

**SPEAKER BUREAU
LISTINGS
2016 - 2018**



**Ohio Chapter Pal-Am
PO Box 302
Worthington OH 43085
www.oh-palam.org**

revised December 2017

Patricia Berens (pberens@columbus.rr.com)

No photo

Patricia is well known throughout central Ohio research organizations. She has been doing research both in America and Germany for over 30 years. She has traveled to Germany several times researching her family and helping others research ancestors. Pat is a member of the Ohio Chapter and has spoken to many organizations including Columbus Metro Library.

TOPICS:

Beginning German Genealogy

Hints on how to use Family Search website

Translating German Script, How to read German Script

Researching in Germany

Travel central Ohio.... must be seated during her presentation

Jayne Davis (jayne@jldresearch.com)



Jayne Shoots Davis, native of Columbus, Ohio, has been a professional genealogist for 25 years. Genealogy lecturer at the Ohio Historical Center, area genealogical societies, Sr. Centers & retirement communities. 3 time President of the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society. "Family Treasure Hunt" 4-H project judge at the Ohio State Fair for 6 years. Member of OGS, PalAm Ohio Chapter, NGS, FGS & APG. Graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Music Education.

TOPICS:

Beginning Genealogy
Researching courthouse records
Researching newspapers
Franklin County and Ohio History
Children's Home
Naturalization
Religious Roots & Records
Making Sense of Census Records

Will travel throughout Ohio

Linda Dietrich (lindabelle@lcs.net)



Over the past 25 years, she has researched far and wide, met cousins across the country and the world, and learned stories of her ancestors as far back as the 1600's. She co authored and self-published *The Dietrich Family: 1655—2005, Three Hundred Fifty Years; 13 Generations with subsequent updated editions*. Linda is currently developing the Ohio Chapter's *8 Step Self-help Study Course* in 7 volumes. She has done research both in the America and Germany Linda has published articles for several organizations. She is a member of several Genealogy Societies including Pal Am.

TOPICS:

- **AFTER THE SEARCH – How to continue your research after the search on Ancestry.com**
- **GENEALOGY FOR YOU – What you can discover about your Ancestors**
- **GET THE PROPER TRAINING FOR YOUR SALT LAKE CITY TRIP – What to do before you get on the plane**
- **GETTING STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY – How to start and stay on track while gathering ancestors**
- **HOW TO START YOUR RESEARCH – Identifying where to look and what to look for**
- **FIND YOUR ROOTS – Knowing Who and Where you come from**
- **MISTAKES I WISH I HADN'T MADE WHEN I STARTED SEARCHING FOR ANCESTORS – Things you only learn after you need them**
- **ORGANIZING YOUR FILES – Keeping everything in the right place, in your paper files and on your computer**
- **WEB SITES OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGIST – Local, State, National and International web sites to help your research**

Will Travel southwest Ohio

Diana Druback (didruback@sbcglobal.com)



Diana is retired for the OSU Libraries, Fine Arts Library after 30 years. She began doing genealogy in 1980 researching her English and Slovak lines and presently researching her husband's German lines. She has volunteered at the Westerville and New Albany Ohio Family History Centers. Diana has done research at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. She is a member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and has had articles published in their *Nase Rodina* magazine. Diana is a member of the Ohio Chapter Pal-Am and attends genealogical conferences and seminars regularly.

TOPICS:

Beginning German Genealogical Research

What You Need to Know Before Researching in Germany and How to Find It
Using Family Search for German Genealogical Research

Travel: only within the Columbus area

Nancy Ottman (nottman1@netzero.com)



Nancy Is retired Director of HR and Loss Prevention for the JC Penney Co. She has been involved with genealogy research for 30 years. Nancy is a member of the OGS, Pal-Am and the KS Genealogical Society. She has spoken to numerous Genealogical and Historical Societies, and fraternal organizations. Lectured at the Columbus Metro Library, Groveport Madison School District and Palatines to America both Ohio Chapter and National organization. In 2014 she completed a study with the Univ. of NC on American Gravestones and Cemeteries. Nancy was recently published in the “*Your Genealogy Today*” magazine.

TOPICS:

Beginning German Genealogy
19th Century German Travel/Traveler
History of Cemeteries in US and Europe
Finding Your German Roots

Will travel throughout Ohio

Russ Pollitt (russpollitt@gmail.com)

No photo

Russ is the Genealogy Subject Specialist for Columbus Metropolitan Library and is a member Ohio Genealogical Society, Palatines to America Society, and the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society. He currently serves on the boards of the Ohio Genealogical Society, Palatines to America Society-Ohio Chapter and the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society. Russ has a B.S. in History from Wilmington College of Ohio and a Masters in Library and Information Science from Kent State. He's written articles for several genealogical publications and presents workshops on varied topics dealing with genealogy research and resources.

TOPICS:

**Introductions to online resources such as Ancestry, Family Search, Heritage Quest
PalAm Collection at CML Genealogy Collection
Using WorldCat.org**

Travel within the Columbus area

Robert Rau (rcrau@aol.com)



Robert (Bob) has been interested in genealogy for over 25 years, and has been researching his and his wife's ancestral lines, all of which go back into Germany and Alsace-Lorraine. He has done extensive research with the microfilmed LDS records, and has been a non-member librarian, specializing in German research at LDS Family History Center in Cincinnati for over 20 years. Bob has made numerous trips to Germany and to Salt Lake City to further his research and has made presentations on various aspects of German genealogy in Cincinnati, Southeastern Indiana.

Bob was active in the microfilming of German Lutheran and Evangelical church record from Cincinnati and South Eastern Indiana. He is a member of Pal Am and numerous genealogical societies.

TOPICS:

Beginning German Genealogy
Researching Northern German Ancestors
Germans to Russia
Ohio and Indiana German Research
Research in Alsace-Lorraine

Travel throughout Ohio may need lodging

Carol Swinehart (ckfsmail@gmail.com)



Carol is webmaster for the Ohio Chapter and recently was awarded for her work in developing and continues monitoring and updating the Chapter website. She has owned a web design business for many years. Carol has been working on her family genealogy both here in the America and Germany for 35+ years. She has given talks to both Pal Am and other genealogical societies.

TOPICS:

Researching the web

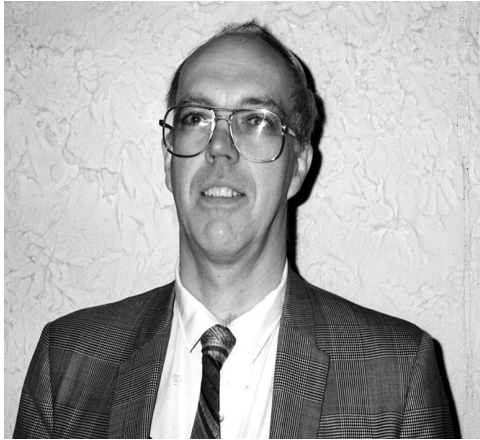
18th century Immigration from Germany to Ohio

19th century Immigration from Germany to America

German Town Books

Travel throughout Ohio

Ernest Thode (ernestthode@gmail.com)



Ernest Thode in 1992 was manager of the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Washington County Public Library in Marietta, Ohio until his recent retirement. He was born in Marion, Indiana, and is a graduate of Purdue University. He holds a Master's degree in German from Stanford University and has studied abroad at Bad Boll, Germany and the University of Salzburg, Austria. He taught German in high schools in Indiana and as a graduate assistant at The Ohio State University.

He is the author of several books, including German-English Genealogical Dictionary, Address Book for Germanic Genealogy, and Genealogical Gazetteer of Alsace-Lorraine, and co-author of A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors. His column "Family Tree" in The Marietta Times has won awards in the General Interest Column and Ethnic Column Categories of the Council of Genealogy Columnists (now called ISFHWE) competition. He also writes the "Ask Ernie" column in The Palatine Immigrant.

Ernie served for 14 years as Program Chairman for the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America and is currently Vice-President and Webmaster of the Washington County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. He is a lecturer on Germanic genealogy and has taught at several elder hostels. His genealogical interests include Germanic surnames, locating immigrant places of origin, and reading the old script. His ancestors come from Schleswig-Holstein and Hannover.

TOPICS:

German Research Is Different

Locating Your German Ancestors

German Geography for Genealogists

German Settlements in America – Can design a topic to fit a specific program

Will travel throughout Ohio prefers to receive fee for 1 night lodging before the morning talks.