

# Palatine Heritage

PALATINES TO AMERICA GERMAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY  
OHIO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER  
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## Mission Statement "Advance Knowledge"

1. To further interest and study of German speaking immigration in Ohio.
2. Encourage members to further research family histories in Ohio
3. Promote information about life, times, and social life of German speaking emigrants and descendents.



**FALL SEMINAR October 11th**

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**TWO NEW SERIAL STORIES:**

**Jacob Reinhard Page 38**

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# Vom Schreibtisch des Präsidenten

**M**any of us are traveling during the summer months, but your Board and Committee members continue to devote a lot of time and energy on Pal Am activities. We have several great programs in the works, all of which respond to our mission of furthering interest and study of German-speaking immigration in Ohio, encouraging members to further their genealogical research, and promoting information on the life, times and social life of German-speaking emigrants and descendants.

Jayne Davis has recently taken on the responsibility of lining up speakers and topics for our German Community Forum series at the Columbus Metropolitan Library. The first session is co-sponsorship with the Franklin County Genealogical Society at 10:00 a.m. on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

Russ Pollitt is working on German Heritage Week, which starts October 6<sup>th</sup>. The week concludes with our Fall Seminar on October 11<sup>th</sup> in Plain City. Our featured speaker will be Baerbel Johnson, a Family History International Reference Desk Consultant from Salt Lake City. She has some exciting presentations on tap for us. A schedule with lecture topics and a registration form is included in this issue. As long as advance registration numbers permit, we will have twice the space for seating, with tables set up classroom-style facing the speaker. So please tell your friends and send your registration in early!

With considerable help from Ohio Chapter members, the Palatines to America National Conference took place June 26-28, 2014 in Columbus. Ohio Chapter members took advantage of the close proximity to outstanding topics and speakers. Next year, the National Conference will be in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

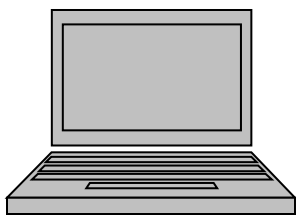
During the July 12, 2014 Ohio Chapter Board Meeting, we approved a motion to sponsor a speaker at the 2015 Ohio Genealogy Society Annual Conference, which will be held in Columbus on April 9-11. We hope to continue collaborating with other groups that share our goals.

We have heard from several of you that you especially enjoyed recent newsletter issues that included articles like Richard Hartle's series, "The Journey." Because of those comments, we have sought and lined up a number of articles and series for publication in upcoming issues of the *Palatine Heritage*. We welcome your ideas and want to provide value to our members.

A postcard will soon arrive at your door asking you to renew your membership in Palatines to America. Please, do not delay your renewal! We do not want you to miss any of our activities.

Vern Erickson

**WWW.OH-PALAM.ORG**



**Come check out all of the ways you can keep up with us.**

**Become a Fan on Facebook, search for Ohio Chapter Palatines to America.**

**Or Follow us on Twitter:**  
[www.twitter.com/palamoh](http://www.twitter.com/palamoh)

**Our mailing address is:**

**PO Box 302 Worthington,  
OH 43085**

If you need directions for accessing the "Members Only" section on the website, contact Vern Erickson  
[vehouse@aol.com](mailto:vehouse@aol.com)



# The Ohio Chapter Palatines to America German Genealogy 2014 Fall Seminar

***“Understanding Ancestors’ Occupations and New German Digital Libraries”***



Der Dutchman Restaurant  
445 Jefferson Avenue, U.S. Route 42  
Plain City, Ohio 43064

**Saturday, October 11, 2014, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

**Featured Speaker  
Baerbel Johnson**

**Baerbel Johnson is an engaging, sought-after German genealogy speaker and Family History International Reference-Desk Consultant.**

9:00 am	Registration & Morning Refreshments	
9:20	Welcome Announcements	Vern Erickson Tom Gerke
9:30	<b>The Internet Can Help Your German Research</b>	<b>Baerbel Johnson</b>
10:30	Mid-Morning Break and Book Browsing	
11:00	<b>Our German Ancestors and Their Occupations</b>	<b>Baerbel Johnson</b>
12:00 pm	Der Dutchman Broasted Chicken and Roast Beef Buffet	
1:15	<b>German Digital Libraries – A Digital Goldmine</b>	<b>Baerbel Johnson</b>
2:15	Afternoon Break and Book Browsing	
2:30	<b>German Research: Connecting People With Places</b>	<b>Baerbel Johnson</b>
3:30	Adjournment	

### **Advanced Registration – Deadline – September 26, 2014;**

Register today through this form, or use PayPal on our website: [www.oh-palam.org](http://www.oh-palam.org).  
 Fee for Pal Am members for program and Der Dutchman Buffet is \$39.  
 Fee for non-Pal Am members for program and Der Dutchman Buffet is \$49.  
 If registration is sent after September 26, add an additional \$10.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member? Yes# \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member? Yes# \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I/We are researching the following surnames (Limit four, please): 1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose my check payable to: Ohio Chapter Pal Am in the Amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Linda Dietrich, 5422 Cindy Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45239    [lindabelle@lcs.net](mailto:lindabelle@lcs.net)



Palatines To America Ohio Chapter's  
 German Heritage Week 2014  
 October 6-9<sup>th</sup> 2014  
 6:30pm-8:30pm  
 Columbus Metropolitan Library  
 Main Library, 96 S. Grant Avenue



German Heritage Week is an annual series of free German genealogy programs sponsored by the Palatines To America Society-Ohio Chapter along with Columbus Metropolitan Library where the [Palatines to America Society Collection](#) is now located.

### **What's In It for Me? A Palatines to America Society Open house**

*Monday, October 6, 6:30-8:30 pm*

Want to know more about the Palatines to America Society and how they can help you with your German genealogical research? Come spend an evening with board members and learn about the society's genealogy resources. Light refreshments will be provided at the open house.

### **Finding German Genealogy Resources Using Library Catalogs**

*Tuesday, October 7, 6:30-8:30 pm*

Find out some hints and tips to use to make a genealogy research trip more productive. Learn how to find German resources available at library's and archives before you visit them.

### **Using HeritageQuest A Website to Find Your German Ancestors**

*Wednesday, October 8, 6:30-8:30 pm*

Find your German ancestors using HeritageQuest, a free online genealogy collection available at Columbus Metropolitan Library.

### **German Genealogy Forum**

*Thursday, October 9, 6:30-8:30 pm*

Have a question about German family history research? Got a German genealogy research brick wall? Let our experts give you advice and recommend how you can solve those family history research mysteries.

Contact the Columbus Metropolitan Library for more information at 614-645-2275, or via email at [history@columbuslibrary.org](mailto:history@columbuslibrary.org). Registration will begin August 31, 2014.

*We look forward to seeing you at German Heritage Week 2014!*

**BE SURE TO ATTEND THE FALL  
 SEMINAR (PAGE 35) AND USED  
 RESOURCE SALE (PAGE 46) ON  
 OCTOBER 11.**





**PALATINES TO AMERICA  
OHIO CHAPTER  
and the  
HISTORIC ZOAR VILLAGE**

**PRESENTS A FREE WORKSHOP**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2014 AT 3PM**

**Zoar School House 221 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Information: 330-874-3011**

**NANCY OTTMAN**

**WILL LECTURE ON**

**THE CONDITIONS OF 18<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY GERMAN  
TRAVELERS TO AMERICA**

**Nancy is a long time member of the Ohio Chapter Pal-Am and has been researching for over 20 years. She has spoken at various genealogical organizations and societies throughout Ohio. An avid traveler herself she recently returned from a tour of Germany and South America gathering information on the meanings on their tombstones and burial practices.**

***Zoar Village was founded in 1819 by a group of Separatists who fled Germany in search of religious freedom. The village is free to those wanting to roam the streets. Directions from the west: I 70 east exit 180B on to I 77 North..exit 93 for OH 212 toward Bolivar/Zoar..turn rite on 212E your in Zoar.  
EVERYONE INVITED***



## Jacob Reinhard of Columbus' German Village (Part One)

By Elizabeth L. Bicking

**H**ave you ever wondered what is behind the name on a street sign? Driving through German Village in the southern area of Columbus, Ohio, a sign name stood out in my mind. "Reinhard Street" is on the north side of Schiller Park. Who was this person so worthy to have a street named after him? My readings indicate he was well educated, fluent in both German and English, dignified, and an excellent speaker. Other traits used to describe him include honest, conscientious, industrious, respected, reliable, and energetic. Here is his story, gathered from a number of sources:

**Jacob Reinhard** was the oldest of eight children born to Michael A. and Barbara Geis Reinhard. He was born in Aschaffenburg, Bavaria, Germany, on 28 April 1815. He was educated in Germany and spent his spare time helping on the family farm.<sup>1,4</sup>

Michael A. Reinhard and his family immigrated to Baltimore, Maryland, on 30 September 1833 on the Ship *Minerva*. They journeyed west directly to Prairie Township in Franklin County, Ohio, which was mostly wilderness with very fertile farmland at the time. Michael and his family carved out a sizable farm southeast of Rome along the Franklin Township border.

About two years after the Reinhard family moved to Ohio, Michael's wife, Barbara, passed away. Michael remained a widower, farming, studying grape cultivation, and raising his family along with the help of his two older sons.<sup>3</sup> By improving Ohio grape cultivation, Michael was able to produce an inexpensive, "healthy, and pleasant" American grape wine that tasted similar to inexpensive German wines.<sup>3</sup> The wine business was a great success. In his later years, Michael spent the summers helping on the farm with his son William, and winters with his son Jacob's family in Columbus. William continued working the farm after Michael's death at age 90 on 12 June 1879.<sup>4</sup>

As a young man, Jacob Reinhard helped on



Photo Courtesy of Columbus Metropolitan Library

the family farm and continued reading and studying. In 1836, at age 21, he took a job macadamizing\* the National Road.<sup>4</sup> He reportedly provided stone for macadamizing the National Road east of Columbus. The work ethic and leadership he showed while working on the road led to his appointment as the Assistant Engineer of the National Road, a job he retained until 1843.<sup>1</sup>

During the road building, he kept up with his schooling by reading and studying law with his friend, Herman A. Moore. For a short time, Jacob was in the Columbus militia, reaching the rank of Major. After he completed the service, his friends called him "Major."<sup>4</sup>

Jacob married Catharine Hamann or Harmann in 1841. She was from Perry County, Ohio, and lived from 26 May 1823 to 21 March 1887. Founding members of the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Columbus, they raised six children to adulthood.<sup>6</sup> In later years, they lived in the 100 block of E. Mound Street.<sup>17</sup>

By the early 1840s, the Columbus area was growing rapidly because of easier access to central Ohio. The National Road reached to Columbus by 1833.<sup>8</sup> The Ohio-Erie feeder canal in Lockbourne connected to Columbus was also completed.<sup>8</sup> The railroads planned connections to Columbus as well. The area had valuable natural resources of marble and sandstone along the Scioto River,<sup>7</sup> fertile soil for crops, and new industries. The city's population was approximately one-third German.<sup>12</sup> These people perceived as clean, hardworking, industrious, simplistic, healthy, and happy. Most of the Germans settled in a newly annexed land addition south of the city, called German Village.<sup>8</sup>

Jacob foresaw the need for a German Democratic working class newspaper in Columbus' Whig environment. Ohio's first German newspaper, the *Adler des Westens*, had begun publishing in Lancaster in 1800, but had gone out

(Continued on page 39)

(Continued from page 38)

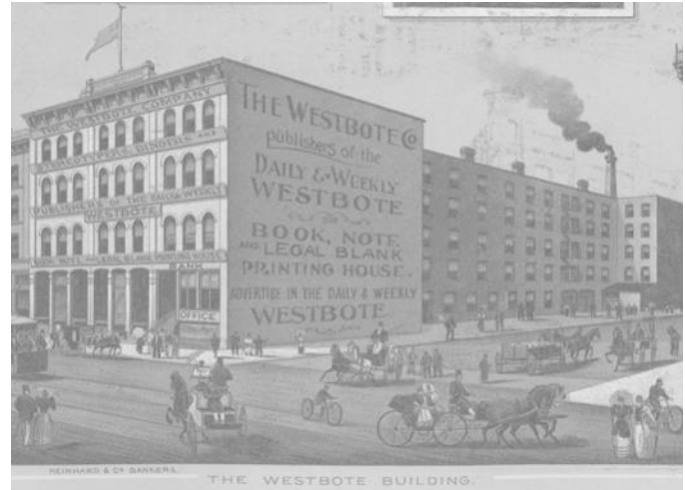
of business by 1838.<sup>7</sup> In early 1843, Jacob traveled to Cincinnati to meet with Frederick Fieser, who once worked at the *Adler*. He was now working for Cincinnati's *Volksblatt* German newspaper. Jacob convinced him of the potential and need Columbus had for a German Democratic newspaper to connect the residents with their home country and Central Ohio news. Frederick agreed and moved shortly after to Columbus.

Printing equipment, such as a steam press and assorted type fonts, came from a Philadelphia manufacturer.<sup>4</sup> A print shop was set up on East Friend Street in a small frame building.<sup>1</sup> But the newspaper still needed a name. Ideas, placed in a hat, and drawn by a daughter of a friend yielded the name *Der Westbote*, which means *Western Courier*.<sup>6</sup>

The first edition printed on 2 October 1843. In time, it grew from a weekly to a bi-weekly and eventually a daily paper.<sup>6</sup> The paper had a slow start due to Columbus' predominantly Whig slant and the fact that there were few established German businessmen. Eventually, *Der Westbote* extended its availability beyond Ohio and became one of the most popular German publications in the Midwest. The business was located in several buildings before it moved to High Street in the new Westbote Building in 1870.<sup>15</sup>

For the many people who only spoke German, *Der Westbote* was their connection to political, business, and social events, along with news from the homeland. The paper was known for its honest reporting. Jacob's partner, Frederick Fieser, considered the newspaper "the Democratic Bible".<sup>6</sup> Reinhard and Fieser remained in the newspaper business for 40 years. About 1883, Frederick Fieser sold his share of the business to several company employees, who kept the business going until WWI began.<sup>6</sup>

During his time as editor, Jacob won the election to Columbus City Council representing the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, which was German Village. From 1852 to 1872, he held the position of President of Council five times, and the remaining years he served as Finance Chairman.<sup>4</sup> Great strides, to



The Westbote Building, photo courtesy of the Columbus Metropolitan Library

improve Columbus' roads, keep taxes low, encourage rail transportation, improve the infrastructure, develop a better school system, improve health conditions, build the Water Works, and encourage industries to come to Columbus occurred under his tenure.

\*The road surface "macadam" was "named for Scotsman John McAdam, who devised a method of compacting several layers of broken stone to create a more solid and weather-resistant base on the National Road. This was the latest road construction technique in 1811."<sup>5</sup>

**STREET SIGN—JACOB  
REINHARD BIO WILL  
CONTINUE IN THE  
NEXT ISSUE.**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY ON  
PAGE 46**



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

### *Notice to members of the Ohio Chapter:*

This will be your **the last issue of the Ohio Chapter's Heritage newsletter** unless you renew your membership by October. The PALAM membership year starts on October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The first Heritage newsletter of the membership year is published in November. If you are late in payment the chapter must spend additional postage and copy costs to send back issues to late renewals which deducts from our program funds.

In order to receive the benefits from the Ohio Chapter, you must indicate the Ohio Chapter as your primary or as an additional chapter on the membership application.

For your convenience, included with this newsletter is a renewal application for you to fill out and return to our National headquarters. If you have already filled one out from another publication, paid in advance or are a Life member you do not need to send an additional application. Your membership number appears on the mailing label of our publications.

As an alternate to returning the application by mail, a member may renew online through the bookstore on the chapter's website: <http://www.oh-palam.org> and clicking on the "Renew" button in the right-hand column on the home page.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Tom Swinehart

Membership Registrar

### OHIO CHAPTER BOARD

#### Ohio Chapter Officers

President: Vern Erickson [vehouse@aol.com](mailto:vehouse@aol.com)  
 V-President: Thomas Gerke [tagerke@yahoo.com](mailto:tagerke@yahoo.com)  
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#### Committee Chairs

Awards: Mary Hess [mhess1014@gmail.com](mailto:mhess1014@gmail.com)  
 Financial: Ted W. Karchner [see above](#)  
 Library Liaison: Russ Pollitt [russpollitt@gmail.com](mailto:russpollitt@gmail.com)  
 Nominations: R. Craig Bailey [craigbail@aol.com](mailto:craigbail@aol.com)  
 Publications: Shelley Bishop [ShelleyKB@aol.com](mailto:ShelleyKB@aol.com)  
 Programs: OPEN  
 Publicity: Richard Hartle [rhartle12@columbus.rrr.com](mailto:rhartle12@columbus.rrr.com)

#### Heritage Editor: Richard Uhrick

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Webmaster: Carol Swinehart [ckfsmail@gmail.com](mailto:ckfsmail@gmail.com)

#### National Office

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 Or by mail:  
 PO Box 141260, Columbus, OH 43214  
 614-267-4700  
[www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org)

*Palatines to America* is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding the origins of German-speaking ancestors in Europe. Membership dues per year (October 1 through September 30): USA residents • \$35 individual • \$40 family  
 Make checks payable to Membership Registrar, Palatines to America. Payment includes both National and Chapter dues.  
 The OH Chapter of Pal Am publishes *Palatine Heritage Newsletter* with quarterly issues in February, May, August, and November. Published articles may be copied for non-commercial use by genealogists or for reprint if proper credit is given: *Palatine Heritage*, Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America, copyright 2010.  
 Queries are welcome and will be printed in two (2) successive newsletters. Please use genealogically accepted format and abbreviations.  
 Contributions to *Heritage* are encouraged. Articles should not exceed 600 words. If materials submitted are copyrighted, proof of authorization to publish must be provided; sources from other magazines must be cited so appropriate credit can be given.



# Palatines to America 2015 Membership Application

Membership Year: 01 October 2014 to 30 September 2015

(Your member number can be found on the mailing label of any publication)

Name (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Chapters: Membership Optional (Circle one) CO IL IN NC **NY OH** PA None

U.S. Annual Dues (includes membership in one chapter):

Individual + Chapter \$35

Family + Chapter \$40

Life + Chapter \$875

Canada/Mexico Annual Dues:

Individual + Chapter \$43

Family + Chapter \$48

Life + Chapter \$875

Other Countries Annual Dues:

Individual \$50

Family \$55



**RENEW  
NOW!!**

Annual Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Chapter Memberships (Do not select chapter named above):

CO IL IN NC NY OH PA None

# of Chapters \_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 (U.S.) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Canada/Mexico - \$9.00, Other Countries - \$15.00

Additional Chapters: \_\_\_\_\_

International Members (Additional Postage):

Canada/Mexico - \$8, Other Countries - \$15

International Postage: \_\_\_\_\_

Support the Ohio Chapter with your tax-deductible donation:

Become a Friend of the Ohio Chapter - \$15

Become a Supporter of the Ohio Chapter - \$50

Become a Patron of the Ohio Chapter - \$100

Ohio Chapter Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

National PalAm Patter Newsletter

Online at [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org) - No Charge

Printed Copies - \$5.00

Printed Patter Option: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check payable to Palatines to America to:**  
Palatines to America, P.O. Box 141260, Columbus, Ohio 43214

## Ohio Chapter — Palatines to America Donation Form

OHIO Chapter – Palatines to America\* is a non-profit organization. We invite you to support our society's efforts to maintain, enhance and disseminate information on German genealogy.

**Yes, I want to support the Ohio Chapter's educational efforts. Enclosed is my donation for:**

- \$500 Goenner / Benefactor
- \$100 Schirmherr / Patron
- \$50 Anhaenger / Supporter
- \$15 Freund / Friend
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Send your tax-deductible contributions payable to:

OH Chapter – Palatines to America  
P.O. Box 302  
Columbus, OH 43085

**Thank you for your support!**

\* 501 c (3) non-profit designation

## Did You Know...

- The Ohio Historical Society has changed its name to Ohio History Connection. Their website remains the same, [www.ohiohistory.org](http://www.ohiohistory.org).
- FamilySearch has updated its digitized collection of "Ohio Probate Records, 1789-1996" and several other Ohio collections, including "Hamilton County Records, 1791-1994." Check out the offerings at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org); click on Search; map of United States; Ohio.
- *Who Do You Think You Are?* has returned to the airwaves with new episodes for Season 5. The show airs Wednesdays at 9:00 pm on TLC.
- Palatines to America will celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding in 2015.

## OHIO Chapter PalAm

### Mail Order Price List for Publications & Other Sale Items

Rev. 7/2014

<b><i>Beginning Genealogy</i></b>		
Beginning Genealogy: Start It Right! - Dr. Arta F. Johnson ... copyright 1993	\$	<b>6</b>
The Very Basics of German Genealogy - Kenneth L. Smith ... copyright 1993	\$	<b>7</b>
<b><i>German Research</i></b>		
A Guide to the Spelling & Pronunciation of German Names - Dr. Arta F. Johnson ... c 1981	\$	<b>10</b>
Eighteenth Century Emigrants from Langensbold in Hesse to America - Annette Kunselman Burgert, FGSP, FASG ... copyright 1997	\$	<b>24</b>
Eighteenth Century Emigrants from Northern Alsace to America - Annette Kunselman Burgert,	\$	<b>40</b>
German Genealogical Research - George K. Schweitzer, PhD ... copyright 2003	\$	<b>15</b>
How to Read German Church Records Without Knowing Much German - Dr. Arta F. Johnson ... copyright 1980	\$	<b>7</b>
Nineteenth Century Emigrants from Baden-Wuerttemberg, vol. 1 - Bridgitte Burkett ... c 1997	\$	<b>27</b>
Palatine Origins of Some Pennsylvania Pioneers- Annette Kunselman Burgert, FGSP, FASG ... copyright 2000	\$	<b>37</b>
People of the Palatinate (revised edition) - Dr. Arta F. Johnson ... copyright 1981, rev.1989	\$	<b>7</b>
The Origins, Development & Meanings of German Names - Dr. Arta F. Johnson ... copyright 1984	\$	<b>10</b>
<b><i>U.S. German Research</i></b>		
Civil War Genealogy - George K. Schweitzer, PhD ... copyright 2003	\$	<b>15</b>
Genealogical Research for GA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MO, NC, NY, OH, SC, TN, VA (separate book for each state) - George K. Schweitzer, PhD ... copyrights 1993-2005	\$	<b>15</b>
Germans Into and Out of Ohio Before 1850 - Ernest Thode... copyright 1993	\$	<b>6</b>
Handbook of Genealogical Sources - George K. Schweitzer, PhD ... copyright 1996	\$	<b>15</b>
Migrations West & Backtracking East - Dr. Arta F. Johnson With Merlin C. & Eva M. Finnell	\$	<b>7</b>
Revolutionary War Genealogy - George K. Schweitzer, PhD ... copyright 1997	\$	<b>15</b>
<b><i>Other Items:</i></b>		
"Boat tote" style canvas bag with PalAm logo - 17"X16"X4"	\$	<b>18</b>
PalAm National logo clipper ship pin	\$	<b>7</b>
Clipper ship logo ball cap	\$	<b>5</b>

**Free shipping. Sales tax 7.5% for OHIO RESIDENTS ONLY**

To place an order, make checks payable to Ohio Chapter PalAm and mail to:

Ohio Chapter PalAm/Bookstore

PO Box 302, Worthington, OH 43085

*The family of Robert Fairchild Heltman, a charter member of Palatines to America, generously donated his papers and genealogy research to our Resource Center collection. The immigrant ancestor is Johannes Heldmann, possibly emigrating from Darmstadt and Frankfort, Germany, who arrived in Philadelphia on the John & Mary November 7, 1754. He may have fought in the French and Indian War. He appears in the 1767 Berks County tax records as John Heltman, a blacksmith with 206 acres.*

*The Heltman Collection includes stories of the Heltman family passed down to and written by Robert Fairchild Heltman, whose direct line from the original immigrant is:*

*John (Johannes Heldmann) HELTMAN, b est. 1733*

*Joseph HELTMAN, b est. 1791*

*Emmanuel HELTMAN, b est. 1833*

*Andrew Fairchild HELTMAN, b 23 Dec 1868*

*Fairchild Long HELTMAN, b 17 Oct 1905*

*Robert Fairchild HELTMAN, b 11 May 1934*

*The story entitled "Pioneering," transcribed from the original, is in the voice of Andrew Fairchild Heltman talking to his son, Fairchild Long Heltman, referred to as "Fairy."*

### ***PIONEERING (Part One)***

**T**he pleasure and pain, the work and play, the prosperity and adversity of the pioneers of any community or country, are too little known, or at least considered, by those who have entered into the full enjoyment of that which cost others so much. Too often the young folks without a courteous "Thank you," proceed to appropriate what has cost parents much effort. But then, I suppose that it has always been so, and may be will continue for a long time to come, until the courtesies of yesterday have become the commonplace of today.

Your grandfather ("one of the 11 sons of the Hessian Soldier Heltman" added in the margin) was born in East Philadelphia in 1791, but not a trace of the name is found today in the city directory. The father was born in Belfonte, and today there are many of the family name in Clarion and Clinton Counties. Their names are found today in Pittsburgh, and a trail of the cities to the west. The old home of these grandparents has been in Ashland, Ohio, since 1836. Their children scattered with the spirit of the pioneers to the westward, somewhat in keeping with the old

saying, "Go west young man, and grow up with the country."

"O Dad, put some juice into your story," said Fairy as he yawned. "Do you mean that my grandfather, your father, was born in Belfonte?"

"Yes, he was born near there. It was really in Milesburg before the Pennsylvania Railroad was built. It was before the county seat was located at Belfonte. It was cents and not sense alone that took the old farmer before the legislature and won for the big spring. That is a fine country, and there are many of the descendants of the family in that section today. Some are in Center county, some are in Clinton county, some are in Blair county. Some are in Lycoming, and well, so many I know in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky and Colorado. Some are in Washington D.C. and others are in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota. Indeed there are some of them in California, and others in North Dakota, and even in Saskatchewan.

"Are any of them in jail?" queried Fairy.

"Of that I am not sure, but some years ago, I knew of one of our name who resided in Kansas City, who ought to have been in jail but was not. Often I have heard it said that if our ancestry were



traced back far enough, we might find some of our forebears hanging to the limb of a tree. Whether it meant to intimate that some of them were either monkeys or horse thieves I am sometimes not so sure," said Dad.

It is a great misfortune for our generation that great forests were felled, and the finest of timber cut and hauled into great log heaps, and there burned. This was the foresight of those pioneers who were doing their utmost to subdue the wild and convert the woodland into farms and gardens. We understand the mistake made by them but are little wiser in behalf of our children and succeeding generations.

Father settled upon an eighty acre tract of land situated about six miles from Allegan, Michigan, south of the river, on the west side of the road which crosses the Kalamazoo just below the dam of the Light and Power Company.

In those days there were some thousands of acres of timberland round about. Even while I was a boy there remained many fine tracts of timber. Often have I gathered beech nuts, hickory nuts, butternuts, and walnuts. Of course, the hazel nuts grew on good sized bushes, while we seldom found a chestnut tree.

Father cleared much of his own land. He worked early and late. He was a short, heavy set man, of unusual strength. He was a fine marksman, and a good hunter. His grandfather in Philadelphia worked at the cooper's trade. His father had been taught the trade, and passed on part of the tools and some of the training to his sons. In those days it was quite necessary for every boy to be able to do something bearing directly on his livelihood. [The] boy had to be able to do something considered useful.

We have many queer ideas today about a

polite and cultural education, and overlook altogether too much the simple fact that learning to do something useful as well as ornamental, has its inseparable cultural value.

However, father and mother settled in those Michigan woods, and received much of their culture from hard labor begun early and continued late.

Many a day and even late at night the walkin (sic) rang with the whack of the woodman's ax. One day father was working with the drawing knife at his bench in the shed at the rear of the cabin when mother opened the kitchen door and called him.

There was a scene which has not faded from my memory.

I was playing on the floor when suddenly a strange, big man filled the front door, and began to issue his orders to my frightened mother. I was frightened, and looked first at that stranger, then at mother, and again at that strange man, and again at mother, for I did not quite understand the situation.

***PIONEERING (Part Two)***

**PIONEERING  
WILL  
CONTINUE IN  
NOVEMBER**

# USED RESOURCE SALE!

## 11 OCTOBER 2014

### DURING THE FALL SEMINAR

A “Used Genealogical Resource Sale” will be held during the Fall Seminar on October 11th. Attendees will be asked to bring any genealogical items (books, CDs, etc.) that they no longer use or want and donate them to the sale. A form will be provided at the registration table for the donor to suggest a selling price for the item. Donors will place their priced items on a designated table at the beginning of the day so participants can look at the items throughout the day and purchase any items useful to them. Donors whose items were sold will be given a receipt acknowledging the donation. Donors whose items did not sell by the end of the Seminar can opt to take them back or donate them to the Chapter to sell through the Heritage or at a future sale.

### Notes for Jacob Reinhard

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9. Martin, William T. *History of Franklin County: A Collection of Reminiscences of the Early Settlement*

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17. Columbus City Directory, 1870 – 1871.
18. Wikipedia, [www.Wikipedia.com](http://www.Wikipedia.com), Mount Calvary Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio.

# Deutsches Gemeinschaft-Forum

GERMAN COMMUNITY FORUM SERIES  
HELD AT THE COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY

96 S. GRANT AVENUE

THE SERIES WILL CONTINUE AUGUST 30, 2014 9:00 AM

FALL 2014

**August 30** 9:00am—11:00am

**GENEALOGY FORUM—Q & A WITH PANEL—Main Auditorium.** Please pre-register at [www.ohioshitory.org/genealogy](http://www.ohioshitory.org/genealogy) or call (614) 645-2275.

**September 27** 10:00 am—12:00pm

**WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE? —Jayne Davis, Room TBA.** No pre-registration necessary.

**November 2** 10:00am—12:00pm

**FINDING NEWSPAPERS ONLINE—Russ Pollitt, 3rd Floor Computer Loft.** Please pre-register at CML's "Events" page or call (614) 645-2275.

**All events are free. Watch the chapter website for latest information at [www.oh-palam.org](http://www.oh-palam.org)**



The following new members joined between April and July 2011

SUE B GOODRICH, - FRANKTOWN, CO

ANN HEINZ, – BENNBROOK, TX

VIRGINIA JONES, – SAN JOSE, CA

CRAIG KOLTHOFF, – SO. MIAMI, FL

MR. & MRS PAUL VONFANGE– ST PAUL, MN

GLENN WEAVER, - SUN PRAIRIE, WI

DODI WOZNIAK, – HAMILTON, OH



The roster of the Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America is now 460.



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**MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE FALL  
SEMINAR INFORMATION ON  
PAGE 35**

## COMING EVENTS



- August 30** COMMUNITY FORUM—Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH PAGE 47  
**September 27** COMMUNITY FORUM—Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH PAGE 47  
**October 6-9** German Heritage Week—Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH PAGE 36  
**October 11** FALL SEMINAR—Der Dutchman, Plain City, OH PAGE 35  
**November 1** FREE WORKSHOP—Zoar, OH PAGE 37  
**November 2** COMMUNITY FORUM—Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH PAGE 47