



Palatine Heritage

NEWSLETTER OF THE
OHIO CHAPTER
PALATINES TO AMERICA

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COLUMBUS, OHIO U.S.A.

Volume IX Number 1

30 MARCH WILMINGTON CONFERENCE

As predicted, Ohio Chapter's Spring Conference was enjoyed by those who attended (about 100 from all over Ohio). The President of our West Virginia Chapter, Mr. KIMMONS, and his wife made the trip. We were fortunate to have the featured speakers, Dr. Arta JOHNSON, Ken SMITH, and Annette K. BURGERT, all sought by other genealogy meetings for their expertise. There were question and answer periods and slides to help broaden individual knowledge and appreciation of the times and locales. Lunch was a feast for everyone—roast beef, fried chicken, salads, home style apple sauce, potatoes, green beans, tiny carrots, cottage cheese, pies of all kinds, coffee and iced tea.

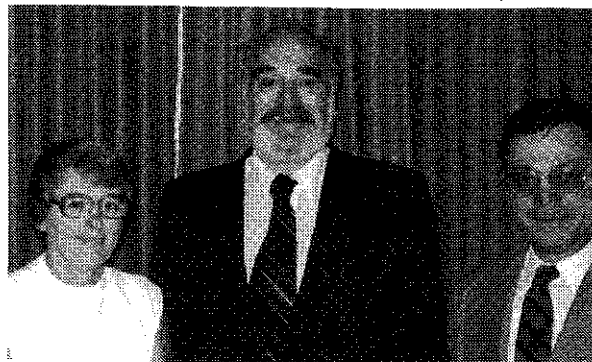
Ernest THODE, our program chairman, made the arrangements in southwestern Ohio and introduced the speakers. Mr. Norvall MARSH, head of the Laurel Oaks Development Center, where we held the meeting, gave a brief history of the facilities. Formerly this was the Wilmington Army Air Base. Now, it is an industrial air park and a base for AIRBORNE's freight and mail services. The day's program included the Ohio Chapter's annual "business meeting", with its reports to members (also, see elsewhere for elections of officers). A popular feature was the Pin-point Your Ancestors Map project, handled by Dr. Richard WILSON and his wife, Ruth. Phil BELTZ arranged for impressive displays of genealogical books and maps for sale, with an assist by Mrs. Jennetta SCHNETZER. Speakers' monographs were available there too.

Dr. Arta JOHNSON discussed *Ungarbling Misspelled German Names*. Much of our research confusion is connected with reading, pronouncing, and the changing of German names. 1) To the unpracticed eye, viewing the Gothic alphabet capital letters, it might be easy to confuse I-J-F; C-G; N-R.—to name a few. 2) The sounds of G-K; V-F; D-T; B-P are difficult for the unpracticed ear—some have no English equivalent sound. The Scottish-sounding McINTEERFER was really MECKENDÖRFER. A pastor, writing about Mr. JONES, wrote the name as TSCHONTZ. FUNDERSMITH was von der SCHMIDT. It's best to say it out loud and try it with all of the vowel sounds. English scribes recorded German names as they thought they heard them. Alas!

3) Name changes— you may be chasing HUNTER, only to find (we hope) that it originally was JAEGER or JÄGER (an occupation as a hunter). Or the CARPENTER whose ancestor was really named ZIMMERMAN. Speaking about *Survey of German Immigration*, Arta urged us to learn more about geography and local history as clues to missing records or ancestors. Learn the names of various major areas within Germany. Know that Bavaria used to cover a much larger area. Bayern or Biern=Bavaria. Suspect that there might be several villages or towns with the same name (the German zip code book can be a big help—Postleitzahlen-verzeichnis). ("Wilmington" continued on page 2)

OHIO CHAPTER OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1985-6

A slate of officers was proposed by the nominating committee, headed by Dr. Helen L. Wikoff. They were elected for a term of one year by the chapter membership attending the business meeting held during the Wilmington Conference. Our special thanks to our 1984-85 President, Dr. Geart B. DROEGE, for his continuous enthusiasm and dedication to Ohio Chapter and National Palatines To America activities. Our new President, Ira W. ("Bill") SIMONS will be aided by the other officers who served so well the previous year.



Elected for the forthcoming fiscal year:

President—	Ira W. SIMONS	in middle above
Vice-president—	Ted W. CUNNINGHAM	not in picture
Vice-president—	Robert F. SCHNETZER	at right above
Secretary—	Thelma HUDSON	not in picture
Treasurer—	Jean B. HALL	at left above

We are indeed fortunate to have the combined expertise, contributions, and guidance of these fine people.

KEN SMITH handled *Before You Go To Germany*. He stressed the importance of being very clear as to **Who, When, and WHERE**. Since there are no central Archives, records tend to be regional. **WHERE** is paramount. For example, notarial records for a village can be found under the notary's name, for a given time period when he served, and under the location where he served. Even if you know **Who** or **When**, you would have a maze of records to search if you don't know **Where**. This is further compounded by fractionating of farms, as they were divided again and again among heirs and generations, so **When** is important too. Ken SMITH helped us with *Calendar Calculation Problems*. Being able to calculate dates from gravestone inscriptions can sometimes narrow your search time-frame. Understanding when our calendar was changed from old style to new style in 1752, and what that means, is very useful when you are interpreting records and trying to narrow the search period.

Annette BURGERT has experienced the challenges of doing basic research in the Palatinate and Pennsylvania. Her published works have already helped many of us. She shared her know-how with us, and included a number of slides of towns and villages, so that you felt you were there. All of this should help you if you go to Europe. Her talks on *German-Speaking Immigrants* and *Colonial Pennsylvania Research* were very enlightening. The emphasis on church records is justified both here and in Europe, where some go back to the 1500's. It may be harder to find Mennonite records due to baptismal customs and persecution problems of the times. The Pennsylvania Archives can yield many clues. There are some indexes that describe where to find certain types of records in this massive collection. Court houses are goldmines of information.

We are going to miss Annette in Ohio. She is now moving to Pennsylvania near Myerstown and not far from Lebanon. We wish her well and know she'll be right in the heart of some of her continuing research. Hats off to Ernie THODE for a fine program, and to our registration team Jean HALL and Florence BECK, who always turn in a super performance, along with many other member "helpers". [And special thanks to Dotty LIMBACH and Bob RUDY for their contributions to this conference summary--editor].

James McGAVRAN may be called to replace Andy Rooney on 60 Minutes. He delighted his audience time and time again with his explanation of "*How To Be A Good Ancestor*". It all seems so simple the way Jim described it. And, he was careful to summarize, just to be sure that we didn't forget. Our many thanks to him for the many chuckles and laughs he gave to all of us.

Some of group present at the final Planning Session for PAL-AM's 10th Anniversary Conference. Left to right: Jean HALL (face hidden), Bill SIMONS, Martha AGLER, Chairman Bob RUDY, Bob SCHNETZER, Dick WILSON

Present but not in photo: Dr. Helen WIKOFF, Florence BECK, Ruth WILSON, Lois RUDY, Anna HUDGINS, and Paul MILLIKIN
(photo by PTT1)

ROY E. WENGER ON THE MOVE

Our chapter President 1983-84, in a letter to Lois and Bob Rudy, confesses that he is rapidly becoming a "confirmed Montanian (address: 333 North Ave. West, Missoula, Montana 59801). Not only that, but Roy has joined several choral groups there. One of these, the *Missoula Mendelsohn Club of Montana*, a 55-man choral group, went to Europe in May for an exciting round of music festivals in France, Padua, Vienna, and Budapest. Upon his return, and after several weeks in Ohio, he will be back in Montana. Roy continues to keep track of us and all the Pal-Am activities. We all miss him, but wish him well as a Montanian too.



10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SMASHING SUCCESS

"Something for Everyone" could have been the theme of the June 13-14-15 National Palatines To America Conference, held at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio. From the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony at 3 pm Thursday to the wind-up 5 minutes early Saturday afternoon, almost 300 participants were treated to a rich assortment of genealogical how-to's, ideas, info exchanges, book sales, awards, door prizes, good food, and comradery.

Conferences like this one just don't happen. The Ohio Chapter had the responsibility for this event. Planning started in November, 1984, when "10th" Chairman Bob RUDY and Co-chairman Bill SIMONS assembled a team that met frequently for 6 months, and then put it all together in a very organized and complete way. Bob SCHNETZER was treasurer and in charge of lodging, meal and meeting facilities. Jean HALL and Florence BECK were registrars. Others assigned the myriad of other arrangements and duties included: Martha AGLER, La Roux MENTZ, Dr. Geart DROEGE, Dr. Helen WIKOFF, Clara and Dr. Robert HARSH, Ruth and Dr. Richard WILSON, Ernest THODE, George MUNSCH, Dr. Grant RUDICILL, Lois RUDY, Phil BELTZ, Paul MILLIKIN, Louise BLANKENSHIP, Hal BETSCH, Anna HUDGINS (who not only acquired and put together the goodie bag contents, but also donated the flower arrangements), in addition to a group of member volunteer helpers on meeting days.

MARK DATE NOW - OCT. 26

OHIO CONFERENCE AT BLUFFTON, OHIO



NATIONAL OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1985-86 FISCAL

At the business meeting Saturday, June 15, 1985, the nominating committee proposed a slate of candidates. There were no nominations from the floor.

Some of elected officers
 Left George C. MUNSCH
 to Lois C. BYREM
 right Jane B. KNOUS
 Fred S. PALMER
 Diane Miller DeVIDO
 (not in photo: other officers
 listed below)
 [photo by PTM]



The members present elected by voice vote the proposed candidates for National Officers as follows:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----|
| President | -----Joyce M. THOMSON | IL |
| Vice-president | -----George C. MUNSCH | OH |
| Recording Secretary | -----Jane B. KNOUS | IL |
| Corresponding Secretary | -----Florence HERRMAN | IN |
| Treasurer | -----Lois C. BYREM | PA |
| Archivist/Historian | -----Bonnie EVERHART | PA |
| Membership Registrar | -----La Roux MENTZ | OH |
| Member-at-large | -----Fred S. PALMER, Ph.D. | MD |
| Member-at-large | -----Diane Miller DeVIDO | NJ |
- *****

Mini-Sessions Prove Popular

It was sometimes hard to choose which session to attend, but it became a matter of determining your individual priority. All had plenty of customers. The five subjects were: Colonial PA Research; Name Derivation; ABC's of German Research; Traveling & German Research; Computer Use in Genealogy. We were most appreciative of this opportunity to delve into some areas more specifically.



Annette K. BURGERT



Kenneth L. SMITH



Dr. Arta F. JOHNSON



Ernest J. THODE



Dr. Geart B. DROEGE

Dr. Richard B. Simons of Arlington, Virginia has had concentrated experience in genealogical research in parts of Europe. He traced emigration departure routes down the Rhine or overland to Le Havre, making the point--ships unloaded cotton from America, then needed freight, and thus promoted emigration. Other forces were; population explosion, less land to divide, disease, low wages, escape from compulsory military service, crop failure, in addition to problems of religion. His slides were good. There were plenty of questions.



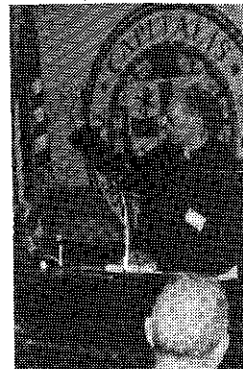
10th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Roland PAUL, Associate Director at the Heimatstelle Pfalz in Kaiserslautern discussed the many social, health, and economic factors in Europe that shaped our ancestors' lives and motivations. Some went to England and Ireland, as well as to America. He told us how to write to the Heimatstelle and what they might have for us there. They also seek information as to destination. He answered questions from the audience.



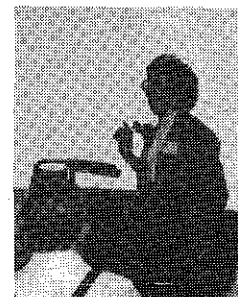
Eileen HEGGEN, of Cohoes, N.Y., member of 5 Upstate NY genealogical societies (& PAL-AM) is an avid researcher in the Mohawk Valley and areas of the German 1709ers. She discussed the influence of the rivers and canals on migration there. Note the Germanic names given towns, including that of *Palatine Bridge*.

P. William FILBY, of Savage, Maryland has an international reputation. As a Thursday night after dinner speaker, he detailed his career, which was most enjoyable. At the main sessions as an author, he apprised us of the breadth and depth of ship lists--what and when we might expect more--how to make better use of them--and steps to take to get more published. He has a wealth of information at his fingertips, and he gave answers to many questions.



REVEREND RICHARD DRUCKENBROD of Allentown, PA, has hosted 5 tours to Germany, edits a weekly dialect column, has intimate knowledge of many church records, and has been President of the Pennsylvania German Society since 1979. He explored with us the background and conditions of the area in Berks and Lehigh Co., known as the "Allemange!". The Reverend fielded lots of questions, and had with him many publications of the Society.

Peggy Shomo JOYNER of Portsmouth VA, has specialized in Colonial Germans of the Shenandoah Valley. She emphasized how to make the most of the wealth of pertinent material at the Virginia State Library at Richmond. Of great interest is the material that can be found in Virginia's Northern Neck Warrants, Surveys, Patents, etc.. She also discussed Maryland and graciously answered questions.



-3- Correction - Bluffton meeting is Nov. 2

WELCOME NEW OHIO CHAPTER MEMBERS !!! -- OHIO: Paul W. ANTHONY; Martha ANTHONY; Thomas P. BUECHLER; Shirley DRAIN; Connie Alton FALL; Dr. John I. HAYWARD; William E. HAUETER; Betty J. HAUETER; Carol J. HOSTERMAN; Velma KRAFT; Howard P. KRISHER; Grace M. PHILLIPPI; Katherine J. QUEEN; Ken ROTH; LOIS B. SCHANTZ; Bill R. WELLER. OUT OF STATE: AK--Orriene F. DENSLOW; AZ--Leallah FRANKLIN; CA--Janice M. COTRONEO; Georianna C. DEDRICK; Ralph GEORGE; Evelyn R. GILMORE; Harry TITUS; FL--Gladys M. ANDERSON; ID--George M. CURRIER; IN--Miriam M. CROUCH; Lydia HIPSKIND; Paul R. MARHOVER; Beverly SHANK; KS--Rev. Glenn J. FRUTH; NY--Frances ENGLE (assoc.); TX--Nancy GILLIAM; VT--Edward J. FEIDNER; WV--Gary L. GALE; WI--J. Arlington POTTS.

The Ohio Chapter of PAL-Am is happy to extend a very big "WELCOME" to our new members.

LIBRARY DONATIONS: "Biography of Carl Schurz, Revolutionary and Statesman"--in German & English--Donors Robert and Lois RUDY; Six periodical holders--Donor Violet MOODLER; "Address Book For Germanic Genealogy, 2nd edition"-- by Ernest Thode--Donor Dr. Mitchell SPYKER. Thank you so much for these gifts. Our library is growing every month.

FISCAL YEAR DUES--HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Membership dues cover from June 1 to May 31. Both "National" and "Ohio Chapter" fees are included in the single payment of: \$12 INDIVIDUAL membership or \$14 FAMILY (2 pers.-1 address). Add \$3 per membership if outside of U.S.A.. 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 National and Ohio publications, and any member discounts for events.

CORRESPONDENCE pertaining to or addressed to NATIONAL is sent to "Palatines To America, Box 101, Capital University, Columbus, Ohio 43209-2394. OHIO CHAPTER use Box 106 same address.

OFFICE HOURS --OHIO Chapter & OHIO Chapter LIBRARY--Each WED. except 5th in mo.; 1pm--4pm.

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

Other times subject to advance confirmation with Jean HALL, Cois.;--614) 885-4223.

"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 periodic, informative mailings from the National organization. Your communications and ideas are welcome.

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IX-1

Meeting Announcement !!

Please Deliver Promptly

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