTER

Our thanks to all of you who expressed a choice of name for the Ohio Chapter Newsletter. PALATINE HERITAGE was the overwhelming favorite. One person noted that HERITAGE was a good choice because it indicated the genealogical connotation for the organization.

President Harold Betsch designed the above new heading which we think is very attractive. We certainly appreciate his willingness to use his distinctive talent to get us off to a "sailing" start in 1982.

IMPORTANT DATES IN YOUR FUTURE

Two important dates within the first six months of 1982 should be noted by Ohio Chapter members of Palatines to America. The Spring business meeting and conference will be held Saturday, April 24th, at the Ohio Historical Society Auditorium. At this time the election of officers and the annual business reports are on the agenda. The featured speaker of the conference will be Mr. Jimmy Walker, who is associated with the National Archives.

The annual meeting of Palatines to America will convene June 25-26 at Capital University in Columbus. Sessions will be held on campus in Bexley Hall. There will be dormitory accommodations at reasonable cost for those who need overnight lodging. This is the first time that the national meeting has been held in Columbus. Many Ohio members who have not been able to attend out-of-

state meetings should now be able to enjoy the fellowship and the opportunity to exchange information with others at this gathering. Arrangements are now being completed to have Carla Mittelstaedt-Kubaseck, a German genealogical researcher, as the featured speaker at this national meeting.

Details concerning these meetings will be included in the next newsletter. Palatine Patter will have more about the national meeting.

UP-DATE ON ANCESTOR CHARTS

George Munsch, who is coordinating the indexing of members' ancestor charts, reports that information for Volume II is being typed. As soon as this list is completed arrangements for publication will be finalized. Information about price and availability will appear in the Palatine Patter and in the next issue of Palatine Heritage.

New members of Palatines to America, and other members who have not done so already, may continue to send ancestor charts to: Mrs. George Munsch, 2673 Northwest Boulevard, Columbus, OH 43221.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is our NEW ADDRESS:

Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America
Capital University
P. O. Box 106
Columbus, OH 43209 2394

Please use this new address for all future mailings.

OHIO CHAPTER HEADQUARTERS
READY FOR USE

The executive council of Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America, took possession of Room 339, Renner Hall, Capital University for a chapter headquarters on October 2, 1981. In addition to the room, the University furnished a large table, several chairs and draperies for the windows. A built-in cupboard and small coat closet furnish some storage space. In addition, president Harold Betsch has built some additional shelves, donated a file cabinet, coat rack, book ends, lectern, and made a sign for the door. Robert Rudy has loaned a typewriter, which we hope can be replaced by a donation before the loaned one must be returned.

Reference material is being collected in the form of family histories and periodicals i.e. Tri-State Trader and Our Keystone Families, a weekly column, written by Schuyler Brossman. The index cards of Volume I ancestor charts are available for reference.

The following books have been donated to start a chapter library:

Searching for your Ancestors - Doan
Journey to Pennsylvania - Mittelberger
The Eby Report (3 vol.) - Newman & Groff
Lancaster Co. Pennsylvania Index to the
1780 Tax Records - Hawbaker & Groff
General Research in Maryland - M. Meyer
given by Robert Rudy

History of Franklin County, Pennsylvania - McCauley
given by Betty Bernard

Familienkundliches Wörterbuch-Ribbe-
Henning-Von Fritz Verdenhalven
Taschenbuch für Familien-Geschichts-
forschung Gegründet-Von F. Wecken
Hessische Familienkunde, March, June
and September 1981
given by Ken Smith

In addition to his gifts Ken Smith loaned the following items:

Germanic Genealogist No. 20,21, & 22.
Journal of Augustana, Vol. 6, 1981 -
Issues 1 & 2

Tracing your Swiss Roots - Wellauer
Tracing your German Roots - Wellauer

The room will be open from noon to 4 P.M. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of each week. Members are urged to visit during these hours. Volunteers for these hours are needed. If you can give some time, call Florence Beck at 885-8336. She is in charge of scheduling.

In addition to volunteering your time, donations of periodicals i.e. the Genealogical Helper will be appreciated. Loan of reference material would also be useful. An index file of all items will be prepared. Also planned is establishing a file of members who have references which they would either loan to other members or make available for study in the owner's home. If you would be interested in being included in such a file, list your available materials on 3 x 5 cards, recording your name, address, and phone number in the lower right hand corner. Mail cards to Ohio Chapter.

MINI-WORKSHOP CHAIRMAN SOUGHT

Mrs. Nova Weller recently tendered her resignation as chairman of the Ohio chapter mini-workshops. The chapter executive council accepted it with regret, and with commendation for competent and dedicated leadership during the establishment of the mini-workshop project.

Any member who is interested in assuming the leadership position of the mini-workshops should communicate with president Harold Betsch. Also any requests for workshops to be held in your community should be sent to Mr. Betsch. He can be reached at the chapter address listed on page 1.

QUERY...QUERY...QUERY...

Need parents of James Thompson
b. 16 May 1747 Glasgow, Scotland
m. 16 Mar 1768 French Georges C.H., Md.
to Nancy Ann Perry
d. 16. Sep 1818 Bracken Co., Ky.
Did he have siblings?
Reply to Vic Thomas T-11
1268 West Second Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212

THE CRUCIAL TEST (Our president philosophizes over the pitfalls and successes
in searching for our ancestors)

To those of us interested in genealogy, this new year could be one of change as we look ahead. When looking back to the trouble spots of 1981, some must grapple with those problems which caused a slowing of their research intent. However, there are those who face no strong problems and who are confident that genealogy research will remain their focus of attention in 1982.

It has been said that no one can go through life without leaving some sort of trace, yet we have all experienced looking for an ancestor who seems to have gotten lost, and didn't leave a "footprint on the sands of time." Thus, trying to find the place of origin of a German-speaking ancestor is fraught with misgivings which force us to juggle historical, geographic, and religious factors, as well as with the reasons of migration within or emigration from another country. Then, our investigations tend to falter, and beset with many uncertainties our effort tends to collapse. I am convinced that this feeling has plagued us into a spritual bankruptcy of non-achievement that is purely psychological.

The fact that every individual's family history is different is what keeps many of us hunting, turning pages and cranking thousands of feet of microfilm, looking at various censuses, wills, deeds, church and baptismal records, ship listings, birthplaces, and marriage records, until a colorful mythology of frustration surrounds that ancestor and we are forced to confront our own mortality with skepticism.

Relationships and family connections have been going on for centuries with gaps and loopholes in the line of descent simply because the many "combinations" possible in one, two, or three marriages (or without marriage) pose a problem similar to the "combinations" of Rubik's Cube that cuts through any intellectual falsity. Hence we must spend many days of our life grappling with these mysteries in order to get back to the original configuration. If people had just stopped "combining" a few thousand years ago, or if they waited and only started to "combine" 200 years ago, the troubles and problems confronting us would have been made much easier, and the "Theory of Probability" would allow us a greater certainty. Conversely, the "combinations" we now have would prove easier than having a family member in the year 2058, "dead" set against discovery and who in order to confuse us just hop-scotched through life to cross the Milky Way and allowed himself to enter an unstable orbit so as not to leave a "trace."

But getting back to reality, even the most meager research by the initiated often enables one to fill a "lineage" gap. If you have ever sat next to a person in a repository or library, eagerly involved in family tracing and sensed the seriousness of his work, you will express an amused smile when he comes up with a "Gold Cup Winner." He may even "holler" out and jump higher than that TV Toyota salesman in the commercial. It follows that I tend to blame any faltering or disillusionment in genealogical research on a negative attitude. In a broad sense it is not just method and procedure that is basic so much as it is the crucial test of that "inner spirit" that makes psychology so important. Consequently, our resolution for the year is to keep you psychologically involved. We want to be part of your success. May this year be very full and happy and bring you good tidings regarding your ancestors. May you enjoy the proud feeling of achievement when your genealogical efforts have come full circle.

-- Harold A. Betsch

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE SPRING MEETING, APRIL 24, 1982

WHAT IS A PALATINE?

At the January meeting of the Franklin Co. Genealogical Society, Dr. Arta Johnson spoke on the topic: "What is a Palatine?" Dr. Johnson has given us permission to print her definition in the PALATINE HERITAGE.

"Strictly speaking a Palatine is a person who lived in or came from a German speaking area that was a part of the Palatinate when he lived there. More loosely, a Palatine was an immigrant who spoke German and was therefore called a Palatine by English-speaking

officialdom: from Switzerland, Alsace, Baden, the Palatinate, Hessen...all lands along the Rhine River. That kind of Palatine emigrated North on the Rhine, took ship at Rotterdam, and belongs to the so-called Palatine Period 1709-1810.

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"WHO'S WHERE" -- Robert Rudy recommends a small booklet called "Who's Where". It describes a step-by-step system of genealogical procedure that has been praised by many. It may be ordered for \$3.50 from J.R. Gobble, P.O. Box 2442, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401.

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