

The following village reports are contained in this document

Alexanderdorf Village Annual Report
Anton Village Annual Report
Avilovo Village Annual Report
Balzer Village Annual Report
Bauer Village Annual Report
Beideck Village Annual Report
Blumenfeld Village Annual Report
Boaro Boisroux Village Annual Report
Brehning Popokva Village Annual Report
Caucasus Village Annual Report
Dietel Village Annual Report
Dinkel Village Annual Report
Dobrinka Village Annual Report
Doenhof Village Annual Report
Dreisnitz Village Annual Report
Enders Village Annual Report
Erlenbach Village Annual Report
Frank Village Annual Report
Friedenberg Village Annual Report
Friedensdorf Village Annual Report
Galka Village Annual Report
Gnadendorf Village Annual Report
Gobel Village Annual Report
Hildmann Village Annual Report
Holstein Village Annual Report
Huck Village Annual Report by Wurst
Huck Village Annual Report by Zitterkopf
Hussenbach Village Annual Report
Josefstal Village Annual Report
Jost Village Annual Report
Kamenka Village Annual Report
Katharinental Village Annual Report
Kautz Village Annual Report
Kind Village Annual Report
Koehler Village Annual Report
Kolb Village Annual Report
Konstantinovka Village Annual Report
Kraft Village Annual Report
Krasnojarsk Village Annual Report
Kukkus Village Annual Report
Kutter aka Brehning Village Annual Report
Langenfeld Village Annual Report
Laub Village Annual Report
Lauwe Village Annual Report
Leichtling Village Annual Report
Mariental Village Annual Report

Meinhard Village Annual Report
Merkel Village Annual Report
Messer Neu Messer Village Report
Messer Village Annual Report
Moor Village Annual Report
Mueller Village Annual Report
Nachoi Village Annual Report
Neider-Monjou Village Annual Report
Neu Norka Village Annual Report
Neu-Balzer Village Annual Report
Neu-Boaro Village Annual Report
Neu-Donhof Village Annual Report
Neu-Messer Village Annual Report
Neu-Schilling I and Neu-Schilling II Village Annual Report
Neu-Weimer Village Annual Report Neuberg Village annual Report
Neudorf Village Annual Report
Norka Village Annual Report
Oberdorf Village Annual Report
Paulskoye Village Annual Report
Pfeifer Village Annual Report
Polish Volhynia Village Annual Report
Popokva Village Annual Report
Reinhard Village Annual Report
Reinwald Village Annual Report
Rosenberg Village Annual Report
Rosenfeld Village Annual Report by Anna Dalhaimer Bartlowski
Rosenfeld Village Annual Report by Roger Burbach Burbank
Rosenheim Village Annual Report Rosental am Jeruslan Village Annual Report
Rothammel Seewald Village Annual Report
Schafer Village Annual Report
Schaffhausen Annual Village Report
Schilling Village Annual Report
Schuck Village Annual Report
Shcherbakovka Village Annual Report
Straub Village Annual Report
Susannental Village Annual Report
Unterwalden Village Annual Report
Volhynia Village Annual Report
Volmer Village Annual Report
Walter Walter Khutor Klein Walter Village Annual Report Warenburg Village Annual Report
Weisenmueller Village Annual Report
Weizenfeld Village Annual Report
Yagodnaya Polyana Village Annual Report

Alexanderdorf (Volga) Village 2020 Annual Report

Alexanderdorf – Hoh are a combined village.

Alexanderdorf was founded in 1848 by 19 families primarily from the mother colonies of Schwed, Schafer, Urbach, and Stahl am Karaman and a few other areas yet to be determined.

The early families moving to Alexanderdorf: Michael Stahl, Konrad Stahl, Johannes Zitzer, Friedrich Zitner, Heinrich Seibel, Friedrich Elberg and Christian Elberg.

Projects:

Each year similar projects are in progress. Data entry for families, movement, and records are maintained. Continually searching for records, both primary and secondary to track families.

Movement was common among the villagers, from mother colonies to daughter colonies to various areas of Russia. Including the Caucasus during times of famine, war, and need for additional farm land.

Maintaining a log of time spent on research per request from AHSGR.

Maintaining a log of interested persons.

Once it is again safe to visit the FHL and the Concordia collection is cataloged, I intend to spend many hours searching this valuable collection for Germans from Russia data.

Goals:

Continue searching all possible sources, on-line, publications and suggested sources.

Please forward any questions and suggestions.

Tool Kit:

Continuing to purchase any resource materials as possible. My collection contains all known census records, maps, and various publications. I source the local Family History Library (Utah) when possible. Their continually expanding collection is valuable for all GR research.

Names: Reichert, Weber, Goss, Hert/Herdt, Manweiller, Schuller, Seibel, Stark, Stork, Simon, Treu, Wagner, Wells, Wetz, Muller, Andreas, Ebel, Wenzerich, Zitner, Rieffer,

Free Source:

CommunityFamilySearch is a free site, staffed by professionals.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dee Hert

deehert@gmail.com

Intermountain Chapter, AHSGR

Intermountainchapterahsgrblogspot.com

Intermountain Facebook.

Anton Village 2020 Annual Report

Assisted:

Only three inquiries about families in Anton.

Activities:

Dee Hert has located Anton villagers' origins in Germany using German Ortsippen books; ongoing project.

Adding to the Anton database by locating obituaries, draft records, passports, letters from hell, ship records, declarations of intent and other valuable records available on internet sites.

Seeking any information or records from other researchers, pictures are especially important.

The Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University ceased operations and has donated their collection to the Family History Library. This collection will soon be cataloged and when available, I will search records for people from Anton.

Sharon hopes to have the Anton chapter of Olga Litzenberger's book translated.

Tracking Anton families who relocated to South America and the Caucasus.

Seeking detailed information about the sugar beet industry in Anton.

Records:

The Anton marriage records for 1834 to 1863 have been purchased and translated; they are available—contact Sharon White.

There are additional Anton records at the Russian archives. We are hoping to raise money to buy as many as possible.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions:

Dee Hert

deehert@gmail.com

Sharon White

slmwhite@aol.com

Avilovo Village 2020 Annual Report

This has been a busy year, with at least 15 people contacting me for information on their Avilovo, Erlenbach, and Shcherbakovka ancestors. I administer the “Erlenbach & Avilova in Russia” Facebook group and the “Volga German Shcherbakovka Families” Facebook group, so I included contacts from both groups in this report.

1. Avilovo: I am happy to finally have the few available church records translated and available for sale through AHSGR. Available records are: Baptisms for parts of 1893 and 1894, and more complete records for 1895-Jun 1900; Marriage records for parts of 1894 and 1895; and Death records for 1904. David Blehm has been of great assistance as he and his family moved from Siberia to Germany about 20 years ago. He has posted surnames on a few more Avilovo church records at forum.wolgadeutsche.net, covering births from 1892-1902, marriages in 1894, deaths in 1904 and 1905, as well as “Business Books” from 1918-1928 and 1929-1935. He can be contacted for information on people in these records.
2. Avilovo: I tried to help a distant cousin find the family line of a Georg Blehm (no dates) who married an Anna Elisabeth Schmunk (no dates). I found a couple of possible matches, but the family does not show up in the 1857 Shcherbakovka census. This is a work in progress.9. Shcherbakovka: A researcher contacted me for information on her Lang/Long family from Shcherbakovka. Her Jacob Lang was born in 1869, but without records after 1867 I was only able to give her a couple of possible family lines. I was able to verify that her information on the Oblander family that settled in Michigan was correct.

I attended the virtual AHSGR Conference hosted by the Edmonton Chapter, and it was excellent! I posted in several Facebook groups about the conference, and I think several people signed up. I look forward to future virtual conferences, as it is difficult for me to travel due to my health.

I believe I have all the available records for Erlenbach and Avilovo, as well as census records for the settlers' mother colonies. Avilovo is particularly hard to research because it was a Khutor so no census records are available. The Avilovo settlers largely came from Shcherbakovka and Oberdorf, but we do not have a list of the residents and where they came from. I also have the 1798 census volumes, Kulberg Lists, all 4 volumes of *Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet*, Pleve surname charts, and many other resources. Unfortunately, my ability to help researchers is somewhat limited due to the lack of records.

I hope to try archion.de/en this year to search for some of my ancestral German origins. However, it appears that my grandfather's family was Catholic (and Matricula did not have information on the surname). My grandmother's family has a very common surname and a very vague place of origin in Kulberg and *Einwanderung*, so searching for their origins will be nearly impossible. I continue to encourage researchers with Erlenbach and Avilovo ancestors to send me what they know about their ancestors so I can add them to my database; we may eventually be able to tie their lines together.

Kathy Stahlman

Village Coordinator, Erlenbach and Avilovo Villages

Balzer Village 2020 Annual Report

As we all know, 2020 was a chaotic year with many challenges. Never the less, this was a successful year for Balzer research and assisting others.

Requests were received from researchers investigating the ancestries of seven Balzer families. This includes Volz, Popp, Hertzog, Kling, Gies, Merkel, and idt. Ancestral charts were created for all of these families using the copies of the parish records that we currently maintain.

With the exception of two specific records from the 1906-1920 Communion lists, no other new records were purchased from the Russian archives.

Despite the Family History libraries being closed, access to the German records on Archion.de more than compensated. German origin results were positive. We were able to discover baptisms for Döbele and Carle children born in the Danish colonies. Sadly, both of these children died on the trek to the Volga or shortly after before the First Settler lists was drafted.

In looking for missing Moor settler children who by listed ages should be found in the Danish parish records, I started accumulating baptisms, marriages, and deaths for other Volga colonies. This project has evolved into something I had not ever planned or imaged. To date, some 250 entries in the records of 20 Danish parishes. Records have been found of colonists who eventually went to Anton, eideck, Donhof, Dobrinka, Dreispitz, Enders, Fischer, Galka, Grimm, Holstein, Hussenbach, Kamenka, Kratzke, Laub, Lauwe, Messer, Moor, Reinwald, Rosenheim, Schafer, Schilling, Shcherbakovka, Stahl am Karam, Stahl am Tarlyk, as well as the colonies established in Latvia, Riebendorf, and St. Petersburg. Sadly, many of these children did not survive the long trek to the Volga. This information is available and I will share all of this information with others. If anyone else is also researching the Danish records, PLEASE contact me. We don't want to be overlapping each other's search time.

If anyone else is also researching the Danish records, PLEASE contact me. We don't want to be overlapping each other's search time.

During the year, I exchanged information with several other coordinators including, but not limited to Maggie Hein, Marv Heckmann, Dee Hert, Shari Stone, and Mike Meisinger. Maggie has assisted me in posting new origins.

Currently, completing new ancestral charts for two lines of the Dietrich family and continuing my research of the Danish records for more entries related to Volga German colonists.

Recently, Mike Meisinger has joined me in this endeavor. He is reviewing the records of Jutland while I am doing the parishes of Gottdorf, Tondern, and Flensburg.

During the next 12 months and beyond, we plan to continue our search of the Danish records. Still hoping to find the elusive Balzer baptism records. There are more than 120 parishes yet to search so the task has only just begun.

Also look forward to assisting members with ancestral

charts. Happy Healthy 2021 to ALL!!!! Wayne H. Bonner,

VC Balzer

Bauer Village 2020 Annual Report

Began the year with exciting news that Dietel had located and obtained a copy of the 1897 census which not previously known. I have previously seen references to an 1897 census for Bauer but have not been able to confirm based on the inventory list for the Bauer Fond in the Engels Archives. I reached out to Karen Bouton who is the Co-Coordinator for Dietel who recommended contacting Tanja Schell who did graciously provide guidance and strategies on locating the census document if it does indeed exist. Shortly thereafter, the Engels Archive was closed due to the pandemic and it is my plan this year to continue efforts in identifying the 165 records from 1874 – 1916 located in Fond 70.

I received 5 enquiries this year of which one was from Argentina researching their Mohr/Stieben surnames and one from Brazil researching the Miltenberger surname. The other requests for information were for the Wagner, Brug, Becker, Schriener, and Krieger families. As it has been historically, most of these requests focused on the post 1857 census up through the early 1900's where information is very limited. In addition to maintaining a database of Bauer families and their descendants, we will continue to pursue obtaining and translating all available documents from both the Saratov and Engels Archives.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Buck

VC – Bauer

Beideck Village 2020 Annual Report

I am one of the VC's for Beideck and have felt helpful for some time even though requests for help are few.

This year only a few. I think I was able to encourage them where to look. I have a complete listing all the available census data to 1857. Occasionally I will get info on later years. I am LDS and have found names of 3500 people that I am related to which I share with those who ask.

John Lauck

Blumenfeld Village 2020 Annual Report

Nothing to report. No inquiries or anything.

Deb Dumler

Boaro (Boisroux) Village 2020 Annual Report

Boaro (Borodayevka or Bordovskoye in Russian) was a Lutheran colony founded by Baron Caneau de Beauregard on June 7, 1767. It was located northeast of Saratov on the east side of the Volga River (Wiesenseite) near Katharinenstadt. Before getting its own parish in 1905, Boaro was part of the Katharinenstadt parish. Although Boaro was a medium-sized village, with a population of 6,123 (477 households) in 1910, for some reason very few people from Boaro came to the U.S. and Canada. Thus, most contacts I have for Boaro are in Germany or Russia and I typically receive few inquiries for this village.

In 2020, I had no inquiries or contacts from Boaro and did not acquire any additional records for the village.

My main plans for 2021 are to index/transcribe/translate the 1883 Boaro Family List and to look into getting additional records, especially church records.

With no contacts in 2020, I did not provide any direct research help.

Through indexing the Boaro 1883 Family List, I am presently compiling an accurate list of village names.

I did not attend the 2020 AHSGR Convention and had no feedback from it.

I now have the following records available for researching Boaro:

- (1) List of First Settlers - Pleve book, vol. 1
- (2) 1798 Census (5th Revision; in Russian & English)
- (3) 1835 Census (8th Revision; in English)
- (4) 1850 Census (9th Revision; in Russian & English)
- (5) 1857 Census (10th Revision; in Russian & English)
- (6) 1883 Family List (obtained with assistance from Gary Martens; in Russian)
- (7) Reminiscences of August Stahlbaum (published in Spring 1978 AHSGR Journal; in English)
- (8) Copies of family charts - Schmidt & Stahlbaum
- (9) Description & history of Katharinenstadt & Boaro parishes (in German)

David F. Schmidt

Village Coordinator for Boaro

schmidt davidf@yahoo.com

650-291-4899

Brehning, Popokva Village 2020 Annual Report

As I sit here gazing out my office window at the blizzard we are having today, wondering if my Schneider and Wagner ancestors who lived in Kutter would be doing the same thing after their chores were finished for the morning. Were they facing the same problems that we have been facing in this last year? Weather, disease, and civil unrest, 2020 was harsh, each and every one of us had our lives changed in one way or another.

It was a very slow year. I had only one request which I was able to help, their request was for the Sell family. I was able to trace back from their relative to the original settler. I have been enlarging my data base, I have entered the FSL, 1775 census and 1798 census and am now working on the 1834 census. I have over 5000 names so far. It is a very slow process. I try to work at least an hour or two each week.

Pam Wurst Coordinator

Caucasus Village 2020 Annual Report

This report is for all the Caucasus villages to which I am assigned; both North Caucasus and South Caucasus.

Please file report in the Caucasus file and the individual village files.

Names:

There are thousands of Germans from Russia surnames in the huge geographic area. Please contact me with specific questions. My database continues to expand.

Geographic Area:

Due to the vastness of this area it is imperative that researchers know the longitude and latitude of their village. Village names have been reused in the Volga, Caucasus and many areas of Russia.

On numerous occasions researchers have believed a village to reside in one area of the country and then after extensive study have learned that it actually resides thousands of miles in another direction.

It is imperative to have an extensive collection of maps and Gazettes for your research. Contact AHSGR for maps and consult on-line sources.

Tool Kit:

My personal library is growing rapidly as I locate and purchase new material. I obtain census records, birth, marriage and death along with numerous publications.

The villagers were very mobile, thus I do not overlook searching in all areas. Villagers intended destination plans were often altered due to various events.

Concordia Library collection now resides in Utah, once the collection is cataloged I will spend days reading this material. Scanning continues at the library, work can be conducted at home.

The Art Flegel collection at AHSGR is another good source of Caucasus information.

CommunityFamilySearch – a free site manned by certified professional is marvelous for your questions.

Libraries:

I am looking forward to searching many libraries and traveling for research.

Share:

I welcome comments and suggestions for this project. Contact me with your names and questions.

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Hert

deeehert@gmail.com

Dietel Village 2020 Annual Report

Surname requests I worked with this year were Bangert, Batt, Berett, Busch, David, Engelmann, Fertig, Frank, Frickel, Fritzler, Hettinger, Hetzel, Jung, Kindsvater, Kowatch, Michel, Mill, Muller, Pietsch, Riel, Reichel, Reichert, Ruppel, Rutz, Saltzmann, Schlager, Thormahlen, Wambold, Weinmeister, Welde.

Trevor A. Mill had given me copies of documents pertaining to his Mill ancestors from Dietel. Once I had entered all the information into the Dietel database he requested I forward it to AHSGR for the Dietel file. It is going to be mailed 4 Jan. 2021.

I'm also sending to AHSGR 21 typewritten pages of Dietel births. Originally, I had thought that someone from AHSGR had sent it to me, but it was not to be found the Dietel file at AHSGR.

The late Karen Hergett had created a database with the 1798, 1834, 1850, 1857, and 1874 Dietel censuses. I was finally able to merge her database into mine with all the birth-marriage-death. I'm still working on merging duplicates, etc. It currently contains 24,809 individuals.

We raised \$3,715.00 to purchase the 1897 census for Dietel from the Volga German Archive in Engels, Russia. Tanja Schell is the contact with the Archives and believes we are getting close to transferring funds for the purchase. In March, before Covid-19 shut down just about everything, she was able to purchase a 1908 Family List for Dietel for \$200.00. Tanja will be translating both projects.

The Dietel Facebook page now has 446 members from all over the globe.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Bouton
Co-VC Dietel Village

Dinkel Village 2020 Annual Report

We are missing our dear cousin, Leroy Nikolaisen, former Dinkel VC.

We have had the following inquiries about Dinkel families: Holzer, Muller, Neff, Nikolaisen, Rau, Stelling, Wulf.

We have been able to get these Dinkel records from the Russian archive: births 1794 to 1817, 5 births for 1818, 7 births for 1824, 31 births for 1825. We got these from a friend who lives in Russia. We will try to get more Dinkel records. The archive is currently closed due to covid. We are trying to determine if vital records for Dinkel exist for some portion of the late 1800's.

We are collecting obituaries and declarations of intent for people from Dinkel. We are finding some Dinkel villagers in nearby village records.

We have 9 biographies for Dinkel people: John Bien, Carl Christian, Georg Christian, Jacob Christian, Fred Rebensdorf, Rev. Jacob Legler, Rev. Carl Legler, Andreas Wulf and Peter Wulf

By Sharon White and Jack Saunders

Dobrinka Village 2020 Annual Report

There were several dozen inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

There is a significant number of records for the village of Dobrinka. Records have been translated, except as noted with NT as not translated:

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1850, 1857

First settler information: also known as the 1767 Census, there were 101 families listed, that settled in Dobrinka between 29 June 1764 and 20 June 1767.

First settler information for people who immigrated to Denmark, contains the following surnames:

Baumgaetner, Krassel, Hafele, Hueber, Keller, Clauser, Knedler, Kraut, Moninger, Mueller, Flom, Flomart, Rau, Reiser, Schindler, Schneider, Schwend, Simon, Strep, Utz, Weber, Wenz, Ziegler, Siemon, Dieterle, Brunner, Meyer.

Birth records: 1852-1867, 1882-1894

Marriages: 1894-1895-1905 (NT)

Deaths: 1904 (NT)

Family Lists: 1834-1846, 1847-1861, 1862-1876, 1881-1892

For the 1881-1892 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Drumm, Drumheller, Felsing, Harres, Helmuth, Leterich, Luft, Maul, Mende, Schadt, Schmidt, Schreiber, Strackbein, Worster.

The Pleve's created surname charts for the following surnames from Dobrinka: Clauser, Gerlach, Wolf.

The Dobrinka website is found at: <http://www.dobrinka.org/>

There is also a Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/Dobrinka-112777842089944>

Dobrinka is part of the Lower Volga Village Project: <http://www.lowervolga.org/>

Gary Martens

VC for Dobrinka

gpmartens@gmail.com

Alt-Dönhof Village 2020 Annual Report

2020 was not quite as active as the previous year for queries and information for Alt-Dönhof. I did have Dönhoffers researching the village names of Kaiser, Schäfer, Lind, Schnerr/Schnörr, Miller/Müller, Legler, Kraus, Steinbrecher, Scheller, Wolf, Hettinger, Schwab, Fech, and Frank.

The Fech name was also linked to the Schwabauer name from Balzer and I did some research for the family that included Balzer information as well as information from Dönhof.

I continue to use DNA information from Ancestry, 23andMe, and MyHeritage to connect Volga German families and have found links through the DNA Germans from Russia Facebook page. I was able to send information to a researcher who posted a query on the DNA Germans from Russia page which completed a family line for a Schwabauer cousin with Balzer ancestry.

One of the ongoing goals we have each year is to obtain more records from the Russian Archives for Alt-Dönhof, and I am happy to report that I have submitted a list to AHSGR headquarters for records to be ordered in the next few months for Alt-Dönhof. The list includes family parish lists, and birth and marriage records. Many of these records will fill in missing years between the 1857 census and the early 1900's when our ancestors immigrated to America. The number of records ordered will depend on costs and the amount of funds available. The records will need to be translated after they are received at headquarters, and I will update a time frame for translation and publication when I have more definite information.

I continue to add to the database for Alt-Dönhof through queries, online records, pictures, and the sharing of information with Dönhof descendants.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kaiser
Village of Alt-Dönhof

Dreisnitz Village 2020 Annual Report

This year has been a strange year when the entire world shut down due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Never in my wildest thoughts would I have ever dreamed that something would make people stay home and businesses close in every city across the world.

I received about 10 inquiries for this year from people looking for information on the following surnames - Schmies, Feil, Steinle & Wollert. While I was able to help many of them, it also allowed me to expand my database with information that they provided me on their immediate families.

I had planned to attend the Pasco convention in July of 2020, but it was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Mark Wills

Village Coordinator for Dreisnitz

mark.b.wills@jci.com

Enders Village 2020 Annual Report

Enders had only one research request in 2020 for the Sittner family.

I've recently completed translations for Lutheran Births, Deaths & Marriages 1787-1805, in Enders and nearby colonies. Also Enders Marriages 1834 – 1883 has been translated and sent to Jim Wiebert for formatting and publication.

In the coming year, I look forward to beginning work on translations of additional Enders Records for 1829 – 1848. Thank you, Dodie Rotherheim.

Facebook is still the best source for reaching descendants around the world.

<https://www.facebook.com/Enders-Ust-Karaman-Volga-Russia-146001585420351/>

Beth R Davenport (Mueller) volgadeutsch@gmail.com

Enders Village Coordinator

Erlenbach Village 2020 Annual Report

This has been a busy year, with at least 15 people contacting me for information on their Avilovo, Erlenbach, and Shcherbakovka ancestors. I administer the “Erlenbach & Avilova in Russia” Facebook group and the “Volga German Shcherbakovka Families” Facebook group, so I included contacts from both groups in this report.

1. Erlenbach: David has a lot of information posted for Erlenbach at forum.wolgadeutsche.net. It appears that the only church records available for Erlenbach are marriages in 1894, 1895, and 1905; births in 1902 and 1913; and deaths in 1904 and 1913. This forum has information on family members who were deported to Siberia, and posts from people throughout the world looking for ancestors and relatives. It is a valuable source of information.
2. Erlenbach: I contacted a new member in Canada regarding her Busch, Oblander, and Becker families from Erlenbach.
3. Erlenbach: A woman contacted me regarding George Meier (b. 1874) and wife Marie Kobobel (b. 1875) who arrived in US in 1912. She wanted to see if I had any information confirming a family story and obituaries saying that George and his 3 brothers were born in Azerbaijan. Census and immigration records show the sons were born in Erlenbach; we found nothing to show an Azerbaijan connection. We were able to determine how her Meyer family is related to the Gottfried Schimpf who was their sponsor when they moved to Michigan from Erlenbach.
4. Erlenbach: I exchanged emails with several distant cousins regarding the Fromm family from Erlenbach. One woman received notes and photos from relatives in Russia and Germany this year, and we tried to identify the people in the photos, piece together the family, and fit their information into ours. We believe they are descendants of Friedrich Peter Fromm (b. abt 1839) and wife Katherine Elisabeth [--?--] (b. abt 1837), but Friedrich Peter Fromm had 2 brothers we know of, Konrad (b. abt 1824) and Dietrich (b. abt 1841), so we cannot be certain at this point.
5. Erlenbach: Spoke with and emailed several researchers from Michigan about the Schimpf family from Erlenbach and the Schafer family from Stephan, Erlenbach, and Oberdorf.
6. Erlenbach: Responded to a Facebook post regarding a Weisheim family from Erlenbach. Alexander Weisheim (1894-1937) and Marie Helwer (1896-1994) are her grandparents, but I have not been able to tie them to what we already know about the Weisheim and Helwer families.
7. Erlenbach and Avilovo: I was contacted by a researcher looking for information on her Oblander and Busch family. I found a passenger list and attempted border crossings from Canada to the US for Johann Friedrich (Fred) Oblander (1888-1953), his wife Anna Elisabeth Busch Oblander (1887-1961), and their family, but I could not find parents for either of them. Shcherbakovka: A gentleman emailed me asking for information on his Blehm line. His great-grandparents were Henry Blehm (1874-1945) and Eva Elisabeth Winter (1873-1942). I gave him the probable family line for his Henry Blehm. I found a family story, the immigration of Eva Elisabeth Winter Blehm and their children, and US and Canadian Census records for the family, but nothing to help find the parents of Eva Elisabeth Winter Blehm.

I attended the virtual AHSGR Conference hosted by the Edmonton Chapter, and it was excellent! I posted in several Facebook groups about the conference, and I think several people signed up. I look forward to future virtual conferences, as it is difficult for me to travel due to my health.

I believe I have all the available records for Erlenbach and Avilovo, as well as census records for the settlers' mother colonies. Avilovo is particularly hard to research because it was a Khutor so no census records are available. The Avilovo settlers largely came from Shcherbakovka and Oberdorf, but we do not have a list of the residents and where they came from. I also have the 1798 census volumes, Kulberg Lists, all 4 volumes of *Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet*, Pleve surname charts, and many other resources. Unfortunately, my ability to help researchers is somewhat limited due to the lack of records.

I hope to try archion.de/en this year to search for some of my ancestral German origins. However, it appears that my grandfather's family was Catholic (and Matricula did not have information on the surname). My grandmother's family has a very common surname and a very vague place of origin in Kulberg and *Einwanderung*, so searching for their origins will be nearly impossible. I continue to encourage researchers with Erlenbach and Avilovo ancestors to send me what they know about their ancestors so I can add them to my database; we may eventually be able to tie their lines together.

Kathy Stahlman

Frank Village 2020 Annual Report

I received around 70 requests during 2020 (not including requests for general help that were not related to my ancestral villages). That is somewhat less than previous years, mainly because there were none of the usual in-person meetings and conferences. Generally, we are able to provide a requestor with a report on their ancestors that traces back to the original settlers in Frank or Kolb. In many cases we have researched the origins of a settler back into the 1600s, and the amount of detail an individual requestor may receive will vary depending on the extent of research on their ancestral families.

Doris continues to do all of the updates and data entry on our genealogy database. We accumulate a considerable amount of new data as we find new German Origins, translate records, and help Frank and Kolb descendants with their genealogy research.

As several other VCs have mentioned in their reports, I am having considerable success with German Origin research right now. I am following the method established by Wayne Bonner, specifically: If you are looking at the records for a parish, scour that parish for people who went to Russia, regardless of whether they settled in your Volga German village or not.

I finally finished the Brunnental Communion Register translation. This was the first time I had attempted a full translation of a set of records (+600 images). Initially, I was only interested in the people who had gone to Brunnental from Frank and Kolb. The project expanded from there, and turned into a complete translation of both Book 1 and Book 2 of the 1870-1884 Brunnental Communion Register. The two volumes are now available for purchase from AHSGR. These registers are usually labeled "Personalbuch" in the Russian Archives. If you see that these are available for your village, I highly recommend obtaining them because they are loaded with genealogical details.

Several years ago, I was able to obtain a copy of the Kolb Land Redistribution List for 1900. This is proving to be very useful in reconstructing Kolb families. This list includes only men (since that was the basis for redistributing the land), and includes names, relationships between household members, and ages. Essentially, it is a census of all of the men in 1900. Interestingly, it also includes men who are no longer living in Kolb - in many cases families who had already emigrated to the Americas - who are listed as "absent" on the list. The actual translating isn't difficult. What is time-consuming is matching up each individual and family with the Military Draft Records and church records that have already been translated.

One of my ongoing projects has been to translate the post-1891 Frank church records. These records are in Russian. The German records (up to 1891) were translated by several wonderful volunteers. We have baptism records for 1892-1913, and marriage records for 1892-1910. With around 300-400 baptisms per year and around 80-90 marriages per year, it is a large project. I have worked on these records occasionally over the years, but really didn't have enough of an understanding of Russian to make any progress. Working on the Russian-language Kolb records has improved my abilities somewhat, so I am now slowly getting through the Frank records. Thank you to Tanja Schell for coaching me through some of the vocabulary used in the marriage records.

I translate portions of the 1887 Frank Family list whenever I need it to answer a research question. The list is large (1,200 images), and some of the handwriting is beyond my current ability to read Russian. This is a very long term project.

My current list of source materials used for the Frank-Kolb database is here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/uak2g5ck9obaqr5/Frank%20Kolb%20resources%20Mar2021.pdf?dl=0>

Maggie Hein

Village of Frank

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FrankKolbRussia/>

Friedenberg Village 2020 Annual Report

In 2020, I had two people contact me regarding Friedenbergl. I provided as much information as I was able, and ensured them that I would be in touch if I came across anything new that I had not already provided them.

Brenda Silvey

VC for Friedenbergl

Friedensdorf Village 2020 Annual Report

Friedensdorf is my ancestral village - on the Niessen side - within the Molochna/Molotschna colony. According to an article by Edward R. Brandt - "Post-Revolution Names of Molochna Villages" (1st appeared in Mennonite Family History Vol. X, No. 3, July 1991), the village's Russian name is Khelmnitskogo / Chemelniukoye. Reports are that very little is left of the original village site.

I received no inquiries nor did I pursue any specific projects this year.

John Niessen

Galka Village 2020 Annual Report

There were several dozen inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

There records for the village of Galka as shown below:

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1857

First settler information: also known as the 1767 Census, there were 65 families listed, that settled in Galka, starting on 12 Aug 1764.

First settler information for people who immigrated to Denmark, contains the following surnames: Arne, Bender, Dalinger, Denner, Fischer, Frank, Holstein, Lorenz, Ott, Schanzenbach, Schick, Schmidt, Steinert, Waltz, Martin, Maierhoefer, Steinbrecher, Ziegler.

Birth records: 1863-1884, 1901-1902

Marriages: 1894-1895-1905 (NT)

Deaths: 1904 (NT)

Family Lists: None

Note that there is a Family List for the daughter colony of Neu-Galka, for 1887, that contains information on people from Galka.

The Pleve's created surname charts for the following surnames from Galka: Dalinger, Wunsch

During several years prior to 1912, Max Praetorius from Riga, Latvia, lived in the village of Galka, and wrote a doctorate thesis about the village, for his studies at the University of Leipzig. The thesis titled "Galka – a German Settlement on the Volga", has been translated, and is available for downloading at the Galka website: http://galkagr.org/Galka_book/Galka_German_Settlement_on_the_Volga.pdf The report in PDF format is over 80 pages long, so it might take a few minutes to download.

The Galka website is found at: <http://www.galkagr.org/>

There is also a Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/Galka-116230591735624>

Galka is part of the Lower Volga Village Project: <http://www.lowervolga.org/>

Gary Martens

VC for Galka

gpmartens@gmail.com

Gnadendorf, Samara, Volga, Village 2020 Annual Report

Volunteered to serve as village coordinator for Gnadendorf, located on the south bank of the Nachoi River.

No activity.

Jeremy Landt

jeremysfnm@gmail.com

Village Coordinator for Gnadendorf, Samara, Volga

Göbel Village 2020 Annual Report

Map 6, coordinates B7

Goebel AKA Gebel, Goebel, Göbel, Ust-Grasnucha, Ust-Grjasnucha, Ust-Grjaznucha, Ust-Gryaznukha, Ust-Grasnukha, or Ust-Graesnucha

A Russian Catholic German village situated on the western side of the Volga.

I have a working file for Goebel village of names, births and marriages known regarding the village of Goebel. I have the AHSGR Village File information, and also files, links, databases and materials in addition to the 1798, 1816/1834 and 1850/1857 census reports I had already obtained from AHSGR, Rosemary Larson and Brent Mai respectively.

I also have a copy of Plevé's Vol II with the FSL for Goebel. I also have Göbel birth records (1894-1900) acquired from the Volgograd archive, with the help of Kevin Rupp.

I received six direct requests in 2020; half of which were from fellow coordinators. My appreciation to Maggie Hein and Angela Gartner for their efforts to share new information this past year.

Ben Markel

bgmarkel@hotmail.com

Goebel Village Coordinator

Hildmann Village 2020 Annual Report

2020 was a busy year for Hildmann.

Hildmann has a new webpage. Darryl Boyd, my “I.T.” go-to-guy – set up the website and worked with me to get it up and running and full of interesting information for researchers.

There you will find the translation of Hildmann’s 1767 First Settler’s List for Hildmann (compiled by Darryl Boyd). The 1830, 1850, and 1857 Hildmann Censuses (Translated by Juri Schulmeister in Germany). Please consider sending researchers to this site for Hildmann Censuses and information.

As well, to make AHSGR relevant to researchers outside of North America, I provided information from a South American whose ancestors came from Hildmann. I also included a story from George Weissbeck who lives in the U.S. His ancestors have their roots in Hildmann.

At the Hildmann Village website, an overview of the EWZ process for those who are unable to find the information they require from the records or Censuses is also included. EWZ records are another valuable tool. The Find-A-Grave section on the Hildmann website which can also be used to find information. The Koehler co-village co-ordinator – David Haspert provided the Find -A-Grave section for the Hildmann website.

Darryl Boyd and I also worked together to provide a Volga Region Map which might be helpful to researchers and other village co-ordinators.

The new Hildmann website is also rounded out with pictures and maps and, at some point, will have a data base and some individual digital marriage, birth, and death records that researchers can view in their original form. This will be next year’s assignment.

To view the new Hildmann Webpage - <http://hildmanvillage.com> or access the link from AHSGR’s Village Co-ordinators Section under Hildmann

In 2020, numerous people have contacted me for help from South America, Germany, and the United States. I have also assisted other village co-ordinators with their records. As well, I continue to receive requests from members of Ancestry.com.

This year, I have assisted researchers to find information on the following surnames -

Gallinger, Amrein, Groh, Gertje, Roemisch, Kloster, Biehn, Sauer, Goebel, Geist, Conrad, Hammerschmidt, Haas, Mueller, Klein, Siebel, Leonhart, Weinbinder, Zwenger, Prediger, Guettlein, Bauer, Weimann, Maibach and Weissbeck.

Numerous people helped me this year – Darryl Boyd and for Pfeifer and Leichtling has been my main contact in the U.S.; Margret Goebel (AHSGR member – U.S.), Leo Gallinger (Germany), Vasij Schoenfeld (Germany) and, in particular, Juri Schulmeister has continued to be my link in Germany and to the Russian Archives.

*I am still searching for a **Plat map of Hildmann**. I have a few researchers asking me for one. If anyone has one in their possession or knows where I could get one. Would you please contact me?

Regina Remisch – Toronto, Ontario, Canada

reginaremisch@sympatico.ca

Village Coordinator, Erlenbach and Avilovo Villages

Holstein Village 2020 Annual Report

There were several inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

The records available for the village of Holstein are shown below:

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1857

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: 1799-1852

Marriages: 1800-1852

Deaths: 1799-1849

Family Lists: None

The Holstein database contains information on all the first settlers, plus the marriages, deaths from church records, additional information collected by a previous village coordinator, and additional information collected on people who immigrated to the US and Canada.

Holstein is part of the Lower Volga Village Project: <http://www.lowervolga.org/>

Gary Martens

VC for Holstein

gpmartens@gmail.com

Huck Village 2020 Annual Report by Pam Wurst

I have had questions this year for the following names Kreick two requests, Huck and Volcker. Kreick, I was able to answer the questions of paternity but the other two because of the time period I gave them several possibilities but no definite answers.

In my library so far I have the Stumpf book, Kuhberg list, Einwanderung series, Vol. 1-4, 1775.1798, 1834, and 1857 Census, 1834-1846 Huck Church Records, 1905-1913 Huck Engagement book and announcements. I also, have the following Surname Charts, Bohl, Hempel, Kreick, Leichner, Neiderhaus, Sack, Shleicher, Volcker, Weigandt and Zitterkopf.

I have gone thru all of the 1798 movements looking for those who have either moved to Huck or to other villages. This year I hope to attack the 1857 Censuses looking for surnames names from Huck. I have been very fortunate that I have been given files from several members who had Huck family that have passed away, James Hemple, Ray Peterson, Ruth Huck, Delores Schwarz, and Cheryl and Dorothy Heidenreich. I am still working on Ruth's files since there are so many of them. The others I have put their information into my data base and files.

Pam Wurst, CO-Coordinator
Huck

Huck Village 2020 Annual Report by Dennis Zitterkopf

2020 was a busy and interesting year for village Huck. The new member reports in the *Newsletter* allowed me to welcome and introduce Huck resources to several new members – which led to extended exchanges with those who were both beginning their research as well as those who had been working for some time. Working with persons just beginning is always exciting to help bootstrap their work and filling holes for those who've been working is equally satisfying. Contacts and correspondence with persons interested in Argentina and also one with Danish roots were equally rewarding for me (and them). A researcher in Germany alerted me to a portion of the Huck website that was no longer functional. That has partially been restored but more work is needed.

Work by other village coordinators is revealing more and more information about the history of Huck villagers as they moved to other villages. The willingness of other coordinators to share and exchange their work is one of the characteristics that enable the village coordinator network to continue to thrive. Thank you all for what I've learned this year. The interrelationship of Norka and Huck (Huck was in the Norka parish) continues to help both village databases expand.

Pam Wurst, the other co-coordinator for Huck, and I share information and work closely together so we both have the same resource materials for helping others. She shares the material obtained from several deceased Huck researchers to help me continue to flesh out my own records – that way any researcher who contacts either of us has access to the same information.

The 1858-1888 gap in known Huck archival records continues to plague all Huck researchers. I'm not willing to say I think it is an impossible barrier to research but it continues to disappoint everyone.

Recent new publications include: *Huck Engagement (and marriage) Records, 1905-1913*. This is especially interesting because it provide the first glimpse of names of parents earlier than 1888. The information is sparse but more than we've had previously. ; *1941 Huck Property Transfer Records*. Historically interesting because it contains the inventory and price paid for Huck villager's property by persons moving into the village after the 1941 forced evacuation. This is a partial Balzer Kanton record for the village but indicates such inventories exist for many other villages – finding those records will be a challenge for all coordinators. Villagers were 'assured' their compensation would be provided after they were resettled – some compensation is reported to actually have occurred. ; *1844-1847 Huck Death Records*.

Dennis Zitterkopf, Huck co-coordinator

Hussenbach Village 2020 Annual Report

Almost 30 Germanic origins for members of Hussenbach village have been researched by Maggie Hein. I made a Trello board: Hussenbach-Germanic Origins similar to the one she made Work in Process - Village of Frank, Russia - German Origins. I made a List for each original Colonist name (from my Reconstructed First Settlers List), listing the Kulberg entry if known and other information useful to establish possible origin, I added a card to the Lists for those with confirmed Origins, added another card with a map showing the location of the city of origin. I also added Lists for families that moved into Hussenbach from other villages where origins have been established. Origins were found this year for the following Surnames: Adolph, Bechtold, Fries, von der Heide, Hoffmann, Johann Adam, Körbel, Rothenberger, Schätzel.

Then I made a Google map: Hussenbach Origins indicating the location the cities in modern Germany of the confirmed origins.

Links to both of these were also published on the Facebook group: Hussenbach (Linevo Osero) and Neu-Hussenbach (Gashon) Russia Descendants

Plans for the village include finishing up the entry of data from Neu-Hussenbach births, 3870 entries, for the years, 1862-1894 and matching families to the 1897 Census translation. Collaboration with the other villagers in the Frank Canton is on going as many people intermarried between villages or moved for other reasons.

Request for help were received for the following surnames: Will, Dewald, Herrmann, Heinbigner, Amend, Propp, Schätzel, Sauerbrei, Uffelmann, Lenz, Schwartz, Fuchs, Paul->Baal, Hilt, Petzold, Fink, Besel.

The 2020 Convention was cancelled due to Covid-19.

I apologize to all the researchers that I haven't finished with their requests, I am in the process of remodeling my house and moving into a new home, all during a global pandemic. I will follow up with your requests as I have time and get my resources together. SHN

Thank you for allowing us to serve you and help you in your research journey.
Village Coordinators,

Susan Hopp Nakaji

Vice President, AHSGR Board of Directors

2021 AHSGR Virtual Conference Chair

12801 Glen Brae Dr Saratoga CA 95070

susan.nakaji(at)sbcglobal.net

“Keeping German Russian Heritage Alive”

Katharinental, Samara, Volga, 2020 Annual Report

Josefstal Village 2020 Annual Report

Josefstal was part of the Catholic Parish of Marienfeld, which included Josefstal, Kamyshin and Marienfeld. Just a few inquiries every year.

My biggest accomplishment has been the acquisition of the following Marienfeld Parish records:

Births 1859 to 1919

Marriages: 1859 to 1915

Deaths: 1859 to 1919

These scans are also being donated to AHSGR. While I am working on having them translated, it will take some time to complete. They will be made available to all.

Josefstal Database:

<https://wc.rootsweb.com/trees/620461/I1/johannpeter-dieser/index?pageindex=&letter=>

Josefstal 1858 Census:

<https://josefstal.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/josefstal1858census.pdf>

Military Draft Records for Josefstal, 1880-1919:

<https://josefstal.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/josefstal-draft-list-20152.pdf>

Josefstal Archive in the Volgograd State Archive (GASO) Fond 270:

<https://josefstal.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/josefstalgavo.pdf>

Josefstal Residents in Nizhny Tagil Labour Camp, Sverdlovsk Region 1941-1946:

<https://josefstal.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/nizhny-tagil.pdf>

Edward (Ted) Gerk

Jost Village 2020 Annual Report

In 2020, we were contacted by a Jost descendent in Russia. We were able to make connections for Bröse & Ehof. We also worked with a U.S. researcher for information on Axt, Thörmer, Quisner.

Dave was able to trace the Flach/Fleck family that moved from Rosenheim to Jost, back to Matthes Fleck, born about 1610 in Zell, DE. In addition, Dave continues to add Kanton Kukkus family information and records to the Jost database, which now totals 136,922.

No additional records for Jost have been found in the Russian archives, although Jost residents sometimes appear in other villages.

Facebook continues to be a great way to reach village descendants worldwide:
<https://www.facebook.com/Jost-Popovkina-Volga-Russia-145686028786783/>

Beth R Davenport (Mueller) volgadeutsch@gmail.com

Dave Halm davehalm@heartofiowa.net

Jost Co-Coordinator

Kamenka Village 2020 Annual Report

Note: We began as Village Coordinators for Kamenka in the beginning of April, 2020. Nothing was received from previous village coordinator.

Things Accomplished:

- Rebuilt Kamenka Database to include 7250 individuals to date. We started with a very small database sent by Sara Roberts.
- Designed a Kamenka website and have had it critiqued by Sara Roberts and a couple other AHSGR members.
- Put the Kamenka Database on Rootsweb to make it available without cost to those researching Kamenka families. A link to the database is on the Kamenka website.
- Received eleven years of Kamenka marriage records (1865-1876) from Ted Gerk. We have had those translated and are currently checking those records and formatting them into an user-friendly document.
- Although not directly related to Kamenka, we have purchased, translated, formatted and published the Schuck Church Records (1803-1816.) Those were made available digitally on the AHSGR village pages for Fransozen, Schuck, Degott, Volmer, Sewald and Rothammel. They were emailed to the Village Coordinators for each of those villages. A printed copy was sent to AHSGR library in Lincoln.

Plans:

- We need to work on publishing the Kamenka website and intend to have it included on AHSGR's Kamenka village webpage.
- Kamenka Database on Rootsweb will be updated as we update the database.
- Kamenka marriage records (1865-1876) will be sent to AHSGR to make available on the Kamenka, Pfeifer, and Husaren village pages. They will also be sent to the Pfeifer and Husaren village coordinators. We also plan to print a copy for the AHSGR library in Lincoln.
- We have purchased the Schuck Church Records for 1826-46. We are in the process of translating those records. After proofreading and formatting, we will make those available in the same way as the first Schuck records we did. 1817-1825 Schuck Church records are not available.
- We will also work on obtaining additional Kamenka Church Records (hopefully, not duplicating work already done.) We would format these and get them added to the Kamenka database.

People Helped:

- We have answered ten individual's email requests. We were able to help eight of those individuals. We directed the other two to other village coordinators where their families originated.
- The people we have helped live in Argentina, Ireland, Brazil, and United States.

Villages Names Worked On:

- The people we helped were working on Duckardt, Seewald, Schaefer, Kloberdanz, Jacob, Rolheiser. Schoenfeld, Naab, and Schulmeister.

Projects:

- Figuring out how to be a village coordinator has been the biggest project. We wanted to create user-friendly and usable information for others researching Kamenka families. This also required reaching out and networking with other village coordinators and researchers in Germany/Russia.
- For other Kamenka projects, see above accomplishments.

Feedback from Last Convention:

- We enjoyed the August conference done by an AHSGR chapter in Canada. There were excellent workshop speakers.

Help Available (Census, Databases, Publications, Stories):

- We have obtained copies of the 1775, 1798, 1834, 1850, and 1857 Kamenka censuses.
- We have the Kamenka Marriage Records for 1865-76.
- Copies of Volga Transport books by Brent Mai

Who Helped:

- Juri Schulmeister has been invaluable in obtaining and translating records.
- The following Village Coordinators have been very helpful at answering questions and giving us ideas on how to proceed: Barb and Nick Bretz, Ted Gerk, and Darryl Boyd.
- Sara Roberts, AHSGR Librarian, has directed us to who to contact for information.

Point of Contact: Joe Schell and Lynn Zemanek

Kamenka_village@hotmail.com

Katharinental, Samara, Volga, Village 2020 Annual Report

The 1920 family list for the Keil family was acquired and translated

(Engels archive, F871, Op2, D235, pages 16rev - 19).

Inquiry from Argentina for the Ringler family - sent information.

Inquiry about the Schäfer family - not found in Katharinental, but the family was found and traced back to the first settlers list. Provided the inquirer with the information.

Jeremy Landt

jeremysfnm@gmail.com

Village Coordinator for Katharinental, Samara, Volga

Kautz (Werschinka) Village 2020 Annual Report

There have not been many Inquiries for the village of Kautz in 2020. I'm assuming COVID is playing a large role in the slowdown.

As far as inquiries go, I try to answer them as they come in. I learn new information from the inquiries and know, from return comments made, my work is also valuable to the requestor. My research for Kautz is quite extensive and I'm able to provide documents and reports relevant to the situations at hand.

I have 37,171 individuals and 11,741 marriages in the Kautz/Merkel database. My records for deaths are updated as I receive obituaries. Most obituaries come from relatives located in Montana. I utilize newspapers, Find-A-Grave, Ancestry, 23AndMe, LDS Church Records, and WorldConnect (Rootsweb) websites.

I am blessed with a great deal of Lutheran church records for my village of Kautz and that of Dietel. With the exception of Kautz birth records 1850-1899, I have all Kautz Lutheran records from 1834 to the revolution in 1918. Lacking those births, I'm unable to easily tie Kautz adults born during this time back to their parents. I've inquired about the possible misfiling of these records at Volgograd Archives, but have not received positive news. I know that selected Dietel records were mixed in with Kraft Lutheran records at Volgograd, so I know it is possible that misfiling happens. Anyone wishing to give me the names of parents of 10 Kautz adults I select will be rewarded. I will be able to supply the 10 names and their dates of birth. Contact me at dm48@comcast.net for more information.

Since the death of my wife in September 2019 and that of my youngest daughter in April 2020, I have concentrated much of my free time gathering and organizing family photographs, audio cassettes, and video VHS and cassettes. I take the time to rotate, resize, crop, colorize and organize the photographs. All media now fits easily on a 128gb flash drive. Drive copies have gone to my oldest daughter and local grandsons. Future generations will appreciate the work I've done for my family, my cousins, aunts and uncles, and grandparents.

Currently I'm working on genealogy for a lady in Germany and a cousin in Michigan. I can be reached at dm48@comcast.net or 360/601-7361.

Michael Frank

AHSGR Kautz Village Coordinator

Kind Village 2020 Annual Report

This year I have been focusing my efforts on publishing some of the information I already have in my data bases to the Kind Facebook page.

The facebook page includes pictures of immigration ship records, and photos of immigrant ancestors.

Surnames for the Ship records currently include: Albert, Belger, Doerr, Dortman, Eifert, Emerich, Falk/Felk/Volk, Herber, Koppel, Langolf, Machleid, Pickelhaupt, Rabb, Rimpe, Roth, Schuman, Weis

I have two data Bases. The Pre immigration Data Base includes 5187 individuals, and the Post immigration Data Base includes 16096 individuals.

Kind Surnames include: Albert, Becker, Belger, Bener, Berg, Carle, Derr/Doer, Dortman, Emig, Emrich, Fink, Frei, Genze, Getz, Glass, Gofezank, Hasselbach, Herber, Karl, Keksel, Koppel, Kraus, Langolf, Loch, Loos, Machleid, Magely, Muller, Pabst, Pickelhaupt, Rappe, Rempe, Roth, Russ, Schmidt, Schneider, Schumann, Schutz, Seltzer, Speier, Sturtz, Volgart, Volk/Falk, Volkert, Weiss, Worn, Zang

Kind has a 1798 Census, 1816, 1834 Census and 1857 Census.

I have been able to assist several persons with their family research.

Kerry Thompson

sstevee47@yahoo.com

Facebook Page - Kind

VC for Kind

Koehler Village 2020 Annual Report

With the help of researcher's donations, we were able to acquire the Koehler Parish records which include baptisms, marriages and deaths from 10/1839-1917. Since the Parish included the villages of Hildmann, Koehler, and Leichtling, we plan to share the records with VC of those villages as well as other Catholic village VC in the lower Volga area.

We are grateful that Juri Schulmeister, a researcher in Germany, has volunteered to translate the records. Translation has been slow because there are so many records and we are finding a large number of errors in the actual church records. So far the baptism records from 1839-1866 and the marriage records from 1839-1880 have been translated. Nick & I have spent 2-4 hours nearly every day for the past year entering the marriages into our village file. We've only entered into the file baptism records for residents of Koehler and for others who are connected. Researchers should contact the VC from their villages for information.

We've also grateful that Alois Schaab, another researcher in Germany, has shared some early records from the Semenovka Parish. They include births from 1803-1839 excluding 1817-1826 and marriage records from 1827-1844 for the villages of Koehler, Semenovka, Leichtling and Goebel.

Be sure to check out findagrave.com where David Haspert and his brother, Steve, continue to add information to family files. They are very helpful in connecting families.

This past year several researchers from both the US and South America have contacted us for help with their ancestry. It's been rewarding to help them.

Nick & Barbara Bretz
rothammeler@aol.com
303-424-5145

Kolb Village 2020 Annual Report

I received around 70 requests during 2020 (not including requests for general help that were not related to my ancestral villages). That is somewhat less than previous years, mainly because there were none of the usual in-person meetings and conferences. Generally, we are able to provide a requestor with a report on their ancestors that traces back to the original settlers in Frank or Kolb. In many cases we have researched the origins of a settler back into the 1600s, and the amount of detail an individual requestor may receive will vary depending on the extent of research on their ancestral families.

Doris continues to do all of the updates and data entry on our genealogy database. We accumulate a considerable amount of new data as we find new German Origins, translate records, and help Frank and Kolb descendants with their genealogy research.

As several other VCs have mentioned in their reports, I am having considerable success with German Origin research right now. I am following the method established by Wayne Bonner, specifically: If you are looking at the records for a parish, scour that parish for people who went to Russia, regardless of whether they settled in your Volga German village or not.

I finally finished the Brunnental Communion Register translation. This was the first time I had attempted a full translation of a set of records (+600 images). Initially, I was only interested in the people who had gone to Brunnental from Frank and Kolb. The project expanded from there, and turned into a complete translation of both Book 1 and Book 2 of the 1870-1884 Brunnental Communion Register. The two volumes are now available for purchase from AHSGR. These registers are usually labeled "Personaltbuch" in the Russian Archives. If you see that these are available for your village, I highly recommend obtaining them because they are loaded with genealogical details.

Several years ago, I was able to obtain a copy of the Kolb Land Redistribution List for 1900. This is proving to be very useful in reconstructing Kolb families. This list includes only men (since that was the basis for redistributing the land), and includes names, relationships between household members, and ages. Essentially, it is a census of all of the men in 1900. Interestingly, it also includes men who are no longer living in Kolb - in many cases families who had already emigrated to the Americas - who are listed as "absent" on the list. The actual translating isn't difficult. What is time-consuming is matching up each individual and family with the Military Draft Records and church records that have already been translated.

One of my ongoing projects has been to translate the post-1891 Frank church records. These records are in Russian. The German records (up to 1891) were translated by several wonderful volunteers. We have baptism records for 1892-1913, and marriage records for 1892-1910. With around 300-400 baptisms per year and around 80-90 marriages per year, it is a large project. I have worked on these records occasionally over the years, but really didn't have enough of an understanding of Russian to make any progress. Working on the Russian-language Kolb records has improved my abilities somewhat, so I am now slowly getting through the Frank records. Thank you to Tanja Schell for coaching me through some of the vocabulary used in the marriage records.

I translate portions of the 1887 Frank Family list whenever I need it to answer a research question. The list is large (1,200 images), and some of the handwriting is beyond my current ability to read Russian. This is a very long term project.

My current list of source materials used for the Frank-Kolb database is here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/uak2g5ck9obaqr5/Frank%20Kolb%20resources%20Mar2021.pdf?dl=0>

Maggie Hein

Village of Frank

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FrankKolbRussia/>

Konstantinovka Village 2020 Annual Report

There were 5 inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

Konstantinovka was founded in 1859 by people from Schilling, Moor, Jost, Doenhof, Kutter and Merkel. It was adjacent to the daughter colony Schilling, which was merged with Konstantinovka.

The records available for the village of Konstantinovka are shown below:

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: 1895-1919

Marriages: 1895-1908

Deaths: 1895-1906

Family Lists: 1895

Gary Martens

VC for Konstantinovka

gpmartens@gmail.com

Kraft Village 2020 Annual Report

This is my fourth year as the Village Coordinator for the Village of Kraft. In 2020 we had 13 queries for information on ancestral family members coming from Kraft. 12 queries came from either Canada or the United States and 1 came from Russia. This was a decrease of 2 as we had 15 queries in 2019. We were able to help all 13 queries in various degrees. In three cases I worked in conjunction with other VC's. Surnames requested included Bertram, Eckhardt, Geist, Gerlitz, Grohs, Karg, Loos, Nunstill, Reichert, Ruppel, Schmidt, Schneider, Schreiner, Sokolowsky, Weimer and Wills.

None of our plans listed last year came to pass, compliments of Covid 19. We had planned to attend the Pasco convention in July but it was cancelled. We submitted our payments to Volga Tours in February 2020 for a tour of Moscow, Saint Petersburg and the Volga Colonies in August which I had thought about for years, and by March everything started to go to pot and by July they were cancelled and refunded. Even the Calgary Stampede first time in my life, cancelled, everything cancelled. To the positive we learned to use Zoom and in February I was installed as Treasurer in our Calgary Chapter of AHSGR. So instead of travelling we stayed home and had virtual Chapter meetings, some by ourselves and some with our new Sister Chapter in Oklahoma in the US. Also, virtual conventions in Edmonton and as a Lincoln BOD member in March, July and October. Still feel that the computer is not the same as being there.

Resources I have, include

1/A 8856 name database of people who resided in Kraft primarily up to 1866 but including some later updates.

2/ Original Settler's List in 1767 for Kraft.

3/Complete 1798 Volga Census by Brent Alan Mai.

4/ Census Reports for the years 1816, 1834, 1850, and 1857 for Kraft.

5/ Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet 1764-1767 by Igor Pleve Vol 1 and 4. Unable to get Vol 2 and Vol 3 as they were out of print and are presently being reprinted.

6/ Spreadsheet of Lutheran Church births 1848-1866 and 1902, marriages 1895 and 1905 and deaths 1904 recently translated.

7/ Lists of Colonists to Russia in 1766 by Ivan Kulberg newly reprinted.

Projects for 2021 - I think that judging by last year's failure to fulfill our plans, we will not make any travel arrangements for the time being until Covid 19 subsides and the borders open up. So far 2021 is not looking much better than 2020 even with the prospects of vaccines. We will continue to work on our database and with those who seek help with finding their ancestors from Kraft.

Respectfully submitted by Gerald and Heather Sieb

Krasnojarsk Village 2020 Annual Report

I received a few inquiries this year. I had obtained the following church records: the 1831 to 1888 birth records and the death records for 1834 – 1912 death records. All were donated to AHSGR for translation. The 1834 to 1852 death records have been translated and were made available to members. Still waiting for the translation and availability of the remaining records.

Susie Weber Hess VC for Krasnojarsk Samara Volga Russia

Kukkus Village 2020 Annual Report

Things Accomplished: I did research for three people

Plans: To help members

People Helped: Marvin Stumpf, Anita Smith, Mr. Herggendader

Village Names: Warrenburg, Kukkus

Projects: Researching Brent Mai's books

Feedback from convention: DID not attend due to Covid lockdown.

Help Available: Kukkus PAF Database, Family Search, Ancestry, MyHeritage, Find My Past, and. some Pleva Village Charts.

Point of Contact: Eleanor Sissell
esissell@gmail.com
(916) 833-4804

Report:

VILLAGE COORDINATOR ANNUAL REPORT

I helped Marvin Stumpf find his ancestors in Warrenburg. I gave him a lot of Information I found from Warrenburg.

I helped Anita Smith. Her Ancestors were from Kukkus. She was looking for the names Maser and Debus. I sent her a list of her Ancestors. She is related to my family from Kukkus.

I helped Mr HERGENRADER FROM Fresno, California.. He didn't think Hergenrader could have different spelling. There are many spellings of Hergenrader in the Kukkus data base.

There was a new member looking for Krum(m) from Fresno also. They are related to me, but I was not able to contact him because of my husband's illness. I do intend to send him some information.

My husband had an acute lung failure and it took a year and a half for him to get his health improved.. Our house was flooded a couple of weeks ago. We are temporally at a Residence Inn for about 41 days. The redoing our house will take from 3 to 6 months. Life is like that some times.

Kutter aka Brehning, Popokva Village 2020 Annual Report

As I sit here gazing out my office window at the blizzard we are having today, wondering if my Schneider and Wagner ancestors who lived in Kutter would be doing the same thing after their chores were finished for the morning. Were they facing the same problems that we have been facing in this last year? Weather, disease, and civil unrest, 2020 was harsh, each and every one of us had our lives changed in one way or another.

It was a very slow year. I had only one request which I was able to help, their request was for the Sell family. I was able to trace back from their relative to the original settler. I have been enlarging my data base, I have entered the FSL, 1775 census and 1798 census and am now working on the 1834 census. I have over 5000 names so far. It is a very slow process. I try to work at least an hour or two each week.

Pam Wurst Coordinator

Langenfeld Village 2020 Annual Report

VC for Rosenfeld, Langenfeld and Norka. Norka is active everyday. Several of us have purchased more Norka records but will be sometime before we can share them.

I have helped about a dozen researchers looking into their Norka roots. I am working with Louis who runs the Norka database.

Nothing new with Rosenfeld. I still have birth records 1896 to 1916 that need translation.

Maggie Hein purchased birth and death records for Langenfeld. My wife and I translated them. years 1872 to 1892. the records continue but in Russian. at some point we will tackle them also.

Roger Burbach/Burbank

Laub Village 2020 Annual Report

We have had 5 requests this year for Laub information, from Germany, Russia and the US. The majority of time has been spent translating records for our village or for villages within the Kukkus Kanton.

I continue to raise money to purchase village records and as our Kanton records are completed and no other Kukkus Kanton records are available, we will purchase records for other Kantons on the Volga.

I have been able to find a few qualified translators to assist with translations. The translators are paid a small fee and must use the templates we provide for our small publishing group. Formatting continues to be a challenge as we have only two people available to format and index the many, many records.

This year, once again, we will be releasing newly translated records for Straub, Stahl am Tarlyk and various military and death records that cover many villages in the Kanton. We will post information on AHSGR.org and on various Facebook pages.

We have a fund at AHSGR for project translation. Individuals may contribute to that fund for general translations. Due to the cost of records and translation, especially of the Russian records, we have found that putting all funds into one account allows for more translated work. Most records and translation cost many hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

I was able to track down more information from France, on some of the families in Laub, as well as finding relatives in Novosibirsk, Russia. The genealogy research seems to be at an all-time high perhaps due to DNA testing and connections around the world.

Donita Reich Rotherham
Patricia Gayol Windecker

Lauwe Village 2020 Annual Report

2020 was a reasonably active year for Lauwe. Co-VC Raymond Heinle and/or I responded to a number of queries on various surnames and were able to help with making connections for people, all of whom were happy and thankful. Most, if not all, of these people are our distant cousins.

Ray was active in working to translate various records as well, and I continued to work on my own research as well as on trying to re-do the 1886 Lauwe Family List. The original publication contains a number of errors and is missing quite a large number of people owing to a very poor transcription job done at a Russian archive on our behalf some years ago. This transcription, from the original handwritten text to typed Russian, was all we had available to translate to English at that time. We gained access to the handwritten original only two or three years ago. Owing to the difficulty in reading some of the Russian writing I was unable to resolve a number of puzzles, principally with maiden names of wives coming from other colonies. AHSGR has taken this project back and hopefully has access to some Russian speaker/reader than can fill more in and republish the document, but I do not know the current status.

Regards,

Jack Saunders

Lauwe Co-VC

Leichtling Village 2020 Annual Report

I have been working on updating the website for Leichtling.

There was more activity in 2020 than in other years. Perhaps because people are at home from the Covid-19 quarantine?

Inquiries:

I've had inquiries from the following people and others.

Dennis Muller

Darrel Brungart

Martha Michalak

Susan IKatupari

Treci Dreiling

Website for Leichtling Village:

<https://leichtling.com/>

Specialty pages:

Census records ... <https://leichtling.com/census.html>

1767 ... I have all the images and translated these records

1798 ... I have all the images and translated these records

1834 ... I have all the images and translated these records

1850 ... Created and translated and used with permission from Juri Schulmeister

1857 ... Created and translated and used with permission from Juri Schulmeister

Move in and move out list ... <https://leichtling.com/inout.html>

Photos (people and places) ... <https://leichtling.com/photos.html>

New map of the volga area

https://leichtling.com/index_files/maps/Volga_Villages.png

Darryl Boyd

Leichtling Village

Mariental Village 2020 Annual Report

Mariental was a Catholic colony on the Wiesenseite.

In 2020 I answered numerous queries received via email or in response to facebook posts.

I have the following records (images) in my personal collection:

Mariental 1767 and 1834 revision lists.

Mariental BMD 1789-1834 (includes Mariental and Louis (and a few other villages in the earliest records)

Mariental baptisms 1872-1879

I've done some indexing of the records, but the majority are unindexed at this time. I hope to obtain additional records in 2021.

The Mariental 1850 and 1857 revision list images are available on the familysearch.org site as well as the following records which are now also indexed: Mariental Baptisms 1892 and 1906

Mariental Marriages 1907

Mariental Deaths 1879, 1880, 1890, 1907, 1910

A copy of *Die Kolonie Mariental an der Wolga* by Albert Obholz 2nd edition is available for temporary loan. Please contact me if you're interested.

The facebook group "Villages of Mariental, Louis and Chasselois" had little activity in 2020.

Co-VC Kevin Rupp maintains the several webpages on Mariental which include the content originally developed by previous Mariental VC Thelma Mills. The URL is <https://www.volgagerman.net/mariental-russia>

Denise Gassman Grau

Co-VC for Mariental

dgrau@germansfromrussia.org

Meinhard Village 2020 Annual Report

This year I have been focusing my efforts on publishing some of the information I already have in my data bases to the Meinhard Facebook page.

The facebook page includes pictures of immigration ship records, and photos of immigrant ancestors.

Surnames for the Ship records at this time include: Fink, Hergenrider, Korn, Neumann, Sittner, Ungefug/Ungefucht, Wehrwein, Winterholler

I have two data Bases. The Pre immigration Data Base includes 5187 individuals, and the Post immigration Data Base includes 16096 individuals.

Meinhard Surnames include: Albert, Berger, Bergholtz, Bindewald, Bonner, Breiniger, Breyer, Dill/Diehl, Eifert, Fink, Freberg, Friedrich, Funk, Gottfried, Gruinewald, Hergenrader, Herget, Ismat, Jahnke, Jordan, Jung, Keilmann, Keksel, Korn, Lipp, Lotz, Meckel, Meier, Meinhard, Muth, Naumann, Rehm, Reinhardt, Ritger, Schaefer, Schmidt, Sittner, Ungefught, Wagner, Waldschmidt, Wehrwein, Wiegand, Wilhelm, Winterholler, Zeigemann.

Meinhard has a 1798 Census, 1816, 1834 Census and 1857 Census.

I have been able to assist several persons with their family research.

Kerry Thompson

sstevee47@yahoo.com

Facebook Page – Meinhard or Unterwalden

VC for Meinhard/Unterwalden

Merkel, Russia (Makarovka) Village 2020 Annual Report

There were no inquiries for Merkel in 2020. I'm assuming COVID is playing a large role in the slowdown. In 2021 I have been working on a request from a gentleman in Michigan on the Flohr, Wirth, and Meyer lines.

I have a small amount of Merkel church records which I have translated. Much of the remaining information regarding Merkel has been gleaned from two volumes of genealogical information published by Darrell Kautz, the previous Village Coordinator. I've not been able to reach Darrell in decades. His volumes are not obtainable on the Internet. The only copy I have of his work in those two volumes was given to me by him many years ago.

As far as inquiries go, I try to answer them as they come in. The responses I give are satisfying to me, and from return comments made, are also to the requestor. I utilize Find-A-Grave, newspaper obituaries, Ancestry, Rootsweb/Worldconnect, 23andMe, and contributions from loyal cousins and other individuals to move the work of the village forward.

I have 37,171 individuals and 11,741 marriages in the Kautz/Merkel genealogical database. My records for deaths are updated as I receive obituaries. Most obituaries come from relatives located in Montana and are gleaned from the Billings Gazette newspaper.

Since the death of my wife in September 2019 and that of my youngest daughter in April 2020, I have concentrated much of my free time gathering and organizing family photographs, audio cassettes, and video VHS and cassettes. I take the time to rotate, resize, crop, organize, and colorize the photographs. I currently have 26,000 photos stored on USB with more to go. Future generations will appreciate the work I've done for my family, my cousins, aunts and uncles, and grandparents.

Michael Frank dm48@comcast.net

Messer and Neu Messer Villages 2020 Annual Report

2020 was another busy year. I was able to help several Messer and Neu Messer descendants with their research. We have been working with a group in Germany called, "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". They are a group of around 700 Messer descendants living primarily in Germany and Russia. We have been sharing information and helping each other with research requests.

Messer Confirmation Records for the years 1856 through 1891 were purchased, transcribed and published in May. Messer Confirmation Records for the years 1842 – 1856 were purchased and transcribed and are awaiting publication by AHSGR. Since Neu Messer was founded in 1862, these records include the families who were the original settlers in Neu Messer. They should be available to order from the AHSGR book store very soon.

I was contacted by a Messer descendant in Russia who provided information on Messer colonists who moved to Astrakhan. She also provided information on military records for some of the Messer colonists. We also found information on a Messer colonist who went to Avilovo.

Maggie Hein has continued her work with German church records to find the German origins of Volga colonists and has provided information on a number of Messer origins. **Thank you Maggie.**

Our database administrators, Don and Greta Beavers, are continuing to grow our Messer / Neu Messer database. They are entering all the available census information and linking the families together. As time permits they will also add the marriage, birth, death, and confirmation records we have obtained, as well as records shared with us by the "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". This is an ongoing work and Don and Greta are doing a fantastic job. So far they have 38,994 individuals in their database. **Thank you Don and Greta.**

Two Messer / Neu Messer Newsletters were sent out during 2020.

The Messer / Neu Messer distribution list continues to grow.

Mike Meisinger

Village Coordinator for Messer and Neu Messer

Messer Village 2020 Annual Report

2020 was another busy year. I was able to help several Messer and Neu Messer descendants with their research. We have been working with a group in Germany called, "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". They are a group of around 700 Messer descendants living primarily in Germany and Russia. We have been sharing information and helping each other with research requests.

Messer Confirmation Records for the years 1856 through 1891 were purchased, transcribed and published in May. Messer Confirmation Records for the years 1842 – 1856 were purchased and transcribed and are awaiting publication by AHSGR. Since Neu Messer was founded in 1862, these records include the families who were the original settlers in Neu Messer. They should be available to order from the AHSGR book store very soon.

I was contacted by a Messer descendant in Russia who provided information on Messer colonists who moved to Astrakhan. She also provided information on military records for some of the Messer colonists. We also found information on a Messer colonist who went to Avilovo.

Maggie Hein has continued her work with German church records to find the German origins of Volga colonists and has provided information on a number of Messer origins. **Thank you Maggie.**

Our database administrators, Don and Greta Beavers, are continuing to grow our Messer / Neu Messer database. They are entering all the available census information and linking the families together. As time permits they will also add the marriage, birth, death, and confirmation records we have obtained, as well as records shared with us by the "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". This is an ongoing work and Don and Greta are doing a fantastic job. So far they have 38,994 individuals in their database. **Thank you Don and Greta.**

Two Messer / Neu Messer Newsletters were sent out during 2020.

The Messer / Neu Messer distribution list continues to grow.

Mike Meisinger

Village Coordinator for Messer and Neu Messer

Moor Village 2020 Annual Report

As we all know, 2020 was a chaotic year with many challenges. Never the less, this was a successful year for Moor research and assisting others.

Requests were received from researchers investigating the ancestries of seven Moor families. This includes Jeckel, Braun, Benhardt, Wunder, Merkel, Gies, and Diehl. Ancestral charts were created for all of these families using the copies of the parish records that we currently maintain.

Despite the Family History libraries being closed, access to the German records on Archion.de more than compensated. German origin results were positive. We were able to document baptism/marriage records for Benhardt, Dinges/Tonges, Tenuis?, Scharch, and Eichler.

In looking for missing Moor settler children who by listed ages should be found in the Danish parish records, I started accumulating baptisms, marriages, and deaths for other Volga colonies. This project has evolved into something I had not ever planned or imaged. To date, some 250 entries in the records of 20 Danish parishes. Records have been found of colonists who eventually went to Anton, Balzer, Beideck, Donhof, Dobrinka, Dreisptiz, Enders, Fischer, Galka, Grimm, Holstein, Hussenbach, Kamenka, Kratzke, Laub, Lauwe, Messer, Moor, Reinwald, Rosenheim, Schafer, Schilling, Shcherbakovka, Stahl am Karam, Stahl am Tarlyk, as well as the colonies established in Latvia, Riebendorf, and St. Petersburg. Sadly, many of these children did not survive the long trek to the Volga. This information is available and I will share all of this information with others. If anyone else is also researching the Danish records, PLEASE contact me. We don't want to be overlapping each other's search time.

During the year, I exchanged information with several other coordinators including, but not limited to Maggie Hein, Marv Heckmann, Dee Hert, Shari Stone, and Mike Meisinger. Maggie has assisted me in posting new origins. Recently, Mike Meisinger has joined me in this endeavor. He is reviewing the records of Jutland while I am doing the parishes of Gottdorf, Tondern, and Flensburg.

During the next 12 months and beyond, we plan to continue our search of the Danish records. Still hoping to find the elusive Moor baptism records. There are more than 120 parishes yet to search so the task has only just begun.

Also look forward to assisting members with ancestral

charts. Happy Healthy 2021 to ALL!!!! Wayne H. Bonner,

VC Moor

Mueller Village 2020 Annual Report

There were several inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

The records available for the village of Mueller are shown below:

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1850, 1857

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: 1902

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1905

Deaths: 1904

Family Lists: None

The Mueller database contains information on all the first settlers, plus the marriages, deaths from church records, additional information collected by a previous village coordinator, and additional information collected on people who immigrated to the US and Canada.

Mueller is part of the Lower Volga Village Project: <http://www.lowervolga.org/>

Gary Martens

VC for Mueller

gpmartens@gmail.com

Nachoi Village 2020 Annual Report

Things accomplished

The major accomplishment of 2020 was the publication of the 1874-1899 Rosenfeld am Nachoi, Russia Family List. After obtaining the documents a few years ago with the help of Mila Kornetnikov, I reached out to Dr. Elena Edelson for the translation. Dr. Edelson finished the translation in early January 2020. With the support of Dodie Rotherham, James Wiebert and Kevin Rupp, AHSGR offered the publication for sale to the public last summer. Special thanks to David Hartman, who share his family photos and his cousin Dorothea Eckhardt's letter, which offered a description of the village where she was born.

Plans

The future plans are to continue to build the database, which already includes the 1862 Census of Rosenfeld on Nachoi, with details from the 1874-1899 Family list. Then the next goal will be to track these settlers to their villages of origin, primarily Reinwald, Schwed, Schulz, Nieder-Monjou and Urbach. Then the next step will be to track and confirm their Germanic Origins.

Point of contact/village Coordinator

Join us at Descendants of Rosenfeld am Nachoi, Russia on Facebook.
Anna Dalhaimer Bartkowski
anna@bart4.com

Nieder-Monjou Village 2020 Annual Report

Throughout the past year we received eight queries concerning the following surnames: BIESTERFELD, BINEDELL, EHRENTAUT, MOKOFF, MUHL, MÜLLER, SCHÄFER, STEINPREIS, WALTHER, and WIEGAND.

The WALTHER query was interesting. It came from a man in Portugal who wanted to find proof in the EWZ records that his father, a native of Estonia, had become a German citizen during WWII.

Last year Mike obtained some birth, marriage, and death records for Nieder-Monjou. I am still in the process of transliterating/translating these records and entering the information into our database.

AHSGR Nieder-Monjou Village Coordinators

Michael Grau and Steven Grau

Nieder-Monjou Web Site: <http://volga.niedermonjou.org:8000/>

Neu Norka Village 2020 Annual Report

As it has been reported because of the pandemic, not much activity, I had 5 request for information and because there no records for Neu-Norka after 1857, my help has been limited. I do have all of the family names that left Norka in 1852 to Neu-Norka. I' am now working on the family list of Norka 1891-1905 and I have made a lot of connections there. I can't wait to get the early addition. I also sent my DNA to Ancestry and have joined, and I have been working on setting up my family tree there and I have got a lot of feed back from them, its unbelievable, I have been able to go back as far as the 1400's. So my suggesting to those that are seeking more real family history, this is another good source. I also have about 50 of Brent Mai census records so I now have a little over 40k in my data bank and I know that's just a drop in the bucked compared to other data bankers. I started all this about thirty years ago looking for my grandfather Georg Peter Schwartz who disappeared from Neu-Norka in 1904, and I haven't found him yet. I'm still searching. Any help is welcomed.

Marvin L. Schwartz
Neu-Norka Village Coordinator
marvlsm@suddenlink.net

Neu-Balzer Village 2020 Annual Report

The year of 2020 have had its problems, but research continued for the village of Neu-Balzer. The 1897 census was published near the end of 2019 and I have had a few requests for more information. I had about 6 contacts with individuals needing more information or to verify information concerning their ancestors.

I was able to trace one person's ancestors back to the town in Germany and followed them to Denmark, then Balzer, and finally to Neu-Balzer. The fact that the family changed the spelling in the last name made this a more difficult task.

My goal for 2021 is to take the families in the 1897 census and trace their ancestry to Balzer and beyond. I will be using the Balzer census from 1857, 1834, 1798, and 1775 in my research as most families came from Balzer to Neu-Balzer.

Another project is to find immigration records, obituaries, draft registrations, and naturalization records for individuals in the United States that came from Neu-Balzer.

Marv Heckman

VC for Neu-Balzer

Neuberg Village 2020 Annual Report

One contact for Neuberg by Odessa last year. Was able to provide requested help from census records and map. No other inquiries.

Fran Eickbush, VC

Neu-Boaro Village 2020 Annual Report

Neu-Boaro (Novoborodovka, Novoye Boaro & Novoye Bordovoye in Russian) was a Lutheran daughter colony founded in 1848 by colonists resettling from Boaro, Orlowskaja, Paulskaja, and Philippsfeld. It was located east of Saratov along the Nachoi River on the east side of the Volga River (Wiesenseite). As part of the Lutheran parish headquartered in Fresental, Neu-Boaro was a small-sized village, with a population of 1,109 (120 households) in 1910. Very few people from Neu-Boaro came to the U.S. and Canada. Thus, most contacts I have for Neu-Boaro are in Germany or Russia and I typically receive few inquiries for this village.

In 2020, I had no inquiries or contacts from Neu-Boaro and did not acquire any additional records for the village.

My main plans for 2021 are to index/transcribe/translate the Neu-Boaro marriage records 1869-1910 and to look into getting additional records, especially church records.

With no contacts in 2020, I did not provide any direct research help.

Through indexing the Neu-Boaro marriage records 1869-1910, I am presently compiling an accurate list of village names.

I did not attend the 2020 AHSGR Convention and had no feedback from it.

I now have the following records available for researching Neu-Boaro:

- (1) 1850 Census (9th Revision; in English)
- (2) 1857 Census (10th Revision; in English)
- (3) 1865 Census (in English)
- (4) Church Records - Marriages 1869-

1910 David F. Schmidt

Village Coordinator for Neu-Boaro

schmidtdavidf@yahoo.com 650-

291-4899

Neu-Dönhof Village 2020 Annual Report

We now have 201 village descendants, mainly Dönhof and Neu-Dönhof, but also Gnadenfelders, Rosenbergers (Umet) and Unterdorfers who trace their beginnings back to the mother colony of Dönhof before the option of settling in the daughter colony of Neu-Dönhof was open in 1863. We have villagers from Argentina, Germany, the U.S. and this year for the first time from Canada. We lose a few villagers each year due to e-mail changes without notification but so far our gains out pace our losses.

According to our FB manager, Hugo Eichhorn Vasques, he has grown 48 new users to a total of 82 since he has been managing the FB group and we have been advertising it at AHSGR and in our newsletter.

Jessi Vandagriff launched our Website <https://doenhof.vandagriff.org/> this year with a description of Dönhoff and some of the daughter colonies in which the Dönhoffers spread during the mid-1850s because of severe land shortages. Karen Miller Kaiser wrote the descriptions, I edited, Jessi chose the art work and set up the Website where we are now gathering new members to our villages and directing them to AHSGR if they so choose.

This year marked our ninth newsletter year, one letter per quarter. Tibi Maw, completed her third year as the layout person with an expanded more colorful newsletter. We continue to receive family photos from Russia for more complete identification and obituaries of passing AHSGR or first generation born in America Dönhoffers. We were pleased to receive our first obituary for a first generation born in American from Fulton County, Ohio, a Dönhof stronghold, a speaker of the dialect, who recently died at 101 years of age.

Fabián Zubia Schultheis completed his series on Dönhoffers arriving in groups, the first on 4 July and the second on 21 July 1766 and, finally, a third group on 18 June 1767. These families, recorded in the First Settlers List, also known as the 1767 Census are listed in the household where they were living but with additional information. He did not include the Schleswig settlers which can be found in the Eichhorns' book, The Immigration of German Colonists to Denmark and Their Subsequent Emigration to Russia in the Years 1759-1766. He finished the series with families in the 1798 census who came to be known as Dönhoffers and completed the year with an article about the history of the the Protestant settlements in Entre Rios Province in Argentina and the first Dönhof settlers.

I fulfilled research requests for Clary/Schlager, Eichler/Schlund (Argentina), Deines/Schwartz, Bauer/Schlager, Deines/Rutz, Lind/Schwab (Argentina), Erbes/Fendel (Argentina), Stoll/Baus, Kaiser/Wolf, Römer, Kaiser, Stoll. I also did some major research for a friend/distant cousin in Germany from a totally different village, taking a good chunk the first quarter.

From Russia I ordered a List of Those Who Left for America—1899,1900, Neu-Dönhof and had it translated. Mila Koretnikov had warned me before hand that despite its name it was not a list at

all but felt it was a very important document. It was one of those infamous Russian bureaucratic documents written from the Kamyshin district to the Dietel volost pertaining to young men under the age of 21 leaving under the pretense of visiting America but in fact avoiding military service (pre Russo-Japanese War) then, allegedly, returning again in a destitute state. I added this to the Neu-Dönhof binder along with Russian military records of Jacob Rutz of McCook, Nebr., and, memories of Heinrich “Heinie” Schlager written by Harvey Fries whose parents had a farm near Heinie’s in Western Nebraska and, apparently, many stories.

Finally, I was asked to write two articles toward the end of the year. The first was for the Moskauer Deutsche Zeitung. They asked why my grandparent came to the U.S., how they fared, how their children fared and how their grandchildren fared. I couldn’t do that in less than a page. They distilled it into two paragraphs. Needless to say, much was lost in translation. Another article for the AHSGR Newsletter was to share how I had grown our two villages from a very inactive status to its present total, between 2014 and 2020, in the hopes that it would inspire other village coordinators.

Lee Ann Schlager

Neu-Dönhof VC

NEUDORF, Kherson, Russian Empire (aka Carmanova, Moldova SSR)

Village 2020 Annual Report

“...In the year 2020.....”

Thought behind the original Neudorf research goal document developed in the 1980's (copy attached, pages 4 through 9) is greatly revised and expanded, with emphasis/direction changes. It is apparent after reviewing this document that this goal commentary was developed before the publication of archives commonly referred to as “St. Petersburg Records” (extracted/published/copyrighted by Glückstal Colonies Research Association as Glückstal Colonies Deaths 1833-1900 and Glückstal Colonies Births and Marriages 1833-1900).

Foremost goal remains the same: Free and open exchange of information relating to Neudorf settlers and descendants.

To that end, a renewed emphasis is being made to incorporate all “nuggets” gleaned from 40+ years of hard-copy correspondence with Neudorf residents and their offspring, to a user-friendly platform freely accessible to all with an interest.

The platform selected is FamilySearch.org. A bit of explanation: In the mid 1990's, all of my family surname archives were shipped to Herb Tabert of Salt Lake City, who in turn inputted all information into the equivalent FamilySearch software available at the time.

A new email address is developed for digital genealogical correspondence:
NeudorfVillageCoordinator@gmail.com

The following biographical sketch is developed for the “Collaborate” tab of the “person page” at FamilySearch, to indicate relationship and source of material:

Relationship

(Description of relationship to individual)

Pursuing family history, Sheridan County ND history, & German-Russian genealogy since 1965. Village Coordinator for Neudorf (Kherson Russian Empire, aka Carmanova Moldova SSR) with American Historical Society of Germans From Russia (AHSGR) since 1984, and Germans From Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) since 1983. Married to Jackie since 1985. Jackie is a native of Alsace (Imbsheim, Bas Rhin - Grand Est, France, ~ 20 miles NW of Strasbourg).

Gregory R. Dockter, NeudorfVillageCoordinator@gmail.com

Secondly, in close concert with archived correspondence will be the inclusion of a picture archive.

My personal picture archive consists of approximately 150 “picture envelopes” containing anywhere from one to 36 pictures. Each picture envelope is numbered with the first initial of the last name of the picture’s owner, and the next consecutive number in that alphabetical series. Each picture then is individually numbered (usually the negative number, as we are referring to the “pre-digital” era), to match a note sheet transcribed at the time the picture was copied. For example, picture D02-21 would be the twenty-first picture in the envelope D02 (the second envelope in the D-series).

Most of these pictures were made in the mid 1980’s, beginning with my grandparents, then their siblings, then their cousins, etc. etc. etc. As an explanation, I had constructed a copy stand for my 35 mm camera and would reproduce pictures directly from personal albums without the album leaving the owner’s home. I or my grandparents would schedule a “visit”, and most times I would be accompanied by my grandparents. The multi-way conversations over the pictures revealed many interesting memories, with an effort to document as much as possible.

It is my intent to incorporate these pictures into the FamilySearch platform, with suitable identifications and text background as told to me.

Thirdly: In addition to the correspondence archive and picture archive, a third archive is also intended to be culled for pertinent information. This archive (referred to previously in the Herb Tabert comment) consists of extensive files of each surname listed in the two Neudorf census listings contained in Dr. Stumpp’s book. This archive also had roots in the 1980’s, being continuously expanded with hard copy information as it came my way.

To give an idea as to the volume of these three archives, they are currently housed in four 4-drawer file cabinets (each drawer 25” deep).

This lofty goal is being attempted all the while maintaining correspondence with the many contacts requesting information on their Neudorf ancestors. This correspondence takes precedence over the archive entry to the public platform.

“....the work continues....”

Respectfully submitted 28 February 2021.

Gregory R. Dockter
412 Versailles Avenue
Bismarck ND 58503

NeudorfVillageCoordinator@gmail.com

Specific topic request to fellow Village Coordinators:

Frequent usage of the prefix names “Johann” and “Maria”:

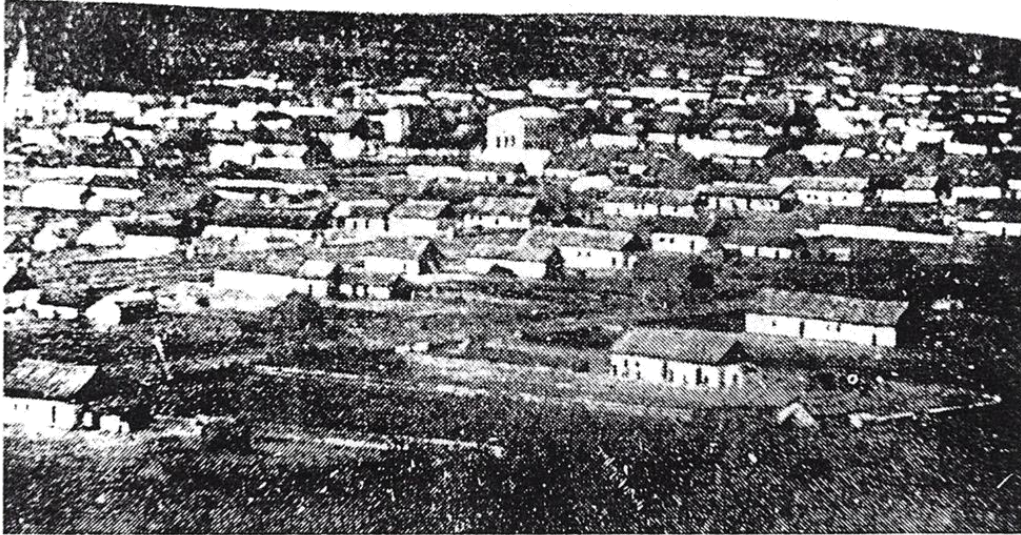
One finds these prefix names being repeatedly added. This occurs in all platforms (Ancestry, FamilySearch, hard copy, etc.). These prefix names are not seen in Colony signature lists or civil records from the era.

Opinions and shared knowledge on this subject sought from other Village Coordinators.

Thank you!

Greg

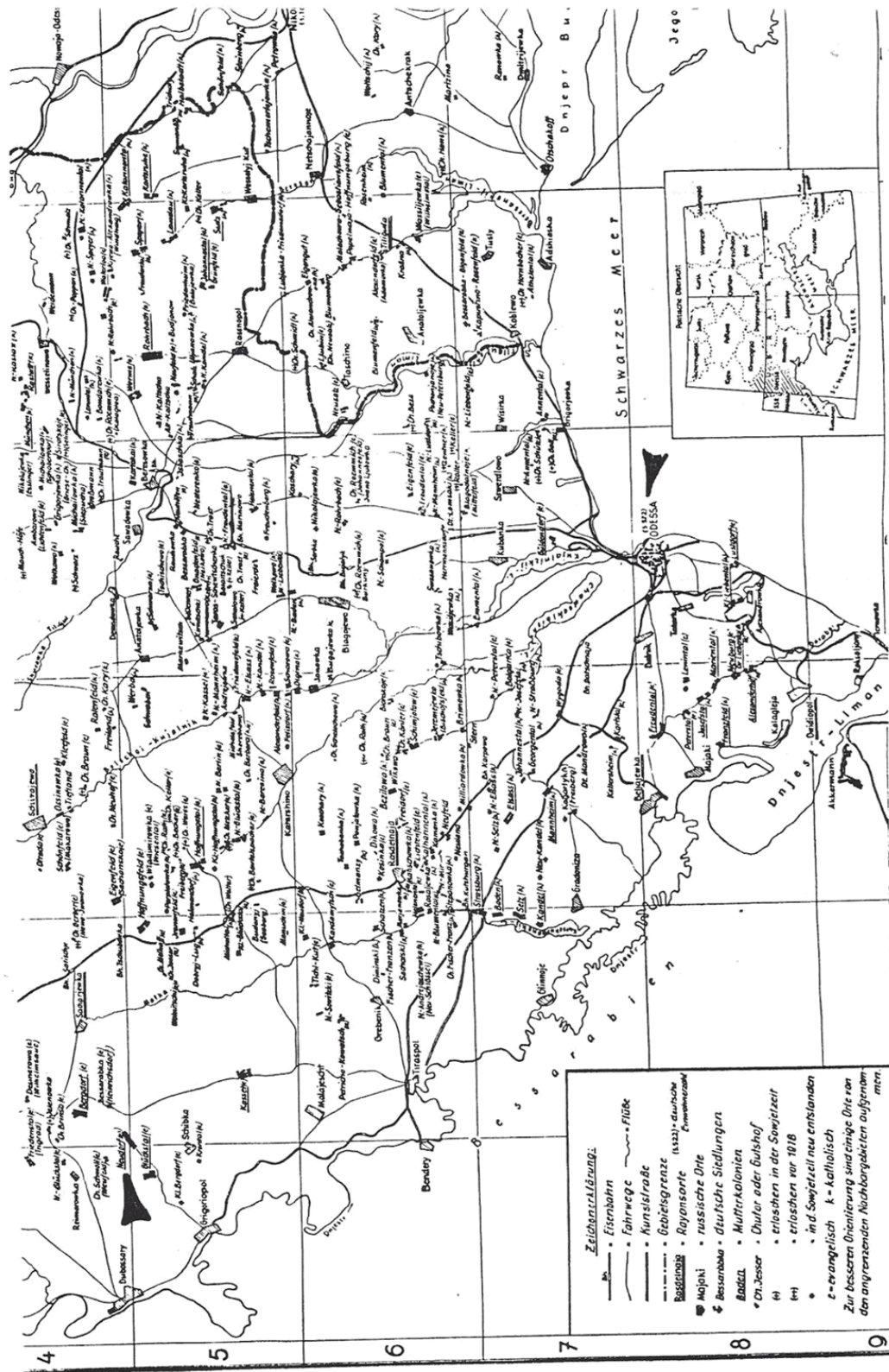
NeudorfVillageCoordinator@gmail.com



Neudorf — Geb. Odessa

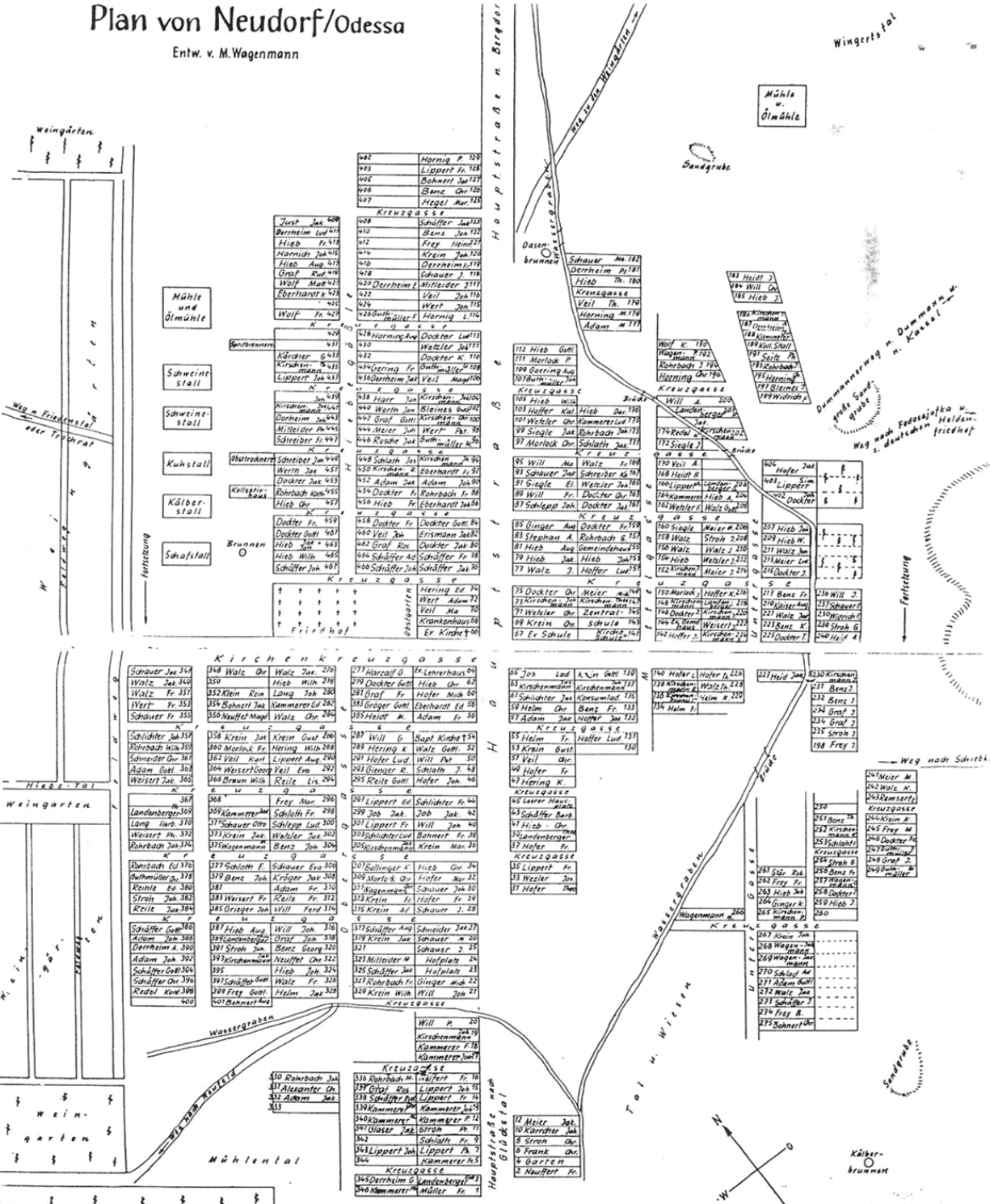
Wish to correspond and exchange
information with descendents of
people from Neudorf, South Russia.

Gregory R. Dockter
412 Versailles Ave. 765
Bismarck, ND 58503



Plan von Neudorf/Odessa

Entw. v. M. Wagenmann



About 1943.
Homesteaders on the Steppe
Dr. Joseph S. Height pages 350, 351.

NEUDORF VILLAGE PROJECT

Research Goals

1. Neudorf census listings for 1816 and 1858 do not give the wives' maiden names. Goal 1 is to find maiden names for as many of the listed wives as possible.
2. The time is too long between the 1858 Neudorf census and the 1944 Neudorf family listing, to be able to tell which 1944 families came from which 1858 families. Goal 2 is to find which 1944 families descend from which 1858 families. Along with this goal is to find which hof (farming courtyard) shown on the 1944 map the 1858 families lived.
3. Goal 3 is to computerize all data to make it more accessible to the public.

Sources being used to accomplish Research Goals:

1. 1816 and 1858 Neudorf census lists contained in Dr. Karl Stumpp's book The Emigration from Germany to Russia in Years 1763 to 1862.
2. 1944 Neudorf family listings and map. These were prepared from memory by former Neudorf resident Martin Wagenmann, while living in Germany during the 1950's. The original list is now at the "Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Ruszland", Stuttgart, Germany. The map was published in their Heimatbuch 1962, and also in Dr. Joseph Height's book Homesteaders on the Steppe.
3. Historical society holdings, primarily North and South Dakota: Immigration records, newspaper microfilms, jubilee books, county atlas and tract books, state census listings, etc.
4. State health departments: Death certificates.
5. National Archive records: Federal census listings, ship passenger lists and homestead files.
6. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints: Microfilm holdings of European church and civil records.
7. AHSGR (American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, Lincoln NE), and GRHS (Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Bismarck ND): Library holdings and member's family trees.

NEUDORF VILLAGE PROJECT
Page 2

8. Direct correspondence: Descendents of Neudorf residents who emigrated to the U.S. and Canada, and also former Neudorf residents now living in Germany.

To let this information be available to other people making family trees, all data will be eventually computerized and given to various interested genealogical libraries. (All data thus far accumulated is available by mail to anyone interested, without charge.)

Any information about Neudorf families you would share with me will be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Gregory R. Dockter
Neudorf Village Coordinator, AHSGR Village Project
Neudorf Village Organizer, GRHS Village Project

Neu Messer Village 2020 Annual Report

2020 was another busy year. I was able to help several Messer and Neu Messer descendants with their research. We have been working with a group in Germany called, "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". They are a group of around 700 Messer descendants living primarily in Germany and Russia. We have been sharing information and helping each other with research requests.

Messer Confirmation Records for the years 1856 through 1891 were purchased, transcribed and published in May. Messer Confirmation Records for the years 1842 – 1856 were purchased and transcribed and are awaiting publication by AHSGR. Since Neu Messer was founded in 1862, these records include the families who were the original settlers in Neu Messer. They should be available to order from the AHSGR book store very soon.

I was contacted by a Messer descendant in Russia who provided information on Messer colonists who moved to Astrakhan. She also provided information on military records for some of the Messer colonists. We also found information on a Messer colonist who went to Avilovo.

Maggie Hein has continued her work with German church records to find the German origins of Volga colonists and has provided information on a number of Messer origins. **Thank you Maggie.**

Our database administrators, Don and Greta Beavers, are continuing to grow our Messer / Neu Messer database. They are entering all the available census information and linking the families together. As time permits they will also add the marriage, birth, death, and confirmation records we have obtained, as well as records shared with us by the "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". This is an ongoing work and Don and Greta are doing a fantastic job. So far they have 38,994 individuals in their database. **Thank you Don and Greta.**

Two Messer / Neu Messer Newsletters were sent out during 2020.

The Messer / Neu Messer distribution list continues to grow.

Mike Meisinger

Village Coordinator for Messer and Neu Messer

Neu-Schilling I and Neu-Schilling II Village 2020 Annual Report

There were no inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

The daughter colony of Neu-Schilling I was founded in 1855, by people from Schilling. Neu-Schilling II was founded nearby sometime later, and the villages merged at some point

The records available for the village of Neu-Schilling I and II are shown below:

Census records: None

First settler information: none

Birth records: 1871-1909

Marriages: None

Deaths: None

Family Lists: None

Gary Martens

VC for Neu-Schilling I and II

gpmartens@gmail.com

Neu-Weimar Village 2020 Annual Report

There were several inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

Neu-Weimar was founded in 1861 as a Lutheran colony, with people relocating from the villages of Galka, Stephan, Schwab and Dobrinka.

The records available for the village of Neu-Weimar are shown below:

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: none

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1901

Deaths: 1901

Family Lists: None

The Neu-Weimar database contains information on all the first settlers, plus the marriages, deaths from church records and additional information collected on people who immigrated to the US and Canada.

Gary Martens

VC for Neu-Weimar

gpmartens@gmail.com

Norka Village 2020 Annual Report

VC for Rosenfeld, Langenfeld and Norka. Norka is active everyday. Several of us have purchased more Norka records but will be sometime before we can share them.

I have helped about a dozen researchers looking into their Norka roots. I am working with Louis who runs the Norka database.

Nothing new with Rosenfeld. I still have birth records 1896 to 1916 that need translation.

Maggie Hein purchased birth and death records for Langenfeld. My wife and I translated them. years 1872 to 1892. the records continue but in Russian. at some point we will tackle them also.

Roger Burbach/Burbank

Oberdorf Village 2020 Annual Report

During 2020, I have received inquiries about surnames referring to inhabitants of Oberdorf: Kling, Kaltemberger, Stehle, Völker, Kerbs, Keln, Heinze, Schimpf.

I have also had to analyze surnames related to the previous ones (Uhrig, Weisheim and Zimmermann) due to the different marriages that relate Oberdorf to other nearby villages, such as: Erlenbach.

Currently I review different files of births and deaths to establish the affiliations of the immigrants and thus be able to establish the connection in Russia.

Durante el año 2020, he recibido consultas sobre apellidos referidos a habitantes de Oberdorf Kling, Kaltemberger, Stehle, Völker, Kerbs, Keln, Heinze, Schimpf.

Asimismo he tenido que analizar apellidos relacionados con los anteriores (Uhrig, Weisheim y Zimmermann) debido a los distintos matrimonios que relacionan a Oberdorf con otras aldeas cercanas, como por ejemplo: Erlenbach.

Actualmente reviso distintos archivos de nacimientos y defunciones para establecer las filiaciones de los inmigrados y así poder establecer la conexión en Rusia.

Elena Vega Stehle

Paulskoye Village 2020 Annual Report

It was a quiet year despite plenty of people being holed up due to the pandemic.

Thanks to Christina Zahn, Urbach VC I now have Paulskoye marriage records for 1906-1907 that were for some unknown reason recorded in the Reinhard church records. I really appreciate your sharing them Christina!

Maggie Hein, Frank VC and I studied a mystery involving the german origins and subsequent settlement for Felsing and Herdt families. I can't say we solved it totally, but we at least ruled some things out. Her work in verifying german origins is exemplary--as many VCs know.

I helped Cindy Schaefer Zaeske with her research involving her great grandparents Schaefer (Neu-Urbach) and Wiederhold (Paulskoye) who settled in Maywood, Illinois. Cindy was a quick learner and very appreciative of my help which is always a plus. She shared her family history, photos and documents.

An old genealogical friend Canadian Alex Boxhorn from Manitoba renewed contact after we last corresponded nearly a decade ago. I shared new information about his Boxhorn ancestors from Paulskoye which brought his research up to date.

As always, I learn something by answering other's questions so thanks to all who reached out to me.

My plan for 2021 is to inquire about the possibility of obtaining the 1874 and 1882 Family Lists for Paulskoye. I hope to obtain both, or at least a minimum of one set of records. I already have extractions for certain families, but it would be good to have them both and in their entirety.

Submitted by

Tim Weeder

VC for Paulskoye

Email: tcweeder@gmail.com

Pfeifer Village 2020 Annual Report

I just took the responsibilities of Village Coordinator for Pfeifer in March of 2020.

I have been working hard on making a website for that village. You will see below the work I have done on that site.

Inquiries:

I've had inquiries from the following people and others.

Pablo Ramirez

Johannes Schmidt

Arlette Watwood

George Weissbeck

Max Weinbinder

There is more activity in Pfeifer than there is in my other village (Leichtling)

New Website for Pfeifer Village:

<https://pfeifervillage.com/>

Specialty pages:

Census records ... <https://pfeifervillage.com/census.html>

1767 ... I have all the images and translated these records

1798 ... I have all the images and translated these records

1834 ... I have all the images, but have not finished translating. Looking for translator.

1850 ... Created and translated by Juri Schulmeister

1857 ... Created and translated by Juri Schulmeister

Maps (plot map) ... https://pfeifervillage.com/index_files/maps/Pfeifer_plot_map_001.png

Emigrant list ... https://pfeifervillage.com/In_and_out_lists.html

Photos (people and places) ... <https://pfeifervillage.com/photos.html>

New map of the volga area

https://pfeifervillage.com/index_files/maps/Volga_Villages.png

I want to take a moment here and recognize the loss we had with the death of the former Village Coordinator of Pfeifer.

In Memory of:

Rosemary Larson



- Former Pfeifer village coordinator and board member of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, who passed away on January 31, 2020.
- We acknowledge her years of hard work with the Pfeifer village.

Darryl Boyd
Pfeifer Village

Polish Volhynia Village 2020 Annual Report

During 2020 three requests were received for the surnames Haupt, Visnak / Weiss / Bertsch, Blehm (Peters), Wenzel, Sayler. Villages were Shitomir/ Blisnitsa, Koschak / Volhynia. Twelve researcher's information has been added to the database. Since the Pandemic and the advent of ZOOM meetings, I have had the opportunity to participate in meetings of other AHSGR chapters and update my knowledge. Because the Pasco, Washington Convention was cancelled no new information was forwarded for the Heritage Hall binder. The surname database and list of villages continues to be updated. Similar groupings such as the same religion – Baptist, Lutheran, Mennonite or the same village are beginning to be apparent. For example, there are six researchers interested in the village of Karlswalde.

Respectfully submitted,

Mabel Kiessling

Village Coordinator for Polish Volhynia

Popokva Village 2020 Annual Report

As I sit here gazing out my office window at the blizzard we are having today, wondering if my Schneider and Wagner ancestors who lived in Kutter would be doing the same thing after their chores were finished for the morning. Were they facing the same problems that we have been facing in this last year? Weather, disease, and civil unrest, 2020 was harsh, each and every one of us had our lives changed in one way or another.

It was a very slow year. I had only one request which I was able to help, their request was for the Sell family. I was able to trace back from their relative to the original settler. I have been enlarging my data base, I have entered the FSL, 1775 census and 1798 census and am now working on the 1834 census. I have over 5000 names so far. It is a very slow process. I try to work at least an hour or two each week.

Pam Wurst Coordinator

Reinhard Village 2020 Annual Report

This year I was able to purchase the Reinhard Family List, 1834-1843 from the AHSGR library and add it to my collection. I had three inquiries for the Reinhard Village and I was able to help get their lines from their American immigrant back to Germany with help from cousins I have connected with in Russia. The surnames I researched were Mertz, Diener, Kuntzmann, Schweigert, Hermann, and Hartmann.

I started working on purchasing Metric Lists (birth, marriage, death) from the archives and am hoping to have these by the end of this year. My understanding is that retrieval has slowed due to COVID restrictions at the archives.

Brenna Stokes

Village Coordinator for Schäfer and Reinhard Villages

Reinwald Village 2020 Annual Report

I received three inquiries this last year and helped those that contacted me. There are no new files available at this time.

Susie Weber Hess VC Reinwald Samara Volga Russia

Rosenberg Village 2020 Annual Report

Rosenberg (Umet) was a daughter colony settled in 1852/3 from various established colonies. It was never a very populous settlement so it is hardly surprising that relatively few enquiries arrive over the course of a year, and in general those that do come tend to centre round the same families or family groups.

This past year there have been new enquiries concerning the Herber family (from a correspondent in Russia), and Armbruster/Dahlinger/Meier, and further communications from researchers regarding Schiebelhut(h) [original email 2017) and Reizenstein [original email 2007/8]. There was no extra information to add to the collected file for the village.

I have been in touch with researchers to see if there is any new information available for the village, particularly from Russian archives. Mila Koretnikov contacted various archives and they sent back this list for the village:

Volgograd:

Births 1901-1902, 1911-1914.

F. 339. Op. 112. Births, 11.12.1914-25.12.1921 (128 spreads)

Marriages 1894-1895, 1905. [these are available online]

Deaths 1904, 1913.

1858 census (translated by Brent Mai).[AHSGR has this for sale]

Lists of draftees before 1917 ([urther enquiry returned no record information]

Lists of draftees after 1917.

Engels:

F. 317. 1911-1919 Village administration.

Nothing from Saratov

Village Co-ordinator: Richard McGregor

Rosenfeld Village 2020 Annual Report (2)

Things accomplished

The major accomplishment of 2020 was the publication of the 1874-1899 Rosenfeld am Nachoi, Russia Family List. After obtaining the documents a few years ago with the help of Mila Kornetnikov, I reached out to Dr. Elena Edelson for the translation. Dr. Edelson finished the translation in early January 2020. With the support of Dodie Rotherham, James Wiebert and Kevin Rupp, AHSGR offered the publication for sale to the public last summer. Special thanks to David Hartman, who share his family photos and his cousin Dorothea Eckhardt's letter, which offered a description of the village where she was born.

Plans

The future plans are to continue to build the database, which already includes the 1862 Census of Rosenfeld on Nachoi, with details from the 1874-1899 Family list. Then the next goal will be to track these settlers to their villages of origin, primarily Reinwald, Schwed, Schulz, Nieder-Monjou and Urbach. Then the next step will be to track and confirm their Germanic Origins.

Point of contact/village Coordinator

Join us at Descendants of Rosenfeld am Nachoi, Russia on Facebook.

Anna Dalhaimer Bartkowski

anna@bart4.com

Rosenfeld Village 2020 Annual Report

VC for Rosenfeld, Langenfeld and Norka. Norka is active everyday. Several of us have purchased more Norka records but will be sometime before we can share them.

I have helped about a dozen researchers looking into their Norka roots. I am working with Louis who runs the Norka database.

Nothing new with Rosenfeld. I still have birth records 1896 to 1916 that need translation.

Maggie Hein purchased birth and death records for Langenfeld. My wife and I translated them. years 1872 to 1892. the records continue but in Russian. at some point we will tackle them also.

Roger Burbach/Burbank

Rosenheim Village 2020 Annual Report

Hi Everyone,

This year was a pretty active year !

I did have several enquiries about Rosenheim inhabitants, and was able to offer some assistance. Most people did respond with a thank you. The some didn't respond even though I was able to provide quite bit of relevant info.

Some were able to provide names and dates of people they were trying to research. Some simply asked for any help I could offer.

Surnames include: Pflaum, Schwab, Mauter, Starkoff, Aldt, Ehlert and Horst

My family has been doing additional research based on a box of old letters that were found in a relatives closet. The letters were dated between the 1950's and the 80's. A family member in the US, started randomly writing to the addresses on the old letters. Some of them have been returned and we are now connecting with family in Siberia and Germany. One person has actually been to Rosenheim, and was in the family home there. Don't give up on those old connections !

All the best to you and your familys in 2021! Stay Safe!

Duane Funk

Rosenheim Village Coordinator

Rosental (am Jeruslan), Samara, Volga, Village 2020 Annual Report

The donated Compendium of Rosental am Jeruslan Census (1850 & 1857 & 1861) is now available from AHSGR.

Completed transcription/translation of the 1901 family list.

Updated 1874 family list using more legible information from the 1901 list.

Sent a welcome letter to a new member with Rosental connections, received no reply.

The Christ and Damer families of Rosental were found residing earlier in Weizenfeld.

Jeremy Landt

jeremysfnm@gmail.com

Village Coordinator for Rosental (am Jeruslan), Samara, Volga

The third village of the three villages clustered closely together on the Nachoi River is Rosenfeld (am Nachoi); the village coordinator is Anna Dalhaimer Bartowski. Today, the three villages are within the boundary of Rozovoye, Saratov, Russia (51° 13' 32.3" N 46° 46' 56.3" E).

Rothammel Seewald Village 2020 Annual Report

With the help of Joe Gertge, we've entered the Rothammel Parish church records into separate Xcel files for baptisms, marriages and deaths. The births include the years 1852-1910, the marriage records include the years 1846-1907 and the death records include the 1849-1918. There are a few years missing in each file, but we've been able to acquire the missing birth records from 1892-1903. We're hoping someone will step forward and agree to volunteer to translate those records. Earlier we had forwarded the marriage file to AHSGR and now plan to forward the birth and death files so the records will also be available in the AHSGR library.

We continue to add additional information into our village file. We have received several requests for help with family research. It is rewarding when we can help, especially taking a family line back to the original settler.

Joe Gertge
Tatjana Schell
Nick & Barbara Bretz
rothammeler@aol.com
303-424-5145

Schäfer Village 2020 Annual Report

This year has been slow for Schäfer village. I did not receive any inquiries. I was able to obtain the 1896-1905 family list for the Bauer family. I am working on getting it translated from Russian to English. I also have a partial list of 1902-1905 birth records that are in need of translation.

I started working on purchasing Metric Lists (birth, marriage, death) from the archives and am hoping to have these by the end of this year. It is also my hope to retrieve the rest of the 1896-1905 family list. My understanding is that retrieval has slowed due to COVID restrictions at the archives.

Brenna Stokes

Village Coordinator for Schäfer and Reinhard Villages

Schaffhausen Village 2020 Annual Report

Schaffhausen (aka Michaelis, Volkovo, Wolkowo) was founded in 1768 in the vicinity of the Little Karaman river on the Wiesenseite (meadow side) of the Volga River. Due to poor soil conditions Schaffhausen and another 7 colonies were relocated to the northern stretch of the eastern Volga riverbank in 1770. Schaffhausen was the northernmost of these original Volga river colonies at position 51°56' N 47°18' E which is separated from the Volga river by marshland.

During 2019-20 I received 3 queries from the USA concerning settlers believed to be linked to Schaffhausen and was able to provide basic assistance from my holdings. The absence of a FSL for Schaffhausen and incomplete later census data continues to be a problem. However, recent work such as Brent Mai's surname list published by the Volga German Institute (University of North Florida) and international German Russian websites should enable a more comprehensive accurate data set to be compiled for Schaffhausen and other colonies.

As advised last year I would appreciate any information that Village Coordinators may have on movements from their colonies to Schaffhausen during the late 18th Century. Any information that Village Coordinators may have on internal migration from the Saratov area to the Samara region and Urals would also be appreciated.

Regards,
Jim Parsonage
Schaffhausen Village Coordinator
Email: jtp16@iprimus.com.au
Brisbane QLD, Australia

Schilling Village 2020 Annual Report

There were several dozen inquiries during 2020 from several countries.

There is a significant number of records for the village of Schilling (Alt-Schilling). Note that there was a daughter colony named Schilling, adjacent to the daughter colony of Konstantinovka. The Schilling daughter colony merged with Konstantinovka.

Records have been translated, except as noted with NT for not translated:

Census records: 1775, 1798, 1834, 1857, 1898 (not purchased)

First settler information: There is no 1767 Census for Schilling.

First settler information for people who immigrated to Denmark, the following surnames: Benzel, B;azer, Brecht, Bruhn, Damm, Daniel, Dieter, Essig, Filbert, Fitzner, Gager/Hager, Gramlich, Helmut, Kerber, Kurtz, Mahr, Maul, Metz, Roh, Schilling, Schmid, Stengel, Strackbein, Weingaertner, Rube.

Birth records: 1767-1841, 1842-1858, 1859-1878, 1903-1906 (NT)

Marriages: 1903-1912 (NT)

Deaths: No separate death records

Family Lists: 1881-1892 (some surnames translated), 1893-1905 (some surnames translated), 1900-1927 (some surnames translated)

For the 1881-1892 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Drumm, Drumheller, Felsing, Harres, Helmuth, Leterich, Luft, Maul, Mende, Schadt, Schmidt, Schreiber, Strackbein, Worster.

For the 1881-1905 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Damm, Rube, Worster

For the 1900-1927 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Damm, Worster

Additional translations for a surname can be obtained for the Family Lists covering 1881 thru 1927. Contact the VC for the cost of having the translation done.

The Pleve's created surname charts for the following surnames from Schilling: Damm, Filbert, Kaufmann, Keller, Kraus, Roh, Roth, Selheim and Sinner. The dates covered on these charts are not known.

The Schilling website is found at: <http://www.schillinggr.org/>

There is also a Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/Schilling-115734748455129>

Gary Martens

VC for Schilling

gpmartens@gmail.com

Schuck Village 2020 Annual Report

I have answered a few queries, some also connected through DNA matches

Some of the surnames I reported on were:

Dukardt,

Hollman,

Locher,

Ertle,

Leonhardt,

Klug

I have Original Settlers List

1798 census

1834 census

1850 census

1857 census

I also have numerous church records, and many other census records, as people moved to and married into other villages

I am always willing to search for information

Cathy Hawinkels, VC for Volmer and Schuck

Shcherbakovka Village 2020 Annual Report

This has been a busy year, with at least 15 people contacting me for information on their Avilovo, Erlenbach, and Shcherbakovka ancestors. I administer the “Erlenbach & Avilova in Russia” Facebook group and the “Volga German Shcherbakovka Families” Facebook group, so I included contacts from both groups in this report.

1. Shcherbakovka: A researcher contacted me for information on her Lang/Long family from Shcherbakovka. Her Jacob Lang was born in 1869, but without records after 1867 I was only able to give her a couple of possible family lines. I was able to verify that her information on the Oblander family that settled in Michigan was correct.
2. Shcherbakovka: A gentleman emailed me asking for information on his Blehm line. His great-grandparents were Henry Blehm (1874-1945) and Eva Elisabeth Winter (1873-1942). I gave him the probable family line for his Henry Blehm. I found a family story, the immigration of Eva Elisabeth Winter Blehm and their children, and US and Canadian Census records for the family, but nothing to help find the parents of Eva Elisabeth Winter Blehm.
3. Shcherbakovka: I was contact by 2 researchers for information on the same line. One contacted me because she is a 90 cM DNA match with me. The other researcher is trying to help a man find his ancestors, and he contacted me through the Volga German Shcherbakovka Families Facebook group. Both were looking for the parents of George Blehm (1883-1947). Although we found a few documents, the only clue we had was that the family was joining “Uncle Johannes Ehrlich” in Marion, Kansas when they immigrated. I found the correct Johannes Ehrlich, but I could not determine the connection between him and George Blehm.

I attended the virtual AHSGR Conference hosted by the Edmonton Chapter, and it was excellent! I posted in several Facebook groups about the conference, and I think several people signed up. I look forward to future virtual conferences, as it is difficult for me to travel due to my health.

I believe I have all the available records for Erlenbach and Avilovo, as well as census records for the settlers' mother colonies. Avilovo is particularly hard to research because it was a Khutor so no census records are available. The Avilovo settlers largely came from Shcherbakovka and Oberdorf, but we do not have a list of the residents and where they came from. I also have the 1798 census volumes, Kulberg Lists, all 4 volumes of Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet, Pleve surname charts, and many other resources. Unfortunately, my ability to help researchers is somewhat limited due to the lack of records.

I hope to try archion.de/en this year to search for some of my ancestral German origins. However, it appears that my grandfather's family was Catholic (and Matricula did not have information on the surname). My grandmother's family has a very common surname and a very vague place of origin in Kulberg and Einwanderung, so searching for their origins will be nearly impossible. I continue to encourage researchers with Erlenbach and Avilovo ancestors to send me what they know about their ancestors so I can add them to my database; we may eventually be able to tie their lines together.

Kathy Stahlman

Village Coordinator, Erlenbach and Avilovo Villages

Straub Village 2020 Annual Report

I have had the following inquiries this year about these Straub families: Bengel, Bopp, Lambel, Lieder, Lung, Neuman, Roth (2), Schafer, Scherer, Steitz, Will.

I have been able to get these Straub records from the Russian archive: all Straub confirmations, Straub births 1875 to 1888, Straub births 1900 to 1907, Straub deaths 1865 to 1884. All of these are thanks to the efforts of a friend in Russia. With these new records, I have been able to figure out some of the people who were on the 1922 Straub census I got last year. The archive is currently closed due to covid.

I still collect obituaries and declarations of intent for people from Russia. I am also finding Straub people in nearby village records.

by Sharon White

Susannental Village 2020 Annual Report

This year I have been focusing my efforts on publishing some of the information I already have in my data bases to the Susannental Facebook page.

The facebook page includes pictures of immigration ship records, photos of immigrant ancestors, and pictures of the village of Susannental today.

Surnames for the Ship records currently include: Herber, Herget, Kober, Lehman, Lober, Meinhardt, Michel, Roth, Runk, Schmidt, Wasmuth, Wegner, and Werner.

I have two data Bases. The Pre immigration Data Base includes 5187 individuals, and the Post immigration Data Base includes 16096 individuals.

Susannental Surnames include: Asmus, Backer, Bader, Bauer, Billeau, Blescho, Diehl, Fladung, Gentz, Gesch/Herch, Glaser, Hasselbach, Hege, Heinrike, Henning, Herget/Gerget, Honighaus, Janke, Jost, Jung, Kober, Korbmacher, Lehman, Lieber, Meinhard, Mettich, Michel, Millad, Muller, Neff, Pasquois, Ramshin, Rehl, Ritger, Root, Roth, Runk, Schafer, Schmidt, Specker, Stecker, Vogel, Wasmuth, Wegner, Werner, Zimmerman.

Susannental has a 1st Settler list, 1798 Census, 1816, 1834 Census and 1857 Census.

I have been able to assist several persons with their family research.

Kerry Thompson

sstevee47@yahoo.com

web page: Susanental at freepages.rootsweb.com

Facebook Page - Susannental

VC for Susannental

Unterwalden Village 2020 Annual Report

This year I have been focusing my efforts on publishing some of the information I already have in my data bases to the Meinhard Facebook page.

The facebook page includes pictures of immigration ship records, and photos of immigrant ancestors.

Surnames for the Ship records at this time include: Fink, Hergenrider, Korn, Neumann, Sittner, Ungefug/Ungefucht, Wehrwein, Winterholler

I have two data Bases. The Pre immigration Data Base includes 5187 individuals, and the Post immigration Data Base includes 16096 individuals.

Meinhard Surnames include: Albert, Berger, Bergholtz, Bindewald, Bonner, Breiniger, Breyer, Dill/Diehl, Eifert, Fink, Freberg, Friedrich, Funk, Gottfried, Gruinewald, Hergenrader, Herget, Ismat, Jahnke, Jordan, Jung, Keilmann, Keksel, Korn, Lipp, Lotz, Meckel, Meier, Meinhard, Muth, Naumann, Rehm, Reinhardt, Ritger, Schaefer, Schmidt, Sittner, Ungefught, Wagner, Waldschmidt, Wehrwein, Wiegand, Wilhelm, Winterholler, Zeigemann.

Meinhard has a 1798 Census, 1816, 1834 Census and 1857 Census.

I have been able to assist several persons with their family research.

Kerry Thompson

sstevee47@yahoo.com

Facebook Page – Meinhard or Unterwalden

VC for Meinhard/Unterwalden

Volhynia Village 2020 Annual Report

During 2020 three requests were received for the surnames Haupt, Visnak / Weiss / Bertsch, Blehm (Peters), Wenzel, Sayler. Villages were Shitomir/ Blisnitsa, Koschak / Volhynia. Twelve researcher's information has been added to the database. Since the Pandemic and the advent of ZOOM meetings, I have had the opportunity to participate in meetings of other AHSGR chapters and update my knowledge. Because the Pasco, Washington Convention was cancelled no new information was forwarded for the Heritage Hall binder. The surname database and list of villages continues to be updated. Similar groupings such as the same religion – Baptist, Lutheran, Mennonite or the same village are beginning to be apparent. For example, there are six researchers interested in the village of Karlswalde.

Respectfully submitted,

Mabel Kiessling

Village Coordinator for Volhynia

Volmer Village 2020 Annual Report

I have answered a few queries, some also connected through DNA matches

Some of the surnames I reported on were:

Dukardt,

Hollman,

Locher,

Ertle,

Leonhardt,

Klug

I have Original Settlers List

1798 census

1834 census

1850 census

1857 census

I also have numerous church records, and many other census records, as people moved to and married into other villages

I am always willing to search for information

Cathy Hawinkels, VC for Volmer and Schuck

Walter, Walter Khutor and Klein Walter Villages 2020 Annual Report

Village Coordinators

Michael Fyler, Resercher and Walter database (waltervillage@yahoo.com)

Mary Jane Bolton, Researcher and Facebook Moderator (walter4vc@gmail.com)

Byron Wagner, Obituaries and Researcher

Jean Roth, Historian

Records Inventory

Censuses: 1798, 1834, 1857, Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet 1764-1767 Vol. IV

Volgograd-Walter Church Records:

Births: 1839-1900, 1903-1913, 1916, 1917, 1918

Marriages: 1839-1853, 1894-1895

Deaths: 1839-1870, 1904

Walter Class Register of Zemstvo School: 1884-1889, 1891-1893, 1896-1898, 1900-1901

Extracts from the Family list on the military duty

Reference

1870-1876 Brunnental, Russia, Communion Register 1870-1886, Vol 1 and Vol 2

Translated by and made possible by Margreatha Hein.

The Walter, Russia Facebook page is active; we appreciate all that Maggie Hein and Tanja Schell offer to making the page interesting. Many requests for help with research come from Facebook.

The Walter database includes 59, 432 individuals and it continues to grow as individuals are added from the Volgograd-Walter church records, obituaries, new AHSGR members as well as from the contacts we make on Facebook. We continue to encourage non-members to join AHSGR.

Surnames reserched in 2020 include: Alles, Amend, Baum, Butherus, Benner, Bretthauer, Bromgard, Derr, Döll, Dorn, Geist, Gies, Greif, Hamburg, Hartmann, Herdt, Hill, Kammerzell, Karl, Rohn, Schoessler, Streck, Voight, Wagner, Walter, Weber, Wiederspahn, Woid

We are constantly searching for additional records or documents to connect the missing years in our church records.

Submitted by Michael Fyler

Warenburg Village 2020 Annual Report

I have had the following inquiries this year about these Warenburg families: Borger, Eisner, Ickstadt, Kramer, Lorenz, Muller (2), Schutz, Trippel.

The archive is currently closed due to covid. Before the archive closed, I was able to get 4 more 1885 Warenburg family lists for these families: Schwengel, Kisling, Hess, and Rothenberger. This makes 32 family lists for Warenburg now.

I have received Warenburg births for 1794 to 1811 from a friend in Russia. Also have Warenburg deaths for 1851 to 1855.

I am still collecting obituaries for Warenburg people and declarations of intent. I am also finding Warenburg people in nearby village records.

by Sharon White

Weisenmueller Village 2020 Annual Report

There were 5 inquiries during 2020 from several countries. Wiesenmüller was founded 27 November 1857 by 7 families who were resettling from the colony of [Balzer](#). On 10 December 1857, those first settlers were joined by 32 families from the villages of [Franzosen](#), [Moor](#), and [Grimm](#). On 23 January 1858, an additional 75 families from [Galka](#), [Shcherbakovka](#), [Stephan](#), [Müller](#), [Schwab](#) and [Holstein](#) arrived.

The records available for the village of Weisenmueller are shown below:

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: 1914

Marriages: 1894-1895

Deaths: None

Family Lists: 1895, 1914

The Weisenmueller database contains information on all the first settlers, plus significant amounts of information gathered by the previous village coordinator over a 15 year period ending in 2016.

Gary Martens

VC for Weisenmueller

gpmartens@gmail.com

Weizenfeld, Samara, Volga, Village 2020 Annual Report

Volunteered to serve as village coordinator for Weizenfeld, located on the north bank of the Nachoi River.

Translated the census records of 1850 and 1857.

Donated the census records of 1850 and 1857 to AHSGR, not yet published.

Translated the Weizenfeld village description from Deutsche evangelische Siedlungen an der Volga, by Dr. Olga Litzenberger.

Jeremy Landt

jeremysfnm@gmail.com

Village Coordinator for Weizenfeld, Samara, Volga

Yagodnaya Polyana, Saratov, Volga Village 2020 Annual Report

2020 Village Report for Yagodnaya Polyana

This year the pandemic has created all sorts of issues for everyone around the world. A truly chaotic year 2020 has been with people losing their jobs and forced to stay home, while others lost their lives battling this disease. It certainly has created a new reality that not many people appreciate or like.

It has however also given people a reason to dive into their roots. I cannot remember a year where there has been so much activity on a village level. Historically I was averaging 2 or 3 queries a month, I am now getting 2 or 3 a week.

Regardless of our perspective on the pandemic, it is seemingly a positive time for the genealogist. Staying at home has allowed us the time to renew our efforts to search for our ancestors with a new- found energy. With more and more records found online we can do much of our research from the comfort of our homes.

Since we no longer can meet in person, we are forced to find new ways to communicate. The world of Zoom has entered our vocabulary. This technology is helping us to reach out not only across North America but also to Europe.

We had our first Zoom meeting on Friday, November 6, 2020 with 9 people on the call. We had someone from Siberia join us. In our previously “normal” world this probably would not have happened. We had lots of discussion and several people found out they were related.

Our second Zoom meeting happened on December 4, 2020. This time we had 15 people join in from Canada and the United States. Once again there was lots of discussion and some connection was made between participants.

As mentioned, there have been a lot of queries from people looking for surnames: Bafus/Befus, Gerlitz, Leinweber, Luft, Morasch, Scheuerman, Schneidmiller, etc. While many came via email there were a lot of queries found on a facebook page called Canadian Germans of Volga Russia Ancestry. It is a private group with 388 members at the current time. There is a lot of activity on this page and should be monitored regularly.

This year the YP newsletter had 3 issues. There are 165 people receiving electronic copies of the newsletter. I continue to look for a new editor but have had no interest from anyone to take over the duties.

The YP Facebook page continues to grow. We have well over 418 likes on the page with many living in Germany, Russia, Canada and the United States.

Respectfully submitted

Marlene Michel

Village Coordinator for Yagodnaya Polyana

No one is ever gone as long as there is someone to remember them