

# 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 see page 35**

**TWO NEW STORIES:**

**Johan Friedrich Betz Page 36**

**"HOORAY" Page 46**

# Vom Schreibtisch des Präsidenten

**P**icnics, parades, gardening, vacations, etc., July is a special and busy time of year. This also is true for the many dedicated volunteers who do the work of making the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America a valuable organization. These activities include updating instructional booklets, improving the website, preparing for the seminars and workshops, as well as, following the development of a formal collaboration of German and American Societies for German/American Family Research.

The Board of Trustees met July 11 at the old Whitehall Library, the current, temporary location of the Pal Am collection and Local History/ Genealogy Department of the Columbus Metropolitan Library. We were pleased to see how accessible the collection is for researchers and the excellent support the library staff offers. Please stop in there to see what the library staff has accomplished. The collection is scheduled to go back to the downtown branch August of 2016.

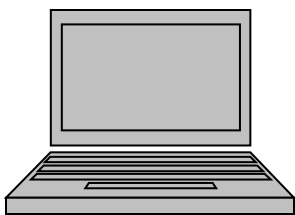
Excitement is in the air as the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee of the Ohio Chapter of Pal Am, chaired by Mary Hess, is planning to make 2016 a year-long celebration. Details are still being developed.

On July 1 I returned from leading a group from my hometown of Pemberville, Ohio to the area of our ancestry near Osnabrück, Germany. In addition to visiting the houses in which our emigrant ancestors once lived, we visited the churches and learned the history of the area. We also visited the historical museum in Cloppenburg and the Emigration/Ship Museum in Bremerhaven to see how our ancestors lived and learn about the emigration/ocean-crossing experiences.

Our 2015 Fall Seminar will present Dr. Marianne Wokeck, a native German, and Professor of History at Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis. Her four sessions will inform us about our immigrant ancestors' experiences: their life in Germany, the immigration/ocean-crossing experiences, and issues assimilating in the U.S. In 2010 she presented a seminar for the Ohio Chapter and was very well-received. Hope to see everyone on October 24th at Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City for the Fall Seminar.

*Thomas Gerke*

**WWW.OH-PALAM.ORG**



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

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Ohio Chapter Palatines  
to America.**

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[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  
Roberta Newcomer  
[rnewcome@roadrunner.com](mailto:rnewcome@roadrunner.com)

## The Ohio Chapter Palatines to America German Genealogy 2015 Fall Seminar



### “FOLLOW THE PIONEERS: LEAVING GERMANY AND ADJUSTING IN THE NEW WORLD”

Presented by Marianne Wokeck, Ph. D.

Dr. Wokeck is the author of *Trade in Strangers*, and Chancellor's Professor of History, Indiana University

9:00am	Registration & Morning Refreshments		
9:20am	Welcome & Announcements	-	Tom Gerke
9:30am	<b>To Move or Not to Move:</b> Transatlantic Relocation in the Age of Sail	-	Dr. Wokeck
10:30am	Morning Break & Vendor Showcase		
11:00am	<b>Follow the Pioneers:</b> Importance of Transatlantic Networks for Settlement Patterns	-	Dr. Wokeck
12:00 noon	Der Dutchman Broasted Chicken and Roast Beef Full Buffet, including Mashed Potatoes, Noodles, Stuffing, Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert		
1:15pm	<b>The Branding of “Other:”</b> Defining and Re-defining Ethnic Identity in the 18 <sup>th</sup> Century -		Dr. Wokeck
2:15pm	Afternoon Break & Vendor Showcase		
2:30pm	<b>Preaching and Walking the Walk:</b> The Role of a Minister's Household in Shaping Local Customs and Traditions -		Dr. Wokeck
3:30pm	Raffle and Door Prize Drawing	-	Tom Gerke

**SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT DER DUTCHMAN RESTAURANT, 445 JEFFERSON AVE., U.S. RTE. 42, PLAIN CITY, OHIO 43064, ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015.**

Register today! Use Pay Pal online at the website: [www.oh-palam.org](http://www.oh-palam.org) or send check and registration to **Linda Dietrich, Treasurer, 5422 Cindy Ln., Cincinnati, OH 45239**

#### ADVANCED REGISTRATION DEADLINE – OCTOBER 9, 2015

MEMBER: \$39.00 EACH

NON-MEMBER: \$49.00 EACH

**After October 9, 2015**, cost is \$49.00 for Members and \$59.00 for Non-Members

Please duplicate this form for additional individuals.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER? \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SURNAMES I AM RESEARCHING: PLEASE LIST FOUR SURNAMES:

\_\_\_\_\_

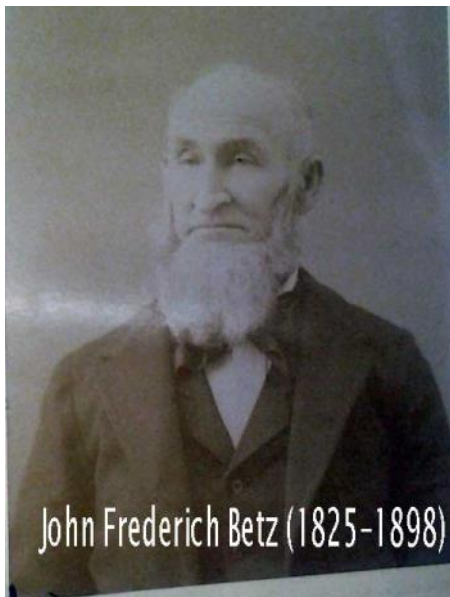
\_\_\_\_\_

## Johan Frederick Betz, Expatriate of Baden

By Carol Swinehart

**J**ohan Frederick Betz, the son of Johannes Betz (6 Jun 1792-27 Mar 1846) and his first wife, Catharine Elisabetha Schweikerd (b. 7 Sep 1791, d. 19 May 1831), was the seventh of 17 children (Johannes was married 3 times) born in Eichtersheim, Wisloch, Baden others of his siblings who came to Fairfield County are: Elisabetha Jacobina Betz who immigrated in 1854 with her husband, Karl Friedrich Baumann; Johann Jacob Betz who immigrated in 1880 with his wife, Frederike Landes, George Friederich Betz, who immigrated in 1847; Margaret Elisabetha Betz Bender, widow of Jakob Frederick Bender who immigrated in 1852; Johan Philip Betz, who immigrated in 1848; and Christena Catharina Betz, who immigrated in 1849. Johan Frederick Betz, the subject of this article, was born on May 18, 1825 and baptised in the Eichtersheim Evangelical Lutheran Church (now Angelbachtal) on May 22, 1825. In 1844 as a young man at the age of 19, Johan Frederick (often called "John") learned the blacksmith trade. (His older brother, George Friederich preferred to be called Frederick.)

Just before his 20th birthday on 8 May 1845, Johan Frederick Betz left home and later enlisted in the Grand-ducal Army on 8 September 1845. For almost three years he honorably served in the Grand-ducal Life Infantry Regiment until the rebellion of 1848 in his home state. According to his daughter, Amanda Ellen "Ella" Betz Swinehart, "During the rebellion of 1848, the German Army sent my father's company to burn the town from which they came as punishment for some offense. The entire company deserted to Holland and then came to America." The account states that John bade a final farewell to all forms of monarchy and became a thorough American all the rest of his life, leaving Baden and all her customs in Europe. The "wanted notice" in the Grossherzoglich Badisches Anzeige-Blatt fuer den Unterrhein-Kreis dated Friday, 1 Jun 1849 No. 44 1 No. 12, 853. Wiesloch (Order) records its own rendition of this story, "Friedrich Betz from Eichtersheim, soldier of the Grand-ducal Life Infantry Regiment, did not return after the up to previous month, 19 April, granted vacation. He is ordered to report within 4 weeks here, or to his regiment, in default of which he gets lawfully punished as a deserter. The authorities are requested to search. Physical description: Height 5' 4", Stature -slender, Complexion-fresh/florid, Eye color blue, Nose - pointed. On escape he was wearing his complete equipment. Wiesloch, May 13, 1849, Grand-ducal



District Office; signed Bleibimhaus. Whichever account is correct Johan Frederick Betz became an expatriate of his homeland in Baden. The family records show that he emigrated on 20 April 1849 which is consistent with the list of Eichtersheim's "Emigrants to America" in the book entitled "Das Barockdorf im Kraichgau Eichtersheim". Family records indicate that he came over with Carl Schurz under an assumed name. Amanda Ellen Betz Swinehart remembered that "not infrequently some itinerant traveller would stop at their farm in the night and call out 'landsman', but her father, John, would turn them away by saying that his landsmen were in the house sleeping."

From the time of his desertion in June 1849 until 1852, nothing is known about the residence of John F. Betz. The Pastor of the Eichtersheim Church in correspondence told us that there is no further mention of the Betz family in the records after 1846. Our next mention of Johan F. Betz appears in the immigration records on the Ship Sir Robert Peel with his sister Christena when they arrive in New York on 27 October 1852 from London, England. How long John lived in London after he left Holland is unknown and how he met up with his sister is also a mystery. He and his sister continued their journey together until they reached Lancaster, Ohio where she married George Schweikert. John F. went into hiding in Basil-Baltimore, Liberty Tp, Ohio.

Johan Frederick Betz became a naturalized American citizen on 6 October 1854 in Lancaster, Ohio. He had been married earlier in 1854 on 3 June to Barbara Foltz who was born 4 July 1830 in Liberty Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, the daughter of Johan Balthus Foltz and his wife, Margaret Homrighouser,. The Foltz and Homrighouser families had been in America since the 1750's, but still spoke German. Apparently this did not seem as threatening to John as the "newer German immigrants".

It appears that until 1858/59, John Betz and his wife Barbara lived in Basil (now part of Baltimore, Liberty Tp, Fairfield County, Ohio) on Inlots 18 and 19. In 1858 after accumulating some American funds, John bought farm land in Liberty Township described as being in Range 19 Township 16 and Section 8 from George and Elisabeth Foltz, his wife's brother and sister-in-law (Deed Bk 26-258). In 1867, John F. Betz bought land in Pleasant Tp, Range 18, Township 15, Section 8 on Old Millersport Road in Pleasantville, Fairfield County, Ohio (Deck Bk 25-189) on which he farmed and where he raised a family which consisted of 3 sons and 6 daughters (only 3 children out of 6 survived to see this new farm, 3 were born on this farm).

(Continued on page 37)



*(Continued from page 36)*

**Christoph Betz (named after Grandfather)** b: September 11, 1855 and d: September 12, 1855 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH; **Mary Elisabeth Betz** b: December 1857 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH, d: 1935 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH m. Jacob Alt; **Margaret Hannah Betz** b: July 1859 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH, d. Abt 1943 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH, m. Jesse Powell; **William Theodore Betz** b: October 02, 1860 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH, d: February 03, 1925 in Franklin Co, OH m. Clara Adelle Goss; **Clara Christena Betz** b: 1861-1862 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH, d: May 27, 1863 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH; **Laura Rebecca Betz** b: February 11, 1866 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH; d. February 19, 1866 in Liberty Tp., Fairfield County, OH; **Sarah Jane "Jennie" Betz** b: June 10, 1867 in Liberty Tp/Pleasant Tp, Fairfield County, OH d: November 01, 1943 in Pleasantville, OH m. Marion Watson; **Amanda Ellen "Ella" Betz** b: February 04, 1869 in Pleasant Tp, Fairfield County, OH, d: November 10, 1959 in Abington Tp, Montgomery Co, PA m. Rev. Francis Marion (Mel) Swinehart; and **Charles Jacob Betz** b: July 25, 1870 in Pleasant Tp, Fairfield County, OH, d: March 13, 1939 in Baltimore, OH, m Mae Lucky. His oldest children were baptised at St. Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster, Ohio.

Later he and his wife, Barbara became members of the St. Peters Reformed Church on Tschopp Road in Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, Ohio where Sarah Jane, Amanda Ellen and Charles Jacob were baptised and confirmed. The Betzes seem to appear in the St. Peter's Reformed Church (Pleasant Township) records about the time the congregation switched from German to English records and probably to English services.

Johan Frederick Betz died suddenly on 15 October 1898 at the age of 73 years, 4 months and 25 days. He is buried in the Basil-Baltimore Cemetery beside his wife, Barbara who had died 12 Dec 1891 in Columbus, Ohio and several of their children who died in infancy.

**Sources (more upon request):**

**Das Barockdorf im Kraichgau Eichtersheim**

Eichtersheim Evangelical Lutheran Church Records, Angelbachtal, Rhein-Neckar-Kreis, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, LDS Film #118913

Fairfield County Records Office, Deed Books.

Fairfield County Marriage Records, Probate Court, Lancaster, Ohio

Genealogical History of the Descendants of John Frederick Betz 1779-1991. Written for the 1st Betz reunion held at Rising Park, Lancaster, Ohio c 1911.

Grossherzoglich Badisches Anzeige-Blatt für den Unterrhein-Kreis dated Friday, 1 Jun 1849 No. 44 1 No. 12, 853 Naturalization Records, Common Pleas Court, compiled by Fairfield Co. Gen. Soc.

Old Basil Cemetery, Baltimore Liberty Twp., Ohio

Recollections of Carl Francis Swinehart, son of Ella Betz and Francis Marion (Rev Mel) Swinehart.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church Records, Lancaster, Ohio, Churchbook 1 & 2

St. Peter's German Reformed Church, Tschopp Rd., Pleasant Twp, Ohio. Churchbook

Year: 1852; Arrival: New York, New York; Microfilm Serial: M237, 1820-1897; Microfilm Roll: Roll 121; Line: 11; List Number: 1485

**Subject is the Great-Grandfather of Thomas W. Swinehart contact for more information regarding this family at [ckfsmail@gmail.com](mailto:ckfsmail@gmail.com)**

## News from the National Conference

By *Roberta Newcomer*

The 2015 National Conference of Palatines to America was held in Harrisburg (PA) Crowne Plaza on June 26 and 27. Attendees from as far away as Alaska commented favorably about the quality of the speakers and their topics. At the awards banquet, Ohio Chapter member, Dr. Richard Hartle was honored for his work in promoting the National Conference and three members were inducted into the Kocherthal Circle.

During the National Pal Am Board meeting on Thursday, June 25, the Board voted to join the German-American Genealogy Partnership [GAGP] as the new coalition of German and American organizations begins to define its purpose and procedure. President Joe Lieby appointed Indiana Past President Kent Robinson as the Pal Am liaison to the Partnership. The Board also determined that the 2016 National Conference will be June 22-25 in Fort Wayne Hilton, Indiana, within walking distance of the Allen County Library.

Action items at the National Membership meeting on June 26 included the approval of the following amendment to the National By-Laws:

### ARTICLE V. Governing Board

- e. Provide oversight of the health of established chapters, and if necessary authorize dissolution of a Chapter no longer able to function according to the purposes of the Society. Upon dissolution, all remaining funds or property of the Chapter, and all records of the Chapter, shall be returned to the custody of the Society.
- f. Assign the geographical area within which the Chapter will operate and authorize the payment of start-up funds if needed.



These articles will follow the article providing for the establishment of Chapters and add needed provisions for oversight and dissolution of Chapters. Details of the implementation of this Article will be provided in future versions of the National Policies and Procedures Manual.

The membership also approved the annual budget for 2015-2016 and elected the following Ohio Chapter members to the National Board:

- Vice President (2 years) – Larry Bicking
- Recording Secretary (2 years) – Linda Dietrich
- Director-at-Large (3 years) – Ernie Thode

Ohio Chapter President, Tom Gerke, is also a voting member of the National Board.

### CURRENT AND FUTURE GOALS OF THE GERMAN –AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL PARTNERSHIP (GAGP)

- Share lists of speakers and topics
- Share information about German resources that already exist
- Exchange periodicals between groups in Germany and groups in America
- Plan a national conference that would include a leadership exchange and training day (projected date of 2017 or 2018)

Additional future goals :

- Create a list of professional genealogists within North America and in Europe with their specialties
- Arrange for local societies to help visitors from another society
- Create finding aids for each region in Germany
- Have a unified calendar of partner events



## Ohio Chapter Palatines to America

And

## Tuscarawas County Public Library

Presents a

### Beginning German Genealogy FREE WORKSHOP

# Saturday November 7, 2015

## 10 am – Noon

Ernest Thode will be the guest speaker. Ernie is a long time member of Palatines to America, an author and known throughout the genealogy community. He is retired recently from the Marietta, OH Public Library. Ernie will speak on.....

**Beginning German Research:** dealing with German names, dates, and places, the German language and alphabet problems, and different research sources.

**German Geography for German-American Genealogy:** will cover the history of German-speaking Europe, political geography, topography that affects emigration, name geography, and researching in German-speaking areas in the US.

*For more information contact the Library Reference Department at 121 Fair Avenue NW New Philadelphia, OH 44663 – phone 330.364.4474 or email gmerrill@tusclibrary.org.*

# USED RESOURCE SALE!

## 24 OCTOBER 2015

## DURING THE FALL SEMINAR

A “Used Genealogical Resource Sale” will be held during the Fall Seminar on October 24th. 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.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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

This will be your **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 Now" button in the left-hand column on the home page.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Tom Swinehart

Membership Registrar

## OHIO CHAPTER BOARD

### Ohio Chapter Officers

President: Thomas Gerke [tagerke@yahoo.com](mailto:tagerke@yahoo.com)

Vice President:

Roberta Newcomer [rnewcome@roadrunner.com](mailto:rnewcome@roadrunner.com)

Recording Secretary: Lori Poch [loripoch@yahoo.com](mailto:loripoch@yahoo.com)

Corresponding Secretary:

Debbie Seemueller [dseemueller@gmail.com](mailto:dseemueller@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Linda Dietrich [lindabelle@lcs.net](mailto:lindabelle@lcs.net)

Membership Registrar:

Tom Swinehart [tshart@greenapple.com](mailto:tshart@greenapple.com)

Past President: Vern Erickson [vehouse@aol.com](mailto:vehouse@aol.com)

### Trustees

Larry Bicking [lbicking@roadrunner.com](mailto:lbicking@roadrunner.com)

Brian Hartzell [hartzell56@hotmail.com](mailto:hartzell56@hotmail.com)

John Cross [jwcross2@gmail.com](mailto:jwcross2@gmail.com)

Diana Druback [dldruback@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dldruback@sbcglobal.net)

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Marilyn Logue [mlogue@sprintmail.com](mailto:mlogue@sprintmail.com)

Christian Steck [csteck@gmail.com](mailto:csteck@gmail.com)

### Committee Chairs

Awards: Mary Hess [mhess1014@gmail.com](mailto:mhess1014@gmail.com)

Financial: Larry Bicking [lbicking@roadrunner.com](mailto:lbicking@roadrunner.com)

Library Liaison: Russ Pollitt [russpollitt@gmail.com](mailto:russpollitt@gmail.com)

Nominations: R. Craig Bailey [craigbail1@aol.com](mailto:craigbail1@aol.com)

Publications: John Cross [jwcross2@gmail.com](mailto:jwcross2@gmail.com)

Programs: Christian Steck [csteck@gmail.com](mailto:csteck@gmail.com)

Publicity: Richard Hartle [rhartle12@columbus.rrr.com](mailto:rhartle12@columbus.rrr.com)

Community Forum:

Diana Druback [dldruback@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dldruback@sbcglobal.net)

### Heritage Editor: Richard Uhrick

[uhrick.richard@gmail.com](mailto:uhrick.richard@gmail.com)

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

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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.

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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 2016 Membership Application

Membership Year: 01 October 2015 to 30 September 2016

(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

# Deutsches Gemeinschaft-Forum

GERMAN COMMUNITY FORUM SERIES  
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN LIBRARY.

SEPTEMBER 26    **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE JUMPING THE POND  
TO DO GERMAN RESEARCH**    Diana L. Druback  
Former Whitehall Branch Library  
4371 E. Broad Street, Columbus

Forum Sessions will resume on January 23, 2016

FORUM SESSIONS ARE HELD FROM 10:00 AM —12:00 PM.

Everyone is welcome to attend... no advance registration is necessary. Watch the chapter website for latest information at [www.oh-palam.org](http://www.oh-palam.org)

## 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

**OHIO Chapter PalAm**

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

**Rev. 7/2015**

<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>
How to Read German Church Records Without Knowing Much German - Dr. Arta F. Johnson	\$	<b>7</b>
Nineteenth Century Emigrants from Baden-Wuerttemberg, vol. 1 - Bridgitte Burkett ... c 1997	\$	<b>27</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>		
Genealogical Research for GA, IN, KY, MA, MO, NC, TN (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 ... copyright 1984	\$	<b>7</b>
<b><i>Other Items:</i></b>		
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PalAm National logo clipper ship pin	\$	<b>7</b>
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## THE OHIO CHAPTER HISTORY: MOVING FORWARD

*This is the third in a series of articles on the history of the Ohio Chapter.*

*Excerpts taken from Ohio Chapter History 1976-1996 by Robert S. Rudy, published by OH Chapter May 1996*

Palatines to America strived to be relevant to the needs of its members. It was thought that a newsletter might help members stay connected and also create an interest in the group's activities. So Montford Schaffner founded the Pal Am newsletter in 1978, particularly to let people know about the April meeting that year in the auditorium of the Ohio Historical Center. (See first masthead below.) This early newsletter contained a conference registration form on which the participant could place a checkmark beside his/her preferred lunch arrangement. The member could check 1) I will provide my own lunch; 2) I will use the food dispensing machines, or 3) Reserve my lunch (I pay the waitress). This third choice meant that members would need to walk over to the Colonel Crawford Inn in Ohio Village where they would receive a hot lunch (cup of hot corn chowder, roast beef sandwich, tossed salad, sherbet & cookies, and a choice of drinks), all this for \$3.60, which included tip and tax.

Mr. Schaffner became the newsletter's first editor, and Martha Agler, the president that year, ran a contest for naming the quarterly publication. The name *Palatine Heritage* was adopted in January 1982. During his term as editor (1982-1985), Paul Millikin shifted production from the typewriter to the computer word processor. Robert Rudy then got the *Heritage* accepted by the Library of Congress and two copies of each number began to be mailed to Washington D.

C.

The Ohio Chapter hosted the first three Pal Am national meetings in Columbus in the years 1981, 1985, and 1993. The 1981 meeting was held in Bexley Hall at Capital University with Carla Mittelstaedt-Kubeseck, Hank Jones' researcher in Germany, as the principal speaker. The Columbus Maennerchor Singing Chorus entertained members during the dinner hour. The 1985 national conference was held in Yochum Hall, also at Capital University, and the Fawcett Center at The Ohio State University held the 1993 event.

At the suggestion of Robert Rudy, the chapter invited book dealers to its semi-annual conventions and charged them \$5 to \$10 for a booth. Then in 1984, it was decided that the Ohio Chapter would become its own book dealer. Philip Beltz managed this *Books for Sale* program and then Jack Stierwalt took over for several years. There also came a time when many of the unsold books were donated to the Ohio Chapter Library.

*The Map Project* was begun in spring 1983 and garnered a lot of attention from participants at the Ohio meetings. Large maps of Germany and Switzerland were displayed and members were instructed to place pins where their emigrant ancestors came from. This data was later compiled and published in the

*(Continued on page 45)*



NEWSLETTER of the  
Ohio Chapter  
PALATINES TO AMERICA

Issued March 31, 1978 : Columbus, Ohio : Volume I Number 1



(Continued from page 44)

February 1987 issue of *The Palatine Heritage*. Compilations of information from later years can be found in the Palatines to America Archives.

President Ira William Simons initiated the presentation of appreciation certificates at the spring 1986 conference. Those individuals who had shown exemplary service to the Ohio chapter were honored. The members who received awards through 1995 (some more than once) included Florence Beck, Philip Beltz, Eleanor Brucken, Dr. Geart Droege, Sophia Jean Hall, Clara Hickox Harsh, Anna Hudgins, Mary Elizabeth Leppla, Dorothy Limbach, Paul T. Millikin, Lois Arthur Rudy, Robert Rudy, Robert F. Schnetzer, Ira W. Simons, Ernest J. Thode, and Dr. Helen Wik-off.

The Ohio Chapter has always involved its members in the organization's administration. At first, however, only the four officers and the program chair led the group. But in 1986, three trustees were added to the governing board to serve as Members-At-Large. That

number was expanded to seven or more in 1990. This board of trustees would meet four times a year in Columbus.

The trustees developed a set of By-Laws outlining the duties and responsibilities of the officers and members of the chapter. This document is kept updated by a continuing By-Laws Committee, who has to make sure that the document follows the dictates both of the National Pal Am and those of the State of Ohio. Past chairpersons of this committee have included Clara Harsh, Robert Schnetzer, and Ira Simons.

2016 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America. Perhaps the reason the group has survived for so many years has been Pal Am's ability to stay connected to its members, to involve them in the organization's administration and operation, and to provide superb educational opportunities in the members' areas of interest.

## GERMAN BREWERS PUSH FOR UNESCO STATUS OF 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF BAVARIAN PURITY LAW (GERMAN DAY OF BEER)

**G**erman cuisines and stereotypes have revolved around one simple, malty beverage; beer since April 23, 1516 when the Reinheitsgebot, Bavarian Purity Law, was agreed upon by two dukes in Bavaria, regulating the production, ingredients, and even the price of a mug of beer. It became law, the purpose of which was to combat competition for grain, yeast, and hops between the bakers and the brewers, two of the largest trade guilds of Germany. The combination of water, barley, and hops used in making beer soon became synonymous with German, especially Bavarian culture.

The Bavarian Purity Law is no longer law. In 1993 the Provisional German Beer Law went into effect, making the old law obsolete. However, Reinheitsgebot is almost sacred text for some purity-crazy brewers in southern Germany. In 2013, the German Brewers Associations began the process of making the original text of the Reinheitsgebot into a UNESCO World Cultural Treasure. By 2016, the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the law, the brewer's union hopes to be celebrating its UNESCO status as well. Some may scoff at the attempt, saying it promotes stereotypes of German beer drinkers, but the president of the brewer's union, Hans-George Eils, sees it differently. "If Germany today enjoys a reputation of beer drinkers, it is thanks to the purity law. It guarantees purity, quality and salubriousness."

--Reprinted from the German Interest Group—Wisconsin—Vol. 21 No. 2 August 2014

## HOORAY, WE'RE GOING TO AMERICA: The Story of the Migration of the H. H. Bohning family from Barkhausen, Germany, to Cleveland, Ohio

*Written in German by Ernst Bohning. The original was in Plattdeutsch, a dialect spoken in Northern Germany. This account is taken from a typescript prepared by Henry H. Bohning for the Bohning Reunion, August 4, 1918, in South Newburgh, Ohio (now called Garfield Heights). Translated by Jill Carter Knuth with help from Heidi and Walters Gander. Published in 1987. Notes by Jill Knuth are included in [square brackets].*

**H**enry H. Bohning began by writing: I'd like to pass on a brief extract from the written legacy of Ernst Bohning. He immigrated to Cleveland in 1843, as a nine year old boy, and he is an offspring of the founder of the American branch of the family -- today an imposing tree with many branches. The good uncle was not a scholar but a simple farmer with a rather scanty school education. Though plow and harrow fitted better into his hand than a pen, nevertheless he sat down fifty years later and wrote his impressions. For those descendants who are interested, he related how the family came to the decision to emigrate. He described the voyage itself, and he recorded the vivid impressions that had been stamped into his mind as a child. Much is included that does not have any interest today, and he discusses in a rather long-winded manner, unimportant aspects of daily life. But through the whole account wafts the spirit of a keen observer, and he is neither lacking in a sense of humor nor in a genuine trust in God. For these reasons, a brief extract from the scribblings of the old man might not be unwelcome to you today.

### So writes Ernst Bohning:

Prior to the year 1842, several people had already gone away from our region to America. But we had heard little or nothing about their reasons for emigrating.

As early as ten years before, in 1832, a tailor named Friedrich Borges had left. After several years we heard that he was living in Cleveland and that he was doing well. He had become a mas-

ter tailor and owned his own shop. With him had gone August Blase, my mother's brother who, Borges wrote, had joined the Shakers near Albany. We had never heard from August himself. A couple of years before we left, two more had gone away. One of them was a musician. The other from our town was a rich farmer, who returned impoverished.

In our village, that was all we knew about America. We could trust what Borges had written. Everything had gone well for him. Very slowly and gradually, we began to think of emigrating ourselves, and the thought of Borges gave impetus to our decision.

Whenever we asked what America looked like, and what the living conditions were like, we received contradictory answers. The usual reply was, "You are thinking of going to America? I wouldn't have thought that of you. My advice is to stay in this country and earn your food honestly. You know what you have here. The only big question is if there are enough potatoes. Get this stupid idea out of your head. That's my advice."

We knew very well what we had, namely eight Morgen of good land, situated by the river, and good enough to get by on. Nevertheless my father was not satisfied, for life passed by in an eternal round of manure wagon, spinning wheel, pumpnickel, sour milk and boiled potatoes. What's more, the family consisted of nine children, five of them boys. Should they become soldiers in the next war, and be shot to death for the King and the Fatherland? He had been a soldier himself, and had no desire to do that.

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So the idea of emigrating stayed stubbornly in his head. This much he knew about America that no one must become a soldier who didn't want to. But it was a long way from these thoughts to a definite decision.

It so happened that Ernst Borges, the brother of the tailor Friedrich Borges in Cleveland, mentioned earlier, decided to emigrate with his young family. Father declared that his oldest son, Heinrich, who would soon be drafted, would join him. Friedrich Tonsing, a schoolmate of my brother, went along. All three of them traveled in the spring of 1842, with Cleveland as their destination. This was the vanguard of our family, in a way, a reconnaissance patrol. We could rely on what they would report, and that would determine what the whole family would do. Borges and my father were cousins; their mothers were sisters.

With longing we waited for the arrival of the first reports. In August they arrived, and were favorable. They convinced my father. My father stood fast against much advice and many warnings against emigration, and the horror sto-

ries about America that were brought to our house every day. These strengthened the increasing doubts of my mother. Luckily for us, he enforced his will. He stood firm.

Then we children shouted, "Hooray, we are going to America!" We had no idea what lay before us on the long journey. In the spring of 1843, we found a buyer who paid us 1600 Thaler for our house and land in Barkhausen, but left us the crop. So we began our trip to America in August, 1843. The last things we sold were the family dog and cat. The kitty brought 24 Groschen, or 48 cents.

**“HOORAY” WILL  
CONTINUE WITH  
THE FURTHER  
ADVENTURES OF A  
TEN YEAR OLD  
BOY....**



The following new Chapter members joined between May and July, 2015

JANIS BURKE– SANDUSKY,  
ROBERT CARNELL– COLUMBUS, OH  
EMILY GOOD– NEW YORK, NY  
JANE GRAMLICH– AKRON, OH  
KIMBERLY KNEPPER– WOODVILLE, OH  
GEORGE MELICK– OLDWICK, NJ

CAROL MONTROSE– WESTERVILLE, OH  
ROBERT & NANCY SNYDER– BUTLER, OH  
ROGER WILSON– WESTERVILLE, OH

The roster of the Ohio Chapter,  
Palatines to America is now  
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SEMINAR INFORMATION ON  
PAGE 35**

## COMING EVENTS



- September 26 **COMMUNITY FORUM**—Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH PAGE 42  
October 24 **FALL SEMINAR**—Der Dutchman, Plain City, OH PAGE 35  
November 7 **FREE WORKSHOP**—New Philadelphia, OH PAGE 39