

***Palatines to America***



**OHIO CHAPTER  
HISTORY**

**1976-1996**

**Robert S. Rudy**

*(reformatted as PDF file by Ira Simons Aug 2004)*

## THE OHIO CHAPTER HISTORY

### THE EARLY YEARS

The Ohio Regional Chapter, Palatines to America held its first seminar and business meeting on July 17, 1976. Palatines to America had been organized at Columbus Ohio in July 1975. The seminar took place at the meeting room of the library located on the 3rd floor of The Ohio Historical Center on 17th Avenue in Columbus. Publicity indicated that members of the society in Ohio, Indiana, and of the other north central states were invited. The organizing of a chapter idea was suggested by Richard Burgert as a group of invited Columbus members sat around a table at The Maennerchor, a German Singing Club. After The Indiana Chapter was organized in April 1977 the "Regional" part of the title was dropped. The general society's regional chapter organization began in Columbus when Robert S. Rudy and his wife, Lois, invited Pal-Am local members to a series of informal meetings beginning in January 1976. By the Spring of 1976, a "Core Committee" existed. The members of the Core Committee were Dr. Arta Johnson, Dr. Helen Wikoff, Annette K. Burgert, Katherine Cotner, Martha and Dewitt Agler, Ginger Rogers, and Lois and Robert Rudy. Plans were laid to set up an all day meeting for July 17th. Dr. Wikoff arranged with Markham's Caterers for a luncheon to be served in the meeting room. A \$6.00 registration fee included the cost of the luncheon. Pal-Am charter member Craig Weaver was asked to work up the publicity. As the late Woody Hayes, coach of the football team at Ohio State University liked to say, "You Win With People", and the Ohio Chapter has had the good fortune to have outstanding, dedicated and talented people involved in its affairs. The featured speakers for the July 17th meeting were Dr. Robert E. Ward of Cleveland, editor of The Journal of German-American Studies who spoke on "German-American Writers from The Palatinate"; the next speaker was Dr. Geart Droege, Professor of Modern Languages at Capital University. His subject was entitled "European Background in Dialectology, names, and religion of the Pennsylvania Germans". The third was Mrs. Ruth Allen of Warren Ohio, whose presentation was "Locating Pennsylvania Church Records" The program also offered provision for counseling by Mrs. Annette K. Burgert, Dr. Arta Johnson, Dr. Austin Montgomery of Morgantown West Virginia, and Dr. Helen Wikoff.

Those who registered, in addition to the committee and speakers were:-

Lester Ackerman	Ada	Edith Dines	Columbus
Marilyn Adams	Cincinnati	Kenneth Dunkel	Columbus
Gladys Anderson	Columbus	Mrs. Harry Emerick	Columbus
Yvonne Badget	Columbus	Leonard Fauver	Columbus
Richard Beery	Columbus	Margaret Freitag	Akron
Thelma Berry	Bellefontaine	Mr. & Mrs Gebhart	Richmond, IN
A. A. Bretz	Columbus	Alice Gruber	Akron
Ruth Ireland	Galion	Walter Robbins	Cincinnati
Patricia Kircher	Worthington	Christian Seiler	Cincinnati
Ruth Lehman	Columbus	Ella Somers	Tiffin
Wendy Johnson	Columbus	Mae Steinmetz	Mt. Vernon
James & Bea Marsh	Richmond, IN	Jeanne Stuntz	Delphi, IN
Grace & Glenn Nice	Barberton	Dr. Katherine Utz	Whitewater WI
R. C. Riegel	Columbus	David Wagner	Baltimore
Jean Riley	Mt. Vernon	Ralph Wiest	Columbus

In the business part of the meeting, the group elected Robert S. Rudy, Chairman Dr. Helen Wikoff, Vice-Chairman, Annette K. Burgert Secretary and Katherine Cotner, Treasurer.

The members of the Core Committee showed enthusiasm at the success of the seminar and immediately commenced planning for another. The date was to be November 10, 1976. No headline speakers were engaged and the committee learned the hard way that a meeting's agenda for merely swapping information doesn't bring a satisfactory attendance. Of the fifteen persons seated around some tables were Ed Brumbaugh, Delaware; Mary Hughes, Columbus and Montford Schaffner, Columbus. Alice Gruber and Margaret Freitag had to make an early start from Akron to arrive in time for the nine o'clock opening. Jean Riley and Mae Steinmetz drove in from Mt. Vernon. The others were Columbus residents. They were Dr. Geart Droege, Dr. Arta Johnson, Dr. Helen Wikoff, Dewitt and Martha Agler, Ralph Wiest, Katherine Cotner, and Lois and Robert Rudy. Dr. Johnson reported that she has made some progress with a special project, indexing the members' immigrants and their German-Swiss ancestors.

The Core Committee commenced arranging for a third seminar, scheduled for April 30, 1977. The attending members' and guests' names are not available, but the attendance was so good that late comers had to be turned away because of restrictions imposed by the Historical Society management. It limited the number allowed to 50. Miss Yvonne Badget, Columbus, was the first speaker. As a volunteer at the LDS library at Reynoldsburg she spoke on "Resources at the LDS Library." She was followed by Mr. Montford R. Schaffner, historian, author, and member of The Nova Scotia Historical Society.. He spoke on "Palatines In British North America" After a break for a catered lunch Dr. John Sinnema Professor Emeritus at the Baldwin-Wallace College at Berea Ohio spoke on "Palatine History". He was a director of the German American Institute and coeditor of its journal. The final guest speaker was Rev. Harvey E. Harsh from West Lafayette Indiana, Chairman of the recently organized Indiana Chapter of Palatines to America. A carfull of Indiana members came with him and his wife Mary Harsh. Reverend Harsh discussed "Developing a Family Genealogical Society." The speakers were followed by four concurrent discussion sessions led by Annette K. Burgert, Dr. Arta Johnson, Dr. Helen Wikoff, and Dr. Geart Droege.

Mr. Montford Schaffner was elected President for 1977-1978. For the spring 1978 meeting he obtained three speakers, viz. Rose Rombeiro on "Record Keeping for the Searcher," Dr. Louis Voigt, Librarian for Wittenberg College at Springfield, Ohio, whose subject was "Germanic Origins" and Dr. La Verne Rippley of St. Olaf College in Minnesota. He discussed the motivations of the German immigrants. After the speakers, resource persons were available for questions. These persons were Annette Burgert, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Wikoff, Ernest Thode, Dr. Geart Droege, and Harold Van Treese. At the business meeting Martha Agler was elected President, Mary Hughes, Secretary and Katherine Cotner, Treasurer.

President Montford Schaffner brought out the first issue of the chapter's newsletter for the April 1978 meeting and arranged for a quarterly schedule to publish such a newsletter. He continued to publish it through the first volume and the 1st number of Volume II. Martha Agler, his successor as president, with the assistance of Betty Bernard picked up the task and published it, starting with Volume II Number 2 and continuing through the July 1982 Volume VI Number 2. President Martha ran a contest for naming the chapter newsletter. Many suggestions came in. The name Palatine Heritage was adopted. Mrs. Hughes instituted the vertical membership card file at this time.

The 1977 Fall meeting of the society was arranged for October at the Ohio Historical Society Center Auditorium. The headline speaker was Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, Librarian for The University of Cincinnati. Other speakers were Margaret Dieringer, Dr. Helen Wikoff, and Manly Mallet. At this time the chapter commenced a practice of giving a genealogically oriented book to the library since the library let the chapter meet there without any charge.

## **GROWTH AND MATURITY**

Meanwhile genealogist Ernest Thode of Marietta, Ohio, offered to provide a translation service to members of our chapter. Ernest was soon asked to contribute his talents to the chapter. He became the Chairman of the Program Committee. (See Appendix for a listing of all of the chapter's speakers for the genealogical semi-annual meetings.) Actually he was the committee. He brought many outstanding speakers to the chapter programs. One of his first speakers was Bernd Gros, a native of Germany, now a highly successful restaurateur in Columbus. He spoke on "A Rhinelander Looks at America." He was followed at the November 1978 meeting by Rev. Harvey Harsh whose subject was "Americans Look at the Rhineland."

Mr. Thode can be credited with much of the success of the Ohio Chapter. The Registrar's reports show there was a steady growth. By 1989 the chapter's members numbered 458 and a recent report carries 721 members, about a third of whom have out-of-Ohio addresses. Other activities during this period of growth are described in the sections which follow.

## **THE ANCESTOR CHART PROJECT**

One of the Core Committee members, Dr. Helen Wikoff, asked National for permission to start a program now known as "The Ancestor Chart Project" For this project members are asked to send to headquarters at Columbus copies of their respective family charts. The data is compiled into publishing form. For the first years the charts were four generations to the page, but are now submitted on five generation sheets. Permission was granted and Dr. Wikoff commenced work on Volume 1. The materials published under this program have proved to be one of the most appreciated publications of the society. Dr. Wikoff, with assistance of members of the Ohio Chapter, published this volume in 1979, and a second volume, compiled and published by George Munsch, came off the press in 1981. The National Board planned to have the several chapters take turns at this tremendously time-consuming task and another chapter undertook to process Volume No. 3. When it was found that this was not working, the Ohio Chapter, with Jean Hall heading the work, took over No. 3. The chapter members had, meanwhile, been working on No. 4, so No. 3 was finally published after No. 4. Jean Hall has headed an Ohio Chapter committee for this project ever since and her committee has since published Volumes No. 5 (1992) and No. 6 (1994). For No. 5 Mrs. Hall, working with Richard Beery set up a computer program which now simplifies the entry work so that a volume of the project may be expected to come out each year.

## **HEADQUARTERS**

In 1981 the chapter was asked by the Pal-Am National President to determine the feasibility of a national headquarters. Ohio was selected because of its central location among Pal-Am chapters and its high percentage of German descendants. George Manser, president of the chapter, took up the task of searching for suitable space. His committee included Harold Betsch, Montford Schaffner, Martha Agler, and Robert Rudy. No funds for renting were authorized. He and his committee explored a number of alternatives, including The Ohio Historical Society on Velma Avenue on the Ohio State Fair property, The Ohio State University and The Columbus Maennerchor. None of them, for various reasons could accommodate us. Two others were satisfactory and Mr. Manser had conversations with Dr. Fred Bunte at Franklin University and Dr. Harvey Stegemoeller at Capital University. Both were very supportive. After looking at space at both institutions it became clear that Capital University should become the home for Palatines To



America. Manser entered into negotiations with Dr. Stegemoeller. Inasmuch as National was unable to immediately approve a contract, the Ohio Chapter proceeded to take room No.339 in Renner Hall for a chapter library and its chapter headquarters.. Relations with the administration at Capital have always been excellent. The university very kindly supplied heat, air conditioning and janitorial services, at no charge. It even supplied Pal-Am with a work table and other furniture. In due course the national society joined in establishing its headquarters in the same room 339. The library became a combined chapter and national enterprise. When the university needed space to expand its College Without Walls program, LaRoux Mentz, Registrar, arranged for the headquarters of the national Pal-Am society to be moved to a much larger space in the basement room in the Saylor-Ackerman Hall. The library, now including the Ohio Chapter's books and the National Pal-Am Library, later took another nearby room. The Ohio Chapter actually has no headquarters of its own at the present time. Both rooms are assessed a modest rent by the university.

## **OHIO'S PART IN THE PALATINE LIBRARY**

The headquarters room was established on 2 October 1981. Reference material, family histories, periodicals, and book donations started a chapter library. Book donations were received from Betty Bernard, Robert Rudy, Kenneth Smith, Preston Wolfe and Dr. J. T. Golden. Days open were listed, and volunteers serviced the library. Jean Hall became the principal volunteer and eventually became the official librarian. The national Palatine board desired to have a national library here, too, and Philip Beltz was appointed to be the chair over a joint library and book sales committee. Each quarter Jean Hall submitted a list of donations to the library to the editors of the Ohio Heritage and The Palatine Patter for keeping the members informed of new materials and books arriving. Since 1 November 1986, Jean Hall has served in the dual capacity of Ohio Chapter and the National Palatines To America Librarian. In August of 1994 Marguerite, Crist Calvin took over the duties of Librarian for the Paltine Library.

## **WORKSHOPS AND MINI SEMINARS**

The chapter officers have endeavored to supply members some research needs. In 1979 a proposal was made to make available courses in German conversational language. Later a series of so-called "Work Shops" was set up for members in the local county (Franklin). Meetings were held in Columbus' main library on State Street, at Grandview Heights Library, Upper Arlington Library, and the Cultural Center For The Arts on West Main Street in Columbus. Attendance was about 20 persons, ideal for the purposes.

Sometime later Nova Weller chaired a committee to take the "show on the road". Successful seminars were held, by invitation, at Greenville, Bucyrus, New Philadelphia and Warren. Sponsoring members were; Lois Baker, Ruth Ulmer, Paul Smith and Ruth Allen. Mrs. Weller was primarily assisted by Dr. Arta Johnson and Victor Thomas.

In recent years there have been monthly workshops for Franklin County residents. Mrs. Clara Harsh scheduled meetings at Capital University, Columbus City Library and then the Grandview Heights Library. After Mrs. Harsh and her husband Dr. Robert Harsh moved out of the city, the Ohio presidents Jack Quinn and Patrick Mooney have continued the sessions, still at Grandview Heights.

## **PUBLICITY**

Publicity, a vital activity for chapter member maintenance, was in the beginning directed by Robert Rudy. Announcements appeared in "Spirit of Democracy" at Woodsfield, "The Mt. Vernon Times", "The Marion Star", "Marietta Times", "TheDaily Record" in Wooster and "Marietta A.M.", as well as in Joy Moulton's columns in The Columbus Dispatch. When Ernest Thode took over the programs, he also arranged publicity for the chapter's semi-annual affairs. Chairman Thode would send notices of meetings to many newspapers throughout Ohio and then members in the respective cities would be asked to contact their papers to assure publication of the notices. In recent years, Jack Quinn has handled this important task. Mr. Quinn also writes a column in "The Senior Times" and includes Palatines to America activities. Brochures and meeting notices have been made available at libraries throughout the state and the Ohio Genealogical Society and many of its chapters have been quick to help.

There is an International Festival held at the Columbus' Veterans Memorial Building each year in November. Since 1992 Palatines to America has had a booth there. Serving on the committee were; Shirley and Phil Beltz, Geart Droege, Bob Harsh, Norman Knapp, Dorothy Limbach, LaRoux Mentz, Jack Quinn, Evelyn and Gene Reynolds, Robert and Shirley Roelle, Robert Rudy, Jenetta and Bob Schnetzer, Bill Simons, and Jack Stierwalt. This activity supplements the publicity for the chapter.

## **MEETINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES AND CHAPTERS**

From time to time, the chapter has joined other societies in offering German genealogical programs. It was during the Agler administration that the chapter accepted an invitation to join with the Franklin County chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society in a seminar featuring an all day affair put on by Robert E. Ward, one of the speakers at the first meeting in 1976. The meeting on November 2 1978 went as scheduled at Schmidt's Restaurant in German Village in Columbus. The 2nd floor meeting room was filled to capacity. In 1991 this chapter invited the West Virginia Chapter of Palatines to America to come to the semi-annual meeting at Marietta. In October 1993, at Cincinnati, this chapter was joined with Indiana German Heritage Society and The Kentuckian German Heritage Society. In 1994 the chapter joined in offering the Fall Seminar at Eastwood Middle School in conjunction with The Wood County German Interest Society and The Pemberville Public Library.

## **THE MAP PROJECT**

One of the popular services offered at the Ohio meetings is the Map Project ( sometimes called Pinpoint Your Ancestors) This project was presented for the first time at the Ohio Chapter Spring Conference in Columbus on 23 April 1983. A German map ( a Swiss one was added later) was displayed with instructions for each registrant to identify the home places of their ancestor. The registrant wrote his or her name on one side of a flag pin and their ancestor's name and the name of the village where their ancestor lived on the reverse side of the flag. Then this pin was placed on the map ( on or near the place ) where their ancestor lived before emigrating.

Jean Hall kept a record of the data gleaned from this project and in the February 1987 issue of "The Palatine Heritage", Volume X No. 31, the results of the project to this date were published and sent to all Ohio Chapter members. This report included the name of the ancestor, name of the village, and the descendant's name and current address. A special thanks was issued to Annette Burgert, Arta Johnson and

Ernest Thode who volunteered to verify the village spellings to the best of their ability , special thanks went to Richard Beery who printed the data on his printer, and to Richard Wilson who “manned” the map during several conferences.

The last time the project was offered was in October 1993. Most people attending the conferences had already participated and fewer were adding new data. The published data from all conferences is located the Palatines to America Library

### **OHIO CHAPTER HOSTED THE PAL-AM NATIONAL MEETINGS**

The Ohio Chapter has been the host chapter to three annual meetings of the National Society. All three have taken place in Columbus. The 1981 meeting took place at Capital University's Bexley Hall. Carla Mittelstaedt-Kubeseck, Hank Jones' searcher in Germany was the principal speaker. Other speakers were Dr. Paul Zelus, Capital University faculty, and Katherine Cotner, a charter member. At dinner, The Columbus Maennerchor Singing Chorus entertained Pal-Am members. Ohio Chapter member Jack Stierwalt was its Maestro. Robert Rudy was chairman, ably assisted by Jean Hall, William Simons, George Munsch, Richard Wilson, Helen Wikoff, Arta Johnson, Annette Burgert, Paul Millikin, George Manser, Ernest Thode, Lois Rudy, Florence Beck, Clara and Robert Harsh.

The next year the chapter was the host was in 1985. The team, this time had William Simons and Robert Rudy as Co-chairmen, with Robert Schnetzer Jean Hall , Florence Beck, LaRoux Mentz, Helen Wikoff, Clara Harsh, Robert Harsh . Lois Rudy, Paul Millikin. Harold Betsch, Martha Agler , Louise Blankenship, Philip Beltz, and Anna Hudgins as a steering committee. Over 300 attended. This time the choral entertainment was supplied by the singers of Germania Singing Club and their counterparts the Daemenchor. Pal-Am member Dr. John T. Golden was a singer. The meeting took place in June in the Yocum Student Center, at Capital University. It marked the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the society in 1975. The principal speaker was Roland Paul from Der Heimatstelle Pfalz at Kaiserslautern Germany. Other speakers were Dr. Richard B. Simons Arlington Virginia , Eileen Heggen from the Hudson River Valley in New York, P. William Filby, compiler of the several volumes of the “Passenger and Immigration Lists Index,” and Rev Richard Druckenbrod of The Pennsylvania German Society. Mini-sessions were offered by Kenneth Smith, Annette Burgert, Dr. Arta Johnson , Dr. Geart Droege, and Dr. Katherine Utz.

The third time the Ohio Chapter accepted the responsibility came in June 1993. Clara Harsh did an outstanding job marshaling the planners and other workers. The meetings were held at the Fawcett Center on the campus of the Ohio State University. The leading speaker was George Schweitzer from Knoxville, Tennessee. Other speakers were: Annette Burgert, Myerstown Pennsylvania, Peggy Joyner, Virginia; Carol Willsey Bell, Youngstown Ohio; Ernest Thode from Marietta ; Hubert Wilhelm, Athens and Thomas Burke, Columbus. Mrs. Harsh congratulated the following planners viz. Craig Bailey, Florence Beck, Philip Beltz, Eleanor Brucken, Marguerite Calvin, Betty Deem, Margaret Dieringer, Geart Droege, Gerald Emerick, Jean Hall, Robert Harsh , Lori Hummer, Arta Johnson, Norman Knapp, Mary Leppla, John Mangus, LaRoux Mentz, Phyllis Miller, Margaret Mooney, Patrick Mooney, Elizabeth Mowery, Robert Mowery, Ruth Nelson, Robert Puseker, Jack Quinn, Arlene Ryan, Robert Rudy, Ira Simons, Jack Stierwalt, Ruth Weber, Lester Weber, Dorothy Wig and Clifford Wig. Many other members served during the convention.

So, it may be accepted that The Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America has supplied genealogical service to its members, and has also supplied leaders and speakers for its national society.

## **BOOKS FOR SALE**

For about a half dozen years the Books-for Sale program provided the membership with many volumes that enhanced their genealogical efforts. The objective, however, of continually providing book materials at the Ohio Chapter conventions has been less than satisfactory. The membership quickly gleans the Books-for-sale offerings regardless of how many of the books are provided or by whom.

Books have been provided for sale to attendees at Palatines To America conferences almost from the beginning of the organization.. The Palatines are appreciative of the "Books-for-sale" idea provided by Robert Rudy . the initial activities of Philip Beltz and the continuance by Jack Stierwalt. Initially in the late 1970's Montford Schaffner made arrangements for Ye Olde Genealogy Shop from Indiana to display their books at an Ohio Chapter convention. In the early 1980's, Phil Beltz developed a program where many dealers were invited. These dealers included The Photo Place, Karen Wickliffe Books, Louis J. Ryan, Barbara Howison, and Q Source. Dealers would bring their materials and manage their own booths. Often a table charge of \$5 or \$10 was paid. For the first two or three chapter meetings this was most successful. After displaying several times, however, the membership had basically exhausted whatever the respective dealer had to offer.. Many dealers did not replenish with previously unseen materials. As a result, sales per dealer fell. It became harder and harder to recruit dealers to return.

In the spring of 1984 the Governing Board decided that the Ohio Chapter should become its own book dealer. During one particular meeting, \$1000.00 was set aside for this purpose. Philip Beltz was appointed by President, Roy Wenger, to manage this activity. March 26, 1984 marked the beginning date of the Palatine Books-For- Sale" activity. Prior to each semi-annual chapter meeting the books would be put in cartons in the Palatine room on the third floor at Renner Hall, Capital University, carried down three flights of steps ( there is no elevator in Renner Hall ) loaded into Phil's van, displayed at the meeting --- and the unsold books returned up the three flights of steps to the Palatine room. There were offerings of commercial book dealers as well as from the direct Palatine book dealer operation.

As Phil's employment activities changed his participation became more difficult. Bob Rudy, who was active in the "Books-for-sale" program became even more so . Jack Stierwalt eventually took over the activity for several years. There came a time when Jack, Bob and others began to ask if the five to seven books sold per convention were worth the massive effort. Finally a decision was made to cease the Books-for-sale activity. The unsold books were donated to the Ohio Chapter Library. This donation includes the J. Bickel collection. This extensive collection had been purchased with a special \$1200 Ohio chapter gift.

## **AWARDS FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE OHIO CHAPTER**

Many members have contributed vitally to the successes of the Ohio Chapter. Commencing in 1986 President Ira William Simons arranged for appreciation certificates to be presented at the Germania meeting in Columbus to Dr. Geart Droege, Sophia Jean Hall, Paul T. Millikin, Florence Wilhelmina Beck, Ernest J. Thode and Lois Arthur Rudy. An award went to Robert F. Schnetzer and Robert Rudy, in 1987, to Ernest J. Thode in 1988 and to Dr. Helen Wikoff and Philip Beltz in 1989. At the 1990 annual Meeting awards were presented to Eleanor Brucken, Clara Hickox Harsh and Ira W. Simons. In 1991 award certificates went to Dorothy Limbach and Anna Hudgins while in 1992 Mary Elizabeth Leppla and Robert Schnetzer received recognition. Florence Beck received an additional award in 1995.



## OHIO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER "PALATINE HERITAGE"



### NEWSLETTER of the Ohio Chapter PALATINES TO AMERICA

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

Montford Schaffner brought out the first issue of the chapter's newsletter for the April 1978 meeting and arranged for a quarterly schedule to publish such a newsletter. He continued to edit it through the first volume and the 1st number of Volume II. Martha Agler, with the assistance of Betty Bernard picked up the task and published it, starting with Volume II Number 2 and continuing through the July 1982 Volume VI Number 2. President Martha Agler ran a contest for naming the chapter newsletter. Many suggestions came in. The name "Palatine Heritage" was adopted in January 1982.



# Palatine Heritage

NEWSLETTER of the  
Ohio Chapter  
PALATINES TO AMERICA



Issued September 1983

Columbus, Ohio U. S. A.

Volume VII Number 2

Heritage Masthead used through September 1984

**ATTEND**  
OHIO  
CHAPTER  
CONFERENCE  
**MARCH 30**  
Wilmington, OH



# Palatine Heritage

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
OHIO CHAPTER  
PALATINES TO AMERICA

**NAT'L.**  
CONFER-  
ENCE  
JUNE 14-15  
(see details)  
Columbus, OH

Issued February 1985

COLUMBUS, OHIO U. S. A.

Volume VIII Number 4

Computer generated masthead January through September 1985

Paul Millikin edited the Heritage from September 1982 through September 1985. Paul introduced computer word processing in the production of the newsletter. Paul redesigned the masthead using computer drawing techniques.



# PALATINE HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER of the Ohio Chapter PALATINES TO AMERICA

MAY 1986

Columbus, Ohio U.S.A.

VOLUME IX

NUMBER 4

Robert Rudy edited the "Palatine Heritage" May 1985 through November 1988. I. William Simons, pasted up the newsletter during this period.

A new mast head with sailing ship imposed on the Ohio state map designed by Simons was initiated in 1985. Rudy initiated the acceptance of the "Heritage" by the Library of Congress and it has been assigned the code number ISSN 0896-8721. Two copies of each number are mailed to Washington

# Palatine heritage

OHIO CHAPTER, PALATINES TO AMERICA, NEWSLETTER



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Masthead February 1998 currently in use with some modifications

## APPENDIX

### OFFICERS

	<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>VICE-PRES.</b>	<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>REGISTRAR</b>
1976	Robert Rudy	Helen Wikoff	Annette Burgert	Katherine Cotner	
1977	Montford Schaffner	Martha Agler	Annette Burgert	Katherine Cotner	
1978	Martha Agler	Mary Hughes	Katherine Cotner		
1979	Martha Agler	George Manser	Mary Hughes	Katherine Cotner	
1980	Harold Betsch	George Manser	Florence Beck	Jean Hall	
1981	Harold Betsch	George Manser	Florence Beck	Jean Hall	
1982	George Manser	Jean Hall	Ruth Hostetler	Ann Pearsall	
1983	Roy Wenger	Geart Droege	Fred Schneider	Ruth Hostetler	Jean Hall
1984	Geart Droege	I. William Simons	Robert Schnetzer	Thelma Hudson	Jean Hall
1985	I. William Simons	T. W. Cunningham	Dorothy Limbach	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1986	I. William Simons	T. W. Cunningham	Dorothy Limbach	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1987	Ted W. Cunningham	James Vicars	Dorothy Limbach	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1988	Ted W. Cunningham	Robert Schnetzer	Dorothy Limbach	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1989	Robert Schnetzer	Dorothy Limbach	Eleanor Brucken	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1990	Robert Schnetzer	Dorothy Limbach	Eleanor Brucken	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1991	Philip Beltz	Jack Quinn	Eleanor Brucken	Clara Harsh	Florence Beck
1992	Philip Beltz	Jack Quinn	Eleanor Brucken	John Mangus	Florence Beck
1993	Jack Quinn	Patrick Mooney	Phyllis Miller	John Mangus	Florence Beck
1994	Patrick Mooney	Robert Strock	Phyllis Miller	John Mangus	Florence Beck
1995	Robert Strock	Jack Quinn	Phyllis Miller	John Mangus	S. Jean Hall

### GOVERNING BOARD

THE ELECTED OFFICERS AND THE FOLLOWING ELECTED "MEMBERS-AT-LARGE"

Note:- Prior to 1986, an Executive Committee was appointed by the President which administered the society together with the elected officers. Some of these were; Paul Millikin, Victor Thomas, Ernest Thode, Hazel Marx, Anna Hudgins, Nova Weller, Dewitt Agler, Richard Wilson, Lois Rudy, Richard Beery and George Munsch

1986-88	Eleanor Brucken, C. Rudy Heath, Paul M. Smith
1988-89	Eleanor Brucken, C. Rudy Heath, Mary Elizabeth Leppla
1989-90	Dr. Paul Jones, C. Rudy Heath, Mary Elizabeth Leppla
1990-91	Margaret Dieringer, Dr. Paul Jones, , Mary Elizabeth Leppla, James Overhuls, Alice Shaffer, Glen Stanhope, Darrell Tussing .
1991-92	Margaret Dieringer, Elva Kluener, Mary Elizabeth Leppla, Judith Lanning, James Overhuls, Alice Shaffer, Ron Stimmel, Darrell Tussing .
1992-93	Margaret Dieringer, Elva Kluener, Judith Lanning, Mary Elizabeth Leppla, David Rish, Alice Shaffer, Glen Stanhope, Darrell Tussing
1993-94	Margaret Dieringer, Mary Elizabeth Leppla, David Rish, Alice Shaffer, Glen Stanhope, Darrell Tussing, Eleanor Brucken, Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, Elizabeth Work.
1994-95	Margaret Dieringer, Mary Elizabeth Leppla, David Rish, Alice Shaffer, Glen Stanhope, Darrell Tussing, Eleanor Brucken,, Elizabeth Work Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann

## **EDITORS OF THE NEWSLETTER**

- 1978-79 Montford Schaffner, April 1978 through January 1979, Volume 1 Nos. 1 through 4.  
 1978-82 Martha Agler and Betty Bernard, March 1979 through July 1982; Volume II,III,IV,V & VI No. 1.
- The newsletter was named "Palatine Heritage" January 1982.
- 1982-85 Paul Millikin, Sept. 1982 through Sept. 1985; Volumes VI Vo.. 2 through IX No. 2.  
 Paul Millikin introduced computer word processing in the production of the newsletter.
- 1985 I. William Simons (Pro Tem ) February 1985 Volume IX No. 3.  
 New mast head with sailing ship imposed on the Ohio state map designed by Simons.
- 1985-88 Robert Rudy May 1985 through Nov. 1988; Volumes X No. 4 through XI No. 4.  
 I William Simons, pasted up the newsletter during this period.
- 1988- I. William Simons, February 1989 to date; Volumes XII No. 1 through XVII No. 4.  
 The "Heritage" was accepted by The Library of Congress and has been assigned the code number  
 ISSN 0896-8721. Two copies of each number are mailed to Washington

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEES**

- 1976/7 Dr. Arta Johnson, Annette Burgert  
 1978 Ernest Thode, Hazel Marx, Jean Hall, Helen Wikoff, Victor Thomas, Ada  
 Heckendorn, Edith Jackson, Helen J Koons, Florence Beck  
 1979 Ernest Thode, Hazel Marx, Jean Hall, Helen Wikoff, Victor Thomas, Marie Gill,  
 Florence Beck, Edith Jackson, Lois Rudy, Nova Weller, Robert Rudy, Katherine Cotner,  
 1980 Ernest Thode, Jean hall, Nova Weller, Hazel Marx,Victor Thomas, Robert Rudy,  
 Katherine Cotner, Peggy Horn.  
 1981 Ernest Thode, Peggy Horn, Nova Weller, Hazel Marx, Victor Thomas, Katherine  
 Cotner, Jean Hall, George Munsch  
 1982 Ernest Thode,Jean Hall, Nova Weller, Peggy Horn, Hazel Marx, Victor Thomas,  
 Robert Rudy, Melanie Pratt, Katherine Cotner, George Munsch, James Wolfe, Phillip  
 Beltz, Katherine Zelus  
 1983 Ernest Thode, Jean Hall, Peggy Horn, Phillip Beltz, Victor Thomas, Melanie Pratt,  
 George Munsch, Katherine Cotner, James Wolfe, Katherine Zelus.  
 1984-93 The Program Committee was reduced to only Ernest Thode.  
 1993/4 Jack Quinn and Patrick Mooney.



## PROGRAMS

YEAR	LOCATIONS	SPEAKERS	SUBJECTS
July 1976	Columbus, Hist. Soc	Robert E. Ward Dr. Geart Droege  Ruth Allen	German-American writers from The Palatinate European Background in Dialectology, Names, and Religions of the Pennsylvania Germans Locating Pennsylvania-German Church Records
Spring 1977	Columbus, Ohio Library, Ohio Historical Society	Yvonne Badget Montford Schaffner Dr. John Sinnama Rev. Harvey Harsh	Resources in an LDS Branch Library Palatines in British North America Palatinate History Developing a Family Genealogical Society
Fall 1977	Columbus, Ohio Auditorium, Ohio Historical Society	Dr. Don H. Tolzmann Margaret Dieringer Dr. Helen Wikoff Manley Mallet	Germans in Ohio History Bringing the Past Into Focus New York German Immigrants The Huguenots
Spring 1978	Columbus, Ohio Ohio Historical	Rose Rombeiro Louis Voigt	Record Keeping for the Individual Our Tribal Origins
Fall 1978 Research	Columbus, Ohio  Historical Society	Dr. Don Yoder  Bernd Gros Rev. Harvey Harsh	Problems and Resources in Pennsylvania  A Rhinelander Immigrant looks at America Americans look at the Rhineland
Spring 1979	Columbus, Ohio Historical Society	Pastor Fred Weiser	Hang Your Clothes on a Hickory Limb and don't go near the Water
Fall 1979	Columbus, Ohio Historical Society	Lester Binnie Dr. Delbert Gratz	Germans in Indiana Mennonite emigration into Ohio
Spring 1980	Columbus, Ohio Historical Society	David Koss	Pitfalls in German-American Genealogical Research
Fall 1980	Columbus, Ohio Historical Society	Larry O. Jensen	1) Finding the Place of Origin of your Immigrant Ancestor 2) Use of Reference and Research Tools 3) Genealogical German Resources
Spring 1981	Columbus, Ohio Historical Society	Marilyn Wellauer	Swiss Genealogical Research and Foreign Correspondence

June 1981	Capital University	Dr. Kenneth Scott	Sources for Genealogical Material in New York State
		John Austin	
		Ray Turnbaugh	
		Dr. Arta Johnson	
		Dr. Merlin Finnell	
		Dr. Paul Zelus	
		Katherine Cotner	History of the German Village in Columbus
		Carla Minnestaedt-Kubaseck	Finding Genealogical Records in Germany
			Stuttgart, Germany
Fall 1981	Columbus Auditorium, Ohio Historical Society	Milton Rubincam	Determining Places of Origin of Pennsylvania Germans
		Bernd Gros	Patriotism of the German-American
Spring 1982	Columbus Historical Society	James Walker	1) Passenger Lists at the National Archives Washington, D.C.
			2) How to use the Archives to the Best Advantage
Fall 1982	Columbus Ohio Historical Society	Clifford Neal Smith	Genealogical Resources
Spring 1983	Columbus Ohio North Congregational Church	Friedrich Wollmershäuser	1) Origins, Sources & Methods
			2) Case Studies
			3) When You Write to Germany
			4) Social Background of the Early German Emigration to America
Fall 1983	Smithville Mennonite Center	Dr. Delbert Gratz	Americans in Switzerland
		Martin Diestler	Social Influence of German Genealogy
Spring 1984	Capital University Student Center	August Suelflow	1) Germans in North America
		Dr. Louis Voigt	2) Archives in North America Lutheran Archives in Ohio
Fall 1984	Marietta	Klaus Wüst	1) The Virginia Germans
			2) The Maryland Germans
Spring 1985	Laurel Oak Center at Wilmington	Dr. Arta Johnson	1) Ungarbling Misspelled German
		Annette Burgert	2) Survey of German Immigration
			1) German Speaking Immigration to Colonial Pennsylvania
		Ken Smith	2) Colonial Pennsylvania Research
			1) Before you Write To Germany
			2) Solving Calendar Problems

June 1985	Columbus, Ohio Capital University	Roland Paul Kaiserslautern, Germ Eileen Heggen Peggy Shomo Joyner  P. William Filby Rev. Richard Druckenbrod	Migrations into the Palatinate  Rivers and Canals, Their influence on Migrations Records in the Northern Neck of Virginia and Records in Maryland Breadth and Depths of Ship Lists Background and Conditions in "The Allemengel"
Fall 1985	Bluffton College	Donald Bowman Dr. Richard Simons Michael Clegg	Church of the Brethren Genealogy The Journey from Germany to North America Holdings of the Ft. Wayne Library
Spring 1986	Columbus	Jean Morris Dr. Leo Schelbert Dr. Hubert Wilhelm	Pennsylvania Research Swiss Migration Early Ohio Landscape
Fall 1986	Dover Ohio	John W. Heisey  Rev. Albert Frank Dr. Thomas Halpert	1) They Came from Europe 2) The German Connection History of The Moravian Church Genealogical Research on Moravian Church
Members			
Spring 1987	Columbus Germania	Friedrich Wollmersheuser Stuttgart, Germany	1) The Bureaucracy of Emigration and its Traces in the German Archives 2) Passenger Departure Lists 3) Genealogical Correspondence and Travel in Germany
Fall 1987	Columbus Germania	Roland Paul Kaiserslautern, Ger.. Kenneth Smith	Reasons for and Conditions of the Palatine Emigrations to America Using The Camera in Genealogical Research
Spring 1988	Columbus	Jane Adams Clarke Henry (Hank) Jones	Pennsylvania Research The Palatines to New York in 1709
Fall 1988	Hillsboro Southern Ohio State Community College	Jürgen Eichhoff	1) Cultural Aspects of German Immigration 2) German Surnames and How They Can Tell You About Your Ancestors
Spring 1989	Columbus Ohio Historical Center	Robert Rau Henning Schroeder Gummersbach Ger..  Frau Isadore Edse	Evolution of Churches in Cincinnati 1) Professional Genealogist in Germany 2) German Script and Abbreviations 3) German Archives: Where Do I Find Registers, Records, and State Archives I Need for My Civil Research? Farewells and New Beginnings

Fall 1989	Mansfield Die Liederkrantz	Arlene Eakle	1)Pennsylvania German Family Trees 2)Early Ohio Genealogy 3) German Research for Those Who Do Not Speak German 3)Dusting Off Family Skeletons
Spring 1990	Columbus, Holiday Inn	Dr. George Schweitzer Knoxville Tennessee	1) Tracing Germans Back Across the Atlantic 2) German Genealogical Records 3) German Genealogical Techniques
Fall 1990	Columbus Capital U	Lois Byrem Rev. Robert Wiederaenders David Koss	German Baptist Brethren Lutheran and Reformed Records in America German/American Churches
Spring 1991	Marietta	Duncan Gardiner  Dr. Robert Allen  Patrick Mooney	Use of Maps, Gazetteers, and Atlases in German Genealogical Research History of German Immigration into West Virginia Researching Early Pennsylvania and Ohio German Catholic Ancestry
Fall 1991	Columbus Capital U.	Dr. Gerald Haslam	1) Use of Family History Centers (LDS) 2) German History for Genealogists 3) Genealogical Research in Germany
Spring 1992	Berlin, Ohio	Leroy Beachy  Stanley Kaufman Paul Kline Group	Background and Beliefs of the Amish and Mennonite Folk in Holmes County Folk Art and Architecture in Holmes County Hardships of Early Anabaptists
Fall 1992	Columbus Maennerchor	Cornelia Schrader- Muggenthaler Munich Ger.	1) Migration Patterns 2) How to Trace Your Lines 3)Research in Alsace-Lorraine
June 1993	Ohio State Univ. Fawcett Center	Dr. George Schweitzer  Carol Wilsey Bell Peggy Shomo Joyner Thomas Burke Dr. Hubert Wilhelm Dr. Arta Johnson Annette Burgert Ernest J .Thode	1)German Migration Patterns 2) German Settlements 3)German Acquisitions Genealogy and the Courthouse Virginia Lands and German People Ohio Land Records German Settlement and Landscape "Start it Right" Pennsylvania Land and Genealogical Records German Movement Through Ohio.



Fall 1993	Llanfair Center Cincinnati	Pastor Frederick Weiser	Churches of the Reformation in Europe and America
		William Klapp Jr.	German Immigration into Kentucky
		Don Heinrich Tolzmann	1)Publishing German History
			2)Influence of German People in the Ohio River Valley
			3)German Migrations into the Midwest
Spring 1994	Heimat Haus Columbus	Mary Bowman	1)Ohio in the War of 1812
			2) Published Ohio Gov't Documents
		Patricia Van Skaik	1) Immigration Research
			2) Census Research
		Carol Montrose	Using Internet Hot Line
Fall 1994	Pemberville Eastwood Middle School	Dr. Harding Ganz	Economic and Social Forces Contributing to the Emigration from the German States
		Don Heinrich Tolzmann	German Heritage in America and Ohio
		Col John Montgomery	The Battle of Fallen Timbers
		Rev. Larry Knigga	Family Ties and Transplanted German Communities in the American Northwest
Spring 1995	Columbus Franklin University	Patrick Mooney	The Huegenots
		Dr. Harding Ganz	Economic and Social Forces contributing to the emigration from the German States
		James Amaral & I William Simons	Presenting the Family Memorabilia as Decorative Items in Presenting the Family History

**BY-LAWS OF THE OHIO CHAPTER  
PALATINES TO AMERICA**  
(A non-profit organization)

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

Section 1           The name of the Society is the OHIO CHAPTER OF  
THE PALATINES TO AMERICA.

**ARTICLE II-**

Section 1           The purpose of the OHIO CHAPTER shall be identical with that of Article II of the  
National           By-Laws.

Section 2           In the event of dissolution, all funds and property of the Society shall be disposed of in  
such a manner and to such organizations organized and operated exclusively with charitable, educational,  
historical, or scientific purposes as shall qualify at the time as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c)  
(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section 1           Membership shall be open to all interested in the purposes of the Society.

Section 2           Types of membership available:

- a- Individual, Library, Society
- b- Family, two (2) people at a single address.
- c- Foreign.
- d- Contributing.
- e- Life.
- f- Associate, non-voting, Bulletin recipient only.

Section 3           The amount of dues and method of payment shall be determined by the National Board.

Section 4           The membership year shall be 01 October to 30 September.  
The fiscal year shall be 01 June to 31 May.

Section 5           Any member paying dues during the membership year shall enjoy all rights and privileges.

**ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS**

Section 1           The elected officers of the CHAPTER shall be President,  
Vice President, Secretary, Membership Registrar, and  
Treasurer. These officers shall perform duties prescribed  
in these By-Laws, by the authority of the Operating Policy  
and the parliamentary procedure adopted by the CHAPTER.

- Section 2            All officers shall be elected to serve for one (1) year or until a successor is elected. The term of office shall be concurrent with the fiscal year.
- Section 3            Vacancies in any office other than President shall be filled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board. The Vice-President succeeds to the vacant office of President.

#### **ARTICLE V - GOVERNING BOARD**

- Section 1\*           The elected officers, the immediate Past-President and three (3) members elected from the membership at the Annual (Spring) Meeting shall constitute the Governing Board.
- Section 2            The Board shall:  
a- hold at least three (3) meetings per year to conduct the general business of the CHAPTER.  
b- perform such other duties as specified in the By-Laws and Operating Policy.  
c- determine the amount of bond for the treasurer and pay for such bond from CHAPTER funds.
- Section 3            Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by five (5) members of the board.
- Section 4            A quorum for Board meetings shall consist of five (5) members.
- Section 5            Board meetings and the minutes of such meetings shall be open to the general membership.

\* Ammended- See Ammendments nexr page

#### **ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Section 1            The members of the Governing Board shall compose the membership of the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS**

- Section 1            There shall be an Annual Meeting of the CHAPTER to be held no later than 30 June. At these meetings the membership shall:  
a- accept reports of the officers.  
b- act upon the recommendations of the Board.  
c- elect new officers.

Section 2 Special meetings of the CHAPTER shall be held when requested by five (5) members of the Board or by a petition signed by twenty-five (25) members. The purpose of such a meeting shall be stated and must be mailed to all members thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Section 3 A quorum shall consist of twenty-five (25) members.

### **ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES**

Section 1 The President shall appoint the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees:  
a- CHAPTER PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
b- FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE  
c- LIBRARY COMMITTEE  
d- PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Section 2 the Special Committees, as needed, may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board. Two (2) such Special Committees:  
a- AUDITING COMMITTEE  
b- NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Section 3 The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Auditing and Nominating Committee (s).

### **ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Section 1 The rules contained in the current edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER shall govern the CHAPTER in all cases to which they apply and are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

### **ARTICLE X - AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS**

Section 1 These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the membership of the CHAPTER by a two-thirds (2/3) vote providing such amendment has been submitted in writing to the membership thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

*Submitted January 1987. Committee Members:* Sophia Jean Hall  
Anna Hudgins  
Robert S. Rudy  
Robert F. Schmetzer  
Richard H. Wilson

*Approved by membership 9 May 1987 at Annual Business Meeting*  
*Article V Section 1 Amended 13 May 1989 at Annual Business Meeting See Amendments*



# **BY-LAWS OF THE OHIO CHAPTER PALATINES TO AMERICA**

## **Amendments**

**Article II Section 2** Ammended to conform to the national by-laws

### **Article V - Governing Board**

**\*Section 1** The elected officers, the immediate Past-President andthree (3) members elected from the membership at theAnnual (Spring) Meeting shall constitute the Governing Board.

The following amendment was enacted by vote of the membership at Annual Business meeting on May 13 1989.

**Amendment** The elected officers, the immediate Past-President and not less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) members elected from the membership at the Annual (Spring) Meeting shall constitute the Governing Board.

## ALBUM OF PRESIDENTS



Robert S. Rudy  
1977



Martha Agler  
1978-1979



Harold Betsch  
1980-1981



George Manser  
1982

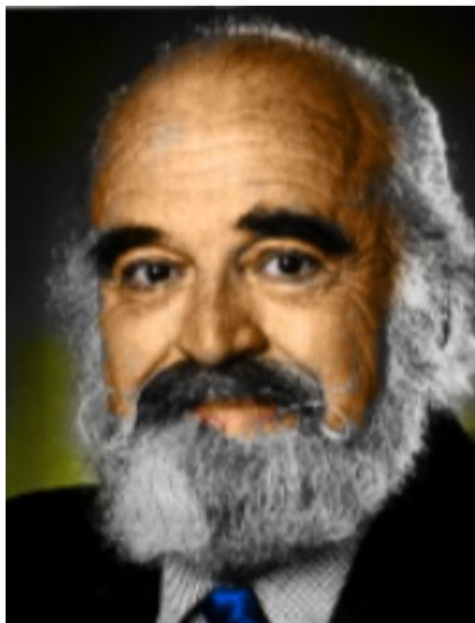


Roy Wagner  
1983



Geart Droege  
1984

## ALBUM OF PRESIDENTS



Ira William Simons  
1985-1986



Ted W. Cunningham  
1987-1988



Robert Schnetzer  
1989-1990



Phillip Beltz  
1991-1992



Jack Quinn  
1993



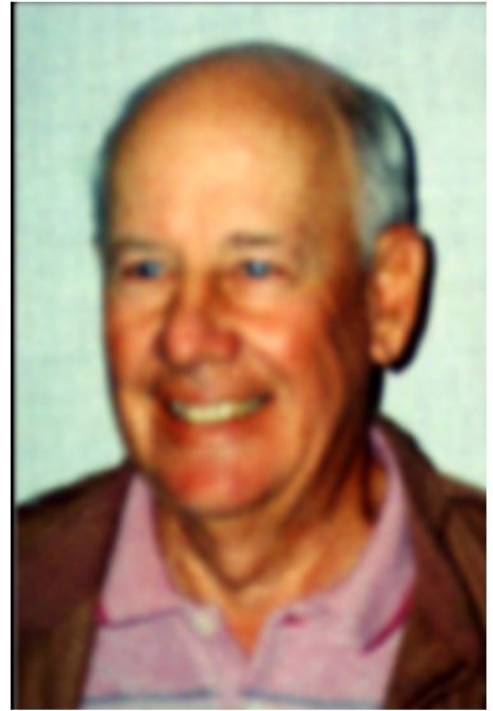
Patrick Mooney  
1994

## ALBUM OF PRESIDENTS



Robert Strock  
1996

Photo unavailable  
Barbara Howison  
1997-1999



Dr. Chester Winters  
2000