

Sacramento Valley Chapter

American Historical Society of Germans from Russia – International

Volume 29, Number 2 March/April 2018

Alton Sissell & Lee Macklin, Editors



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Eleanor Sissell –

Hello Spring, Hello April, Hello Easter. Thank you members, for renewing your Chapter membership.

I hope you are excited about the coming Heritage Fest in Lodi, on Saturday May 5, 2018. There are many interesting presentations being offered there.

For our April meeting, you may bring Easter treats or other finger foods. I am looking forward to hearing John Kreutzer's presentation. We all have family food traditions that are interesting. I have changed the June 3rd meeting to June 10th.

Bring your silent auction items to the meetings, if possible. They do not have to be fancy or big. If you have anything you do not want anymore, bring it. Someone may like to bid on it. It helps our Chapter budget. I will bring the quilt raffle tickets for the Heritage Fest. I look forward to seeing you at the April meeting.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY CHAPTER

Membership

by Alton Sissell

Thank you members for our successful Membership renewal campaign. Our Chapter Membership has increased to 40. We welcome our newest members:

Shari E. Eckert
Joyce Helen Guinn
Duncan Michael Wagner
Kathryn Marie Wagner
Elizabeth Anne Wilson

Genealogy Tidbits

The American Historical Society has an agreement with FamilySearch to store the obituary collection (previously named SOAR). To access these obituaries enter the following address into your browser search window: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2367299>

There are 455,810 images, searchable by Life Events: Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death, and Any.

You can also search by Relationship: Spouse, Parents, and Other Person.

Sacramento Valley Chapter Meeting

Sunday, April 8, 2018
2:00 PM

American River Community Church,
3300 Walnut Ave., Carmichael, CA

Program



Easter Theme

- Off the Interstate in Western Kansas by John Kreutzer

Bring a favorite GR dish or finger food & tell others of your family food tradition or story

Bring another German from Russia

♪ HAPPY BIRTHDAY ♪

Sacramento Valley Chapter Members

Eugene A. Hayes

March 06

John J. Kreutzer

March 18

Lee Macklin

March 20

Constance K. Worster

April 25



[If your Birthday announcement was missed, please contact Alton Sissell on 916/833-4804 - or - e-mail to asissell@gmail.com to update your member record]

Grebbeel Recipe

Grebbeel is deep-fried dough, something like a doughnut, which is fried and then served with powdered sugar sprinkled on it, while still warm.



Ingredients:

1/2 cup soft butter (no substitute)
1/2 pint sour cream (do not use fat free or low fat)
4 eggs, beaten
4 cups flour
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons baking powder
2 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
canola oil or vegetable oil, for frying

Directions:

1. Sift dry ingredients together.
2. Combine butter, sour cream and eggs; blend together well. Add dry ingredients and mix together. (Makes a soft dough.)
3. Let dough rest at room temperature for 1 hour – it will rise.
4. Knead down and roll out on lightly floured board to about 3 mm thick.
5. Cut into desired shape (7 cm X 12 cm strips) and cut center slits (2).
6. Push dough through slits (this creates a twist) and drop into hot oil.
7. Watch closely and turn over and fry to lightly browned.
8. Drain on paper towels, shake on powdered sugar and enjoy!

German Occupational Names

Here, a primer on occupational names

Amman, Amann, Hammann, Hamann -- official or bailiff.
Could also mean a tax farmer.

Aschenbrenner -- a maker of wood ash for the purpose of producing soap.

Axmann/Axtmann -- an axe smith.

Baader, Bader, Badener -- a barber, also a surgeon or dentist and including such services as hair-cutting, blood-letting, and tooth-pulling.

Backer, Beck, Becker, Backmann, Böck -- a baker. Also someone who lived on a hill. "back," "spine" -er denoting inhabitant.

Badecker, Binder, Böcker, Boddeker, Bödeker, Büdeker, Büttler, Büttner, Fassbinder, Kübler -- a cooper, a person who makes barrels.

Bauerle -- farmer, peasant (a peasant farmer usually doesn't own land).

Bauer -- farmer on a full-sized farm, owned or as a tenant.

Baumeister -- a master builder.

Baumgartner -- someone who owned or worked in an orchard.

Bergmann -- miner. Can also be a topographical name, berg ("hill").

Buchbinder -- bookbinder.

Buchhalter -- bookkeeper.

Buchmaier -- book illustrator.

Burger/Burgher -- full citizen; middle class.

Kramer -- a small grocer, shop keeper, merchant, trader, or peddler. Also Kaufmann - merchant. Cramer -- Huguenot form of the name.

Eisenhauer -- blacksmith; iron hewer. Dwight Eisenhower changed the spelling of his name from this.

Eisenbeiss, Eisenbeisz -- according to my cousin, whose mother's maiden name is Eisenbeiss, this was a person who broke up ice, such as that found on lakes and rivers.

Fästabäcker, Fastbacker -- baker of large loaves of dark/brown bread.

Filder, Fiedler -- fiddle player, violinist.

Fischer, Fisher -- a fisherman.

Fitzer -- artistic weaver.

Fleischer, Fleischmann, Küter -- butcher.

Förster, Forster, Forstner -- occupational or topographical name for someone who lived and worked in a forest.

Führer -- guide; leader, hauler. According to this, when Hitler was called the fuehrer, it was a much more humble title than most can understand today, but if you understand the ways of the Germans and Hitler himself, it's easy to understand why he would take a title of such humility.

Hitler didn't deem himself to be a God, despite Goebbels' continual reference to him as such. Hopp, Hopp -- grower of hops, or brewer.

Jäger -- hunter.

Kammerer -- steward, treasurer, butler.

Kageler, Kagelmacher, Kagelmann -- maker of hoods or cloaks.

Kähler -- coal merchant.

Kaplan -- chaplain; clergy in a chapel.

Keller -- cellar man, keeper of the cellar, keeper of stores, accounts.

Kessler, Kettler -- kettle maker.

Kircher, Kercher, Kirchner -- sexton, minister.

Kleinbauer -- farmer with a small farm.

Kleinbinder/Kleinböttcher -- Cooper for small barrels.

Kleinschmidt -- locksmith or forger of small metal hand tools.

Klinger -- town crier.

Knecht -- journeyman, farmhand, apprentice; in low German, knight's assistant.

Koch -- cook, chef.

Köbler -- day laborer who lives in a cottage.

Köhler -- charcoal burner.

Körner -- granary protector, dealer in grains.

Köster, Küster, Offermann, Oppermann -- church sexton.

Kröger, Krogmann, Krüger -- innkeeper or seller of stoneware mugs and jugs.

Kühlmann -- field watchman.

Lobe -- tanner.

Marquardt, Markwadt -- a frontier guard.

Nagel, Nagelschmidt, Nagler -- nail maker.

Oeschner, Oschner -- small farmer with only oxen, no horses.

Oehler, Ohlmann, Oehlmann -- oil maker, oil seller.

Rademacher -- wheelwright.

Reifer, Seiler -- rope maker; in some cases, this includes seller or merchant.

Richter -- a judge.

Ritter -- a knight.

Röseler -- a rose grower.

Rössler -- a horseman; horse breeder.

Sauter, Schumacher, Schuhmacher, Schubert, Schuchard, Schuchmann, Schuster, Schumann -- shoemaker, or the last few, shoe seller.

Schäfer, Schaper, Scheper -- shepherd.

Schaffer -- steward, bailiff.

Schalk -- servant.

Schauer, Schauer -- cloth inspector.

Scherer -- sheep-shearer or someone who used scissors to trim the surface of finished cloth.

Schiffer, Schiffmann -- shipper; sailed, as in seaman.

Schindler -- roofer or skinner.

Schlachter -- slaughterer of animals.

Schmidt, Schmied(t) -- blacksmith.

Schneider -- tailor.

Schnitzer, Schnitzler, Schnittker -- woodcarver.

Schrader, Schröder, Schroder, Schrör -- tailor, cutter.

Schreiber -- clerk, writer.

Schulmeister -- schoolmaster.
 Schulte, Schultheiss, Schultz, Schulz, Schulze -- appointed village mayor, magistrate, head man of the village governing body.
 Schuetz -- an archer or watchman.
 Silbernagel -- a silversmith.
 Stäbler, Stabler -- someone who looked after horses or cattle.
 Stadler -- keeper of the tax granary.
 Steiner -- field border, someone who worked with stone.
 Steuermann -- ship or boat pilot, helmsman.
 Stöcker -- jailer or a tree cutter.
 Tischler, Tischler, Tischner -- table-maker, joiner.
 Vogler -- bird catcher or fowler.
 Vogt -- bailiff, sheriff, constable, representative of the ruler.
 Wägner, Wagner, Weiner, Weinert -- wagon builder, cartwright.
 Weber -- weaver.
 Weingartner -- vine dresser.
 Winkler -- merchant.
 Wirth, Würth -- innkeeper.
 Zeller - hermit monk, farmer of a large farm.
 Ziegler -- brickmaker or a tiler.
 Zimmer, Zimmermann -- a carpenter.
 Zöllner -- toll collector.
 Zöller -- customs official.

Sources:

Excerpt from article titled "What's in a Name, German style".

By Sylvia Hertel and Susan Nakaji

Reprinted from Jugend Zeitung, Vol 3, Issue 4

Rootsweb,

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~romban/misc/germanjobs.html>.

Ancestry.com and verwandt.de

Black Sea Germans

The Black Sea Germans (German: Schwarzmeerdeutsche; Russian: Черноморские немцы; Ukrainian: Чорноморські німці) were ethnic Germans who left their homelands in the 18th and 19th centuries, and settled in territories off the north coast of the Black Sea, mostly in the territories of the southern Russian Empire (including modern-day Ukraine). They were distinct from similar group of German settlers (the Bessarabia Germans, Crimea Germans, Dobrujan Germans, the Russian Mennonites, and the Volga Germans), who were separate both geographically and culturally, although all moved to the Russian Empire at about the same time and for the same reasons.

Regions with significant populations:

Odessa Oblast, Kherson Oblast, Kiev

Languages

German, Ukrainian, Russian

Germans began settling in southern Ukraine and the Crimean Peninsula in the late 18th century, but the bulk of immigration and settlement occurred during the Napoleonic period, from 1800 onward, with a concentration in the years 1803 to 1805.

At the time, southern Ukraine was part of the Russian Empire. Designated New Russia, and often colloquially South Russia (or Südrusland by its German-speaking inhabitants), these lands had been annexed by the Russian Empire during the reign of Catherine the Great after successful wars against the Ottoman Empire (1768–1774) and the Crimean Khanate (1783). The area of settlement was not as compact as that of the Volga territory; rather it was home to a chain of colonies.

The first German settlers arrived in 1787, first from West Prussia, then later from Western and Southwestern Germany and Alsace, France; as well as from the Warsaw area. Catholics, Lutherans, and Mennonites were all known as capable farmers (see Molotschna for Mennonite settlements in the Melitopol area); the Empress Catherine, herself an ethnic German, sent them a personal invitation to immigrate to the Russian Empire, as she felt they would make useful subjects and enrich her realm. She granted them certain privileges such as the free exercise of their religion and language within their largely closed communities.

After the Bolshevik Revolution and the formation of the Soviet Union, Black Sea Germans, prior to World War II, were subjected to the forced starvation of man-made famines, the closure of German-language churches, schools, and community organizations, and were summarily required to change their language of instruction from German to Russian or Ukrainian. The 45,000 Germans in Crimea (along with other Black Sea Germans) were forced into exile in Siberia and Kazakhstan, many into forced labor camps.

Many were deported as a result of the collectivization of all Soviet agricultural land in 1930/1931 by Stalin's first five-year plan. The German farmers were labeled kulaks (rich peasants) by the Communist regime, and those who did not voluntarily agree to give up their land to the Soviet farming collectives were expelled to Siberia and Central Asia. Although the mass deportation of the kulaks was based on social and not ethnic criteria, the German Russian

settlements probably suffered more than any other communities.

About 1.2 percent of the Soviet population was classified as kulak and deported to the Gulag (slave labor camps), based on a total Soviet population of 147 million, according to the 1926 census. The number of ethnic Germans sent to the camps as kulaks was about 50,000 out of a German population in the Soviet Union at the time of the same census of 1.239 million, that is, about 4 percent of the German population. The Germans were not the only ethnic group deported in large numbers during the collectivization drive, as many ethnic Poles also suffered the same fate. Germans, however, comprised the single largest foreign-origin minority sent into internal exile in the Soviet Union. There appeared to have been a deep prejudice against German communities because many Soviet officials considered all German farmers kulaks, no doubt because they appeared better off and more enterprising and thus naturally counterrevolutionary than ordinary ethnic Russian or Ukrainian peasants.

After Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union on 22 June 1941, the Soviet leadership decided to evacuate all ethnic Germans from the western regions of the Soviet Union. The Supreme Soviet decreed the first evacuations, which were really expulsions, as the inhabitants were never allowed to return. Action to deport every ethnic German from the Crimea began on 15 August 1941. Although the decree stated that old people would not have to leave, everyone was expelled, first to Stavropol, and then to Rostov in southeastern Ukraine, near the Crimea, but then all were sent on to camps and special settlements in Kazakhstan. Given only three or four hours to pack, the deportees were not told where they were going, how long they would stay there, or how much food to take.

The result was starvation for many and, due to the confusion, the separation of many families. In all, perhaps as many as 60,000 ethnic Germans were expelled from the Crimean peninsula alone at this time. Other parts of Southern Russian were also affected. Although the majority of the Black Sea Germans avoided deportation due to the rapid advance of the German Army, Stalin, nevertheless, had sufficient time to arrest and exile those living east of the Dnieper River. Between 25 September 1941 and 10 October 1941, approximately 105,000 ethnic Germans were exiled from this region and forcibly deported to more secure Soviet-held area far to the east beyond the Ural mountains. In terms of total numbers deported to Siberia and Central Asia, between 15 August and 25 December

1941, the Soviet authorities expelled and exiled 856,000 German Russians. Included in this figure were many members of the Communist Party and the Komsomol (the student organization for Communist Party candidates).

Because of the Axis quick conquest of Soviet territory in the early months of their invasion, the Soviet regime was not able to deport the majority of the ethnic Germans from the western part of the Soviet Union, that is, the area west of the Dnieper River. The German towns and villages in the Western Ukraine, in Volhynia, and the Black Sea region all came under Nazi German rule, first under a military government and then under that of the Nazi Party or the SS, as Reichskommissariat Ukraine.

Evacuation of Ethnic Germans during World War II

With the defeat of the German Army at Stalingrad in the winter of 1942–1943, the Soviet Red Army began its offensive, recapturing more and more German-occupied territory. SS Head Heinrich Himmler made a decision to evacuate all ethnic Germans and bring them to the Reich. Evacuations began in scattered German communities in the North Caucasus, where in February 1943, 11,000 people were transferred. Shortly thereafter, 40,000 German Russians were sent westward from the area between the Don and Dnieper Rivers. When the Soviet troops neared the Dnieper River in October 1943, the Chortitza Mennonite communities, totaling about 35,000 people, had to flee. In October, 45,000 ethnic Germans from Volhynia (Western Ukraine) were also forced to leave, and, by February 1944, it became clear to the Germans in Southern Ukraine that the Red Army could not be stopped; thus, they began their hurried evacuation. About 135,000 fled to the West. Approximately 280,000 ethnic Germans were successfully brought out of the occupied Soviet Union, which represented almost 90 percent of the registered German population, according to the 1943 Reich census.

On the basis of the articles pertaining to the repatriation of nationals in the Yalta Agreement, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to return each other's nationals at the end of the war. Of the almost 300,000 ethnic Germans who were evacuated by the Germans from the Soviet Union, about 200,000 were caught and sent to the Gulag by the Red Army, either as they fled from the Warthegau in Western Poland, previously incorporated into the German state, (about 120,000), or elsewhere in Eastern Europe or when they were forcibly repatriated from occupied Germany to the Soviet Union.

Source: Wikipedia

The Lodi Chapter of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia invites you to

California District Council

2018 Heritage Fest

Saturday, May 5, 2018

@ The First Baptist Church

267 Mills Avenue, Lodi, California 95242

Registration and program: 8:00am to 5:30pm

Dinner: 5:30pm

The Heimatchor: 6:45pm

Program:

- **Lodi Mayor Alan Nakanishi – Welcoming remarks**
- **CDC President Sue Nakaji – Welcoming remarks**
- **Kathryn Marshall – A Beginner’s Guide to Researching Your German Ancestors**
- **Toni Christman – Lodi History & Germans from Russia & North Dakota Contributions**
- **Pam Atherstone – Wilhelm “Columbus” Hieb and His Role in the Third Migration of Germans from Russia**
- **David Schmidt – How to Use DNA Research to Expand & Verify Your Family History**
- **Doug Scott – Germans and Their Neighbors in South Russia**
- **Dinner & the Heimatchor**
- **Events**
- **Continental Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner**
- **Boutique and vendors**
- **Door prizes, Gift Drawings, & Quilt Drawing**
- **Silent Auction**

Registration: \$15 per person or \$25 per family (pre- and at the door). Registration includes a continental breakfast and a door prize ticket. Please pre-register by 5/1/18, Lunch \$10 per person, and Dinner \$15 per person – Please pre-register on the attached form so we know how many meals to order from the caterer.

**Pre-Registration
California District Council
2018 Heritage Fest
Saturday May 5, 2018**

Location: **First Baptist Church
267 N. Mills Ave.
Lodi, California 95242**

Registration – Please pre-register by May 1, 2018, so we can get an approximate meal count for our caterer, though you can still register at the door on the day of the event. If you plan on registering the day of the event, notify Peggy Sims at (209) 369 1154 or Lilli Henricksen at (209) 369 4694. We can then add you to the count.

Names: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone:(____) _____ E-mail _____

Registration: \$15 per person or \$25 per family (pre-registration & at the door). Includes Continental Breakfast – Coffee, tea, juices and cookies – küchen at breaks.

of people _____ and subtotal \$ _____

Lunch: \$10 per person.

Includes hot German potato salad, knöpfla, sausage & Sauerkraut, fruit salad, dill pickles, cookies and coffee and tea.

Subtotal enclosed \$ _____

Dinner: \$15 per person.

Includes cucumber salad/w German vinaigrette dressing, baked chicken, pigs in a blanket, mock cheese buttons, German red cabbage, pickled beets, küchen, and coffee and tea.

Subtotal enclosed \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Send this form and payment to AHSGR
P.O. Box 1585
Lodi, CA 95241
C/O Cliff Goehring

California District Council 2018 Heritage Fest Lodi, California May 5, 2018 Program

Master of Ceremonies – Alton Sissell

8:00am – 9:00am	Registration & Continental Breakfast	12:00 – 1:15pm	Lunch; Door & Table Drawings; CDC Officers' Election
9:00am – 9:30am	Pastor Schaal Opening Prayer; Flag Ceremony & Pledge of Allegiance Lodi Mayor Alan Nakanishi Welcoming Remarks CDC President Sue Nakaji Welcoming Remarks	1:15pm – 2:00pm	Pam Atherstone – Wilhelm “Columbus” Hieb and His Role in the Third Migration of Germans From Russia
9:45am – 10:30am	Kathryn Marshall – Beginner’s Guide to Researching Your German Ancestors	2:15pm – 3:00pm	David Schmidt – How to Use DNA Research to Expand & Verify Your Family History
10:45am – 11:00am	Break – Coffee & snacks	3:15pm – 3:30pm	Break
11:00am – 11:45am	Toni Christman – Lodi History and Germans from Russia and North Dakota Contributions	3:30pm – 4:15pm	Doug Scott – Germans and Their Neighbors in South Russia
		4:30pm – 5:15pm	Quilt Ticket Sales; Boutique; & Silent Auction
		5:30pm – 6:30pm	Dinner AHSGR – International Programs and Activities of AHSGR – Their Benefits to Members Quilt Drawing
		6:45 – 7:15pm	Heimatchor
		Contingent Speaker	Reconnecting with American, Canadian, Australian and German Relatives of a Germans from Russia Family: A Family Reunion

Inhalt

Page 1	President's Message
Page 1	Membership
Page 1	Chapter Meeting Announcement – April 8, 2018, 2:00 pm
Page 2	Happy Birthday
Page 2	Grebbel Recipe
Page 3-4	German Occupational Names
Page 4-5	Black Sea Germans
Page 6	California District Council 2018 – Lodi, California – May 5th
Page 7	Registration 2018 Heritage Fest
Page 8	Blank page for mailing
Page 9	Detailed Program for Heritage Fest in Lodi

AHSGR Sacramento Valley Chapter

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED