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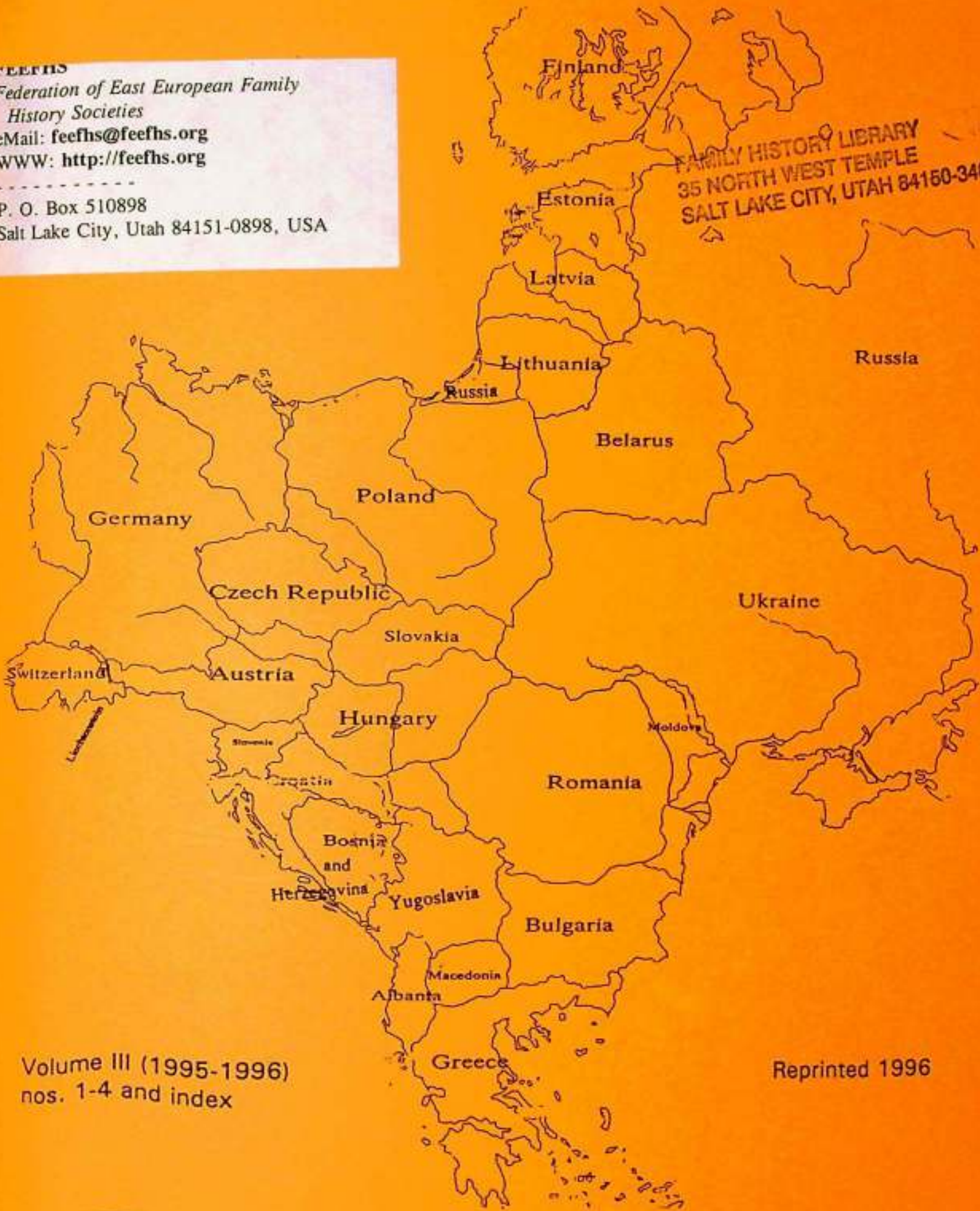
FEEFHS

Newsletter of the Federation of
East European Family History Societies

FEEFHS
*Federation of East European Family
History Societies*
eMail: feefhs@feefhs.org
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Volume III (1995-1996)
nos. 1-4 and index

Reprinted 1996

FEEFHS CONFERENCE IN
CALGARY, JULY 25

by Ed Brandt and Walt Rusel

FEEFHS will hold a regional conference in Calgary, Alberta, on Tuesday, July 25, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This is during the week of the annual binational convention of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, but before the beginning of the AHSGR programs.

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The registration fee is Cdn\$ 25 or US\$ 20. Since the Centre has no facilities for serving meals, a box lunch can be ordered for Cdn\$ 7 or US \$5.50. Registrations should be sent to Walt Rusel, R.R. #2, Cochrane, AB, Canada T0L 0W0.

Please register early, if at all possible, so we will have a more accurate idea as to how much room capacity is needed. If we get a large number of early registrants, we may be able to make arrangements for more room space. However, if we get a late run of registrations, it is possible that we may not be able to accommodate people who register during the last several weeks.

Walt Rusel, FEEFHS 3rd vice president, is the conference chair and in charge of local arrangements and registration. Jerry Frank, 120 Stradwick Rise, S.W., 600 - Macleod Tr. S., Calgary, AB T2J 6A5, is the program chair and will assume responsibility for publicity in Western Canada. Ed Brandt, FEEFHS 2nd vice president, will take care of publicity in the United States and assist with program planning.

Ed Brandt will speak on "East European Genealogical

Resources for All Ethnic Groups" during the lunch hour.

We have three rooms at our disposal. One will be used for book sales and displays, but it is also large enough to accommodate presentations. There will be two or three simultaneous presentations during each of the other five one-hour time slots. We are leaving some slots open for possible additional speakers or a repetition of popular talks. Speakers are coming from throughout Western Canada and from five American states. The following presentations are tentatively scheduled:

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What and Why is FEEFHS?

Societies (FEEFHS) was founded in June 1992 by a small dedicated group of ethnic, religious, and national backgrounds. By the end of that year, members. Each year since then FEEFHS has doubled in size. FEEFHS organizations as members from twenty-four states, five Canadian provinces,

ers are multi-purpose societies, surname associations, book or periodical ters, on-line services, institutions, e-mail genealogy list-servers, heraldry el groups. FEEFHS includes organizations representing all East or Central ocieties in North America and a growing group of worldwide organizations ionals.

new possibilities for genealogical research, but also generated significant ded records. One goal of FEEFHS is to disseminate information about new tern and Central Europe as soon as possible. This multi-ethnic federation is rious ethnic and religious backgrounds who often seek similar types of s. In the process members of FEEFHS have learned much more about e. FEEFHS publicizes the publications, services, and activities of its member databases of pertinent resources, maintains liaison with other organizations ringhouse for information on the existence and services of member societies, societies. FEEFHS also helps to create new ethnic or national genealogy NITY-HARMONY-DIVERSITY is our motto. We welcome all societies and he homelands of Eastern Europe.

rganizational members in many ways:

s. It has been published quarterly since December 1992.

regional conferences. This started in the spring of 1993.

merica, held each spring or summer since May 1994.

enealogy, published annually since October 1994.

d Wide Web since mid-May 1995. This large "destination" web site includes

o or Resource Guide listing for all FEEFHS member organizations, surname

tern Europe, cross-indexes to access related sources, and more. The address

irst was at Calgary, Alberta, Canada in July 1995.

group, its FAQ (frequently-asked questions), the Banat FAQ, and the AOL

essage boards and chat hours, starting in mid-1995.

atural place for a genealogy federation, with access to the world's largest ealogy infrastructure. FEEFHS is non-sectarian and has no connection with the Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, though we greatly appreciate the LDS ing, and sharing genealogy records.

510898, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-0898. Please send dues, address equests, back-issue orders, etc., to this address for the Treasurer and eference directly to the officers listed below or the member societies listed on the

r all membership applications and renewals. Special provisions exist for Eastern Europe who cannot afford to join. FEEFHS greatly appreciates in the minimum amount to help offset the expenses of its many services, elected and appointed officers, and convention speakers all serve without toward FEEFHS goals.

Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327; e-mail feefhs@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us
i., 59 Tracy Ave., Totowa, NJ 07512-2041; e-mail Tapeters@aol.com
atchewan Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1894, Regina, SK, Canada S4P 3E1
annawood Dr., Rochester, NY 14618-4465; e-mail bkahn@servtech.com; fax

ray, UT 84122
1 Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84115-2214
00 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108, e-mail JCalleman@aol.com,
59-9304
4 S. 1710 East, Salt Lake City, UT 48117-4586

Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

Vol 3, No. 1

April 1995

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Czech genealogy is possible, but still uncertain.

Items are solicited for a display of East European maps and other pertinent items. Arrangements for book sales are being worked out. Authors and publishers should write to Walt Rusel for details.

We understand that the Radisson Plaza Hotel is reserved exclusively for people attending the convention of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. Since AHSGR has a genealogy workshop on July 26, you may wish to stay in Calgary for another day, even if you had not planned to attend the AHSGR convention. Single-day registration for the AHSGR convention is \$20, but there is an extra charge if you wish to hear the luncheon or dinner speakers. For further information, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Martha Nielsen, 2940 Toronto Cres., N.W., Calgary, AB T2N 3W5. If you are writing from outside Canada, enclose an International (Postal) Reply Coupon instead of using a stamp.

Besides the Radisson, two other hotels are reasonably close to the Calgary Multicultural Centre:

- (1) Delta Bow Valley Hotel, associated with Delta Airlines (call 1-800-258-1133 for reservations), and
- (2) Palliser Hotel (call 1-403-260-1220 for reservations)

FEEFHS CLEVELAND CONVENTION PROCEEDS FULL SPEED AHEAD

by Ed Brandt and Duncan Gardiner

The international convention of the Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS) will be held at the Holiday Inn, 7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH 44131, on August 4-5, 1995. There is a shuttle service from the Cleveland airport. We are planning to have some 39 presentations.

Most of the speakers have been lined up already, although some are still tentative. We expect to have presentations for every major East European ethnic and religious group by the time the program is complete. There will also be multi-ethnic and generic topics.

Thomas Kent Edlund of the Family History Library will talk on "The Current Status of LDS Microfilming in Eastern Europe" at the Friday banquet. Dr. John Grabowski of Case Western Reserve University will give a slide presentation on "Cleveland's East European Ethnic Neighborhoods: An Illustrated Tour" at the Saturday luncheon.

The book sales room will be open Friday and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

FEEFHS, 3:1 (April 1995), p. 2

Other scheduled presentations are:

Friday, August 4

Session 1: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- (a) Judith R. Frazin, "Climbing Your Family Tree - The First Steps: A Family History Workshop for Beginners"
- (b) Charles M. Hall, *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany*
- (c) Joseph J. Hornack, "1990 Census Shows Slovak Awareness; Putting This Awareness into Networking"
- (d) Robert Ward, PhD, "Southeast European German Groups in Greater Cleveland"

Session 2: 10:45-11:45 a.m.

- (a) Arlene Rich, "Putting Jewish Families Together Through Genealogical Research"
- (b) Ann Sindelar, "Genealogical Holdings of the Western Reserve Historical Society"
- (c) Ernest Thode, "Genealogical Resources on Germany and Austria"
- (d) Jan Zaleski, A.G., "Following the Paper Trail to Your Ancestral Village in Eastern Europe"

Session 3: 12 noon - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch on your own

Session 4: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

- (a) Jessie L. Daraska, "Lithuanian Genealogy: American Sources"
- (b) Judith R. Frazin, "Finding Old Polish Records and Unlocking Their Secrets"
- (c) Duncan Gardiner, PhD, C.G., "Czech and Slovak Genealogy"
- (d) Leona Schmidt Janke "East European Migration of Germans"

Session 5: 2:45-3:45 p.m.

- (a) John R. Daraska, "Lithuanian Genealogy: Lithuanian Sources"
- (b) Thomas Kent Edlund, "Genealogical Resources for All Christian Ethnic Groups in Ukraine and Russia"
- (c) Louis Schonfeld, "Hungarian Jewish Genealogy from Aleph to Zet"
- (d) John D. Movius, "Using Computers for East European Genealogy"

Session 6: 4-5 p.m.

- (a) Michael Kopanic, PhD, "Slovak Immigration to the

Cleveland Area"

- (b) Ken Meter, "The Ethnic Composition of the Austro-Hungarian Empire"
- (c) Maralyn A. Wellauer, "Swiss Genealogy and Eastward Migration"
- (d) Jan Zaleski, A.G., "How to Proceed Once You Determine Your Ancestral Village in Poland"

Session 7: 5:45-7:15 p.m. (official banquet)

Thomas Kent Edlund, "The Current Status of Microfilming in Eastern Europe"

Session 8: 7:30-9 or 10 p.m.

John D. Movius, chair: "An Overview of FEEFHS" (featuring short presentations by representative of organizational members)

Saturday, August 5

Section 9: 8:15-9:15 a.m.

- (a) Adam S. Eterovich, PhD, "A Guide to Croatian Genealogy"
- (b) Duncan B. Gardiner, PhD, C.G., "Magyar and Hungarian Genealogy"
- (c) Mark Vasko Bigaouette and Paul Makousky, "Origin and Location of Czech and Slovak Settlements in the United States"
- (d) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "World War I Draft Records - No Male Is Exempt"

Session 10: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- (a) Patricia A. Eames, "What Researchers Should Know When Seeking Information from Archives of the Former Soviet Union"
- (b) Clare Ann Gaouette, "Genealogical Sources Available in Poland to Aid Polish Research"
- (c) Michael Kukral, PhD, "East European Boundary Changes"
- (d) Albert Peterlin, "Slovenian Genealogy: American Sources and Resources"

Session 11: 10:45-11:45 a.m.

- (a) Thomas Kent Edlund, "Genealogical Resources for Croatia and Slovenia"
- (b) Robert J. Paulson and Ken Meter, "Border People" The Böhmisches (German-Bohemians) in America"
- (c) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "Researching the People from 'No Man's Land': The Carpatho-Rusyns of Austria

Hungary"

- (d) Michael Momryk, "The Russian Consular Records for Canada, 1900-1921"

Session 12: 12 noon - 2 p.m. (official luncheon and brief annual meeting)

John J. Grabowski, PhD, "Cleveland's East European Ethnic Neighborhoods: An Illustrated Tour" (accompanied by slides)

Session 13: 2:15-2:15 p.m.

- (a) John C. Alleman, "How to Handle 100 Foreign Languages on your Computer"
- (b) Clare Ann Gaouette, "Polish Surnames - Their Origins, Definitions, and Frequency in Poland"
- (c) Michael Momryk, "Resources at the National Archives of Canada for the Study of East European Genealogy"
- (d) Roy J. Rushka, "Family History Research in Western Ukraine"

Session 14: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

- (a) Edward R. Brandt, PhD, A.G., "Genealogical Resources of Hungarian Archives for Magyars and Minority Groups"
- (b) Paul Makousky and Mark Vasko Bigaouette, "Using American Sources to Get Information from the Czech Republic and Slovakia"
- (c) Albert Peterlin, "Slovenian Genealogy: Slovenian Sources and Resources"
- (d) Ernest Thode, "Deciphering the Gothic Script"

Paul Makousky, 7690 Steelpleview Rd., Woodbury, MN 55125, is in charge of the Book Sales Room. Ten vendor tables will be available to members of FEEFHS for US\$ 25, with 10 % of the proceeds going to FEEFHS.

The remaining tables, if any, will be rented out to non-members for US\$ 30. (Hurry up and join FEEFHS if you haven't yet! Membership costs only US \$15. Dues should be sent to Azra Jojić, Treasurer, P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-0346.)

An effort will be made to provide as much ethnic/religious diversity among the book vendors as possible. Otherwise, it's first come, first served.

Both self-publishers and commercial publishers may send their books to the hotel, marked for FEEFHS, to arrive during the week of the convention. Arrangements will be made for one of the vendors to sell your books for you. Although attendance is hard to predict, we expect to have more than 200 people

with highly diverse backgrounds present.

The registration fee is US\$ 45 for the convention or US\$ 30 for a single day. The Friday evening banquet will cost US\$ 21 and the Saturday luncheon US\$ 17. Both will be buffets, giving you a wide range of selections.

Pre-convention registrations should be mailed to FEEFHS, P. O. Box 501, 1380 W. 117th St., Lakewood, OH 44107. Registrations will be accepted during the convention, provided space is available.

A room, whether single, double, or quadruple, costs US\$ 65 plus 14.5 % tax, at the convention hotel, provided you reserve a room by July 21 in writing or by phone (800) 465-4329 and specify that you are attending the FEEFHS convention. The hotel has special envelopes available to ensure that you get this rate and that it will be credited to FEEFHS, thus reducing the cost of conference rooms. Otherwise, the cost is US\$ 76 on space-available basis.

Bring your whole family, even if your spouse or children are not interested in genealogy. Cleveland offers many tourist attractions. A few examples: NASA Lewis Space Center, Pro Football of Fame, Polka Hall of Fame, Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum, Sea World of Ohio (Aurora), Cleveland Children's Museum, Lake Erie Cruises, old-world-style indoor/outdoor market featuring foods representing a wide variety of ethnic groups, African Safari Wildlife Park, and numerous musical and athletic events. For further information, call the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland at (800) 321-1004.

About Our Speakers

[Note: We have not yet received biographical data from all our speakers. More information about them will be available later.]

John C. Alleman, *FEEFHS Newsletter* editor, is a linguist and computer specialist with graduate degrees in linguistics. As a professional linguist, he translates many languages, including Finnish, Hungarian, German, French, Spanish, Swedish, Russian, Italian, Esperanto, and other European languages into English, is a member of the Finno-Ugric Society, and has done research on Silesia. He was employed by the LDS Church Translation Department for over 18 years, most of that time as manager of its computer systems, which he developed to handle over 100 non-English languages. 204 West 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84013-1108.

Mark Vasko Bigaouette, a genealogist for 15 years, is the founder and president of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and a member of other Czech societies

in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Texas and California. He attended the summit meeting of leaders of the Czech-American community at the Czech embassy in 1994, is a voice for the Czechoslovak Information Hotline in Minnesota, and has spoken on local TV about travel to the Czech Republic and Slovakia. He has given presentations at the National Genealogical Society conference and in Iowa, Arizona, California, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ohio. He is also a member of the Irish Genealogical Society. He currently leads genealogical/heritage tours to the Czech Republic and Slovakia. 4219 Thornhill Lane, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127.

Edward R. Brandt, PhD, A.G., 1st vice president of FEEFHS, is a Germanic specialist and East European generalist. He wrote *Contents and Addresses of Hungarian Archives, with Supplementary Material for Research on German Ancestors from Hungary*, a booklet on the Mennonites in Poland, and articles on Germanic and Polish research, as well as on the former Soviet Union. He co-authored *Germanic Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns* and *Where to Look for Your Hard-to-find German-Speaking Ancestors in Eastern Europe*. He worked in Europe for seven years and lectures on Germanic and East European topics, serves as a genealogical consultant, and deciphers and translates German Gothic handwriting. 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101.

Jessie L. Daraska, who majored in history at Northwestern University, is chairperson of the Immigration History and Genealogy Department at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, has developed the museum's resources for genealogical research, and serves as an advisor to the Lithuanian-American Genealogy Society. She is the creator and director of the Lithuanian Pioneer Project, a historical study of pre-World War I Lithuanian immigrants to the United States. The American Library Association has invited her to speak on the role of national heritage societies in genealogical research at its conference in June 1995. 6158 Narragansett, Chicago, IL 60638.

John R. Daraska is a board member of the Lithuanian-American Genealogy Society, a researcher, and a Lithuanian language translator, as well as owner-operator of a general aviation services and consulting firm. He was the coordinator and co-leader of the first genealogy tour of Lithuania in September 1995. To date, he has traveled to Lithuania twice to investigate and develop sources for genealogical research. 6158 Narragansett, Chicago, IL 60638.

Patricia A. Eames is a public-affairs specialist in the Office of Public Programs of the National Archives and Records Administration and coordinator of the Russian-American Genealogical Archival Service. She has led archival-exchange delegations to Moscow, Minsk, and St. Petersburg, and was

a speaker at the 1992 International Conference on Genealogy in St. Petersburg. She translates from Russian to English and has been instrumental in helping to open Russian archives to genealogical research. RAGS, Box 236, Glen Echo, MD 20812.

Thomas Kent Edlund, a cataloger at the Family History Library, has authored two books that are being published in 1995: one on the Evangelical Lutheran church books of the St. Petersburg Consistory for 1833-1885, and one on the "Ahnenstammkartei" in Leipzig, which includes 2.7 million names. Earlier publications include *An Introduction and Index to the German Minority Census of 1938*. He is cataloging the Croatian and Slovenian microfilms at the Family History Library. He knows Russian, Latin, Greek, Coptic, and Nahuatl (Aztec). 2233 Carriage Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84117-4423.

Adam S. Eterovich, PhD, is president of the Croatian Genealogical and Heraldic Society and is a leading Croatian-American genealogist. 2327 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070-1747.

Judith R. Frazin, a Spanish teacher, has been a genealogist for 25 years. During this time, she has traced parts of her paternal family back to 1745 and has re-established contact with several "lost" family branches. She has also give lectures and seminars for various Jewish and non-Jewish organizations in the Midwest, California, and Ontario. In an effort to help other family-history researchers, she has written two editions of a guide for translating Polish-language records and developed two unique genealogical forms for recording family-history information. She is past president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois and used to write a genealogical column for *The Jewish Post and Opinion*. P.O. Box 637, Northbrook, IL 60065-0637.

Clare Ann Gaouette has been research Polish-American and Polish genealogy, including all three partitions, for 15 years. She is past president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin, former editor of its quarterly *Korzenie*, a former board member of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, and chair of the 1996 United Polish Genealogical Societies Conference to be held in Salt Lake City. She has authored several articles on Polonia and on the history of Milwaukee, which have appeared in the *Polish-American Journal* and *The Eaglet*. She belongs to quite a few other genealogical and Polish-oriented societies, having served as president of Polanki, Inc., a Polish women's cultural organization. 7822 West Wisconsin Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213-3420.

John J. Grabowski, PhD, is director of research and planning at the Western Reserve Historical Society and formerly Curator of Documents there. He is intimately involved with

sources for ancestral research, is co-editor of the monumental *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*, and author of *Cleveland: A Tradition of Reform* and a number of articles on Cleveland ethnic history. He has taught at Kent State University and Cuyahoga Community College. WRHS, 10825 East Blvd, Cleveland OH 44106.

Charles M. Hall is the founding president of FEEFHS and author of *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany*, now working on volume 9 of the series. He is a professional linguist, has taught Russian and German at the college level, as well as Esperanto, and also knows Latin and Norwegian. He has made ten extended research trips to Germany, Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Croatia, Romania, Slovenia, and Ukraine. P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-1346.

Joseph J. Hornack began genealogy-related work in 1971 and made his first visit to Slovakia, where he met relatives, in 1983. His paternal grandparents immigrated from Krakovany, Nitra County. In 1986, Joe founded the Slovakia Surname Location Reference Project (SLRP), an effort to link American communities to their roots in specific communities in Slovakia (computerized data). In 1991, he directed a series of columns by volunteer specialists for various counties to prompt networking about North American communities and surnames in counties with a concentration of Slovak immigrants. In 1992, he became the first secretary in the Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Program. P.O. Box 31831, Cleveland, OH 44131-8954.

Leona Schmidt Janke is a board member of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia and chair of its genealogy committee. She grew up in Southwest Michigan, a center of immigration for Germans from Volhynia, especially from the formerly Polish part. The *Journal of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia* has published several of her articles on the Volhynian Germans. She has done extensive research on this group and amassed a large amount of genealogical material. 7938 West VW Ave., Schoolcraft, MI 49087.

Michael Kopanic, Jr., PhD, who teaches social sciences at Mount Aloysius College, is a versatile scholar and a prolific writer. He is primarily a historian, specializing in Eastern and East Central Europe, but especially Slovakia, the subject of much of his writing. Topics on which he has spoken include Slovak-Magyar relations in Austria-Hungary and in Cleveland, Slovak-Czech relations in Cleveland, Slovak immigration in the Cleveland area, and ethnic relations in northeastern Ohio. He is responsible for the Spis County portion of the Slovakia Surname Location Reference Project (SLRS). His knowledge of Slovak is excellent, he reads and understands Czech well, and reads German, French, and Polish. 20 Maplewood Ave., Cresson, PA 16630-1521.

Michael Kukral, PhD, teaches geography at Ohio University. Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701.

Paul Makousky, convention bookstore chair, is a founding member and treasurer of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and has organized four Czechoslovak genealogical/cultural conferences in Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin. His research activities have included trips to the Czech archives in Zámorsk and Litomysl, East Bohemia; Brno (Moravian Provincial Archive); Olomouc and Zlín in Moravia; and extensive research for 12 years on Czech families who settled just west of Minneapolis. Thus he has become a specialist on Czech and Slovak genealogical resources and has frequently lectured and written on the subject for CGSI, as well as at the 1994 National Genealogical Society Conference. 1690 Steepleview Rd., Woodbury, MN 55125.

Ken Meter, a free-lance writer who used to write for *Reuters News Service*, teaches at the University of Minnesota and Metropolitan State University. He co-authored the first article on German-Bohemian emigration to America, published in *Ročenka*, the yearbook of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, as well as *Border People: The Böhmisches (German-Bohemians) in America*. He has published several historical essays and oral histories, and contributed articles to the CGSI newsletter, *Náše Rodina*. His maternal ancestors came from Western Bohemia to Menominee, Michigan, and his paternal ancestors from Germany and Alsace. 7415 Humboldt Ave. S., Richfield, MN 55423.

Michael Momryk, of the Manuscript Division of the National Archives of Canada, indexed the records of Czarist consuls in Canada, which contain information about anyone who might have been involved with the Russian authorities. This would include Canadian immigrants who returned to Russia for a visit or planned to do so, sent money to relatives through official channels, etc. The collection is strongest for the World War I period. NAC, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON, Canada K1A 0M3.

John D. Movius is a vice-president of FEEFHS and the Sacramento German Genealogical Society, compiler of the biennial *FEEFHS Resource Guide to Eastern European Genealogy*, and a columnist for *Der Blumenbaum* (one of the best German-American journals). He is a Stevens Tech graduate engineer and a Stanford-Sloan Executive Fellow. His research interests include the Roman and medieval eras, the Baltics, former Livonia, the Teutonic Knights, Pomerania, and Friuli, and he has done on-site research in Germany, Italy, Poland, Austria, and Switzerland. He has written and lectured on European university "Matrikel" registers and new computer tools for genealogy. P.O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327.

Robert J. Paulson is the founder of the German-American Heritage Society, co-author of two books on German-Bohemians: *Border People: The Böhmisches (German-Bohemians) in America* and *The German-Bohemians: The Quiet Immigrants*, and a frequent contributor to *Náše Rodina*. He has spent nearly 20 years researching German-Bohemian history, visited Bohemia numerous times, and organized and led four genealogical tours to Bohemia. 800 W. Idaho Ave., St. Paul, MN 55117.

Albert Peterlin was born in the Slovenian coal-mining community of Vandline/Forest City, Pennsylvania. He founded the Slovenian Genealogical society in 1968 and has been its president since then. Some of his articles have been published in *The Genealogical Helper*, *The Eaglet*, the journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, and elsewhere. He works for the National Weather Service in Silver Spring, Maryland, and is a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. 2018 Springdale Dr., Martinsburg, WV 25401.

Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., has been active in New Jersey/German/Slavic ancestral research since 1980. He specializes in tracing German-American, Slovak-American, and Rusyn-American ancestors back to their European homeland. He expects to concentrate client research on Eastern Slovakia and Western Ukraine as Family History Library microfilms become available. Knowledge of church book German, Latin, Hungarian, Slovak, and Ukrainian languages. 59 Tracy Ave., Totowa, NJ 07512-2041.

Arlene Blank Rich has been the president of the Cleveland Jewish Genealogical Society for the past ten years and editor of its newsletter, *The Cleveland Kol*, since it was established in 1986. Her genealogical articles have appeared in *Toledot* and *Avotaynu*, as well as in *The Cleveland Jewish News*. As an advocate of genealogical networking, she has helped out-of-townners with Cleveland roots in their research, resulting in the restoration of many family ties, often between close relatives. She herself has discovered over 100 lost or totally unknown family members, including her father's four siblings. 996 Eastlawn Dr., Highland Heights, OH 44143.

Roy J. Rushka of Rush Associates is a genealogist with 25 years of experience in the United States Foreign Service. He is the author and publisher of a 4-volume book on about 50 interrelated ancestral families with 300 individuals and over 10,000 descendants from western Ukraine, with roots going back to antiquity in Bohemia. He has done genealogical research in Ukraine, Russia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, and several English-speaking countries. He has some knowledge of Ukrainian, Russian, Czech, and Polish. 1455-C Holly Bush Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324-6512.

Louis Schonfeld is the coordinator of the Hungarian Jewish Special Interest Group and edits its publication, *Magyar Zsidó*. He has a B.A. *cum laude* in history and sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles. Currently he is an administrator in a nursing facility in northeastern Ohio. At the first opportunity, he plans to undertake in-depth research and write about Hungarian and European Jewish themes. Concurrently, he will advertise himself as a professional genealogist, specializing in Hungarian Jewish families. 23995 Wendover Dr., Beechwood, OH 44122.

Ann Sindelar is the chief reference librarian at the Western Reserve Historical Society, WRHS, 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106.

Ernest Thode is author of numerous books, including the trail-breaking *German-English Genealogical Dictionary*, the comprehensive *Address Book for Germanic Genealogy*, an *Atlas for Germanic Genealogy*, and a *Genealogical Gazetteer of Alsace-Lorraine*. One of his projects is compiling a list of pre-1820 Germanic immigrants, totalling over 40,000 by now. Employed as the Local History and Genealogy Librarian at the Washington County Library, he is a professional genealogist, translator, and lecturer, and formerly taught German. He also has a knowledge of genealogical Latin, French, and Dutch. Rt. 7, Box 306, Kern Rd., Marietta OH 45750-9437.

Robert E. Ward, PhD, an attorney, is one of the pioneers of German-American genealogy. He is a former president of the Society for German-American Studies and was awarded an honorary SGAS membership for outstanding contributions. He has taught at four colleges and received the Dr. Hilbert Ficken Memorial Prize for Excellence in Foreign Language Teaching. His editorial activities have include the *Journal of the Society for German-American Studies* (chief editor), *The German-American Genealogist* (editor), and *The Genealogical Journal* (contributing editor). 21010 Mastick Rd., Fairview Park, OH 44126.

Maralyn A. Wellauer is founder and editor of *The Swiss Collection* and author of numerous books, including *Tracing Your German Roots*, *Tracing Your Polish Roots*, *Tracing Your Czech and Slovak Roots*, *Tracing Your Norwegian Roots*, *German Immigration to America in the Nineteenth Century*, *Family History Research in the German Democratic Republic*, and *Record Keeping and Archives in West Germany*. She has made numerous research trips to Europe, lectured extensively since 1974 and worked with teachers to include genealogy in their English and social-studies courses. 3289 North 58th St., Milwaukee, WI 53216.

Jan Zaleski, A.G., has been actively researching his Polish and Bohemian ancestry since 1983 and became an accredited genealogist specializing Polish research in 1990. He is a

director and past president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. Since 1992, he has served as editor *The Eaglet*, the society's journal, with an editorial policy of publishing as many names as possible linked to ancestral villages in Poland in addition to surname lists from Polish parishes. His frequent lectures focus on various aspects of Polish and immigrant research, especially on record sources containing ancestral villages for Poles and East Europeans generally. P.O. Box 10416, Detroit, MI 48210-0416.

FEEFHS ACTIVITIES

by John D. Movius

Progress Report: FEEFHS was founded about three years ago. By year-end 1992 we represented 11 founding organizations. By year-end 1993 we had doubled in size to 22 organizations. By year-end 1994 we almost tripled in size to 63 organizations.

Right now we have 74 organizational members from eleven countries and we continue to grow. The FEEFHS officers and executive council thank you for your past support. We promise to redouble our efforts to try to be responsive to your needs during this period of our explosive growth.

If you want to receive a copy of a two legal page FEEFHS flyer listing our member organizations (to duplicate and pass out to others) please send a SASE (or 2 IPRC's if outside the USA) to John Movius, P. O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327.

We still need more growth to better serve Canada, the midwest, south and eastern America as well as many places overseas. Please help spread an awareness of the existence of FEEFHS. A larger FEEFHS membership (both organizations and individuals) means a more effective FEEFHS exists to help all of us in many, many ways.

The *FEEFHS Resource Guide* is gradually improving. It is becoming more useful and gaining recognition for our Federation. The next issue will be received by all organizations and individual members in good standing (that means your 1995 dues are paid) by mid-May 1995.

Apologies are due to a few organizations and individual members who did not receive a copy of the Fall 1994 issue of the *FEEFHS Resource Guide*. After we ran out of copies, the constant growth and other changes by existing member organizations made it impossible to reprint it in an accurate and timely manner.

We also encountered difficulties in the beta-version of our

Resource Guide diskette because of the non-standard font I had selected. It is unavailable on many computer text processors – even those in WordPerfect 6.0c for DOS or WP6.1 for Windows.

We have kept a list of persons and organizations we owe issues to. They are now scheduled to receive both the spring and fall issue of the FEEFHS Resource Guide (post August conference) unless you request a refund. Nota Bene: The August (mid-year) issue of the FEEFHS Research Guide is not part of a normal FEEFHS subscription for any organization or person.

FEEFHS, Internet and e-mail: The next issue of the FEEFHS Resource Guide will include our first East European electronic address book. Organizations and individuals are encouraged to send us your Internet, America OnLine (AOL), CompuServe, Prodigy, Genie etc. addresses (and your FAX address too) for inclusion in subsequent issues of the FEEFHS Resource Guide.

A "Page" on the World Wide Web (WWW) for FEEFHS? If you have (or are getting) a page on the World Wide Web, please let me know at the above "snail mail" address. I am researching the cost and requirements to place a FEEFHS page on the web later this year.

I envision placing the names and addresses (e-mail and snail mail) of all FEEFHS member societies wishing to be listed there with a hypertext "button" connection to them. Later a link also might be made to individual lists of major activities, events, publications and services for each member organization, our professional genealogists and our professional translators.

My current concern is how much it really costs to do all this. If it seems to make sense and then seems to be cost-effective, a proposal to start a FEEFHS WWW page may well be submitted to the August meeting of the FEEFHS Executive Council for ratification and approval.

FEEFHS on AOL and CompuServe: In early March 1995 FEEFHS member (and AOL East European co-host) Chris Elia placed FEEFHS on the America OnLine (AOL) Genealogy Club. She uploaded a version of our two page FEEFHS flyer and our FEEFHS article about the formation of eight new genealogy societies (Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Romania, Russia and Silesia).

Chris recently mentioned to me that the "Eight New Societies" article was downloaded 43 times the first day. Both will also appear on CompuServe by mid-April. So check out FEEFHS activities on AOL and CompuServe. AOL has been very helpful to FEEFHS so far – we greatly appreciate such

support. AOL is now a FEEFHS organizational member.

Can you help us get On-Line elsewhere? We would like to have a FEEFHS presence on all the other on-line services too. But to do so means getting help from FEEFHS members like you who are already subscribing to other on-line services such as Prodigy or Genie and will take the time and effort to upload our messages.

Please contact John Movius if you would like to help spread awareness of FEEFHS by posting a notice of our activities on other on-line services. Both 1995 FEEFHS Conferences will be listed on AOL and CompuServe shortly. We need to list them as widely as possible.

My snail mail address (much preferred to e-mail here) is above. Through Internet you can sometimes find me at dabender@usdavis.edu. But I only check my Internet mail once or twice a week, discourage messages longer than a sentence or two, and have yet to carve out a slice of my time to deal with all my electronic mail.

Recent FEEFHS Seminars in California: Full day (5 lecture) seminars were given at the Sacramento LDS Stake Seminar and the annual Simi Valley (southern California) LDS Stake genealogy seminar in March. Programs have been given at monthly genealogy meetings recently in San Francisco, Napa, Grass Valley, Sacramento and Salinas.

Future FEEFHS California presentations this year include the Sacramento German Genealogy Society (25 April), Placer County Genealogy Society (25 May) and the Monterey Genealogy Society monthly meetings this spring. A Bakersfield presentation has also been requested. A full day (5 lecture) seminar on FEEFHS is scheduled for the Sacramento Stake in Roseville CA on 4 November 1995.

The German Genealogical Society of America (GGSA) seminar at Claremont California (11 November 1995) will include a morning session on FEEFHS and German "Auslands". The afternoon session will feature group genealogy questions "live on-line", with sessions planned on AOL, CompuServe and the Internet, including a peek at the Digital Library of German-Russian Genealogy.

I also hope we can arrange a special "Germany/German Auslands conference room" reservation on AOL that day sometime during the 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. PST time frame, or Sunday afternoon from the GGSA library. This would permit FEEFHS and non-FEEFHS members worldwide – experts and novices alike – to join us and share their answers and comments to the questions of GGSA seminar attendees.

A FEEFHS presentation has been also been requested at the

annual conference of Southern California AHSGR chapters on 20 January 1996 at Anaheim California.

FEEFHS at Recent West Coast Conferences: I hosted a table at the Sacramento Valley Genealogical Conference in January. Our President, Charles M. Hall, hosted the FEEFHS table at the San Francisco Family History Fair in March.

Future West Coast Conferences: I hosted a FEEFHS table at the SCGS (Southern California Genealogy Society) "Jamboree" in on April 8 and 9 at the Pasadena Convention Center. I will also host the FEEFHS table at the NGS (National Genealogical Society) annual conference in San Diego (May 3 to 6).

At both conferences I use(d) my trusty Pentium 90Mhz computer with 32 Megs of RAM, a HP LaserJet 4MP printer with 6 Megs of RAM, the FamilySearch® CD-ROM Family History Library Catalog and Ancestral File on CD-ROM and the 1995 ProPhone US Telephone book on CD-ROM. We hope to help the multitudes present with speedy printouts and also curry some favor for FEEFHS.

Helpers are needed at the San Diego conference to give me a brief break from time to time. Even if you can't hold down the table for more than 5 minutes, please at least stop by and say hello if you attend either of these conferences.

GALICIAN GENEALOGICAL ORGANIZATIONS

by Brian J. Lenius

A number of inquiries have been received by the Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS)¹ asking about the formation of a new genealogical society for those with interests in the area formerly known as Galicia. This article is intended to provide a very brief overview of Galician research and the existing genealogical organizations which cover the various ethnic groups. The question has been asked: Is a new society or a number of societies needed or can the existing societies provide the information, knowledge, and resources which a new society would have to develop over time? I believe that the existing organizations for most ethnic communities of Galicia are more than adequate. The creation of further organizations would simply result in "reinventing the wheel" for Polish, Ukrainian, Jewish, and Mennonite researchers. This would then mean that those individuals with expertise in Galicia would have to further divide their overextended commitments to new organizations only to duplicate what already exists.

One new organization which has been needed and is now in

the beginning stages of formation is specifically for the Germans from Galicia (see section titled "Germans"). The number of researchers interested in Germans from Galicia is still small but growing. The number of Czech, Russian, and Armenian researchers are not numerous enough at present to form an organization. Their interests are probably best handled through a multi-ethnic organization such as the East European Branch of the MGS² (see section titled "Multi-Ethnic Organizations") with its heavy focus on Galicia for all ethnic groups.

Overview of Galicia

I would like to preface the following inventory of societies and their resources with a very brief overview of Galicia and the ethnic communities which made up its cultural mosaic. Galicia included that part of modern day Poland and Ukraine which together formed the former "Austrian Crownland of Galizien." In brief, Galicia was a province of Austria prior to WW I. Between WW I and WW II or during the "inter-war period" Galicia was completely within Poland. Since WW II, the area has been split between the southeastern part of Poland and the area known as western Ukraine east to the Zbruch river.

There are a number of different terms used for Galicia. The term "Galicia" which is most often used in North America is also the Polish version of the name. In addition, Poles often use the terms "Austrian Partition" or "Małopolska" (Little Poland). Germans most often refer to the area as "Galizien" and sometimes as "Kleinpolen" (Little Poland) when referring to the area during the inter-war period. The Ukrainian ethnic area of this crownland is often referred to as "Halychyna." No doubt this last version of the name is related to the name of the ancient capital of the area "Halych" (Halicz in Polish).

Galicia included people of many ethnic groups including Poles, Ukrainians, Jews, Germans, Mennonites, Czechs, Russians, and Armenians. In fact, the capital city of Galicia, Lemberg (aka Lwów in Polish, L'viv in Ukrainian, and Leopoliis in Latin), was the only city in the world to ever have 3 Catholic bishops. The three dioceses were for the Roman Catholic, (Poles, Germans, Czechs), Greek Catholic (Ukrainians, Rusyns), and Armenian Catholic rites.

Genealogical societies and other organizations which deal with specific ethnic areas are almost essential for researchers of Galicia and many other areas of east Europe. Many ethnic/geographic genealogical societies for Galicia have already been formed. These vary in size from those with over a thousand members to those which are very small with less than one hundred members. These societies appear to serve the needs of their members researching Galicia more than adequately. Many of the smaller societies are small because the ethnic or geographic areas which they represent is also small or had only a small number of immigrants to North

America. More general societies such as state or provincial societies have some information which may be of use but most do not have specific sources for individual ethnic areas in east Europe. One exception for Galicia is the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society³ (see the section titled "Multi-Ethnic Organizations").

Genealogical Societies

I would like to introduce some of the societies which might be of value to those researching various ethnic groups in Galicia. Most of these organizations have a single ethnic focus to their membership even though they usually have members researching ethnic groups other than the one for which the organization is best known.

We should establish what a researcher looks for in an organization before beginning the examination of the existing societies. While this can vary to a great degree, most members of an organization expect to have one or more of the following services available to them through their society. It may be important to have regular meetings, seminars, conferences or other forums where members can meet with each other face to face to discuss problems, findings, etc. These meetings usually also have experienced speakers who are willing to impart some of their accumulated knowledge. Publications such as newsletters, journals, annuals, or books which provide informative articles on the organization's specialty should be part of any ethnic society. Research may also be conducted or information provided to members about their specific research interests or families on a one to one basis by those individuals with expertise in the Society. The organization might also have a relevant library and/or map collection. All of the ethnic societies discussed here qualify under one or more of these services to varying degrees.

Poles

One of the two largest ethnic groups included the Poles which represented over 40 percent of the total population in Galicia. Although they lived in all parts of Galicia, the majority of Poles lived in the western area which is now in Poland. One exception was the city of Lemberg (Lwów during Polish times and now L'viv, Ukraine) which was the provincial capital of Galicia. Although it was located in eastern Galicia, this city had a very large population of Poles prior to WW II.

Most Polish organizations in the United States have a significant number of members who are researching in Galicia. The largest of these is the Polish Genealogical Society of America⁴ based in Chicago. This FEEFHS member society has over 1200 members and according to a recent survey has at least one third of its members with an interest in Galicia. The PGS of America publishes a semi-annual journal, *Rodziny*, as well as a quarterly bulletin. Both of these publications include articles on Galicia, reports of new

resources, etc. One example of this society's commitment to Galician research is the publication of an important book listing the Roman Catholic parish registers which are held in the Zabuzanski collection in Warsaw titled *Register of Vital Records of Roman Catholic Parishes from the Region Beyond the Bug River* by the late Edward A. Peckwas. This book is specifically for the former areas of Galicia and Volhynia.

The Polish Genealogical Society of the Northeast (Connecticut)⁵ is a member organization of FEEFHS with a very heavy focus on Galicia. This society publishes a semi-annual journal, *Pathways and Passages*, which always contains information on researching in Galicia and has had a number of significant articles on Galician research. One example of this society's commitment to Galicia is the publication of the excellent book, *Directory of Polish Roman Catholic Parishes in the Territory of the Former Austrian Partition: Galicia*, by Jonathan D. Shea and Constance M. Ochnio. This society has even had genealogical tours to the Polish part of the former Galicia.

The Polish Genealogical Society of California⁶ is a member organization of FEEFHS. It publishes a quarterly bulletin which often contains specific Galician information such as sketches of villages in Galicia or listings of cemetery transcriptions including the Lyczakowski Cemetery in L'viv.

The Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan⁷ is a FEEFHS member organization which also has information and expertise in the area of Galicia. Their journal, published three times a year, is titled *The Eaglet*. This society with the work and knowledge of Jan Zaleski and others also is an excellent source for those interested in Poles in Galicia.

A significant percentage of the membership of the East European Branch of MGS² are involved Polish Galician research. The EEB resources pertaining to Galicia are described more fully in the section titled "Multi-Ethnic Organizations."

Ukrainians (including the Carpatho-Rusyns)

Another of the two largest ethnic groups in Galicia included the Ukrainians who formed the majority population in eastern Galicia and represented over 40 percent of the total population of Galicia. Their ethnic area extended west in Galicia to just beyond the current Polish/Ukrainian border. In addition, there were a number of communities in the Carpathian Mountains of western Galicia along the south border of the province extending nearly to Kraków. The ethnicity of these mountain people, known as the Lemkos, is still somewhat controversial with some of the people relating to a Ukrainian identity while the majority view themselves as a distinct group separate from both Poles and Ukrainians. Some studies have suggested that the Lemkos are part of a larger ethnic group known as

Carpatho-Rusyns. Both the Ukrainians and the Lemkos of Galicia were primarily of the Greek Catholic rite.

The Ukrainian Genealogical and Historical Society of Canada⁸ based in Calgary, Alberta was formed in 1979 by Walter Rusel who is also currently 3rd Vice-president of FEEFHS. Mr. Rusel handles most of the activities of the society unilaterally including production of its bulletin, *Nase Leude*. The bulletin, which only began regular quarterly publication in 1994, is small but contains information intended solely for the Ukrainian researcher. This means that it is primarily for the Galician researcher as greater than 90 percent of the ethnic Ukrainians who immigrated to Canada came from Galicia. The UGHSC has a black and white set of reprints of topographical maps covering eastern Galicia and makes copies available for sale to others. The UGHSC has also held some one day seminars in the past. Dr. John-Paul Himka, professor of History at the University of Alberta in Edmonton contributes much of the material to the bulletin and seminars.

The East European Branch of the MGS² based in Winnipeg, Manitoba is also a FEEFHS member organization with a very large focus on Ukrainians in Galicia. According to the last published survey of members' interests over one quarter of the EEB membership is researching Ukrainians in Galicia. The EEB quarterly, *East European Genealogist*, always has information of use to those researching Ukrainians in Galicia. Last year, 3 of the 8 regular monthly meetings were heavily focused on Ukrainian Galician research. The recently published book, *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia*, by Brian J. Lenius includes a separate section on Ukrainian place names in Galicia and includes the names of all Greek Catholic parishes to which Ukrainians might have belonged. The EEB and the MGS library collections include many books on Ukrainian Galician research and the EEB topographical map collection totally covers the areas of Galicia for Ukrainian and Lemkos. See the section for "Multi-Ethnic Organizations" for further information on the EEB.

The Saskatchewan Genealogical Society³ has the largest genealogical library in Canada which includes many books for the Ukrainian Galician researchers. The society's bulletin has published a number of articles on Ukrainian research.

The Rusin Association⁹ based in Plymouth, Minnesota is also a FEEFHS member organization which represents the Lemkos of the Carpathian mountains. The members of this association prefer to be called Rusins rather than Lemkos or Ukrainians. The organization publishes a quarterly newsletter titled *Trembita*. This organization has had meetings with guest speakers such as Dr. Paul Magosci, renowned author of Galician History and professor of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto. It is unknown what the specific

genealogical resources of this organization are at present.

Jews

The Jews represented greater than 10 percent of the population in Galicia. They formed a significant population in many areas and sometimes the majority, particularly in the large cities. Most villages included some Jewish families.

One organization which has resources specifically for the Jewish researcher of Galicia is Geshet Galicia¹⁰. This FEEFHS member organization is a Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (AJGS). Geshet Galicia was formed for the exclusive benefit of those researching Jewish roots from Galicia. Geshet Galicia publishes a quarterly newsletter specifically for Jewish research titled *The Galitzianer*. This SIG also publishes an internal directory listing the surnames and towns being researched by members. Suzan Wynne, founder of the group, has also produced a listing of villages in Galicia together with their administrative and judicial districts titled *Galician Towns and Administrative Districts* which is available on microfiche from AVOTAYNU. This is useful because Jewish vital records were kept on the basis of the judicial district from at least the mid 1800's to 1945.

An excellent journal titled *Avotaynu* is produced jointly by Sallyann Amdur Sack and Gary Mokotoff. It was an outgrowth of the first International Seminar of Jewish Genealogy held in 1984. This publication includes Jewish research for all parts of the world including a significant amount of information which is of specific help to those searching in Galicia. These same two researchers have also co-authored a book, *Where Once we Walked: A Guide to the Jewish Communities Destroyed in the Holocaust*, which covers all of east Europe including Galicia. In addition, Gary Mokotoff has published through *Avotaynu*¹¹ a microfiche version of a gazetteer of east Europe based on the modern U.S. Board of Geographic Places compiled into one listing. The current country and latitude/longitude are given in addition to the name of each place name. One unique feature of this gazetteer is the "Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex System" which gives the researcher a greater chance of finding their ancestral villages if the place name is spelt incorrectly.

Germans

The Germans were the fourth largest ethnic group in Galicia but comprised not more than 2 percent of the total population. They immigrated to Galicia at the invitation of the Austrian Emperor Josef II after the first partition of Poland. Most Germans immigrated to the central and eastern parts of Galicia in the 1780's and the early 1800's. They were settled into colonies which were usually based on religion. Therefore most German colonies were either exclusively Catholic or Evangelical (Lutheran). Often these colonies were established

beside Polish or Ukrainian villages.

The best sources of information for the genealogy and history of Germans from Galicia are a large number of books and also the yearly publication, *Zeitweiser der Galiziendeutschen*. These materials are all published in Germany and are in the German language. Also in Germany are a number of very large surname indexes for immigration to Galicia etc.

Until the fall of 1994, there was no specific ethnic organization in North America for those who were searching Germans from Galicia. A new group, Galizien German Descendants¹² has now been formed which is specifically designed for German Galician research. A quarterly newsletter is planned to begin publication in the winter of 1994/95. Much of the German material mentioned above is specific to certain colonies or families. As this material is translated into English, it should provide excellent material for this new newsletter. In addition, exchanges of genealogical and village data by members will be very beneficial. The new society is also soliciting books to establish a new library.

To date, the East European Branch of the MGS² has been the focal point for those researching Germans from Galicia. Most researchers in North America who have shown an interest in this ethnic group have become members of the EEB and now form a significant portion of the EEB membership. The last published listing of the EEB Member Research Interest list indicated that 25 percent of the EEB members interested in Galicia are searching Germans from Galicia. Many articles in the *East European Genealogist* are of interest to all ethnic groups in Galicia including the Germans.

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Although there was a bishop in Lemberg for the Armenian Catholic rite, their overall numbers in Galicia were very small. There were also a small number of Czechs who immigrated to Galicia. This was also a very small group. In some cases, the Czechs may have been assimilated into the Polish community due to their common religion (Roman Catholic). There were also a small number of ethnic Russians of the Russian Orthodox faith in Galicia.

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Conclusion

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beside Polish or Ukrainian villages.

The best sources of information for the genealogy and history of Germans from Galicia are a large number of books and also the yearly publication, *Zeitweiser der Galiziendeutschen*. These materials are all published in Germany and are in the German language. Also in Germany are a number of very large surname indexes for immigration to Galicia etc.

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(Summer 1994), pp. 1-4.]

Since writing *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings*, I have tried to continue learning about the subject of Polish surnames. A promising development in this field is the publication by the Instytut Języka Polskiego in Krakow of *Słownik nazwisk współcześnie w Polsce używanych*, edited by Kazimierz Rymut, a 10-volume directory of surnames borne by Polish citizens. Compiled from data banks of the PESEL Rządowy Centrum Informacyjny, this series covers about 94% of all citizens of Poland as of the end of 1990, listing each surname that appeared, along with a breakdown of how many citizens bear that name in each of Poland's 49 provinces. The set costs US\$ 200, including postage, and can be ordered by sending a personal check for that amount to Kazimierz Rymut, al. Slowackiego 52/5, 31-113 KRAKOW, Poland.

Obviously this is a massive compendium of surnames; the data banks had more than 800,000 separate surnames! Even after deleting obviously bad data, combining masculine and feminine forms such as *ski/-ska*, and so on, the compilers still had 10 thick volumes' worth! Putting such a wealth of data to good use is a challenge, but one interesting question does come to mind: can one analyze it to learn anything about where particular kinds of names tend to appear? If so, what can that tell us about Polish surnames?

Even if I had time, my math is not up to the kind of sophisticated statistical analysis that would reveal anything profound, but for the heck of it I decided to do a rather primitive study of three particular names: *Jankowski*, a thoroughly Polish name; *Hoffmann*, a German name with which I have some familiarity; and *Harasim*, a distinctively Ukrainian surname. *Jankowski* appeared all over Poland, but *Hoffmann* and *Harasim* showed definite distribution patterns. On the first map, a Maltese cross distinguishes provinces with more than 100 inhabitants named *Hoffmann*, and a star marks those with more than 50 people bearing the name *Harasim*.

This needs further explanation. I give the raw data below in tabular form, but let me explain why I chose those three names, and what the results suggest.

Jankowski is, first of all, a distinctively Polish surname. It is formed from the name *Jan* ("John") plus the diminutive suffix *-ek* to give *Jan[ek]* ("Johnny") with the further addition of *-ow-* and *-ski*, to give a name meaning, more or less, "Johnny's kin." It can also mean "someone from Jankow (or Jankowa or Jankowo)," but those names mean "Janek's place" and ultimately derive from *Jan*. In other languages "John" has a different form — in Russian or Ukrainian it is *Ivan* (Polish spelling *Iwan*), and Germans tend to prefer a form like *Janke* or something beginning with *Han-*. So *Jankowski* is a name you'd expect to find used almost

exclusively by ethnic Poles.

Logic suggests such a surname could get started anywhere they spoke Polish and had people named *Jan* — in other words, virtually anywhere in Poland. And the information in the surname dictionary confirms this. There are 65,942 people with this name, living in all 49 of Poland's provinces. The largest numbers appear in areas with the greatest population concentration; but there is no part of Poland without its *Jankowskis*.

This data suggests, however, that there are places one is less likely to find a lot of *Jankowskis*. Note the provinces with less than 250: Biala Podlaska, Chelm, Krosno, Nowy Sacz, Przemysl, Rzeszow, and Tarnow. Locate them on the first map: they are all in the eastern or southeastern part of Poland. The low frequency of names probably owes a lot to population density and size, but it cannot be an accident that these are also the areas where one begins to encounter a linguistic transition from Polish to Byelorussian and Ukrainian. One would expect to see fewer *Jankowskis* and more *Iwanowskis* and *Wankowskis* in those provinces, because those names derive from the eastern Slavic versions of "John," rather than the Polish.

Hoffmann, on the other hand, is clearly of German origin. True, it might be borne by people who considered themselves Poles through and through; and there are more than a few Jews with this name. But the linguistic origin of the name is incontestably German. As such, this name should be most common in areas formerly part of Germany or heavily colonized by Germans. And sure enough, with the exception of Warsaw (126), the *Hoffmanns* are concentrated in western Poland, with large numbers in Bydgoszcz (549), Gdansk (352), Katowice (386), and especially Poznan (1,435). The total number of *Hoffmanns* is 5,187, so I thought any concentration of more than 100 (about 2% of the total) was worth noting on the map.

It is interesting, by the way, to note that even though their numbers in the eastern provinces are minimal, *Hoffmanns* do appear in 43 of Poland's 49 provinces; this suggests German-sounding names are not found only in western Poland. I did not map the occurrence of the spelling variations *Hoffman* and *Hofman*, but the distribution pattern seems to be roughly similar to that for *Hoffmann*.

With *Jankowski* and *Hoffmann* we see more or less what we might expect to see, but *Harasim* has a surprise or two. The surname comes from the Ukrainian first name *Harasym* (from Greek *Gerasimos*), according to Prof. Rymut (*Nazwiska Polakow, Zaklad Narodowy im. Ossolinskich*, 1991, p. 131). As such, it seems likely to appear primarily in the areas where modern Poland's borders meet those of Ukraine; also,

because of historical links between Lithuania, Belarus, and Ukraine, it may well show up in areas bordering Lithuania and Belarus as well.

On my first map, any province with more than 35 (2% of the total of 1,765) is marked with a star, and in fact, we do see the greatest concentrations of people named *Harasim* in the eastern provinces of Poland, especially Chelm (64), Lublin (165), Siedlce (205), Suwalki (293), and Zamosc (256). There are also quite a few in Warsaw (112), but perhaps that is because the capital of a country tends to draw members of all the ethnic groups living in it. It is surprising, however, that there aren't more *Harasims* in the southeastern provinces of Przemysl (8), Rzeszow (0), and Krosno (0); that is where I would have expected to find the majority of them. (The introduction to Volume I mentions that the data bank had surname data on 36,440,055 of the 37,396,600 persons living in Poland at the end of 1990; Przemysl, Rzeszow, and Krosno provinces were among those from which data for large numbers of inhabitants was unavailable. Some *Harasims* may have been among those left out).

But what particularly surprised me was finding *Harasims* in Gdansk (67), Katowice (84), Koszalin (55), and Olsztyn (80). These are all provinces historically associated with Germany, not Russia, Lithuania, or Ukraine. I had thought people tended to stay, more or less, in their native areas – historically Poland's society has obviously been far less mobile than that of, say, the United States. Yet here are significant numbers of Ukrainians living clear on the other side of Poland!

Anyone with training in logic, statistics, science – or possessing good old horse sense – knows you don't jump to conclusions on insufficient data, so I decided to look quickly at the listings for more distinctively Ukrainian names. I soon found three good candidates: *Iwan*, *Hawryluk*, and *Federowicz*. *Iwan* is the Polish spelling of Ukrainian *Ivan*, "John"; *Hawryluk* comes from Ukrainian *Gavril* or *Gavrilo*, "Gabriel"; and *Federowicz* is from *Fedir*, "Theodore" (in Polish *Teodor*; the form *Feder-* strongly indicates Ukrainian, not Polish, origin).

In the case of *Iwan*, there are 4,397, most of them in eastern Poland – but Gdansk shows 77, Katowice 556, Koszalin 81, and Olsztyn 31. *Hawryluk* shows 2,538, with Elblag having 48, Gdansk 44, Katowice 101, and Koszalin 55. *Federowicz* totals 3,224, of which 111 are in Gdansk province, 104 in Katowice, 189 in Opole, 179 in Walbrzych, 188 in Wroclaw, and 232 in Zielona Gora – almost one-third of the Polish citizens named *Federowicz* live in the western third of the country!

I tried to think of some historical explanation as to why so many Ukrainians would have strayed so far from home, and

devised several ingenious theories. The real answer was simpler, and should have been obvious to me. After World War II the Soviets forced vast numbers of people from eastern Poland, mostly ethnic Ukrainians, to relocate to the western *Ziemie Odzyskane* (recovered territories), as the Poles call them – areas appropriated from Germany and given to Poland to compensate it for eastern territory seized by the Soviet Union. The Germans who had been living in western Poland there were just as roughly relocated across the border to East Germany. The second map illustrates the difference between Poland's current borders, outlined in black, and its pre-1939 territory, shaded; Poland was, in effect, shifted westward.

In the words of one person I consulted, "Too bad there wasn't a similar compilation in 1939!" – i. e., before all these relocations blurred the patterns of ethnic distribution.

Massive data compilations such as the *Słownik nazwisk* are not easy to use, but they offer a way to test theories and expectations against hard facts. My primitive analyses pay insufficient attention to population size and density, but now I have hard evidence to back me up when I tell people, "Poles don't necessarily live in Poland, Ukrainians don't necessarily live in Ukraine, Germans don't necessarily live in Germany," etc. And, in the process, I have learned some things I didn't know before, and been reminded of things I had forgotten. You can't ask for better than that!

FEEFHS

Federation of East European Family
History Societies

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Hoffmann: 5,187 (Hoffman: 2,570; Hofman: 3,799)

Biała Podlaska: 4	Opole: 143 ✕
Białystok: —	Ostrołęka: 14
Bielsko-Biała: 84	Piła: 317 ✕
Bydgoszcz: 549 ✕	Piotrków Trybunalski: 3
Chełm: 1	Płock: 3
Ciechanów: 4	Poznań: 1,435 ✕
Częstochowa: 76	Przemyśl: 1
Elbląg: 102 ✕	Radom: —
Gdańsk: 352 ✕	Rzeszów: 4
Gorzów Wlkp.: 130 ✕	Siedlce: —
Jelenia Góra: 27	Sieradz: 4
Kalisz: 287 ✕	Skierniewice: 3
Katowice: 386 ✕	Słupsk: 36
Kielce: 6	Suwałki: 7
Konin: 42	Szczecin: 90
Koszalin: 45	Tarnobrzeg: —
Kraków: 46	Tarnów: 5
Krosno: 2	Toruń: 201 ✕
Legnica: 28	Wałbrzych: 29
Leszno: 214 ✕	Warsaw: 126 ✕
Łódź: 27	Włocawek: 6
Łomża: 27	Wrocław: 122 ✕
Lublin: 6	Zamość: —
Nowy Sącz: 1	Zielona Góra: 182 ✕
Olsztyn: 37	

Jankowski: 65,942

Biała Podlaska: 246	Opole: 606
Białystok: 850	Ostrołęka: 781
Bielsko-Biała: 456	Piła: 1,291
Bydgoszcz: 3,748	Piotrków Trybunalski: 293
Chełm: 230	Płock: 2,444
Ciechanów: 1,085	Poznań: 4,645
Częstochowa: 490	Przemyśl: 106
Elbląg: 1,456	Radom: 1,046
Gdańsk: 3,667	Rzeszów: 122
Gorzów Wlkp.: 1,123	Siedlce: 515
Jelenia Góra: 783	Sieradz: 490
Kalisz: 1,824	Skierniewice: 911
Katowice: 2,607	Słupsk: 1,114
Kielce: 878	Suwałki: 1,825
Konin: 1,496	Szczecin: 2,046
Koszalin: 1,037	Tarnobrzeg: 314
Kraków: 628	Tarnów: 204
Krosno: 113	Toruń: 2,607
Legnica: 938	Wałbrzych: 853
Leszno: 1,414	Warsaw: 6,139
Łódź: 2,014	Włocawek: 1,873
Łomża: 1,822	Wrocław: 1,902
Lublin: 1,229	Zamość: 1,609
Nowy Sącz: 202	Zielona Góra: 1,278
Olsztyn: 2,032	

Harasim: 1,765

Biała Podlaska: 18	Opole: 8
Białystok: 99 ★	Ostrołęka: 5
Bielsko-Biała: 7	Piła: 10
Bydgoszcz: 29	Piotrków Trybunalski: —
Chełm: 64 ★	Płock: 4
Ciechanów: —	Poznań: 25
Częstochowa: 1	Przemyśl: 8
Elbląg: 12	Radom: —
Gdańsk: 67 ★	Rzeszów: —
Gorzów Wielkopolski: 2	Siedlce: 205 ★
Jelenia Góra: 4	Sieradz: 1
Kalisz: 9	Skierniewice: 8
Katowice: 84 ★	Słupsk: 22
Kielce: 2	Suwałki: 293 ★
Konin: —	Szczecin: 8
Koszalin: 55 ★	Tarnobrzeg: 24
Kraków: 11	Tarnów: —
Krosno: —	Toruń: 5
Legnica: —	Wałbrzych: 5
Leszno: 7	Warsaw: 112 ★
Łódź: 8	Włocawek: 4
Łomża: 1	Wrocław: 3
Lublin: 165 ★	Zamość: 256 ★
Nowy Sącz: 1	Zielona Góra: 24
Olsztyn: 80 ★	

DOG-PADDLING THE INTERNET FOR GENEALOGY

by John D. Movius

[Reprinted by permission of the author from *Der Blumenbaum*, newsletter of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, vol. 12, no. 4 (April-June) 1995, pp. 166-167.]

There I was recently – dog-paddling on the Internet for the first time. I finally jumped into that big on-line worldwide digital ocean called the information superhighway. It was think or sink time. Someday maybe I'll get to a point that I can "surf the net" with the best of them on my computer surfboard; that is if arthritis or Alzheimer's don't get to me first.

Until now I've avoided on-line action, scared of the time loss resulting from answering megabytes of unsolicited e-mail. I can't always answer all my "mail mail" postal correspondence as it is. A year ago I saw CompuServe's genealogy activities and was not impressed. Last Christmas on my son's computer in Denver, I looked into CompuServe's genealogy forum again, using its "Go Roots" command. This time, I was pleased at the increased activity and much larger index of topics, including a "tiny tafel" (a small *Ahnentafel*).

So as a starter, I'm now exploring on-line services and the Internet on a friend's computer. This way I hope to avoid becoming a case of e-mail road-kill on the digital superhighway until I've learned how to dodge unwanted e-mail. I'll leave it to others to explain how to install your modem and log onto America OnLine or the Internet. I'm now using some introductory free hours to check out AOL and CompuServe further. Here are my initial conclusions on AOL and the Internet "gopher":

America OnLine (AOL)

The opportunities for doing genealogy here are significant. The AOL Genealogy Group has five bulletin-board indexes of topics and activities. Example: under "meetings," a German SIG (Special Interest Group) meets every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. PST. AOL SIG's have an on-line host. Many questions, comments, and answers are exchanged there.

The East European group meets Saturdays at 5 p.m. PST, on AOL. For example, eight new genealogy societies sponsored by FEEFHS (Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Romania, Russia, and Silesia) are now listed. In addition, there is a surname bulletin board. The surname alphabet is divided into over a dozen groups on AOL. The Family History Library staff monitors this AOL group from time to time; articulate responses were recently posted by FHL staff members Larry Jensen and Steve Barthel.

FEEFHS, 3:1 (April 1995), p. 18

Cost of on-line services

AOL costs US \$9.95 a month for 5 hours, then US\$ 2.95 ~~and~~ hour. Compare this to CompuServe, which charges US\$ 9.95 a month, but has a premium surcharge for its Roots genealogy group. This probably is why many more genealogists are found on AOL CompuServe.

The Internet

My friend has an Internet account through the University of California-Davis, so recently I was able to do some genealogy record searching with a neat feature called gopher. Gopher is a menu-based guide to Internet directories developed by the University of Minnesota – whose mascot is the golden gopher. The University of California-Davis's connection to Internet permits use of gopher, Melvyl (the University of California-wide library computer index, and the World Wide Web (WWW) through Mosaic – but these are future stories. By enter the "other gophers" topic in the UC-Davis gopher index, I discovered a gopher search routine called Veronica.

Veronica is able to search all the gophers in the electronic and geographic world called "gopherspace" – where gophers reside in over ten thousand computers around the world. It will search for a key word or words and report a list of all gopher-linked computers worldwide that have a directory containing that key word in a minute or two. However, it will find only the first 200 gopher citations for your key word, unless you append an -m to your request so as to list all of them.

I entered Genealogy -m and soon ended up with 586 directories of genealogy information from as many computers in North America, Europe, and Australia. It may take another several dozen sessions just to see what is of importance to me on each of them. Navigating through the library with Veronica is as easy as pressing Enter" to see more detail or "u" (for up) to escape to the prior level. In scanning all those directory names, one in particular caught my eye – the Digital Library for German-Russian Genealogy.

The Digital Library for German-Russian Genealogy

This service is listed under Veronica as German-Russian Genealogy. It is a large and growing library of text and compressed GEDCOM files of valuable data, and it has gateways to three other important genealogy gophers.

The first page of topics includes German-Russian village newsletters, extracts of the 1910 federal census from five South Dakota counties rich with Germans from Russia, extracts of vital records from a Eureka, SD, Lutheran church, plus GEDCOM genealogy files of Alt-Postal, Bergdorf, Brunnantal, Kassel, and other Black-Sea German colonies.

It also included many Germanic surname genealogy files

extracted from PAF (Personal Ancestral File), other lists of Germanic-Russian names extracted from various genealogy sources, and an "Odessa" file with the names and e-mail addresses of about 20 persons researching Black Sea genealogy. There are files of German-Russians extracted from various Bowdle, Java, Leola, and Selby, SD, jubilee and centennial books (with full names, birth dates, and page references).

Most important are the extracts of naturalization files (first papers listing name, age, port, and year of entry) from the Dakota Supreme Court and three South Dakota counties (Bon Homme, Davison, and Yankton). And not to be overlooked are extracts of German-Russian obituaries from the 1928-1935 issues of *Staats Anzeiger*, a South Dakota German-language newspaper.

The second page of the "table of contents" here yields more important topics. There are the St. Petersburg extractions by the GRHS (Germans from Russian Historical Society – examples include Glückstal marriages and Großliebental extractions), United States land records (Walworth County, SD, about 1906), and indexes of GRHS and AHSGR (American Historical Society of Germans from Russia) publications.

There are also three gateways to genealogy gophers, or computer-genealogy "servers," at Brigham Young University, Penn State University, and the University of Toledo. Browsing through them, I noticed gopher links to the Library of Congress and the National Archives. Wow! While these gophers can also be accessed directly on the Internet, this is a cool feature.

If you are searching for your Black Sea German-Russian heritage or just want to check out the possibility that a unique German surname might be found there, you cannot consider your search complete without checking this text library on the Internet, created by Prof. Roger W. Ehrich of Virginia Tech at Blacksburg, Virginia.

To sum it up for the Internet and other on-line genealogy services and paraphrase in the language of Forrest Gump: "On-line genealogy is like a box o' chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." But you can be sure of one thing – it will be a pleasant and useful genealogy surprise.

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BENDER GENEALOGY SOCIETY

by John D. Movius and Darlene Bender

This surname group evolved from the recent availability of FHL microfilms of St. Petersburg consistory duplicate church books of Black Sea German-Russian colonies and from the associated extraction work underway by FEEFHS member societies GRHS and AHSGR. Both provided the incentive to start research on Darlene Bender's German-Russian ancestry.

Darlene's grandfather Johannes came from Worms in the Beresan district just north of Odessa. Her mother was a Bentz from Neudorf, a Glückstal colony just northwest of Worms. While Alma Wiederrich Washburn published *Johann Bentz II and Descendants 1834-1988*, no corresponding work has occurred on the Bender side, where significant voids still exist.

Our starting point was with Margaret Freeman of Glückstal Colonies Research Association (GCRA) – also a FEEFHS member. She suggested contact with four persons mentioned below and she has been an important source of advice and information.

Digital Library of German-Russian Genealogy: Roger Ehrich of Blacksburg, Virginia created and administers this on the Internet (ehrich@vtcsi.cs.vt.edu). His 28-topic text database contained obituaries from Java, SD, and census listings. These helped to establish some South Dakota family links for Darlene's Bender Grandparents. More recently we've searched other parts of Roger's growing Germanic digital library, including the *Staats Anzeiger* obituaries and Dakota supreme court naturalization records. Assistance also came from other searchers including LeRoy Bender of Java, SD, Ron Kremer of Linton, ND, Joy Lausch of Jamestown, ND, and Chris Mauch of Bismarck, ND.

Church books: Ed Schulz of Fresno provided photocopies of his Rohrbach and Worms extraction sheets that mentioned Bender and related surnames such as Eckart, Jahraus, Wiest and Mauch. GRHS Rohrbach/Worms Village Coordinator Erwin Ulmer was helpful in photocopying the records of a number of Bender ancestors we were unaware of and helping to sort out the various Bender families there.

PAF version 2.31 database was selected to organize our growing findings. GCRA PAF data coordinator Herb Tabert of Salt Lake has a 31,000 name PAF database of Glückstal families and their descendants. He downloaded on a GEDCOM disk all his Bender and Bentz associated names, providing an instant database of 5,800 Bender related surnames from the Glückstal colonies. Since then he's provided 2,000 more files of related surnames. We now

exchange mail weekly on new Bender files in Glückstal we come up with.

Ancestral Quest software is used with PAF. It may be the only Windows genealogy software program that operates seamlessly with PAF's DOS data files on IBM PC's. We use Ancestral Quest under Windows 3.11 to search, merge and sometimes edit our DOS 6.22 PAF files. There is no need to copy GEDCOM data between the two, so a quick switch is possible from one to the other. The Ancestral Quest match/merge routines are far superior to PAF's match/merge for large databases.

Bender PAF Database: We have over 11,200 PAF records of Bender and Bentz related individuals, including over 3,800 marriages and additions each week increase its size. This database has been helpful in finding ancestral Benders for their descendants and in uniting a number of lost lines with the linking (matching) techniques. We are glad to share information in it. Pedigree charts and family group sheets with reference notes are available on request, in printed form or on any size/density computer diskette. We ask persons who send queries to also include what they know about their own Bender-related lines.

Objectives: Our initial effort was to link Bender and descendant lines that came to the Dakotas from Rohrbach/Worms, Ukraine with Benders and descendants from other Black Sea colonies including Glückstal and Großliebental. It grew to include Bessarabian colonies such as Leipzig, Teplitz and Alt-Elf with the assistance of Ralph Ruff, a GRHS/AHSGR village coordinator.

It soon became clear that linking some Bender lines in America, Germany and the German colonies of Russia back to common ancestors in Germany is possible. This is now the central focus of our effort. Thanks to our PAF database, the German-Russian church-book extractions and the help of others, it has become a far easier job to link up some of these lines than you might suspect.

Benders in Stumpp: Twenty two Bender emigrants from Germany to Russia are listed by Stumpp. Nineteen Benders went to the Ukraine and three Benders went to the Volga. Most churchbooks (of Baden or Württemberg towns where many left from) go back to the 17th century -- some as far back as 1627 or 1650 -- thus there is a good chance of finding some more Bender ancestral links. A Research Note is available listing the microfilm numbers of all parish churchbooks from which a Bender is said to have emigrated to Russia.

Village Coordinators and the Ancestral File: We are starting to work with village coordinators having a Bender in their

village, including Black Sea, Volga and elsewhere in Russia. Addresses of 48 GRHS and 110 AHSGR village coordinators plus several dozen Bender submitters to the FHL Ancestral File have been assembled. We hope to enlist their cooperation to exchange information as we or they find a Bender related person or family.

The FHL Ancestral File lists 749 Benders, some from 50 Ancestral File submitters who are Bender record searchers but not active in GRHS or AHSGR. This database is another source of clues to missing surname links. We now add the FHL Ancestral File Number (AFN) as an additional identifier as the ID number in our PAF files. This aids in quickly linking a PAF record to one in the Ancestral File.

International Genealogical Index (IGI) and SSDI: The IGI has about 12,110 Benders in Germany, contains 278 Benders from Central European countries and 406 Benders from America and Canada. These IGI listings are checked periodically and sometimes help us. Another useful source is the Social Security Death Index, with several thousand Bender listings. We use it selectively to confirm and add birth and death details.

CD-ROM Telephone Directories: Over 12,000 Bender households in America have listed addresses in the SelectPhone CD-ROM telephone directory. There are another 770 Canadian Benders in the CanadaPhone CD-ROM directory. These are quite helpful to us when it comes time to write or to call a possible ancestor.

Related Surnames: In addition to over 1,500 Bender files, we have many related surnames where marriages and descendant lines occurred: These include 700+ Dockter, 370+ Wiederrich, 200+ Bentz, 180+ Stroh, 140+ Kirschmann, 125+ Pfeifle, 90 Keller, 85 Mauch, 70 Bollinger, 68 Glasser, 65 Hieb, 60+ Wolf/Wolff and over 50 Graf files. There are another 80+ surnames which are listed over 15 times. We invite inquiry by anyone with a Bender connection. We will search our database and then share our holdings of all such related surnames either in a family group record printout or a GEDCOM disk form.

We respond to Bender/related surname genealogy queries via the Internet at dabender@ucdavis.edu or through AOL at darbend@aol.com. However we much prefer "snail mail" sent to P. O. Box 4327, Davis CA 95617-4327. We recently joined FEEFHS to help "spread the word" about our existence as a surname society with East European roots. We recommend other East European surname societies join us in support of FEEFHS.

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PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

by Charles M. Hall

FEEFHS has now functioned with its constitutionally elected officers almost a year. During that year, we have met some challenges, due to our "DIVERSITY," which have put quite a strain on our "UNITY" and HARMONY." However, we have survived the trauma and are optimistic about the events we have planned for 1995.

I would like to express special thanks to our vice presidents for their work on the Conventions planned for 1995, and also to Duncan Gardiner for his work on the Cleveland Convention. I would also like to thank our Vice Presidents and Eunice Pines, of Traverse City, Michigan, for their publicity efforts which have brought our Member Society enrollment up to 67 and increased our individual membership.

Other thanks to Azra Jojić and Kathy Fisher, our treasurer and secretary; To Kathy Felt of Plano, Texas, who did an audit of our financial books and to our Membership Chair, Radmila Ranovic, for her good work.

We have met some wonderful people, not directly associated with FEEFHS, who have also been a great help to us. I will here give a couple of examples;

1- Glen Harris of the LDS Church Family History Department is a close associate of Lynn Carson, of the microfilm negotiating team in Europe. Along with being my third cousin, Glen has a special relationship with FEEFHS, since some of his ancestors come from Ex-Yugoslavia. Glen put me in touch with Petr Klasinč of Maribor, Slovenia.

2- Petr Klasinč is one of the chief archivists in Slovenia. He has some ambitious plans for archives in Ljubljana as well as Maribor, such as compiling data on Compact Disks. When I visited his modern archives of Maribor in 1991, he was in China doing some negotiating. His efficient staff treated me well.

Mr. Klasinč informed Glen Harris that he would be hosting a special meeting for archivists near the end of March, 1995.

As a FEEFHS Executive Council, we would like to remind currently established Genealogical Societies, that we are still diligently pursuing our goal of helping budding ethnic and regional societies, in their efforts to get established. From our current perspective, there is no such thing as "too many" East European Family History Societies. To date we have not met a "budding society" that appeared to be superfluous. We love you all, and we admire your courage and determination to combine your talents to "fill vital needs."

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

by John C. Alleman

I would like to take the opportunity provided by this space, which would otherwise be empty, to thank those who have contributed the information that appears in the previous pages. Most of the articles were submitted some time ago, and everyone has been waiting patiently to see them in print. The delay has been caused principally by my own lack of time to devote to assembling the material so it could be printed. My translation business has unexpectedly grown to the point where I now have more work to do than I ever thought I would.

This issue of the *Newsletter* appears in the same format as was used in Volumes I and II, but I hope that this will be the last one to have this appearance. Exciting new computer programs are now available that we can use to make the *Newsletter* easier and more pleasant to read. I have already received some helpful suggestions in this regard, especially from John Movius and Stanley Brescoll, but it was not possible to implement them for this issue, unfortunately. If other readers have ideas on this subject, now is the time to let us know.

We continue to struggle with the issue of copyrights, which sometimes conflicts with our desire to disseminate information as widely as possible. Our intention is that all material in the *Newsletter* and *Resource Guide* be freely available for copying by interested people and organizations, provided that appropriate credit is given, and unless the articles have separate copyrights. Therefore, please observe the following statement, which will appear in all future issues in some form:

Quotations are permitted when prefaced or followed by a statement such as: "As found in the *FEEFHS Newsletter* (of a given date), published at P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT, 84121-0346"

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Since this issue of the *Newsletter* is appearing late, there is only a short time before the next issue is due to appear, some time in June. Contributions are welcome for this as well as for future issues. Organizational members are especially requested to submit descriptions of the activities of their organizations, so that interested people will know how to join or otherwise benefit from their activities and so that other organizations will not duplicate their efforts.

Please send suggestions and/or contributions to me at: 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108, or fax them to (801) 359-9304. Articles for publication are especially appreciated if submitted on a 3½" IBM-compatible diskette, but we can handle information in almost any other form, too.

FEEFHS
DIVERSITY
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HARMONY



FEEFHS

Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

Vol 3, No. 2

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July 1995

CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE ISSUE

by Ed Brandt, together with Duncan Gardiner, Walt Rusel, Jerry Frank, Paul Makousky,
Doris Sadar, John Movius and others

FEEFHS will hold two major events this summer: its international convention in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 3-5, and its western regional conference in Calgary, Alberta, on July 25. Registration forms are included with this issue. Please register immediately, if possible, to spare us the agony of guessing how many people we need to accommodate. Our visiting European speaker at Cleveland is expected to be Dr. Peter Pavel Klasinč, head of the Institute for Archival Science in Maribor, Slovenia. At the time this goes to press, we were informed that it was 95% certain that he would attend.

A special feature at both the Calgary conference and the Cleveland convention will a short course: "Creating your *Own HomePage* for the *FEEFHS HomePage*." This will consist of two lectures with accredited representatives of existing and new organizational members of FEEFHS and professional translators and professional genealogists, so they can create their *Own HomePage* for posting on the World Wide Web of the Internet at the *FEEFHS HomePage* address <<http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>>. It presumes those attending have a minimum skill level with a computer word processor. It will include an overview of HTML 2 and HTML+ hypertext coding. It will be taught by FEEFHS vice-president John D. Movius. He is webmaster and editor of the *FEEFHS HomePage*, a member of the DCN (Davis Community Net) web team, and an international HTML Guild. The course includes optional lecture materials at US \$5.00. Prospective attendees are asked to e-mail your interest in attending this course to <feefhs@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us>, write to John at P.O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327 or phone him at (916) 753-3206.

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**FEEFHS Western
Regional Conference**

July 25, 1995
Calgary Multicultural Centre
712 5th St., Calgary, AB

PROGRAM
(times still tentative)

Tuesday, July 25, 1995

9 a.m.:

Check-in of pre-registered persons; new registrations;
book sales begin

9:30-10:30 a.m.:

- (1) George Gette, "Saskatchewan Resources for East European Genealogy"
- (2) Miriam Hall Hansen, "They Came from Russia and Spoke German: The St. Petersburg Lutheran Registers and Other Records"
- (3) John D. Movijs, "Using the Internet and OnLine Services for East European Genealogy"

10:40-11:40 a.m.:

- (1) Doug Dale, "Bukovina Settlements in Saskatchewan: Germans, Romanians and Ukrainians"
- (2) Ewald Wuschke, "Researching Germans from Volhynia and Central Poland"

11:50 a.m.-12:50 p.m.:

Box lunch
Speaker: Edward R. Brandt, "A Summary of East European Genealogical Resources for All Ethnic Groups"

1-2 p.m.:

- (1) David M. Bickman, "Jewish Emigration to Alberta from Ukraine"
- (2) George Bowman, "Russian German Genealogical Resources in North Dakota"

2:10-3:10 p.m.:

- (1) Virginia A. Less, "Records Pertaining to the Interwar

Soviet German Lutheran Refugees Quartered in Harbin, China, Pending Travel to the Americas"

(2) Walt Rusel, "Introduction to Ukrainian Genealogical Research"

(3) Richard Thiessen, "Mennonite Genealogy: From Prussia to Russia to the Americas"

3:20-4:20 p.m.:

(1) Edward R. Brandt, "An Overview of Germanic Settlements in Eastern Europe"

(2) Gerald Frank, "Translating 19th-Century Polish Records"

John D. Movijs will hold a two-hour workshop at one of the nearby hotels on "Building Your Own Organizational Home Page on World Wide Web," with admission limited to representatives of FEEFHS member organizations, professional translators, and professional genealogists, who have joined FEEFHS by the convention (see note on page 23). This will be either at 7-9 a.m. or 7-9 p.m.

**TAPING, REGISTRATION, LUNCH,
BOOK SALES AND DISPLAYS**

All the presentations, except for John Movijs's workshop, will be taped. Tapes will be available for sale. The registration fee is \$25Cdn or \$20US. The Centre has no facilities for serving meals, but a box lunch can be ordered for \$7Cdn or \$5.50US. Please register early, if at all possible, so as to facilitate convention planning. Make checks payable to FEEFHS and mail to Walt Rusel, R. R. #2, Cochrane, AB T0L 0W0, Canada. Walk-ins will be registered on a space-available basis. There will be two or three simultaneous presentations during each one-hour time slot, with a large room used simultaneously for registration, book sales and displays. For information as to any program changes, contact Jerry Frank, 120 Stradwick Rise S.W., Calgary, AB T3H 1G8, or Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101. Publishers and authors of books relevant to East European genealogy who wish to have them displayed and/or sold at the convention should mail them to Walt Rusel at the above address. We recommend that you send some order forms as well, given the uncertainty as to attendance. Items are also solicited for a display of East European maps and other pertinent items. Member societies are invited to send membership brochures for interested parties, as well as samples of their publications for browsing and review.

HOTELS IN CALGARY

The Radisson Plaza Hotel is reserved exclusively for people attending the convention of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. Since AHSGR has a Genealogy Workshop on July 26, you may wish to stay in Calgary for another day even if you had not planned to attend the AHSGR convention. Single-day registration for the AHSGR convention is \$15, with a fee of \$45 for AHSGR members and \$55 for others who wish to attend the entire convention. For further information, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Martha Nielsen, 2940 Toronto Cres. N.W., Calgary, AB T2N 3W5. If you are writing from outside Canada, enclose an International (Postal) Reply Coupon, which is available at any post office, instead of a stamp. Besides the Radisson, two other hotels reasonably close to the Calgary Multicultural Centre are the: (1) Delta Bow Valley Hotel, associated with Delta Airlines (call 1-800-268-1133 for reservations) and the (2) Palliser Hotel, across the street from the Radisson (call 1-403-260-1220 for reservations).

ABOUT OUR CALGARY SPEAKERS

David M. Bickman is a 47-year-old lawyer and an Alberta native who has been doing genealogical research since 1983. His research concerning his paternal ancestors has taken him to Brazil twice, to Israel several times, and to various parts of the United States. He is the vice-president of the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta. For his Ukrainian research, he has engaged professionals who know the language. A book on his paternal ancestors is now in the works. David also plans to write articles on pre-World War I Jewish life in Ukraine and emigration from Ukraine to Alberta in 1881-1914. Some of this material will be incorporated into the lecture or offered as a handout. He has some facility in Hebrew. 868 Shawnee Drive S.W., Calgary, AB T2Y 1X3.

George McKinley Bowman traces his paternal (Bauman) ancestry from the Rhineland to the French and Indian War in Pennsylvania. Ancestors included a Loyalist prisoner of war in the American Revolution and were involved with the War of 1812 in Ontario, as well as the Indian Wars in Dakota Territory during the American Civil War. His maternal (Lacher) ancestors emigrated from Alsace to the Black Sea area to Dakota Territory. He was the first chair of the Genealogy Committee of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society and is presently chair of the Obituary Subcommittee. George has served on the Board of Trustees of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia since 1992, currently chairing the Endowment Committee. He has

presented workshops for the Manitoba Genealogical Society, the Germans from Russia Heritage Society, and the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. His main interest is German migration patterns caused by wars or the search for better crop land. In business life, he founded the North American Pump Corporation, one of the 1000 outstanding companies started by University of Minnesota Engineering School graduates. 5026 Belmont Rd., Grand Forks, ND 58201-8046.

Edward Reimer Brandt, Ph.D., A.G., vice-president of FEEFHS, is a Germanic specialist and East European generalist. His writings include *Contents and Addresses of Hungarian Archives, with supplementary material for research on German Ancestors from Hungary*, a booklet on the Mennonites in Poland, and articles on Germanic and Polish research, as well as on the former Soviet Union. He co-authored *Germanic Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns* and *Where to Look for Your Hard-to-Find German-Speaking Ancestors in Eastern Europe* (which is strongest for Danube Swabians and Galician Germans). For seven years he worked in Europe. He lectures on Germanic and East European topics, serves as a genealogical consultant, and deciphers and translates German Gothic handwriting. 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101.

James Douglas (Doug) Dale is a 61-year-old farmer with a lifetime interest in genealogy and is the past president of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society. Since his marriage to Hilda Schaffer, he has developed a strong interest in migration from the Bukovina to Saskatchewan, especially but not only the Germans. He is familiar with the methods required to do research in Saskatchewan generally, with specialization in the area from Balgonie to North Southey. Doug is an International Board Member of the Bukovina Society of the Americas, headquartered in Kansas, and has on occasion accompanied Dr. Kurt Rein of the Bukovina Institute in Augsburg, Germany, on trips around Saskatchewan. His computer program includes entries for about 15,000 individuals with some connection to the Bukovina. P.O. Box 386, Craik, SK S0G 0V0.

Jerry Frank has been a closet historian for many years, but came out about nine years ago when he began to develop an interest in genealogy. This is his first presentation in the field, although he has spoken publicly about other topics. Jerry has compiled the surname exchange list for *Wandering Volhynians* since its introduction in 1989 and is a regular contributor to that magazine. All the data which has been submitted is

MEETINGS

compiled onto a database, which he published as *Germans from Poland and Volhynia -- A research Guide*, with a second volume pending. In his own research, Jerry has traced his paternal ancestors from Volhynia back to Poland in ca. 1790 and his maternal ancestors, who followed the same route, back ca. 1560 in Württemberg. In the process, he has had to translate hundreds of Polish registration documents. 120 Stradwick Rise S.W., Calgary, AB T3H 1G8.

George Gette is an amateur genealogist, historian and folklorist with special interests in the Germans from Russia. During the past 15 years, George has given much of his time to the Saskatchewan German Council and as director of the Saskatchewan Council of Cultural Organizations and the Regina Multicultural Council. He also served as a director of the American Society of Germans from Russia. Papers previously presented include "Nicknames in St. Joseph's Colony in Saskatchewan" and "Researching the Germans from Russia." An engineer by profession, George is semi-retired and currently writing his family history. His parents were Volga Germans, and he traced both his maternal and paternal ancestors to the 1730's in Germany. 3619 White Bay, Regina, SK S4S 7C9.

Miriam Hall-Hansen has been a genealogist for 30 years and has served as a volunteer at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for ten years. She has assisted in the compilation of the *Mecklenburg Gazetteer* and with the cataloging of the microfilmed duplicate records of the mostly German Lutheran Consistory of St. Petersburg, which included not only Western Russia but also the entire Black Sea area and Ukraine. Miriam has taught genealogy classes in the Salt Lake City school system and for the Family History Library. Her education included attendance at the Utah Technical College and the University of Utah. 470 East Garfield Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84115.

Virginia A. Less is a life member of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. She is the immediate past president of its Northern Illinois Chapter and currently serves as its genealogy chair and newsletter editor. Virginia is also a member of the Du Page County Genealogical Society and the Glen Ellyn Historical Society. Her personal research covers her family lines (Germans and Volga Germans) and those of her husband (Volhynian Germans), with a goal of eventual publication of the information she is compiling. In 1993 she participated with a group of her husband's relatives in a tour of ancestral villages in Ukraine and she has presented the story of this venture numerous times to area genealogical societies and other groups. Professionally, she is a commissioned lay

minister of the United Church of Christ, serving as Library Resource Coordinator in the local church in the local educational ministries, as well as in the capacity of Church Historical Archivist. 503 Ridgewood St., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137.

John D. Movius is vice president of FEEFHS and the SGGS, editor of the annual *FEEFHS Resource Guide to East European Genealogy* (published each July), and Sacramento Internet/Web Genealogy SIG leader. He graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology and Stanford University GSB (Sloan Executive Fellow). His research interests include Roman/medieval eras, the Baltics, all former German and Austro-Hungarian provinces, especially Pomerania and the German colonies in Russia. He has done on-site research in various European archives including the Vatican library. He lectures for the Sacramento and Simi Valley stake genealogy days on Germanic and East European genealogy. He is a German, East European and Russian problem solver for the AOL Genealogy Forum. c/o FEEFHS, P.O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327.

Walter Rusej, who serves as 3rd vice-president of FEEFHS, is the founding president of the Ukrainian Genealogical and Historical Society of Canada and has served in that capacity for 15 years and chair of the Calgary conference. He also edits its quarterly, *Nase Leude* (Our People) Newsletter. He prepared a display on Ukrainian-Canadian genealogy and culture for the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Dominion of Canada in 1992. He has often lectured on Ukrainian genealogy, mostly in Western Canada, and has been used as a resource person by provincial societies and the LDS. He speaks some Ukrainian. R.R. # 2, Cochrane, Alberta T0L 0W0.

Richard Thiessen is a librarian at Concord College (formerly the Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies). He is the secretary of the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society, editor of its newsletter and active on its genealogy committee. He is coordinating the efforts of a group of people knowledgeable in Russian who are proofreading the translation of the 1835 Molotschna (Ukraine) Mennonite revision list, which is expected to be available by the time this appears in print. Besides being an expert on the Canadian Mennonites and their forebears in the Russian Empire and Polish Prussia, he also has some Canadian Mennonites who migrated to Mexico and Paraguay. Concord College, 1-169 Riverton Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2L 2E5.

Ewald Wuschke, a co-founder of FEEFHS, is the publisher of *Wandering Volhynians: A Magazine for Descendants of Germans from Volhynia and Central Poland*. This periodical, which has official representatives in Canada, the United States and Germany, has subscribers from all over North America, as well as in Europe. Contact has also been established with South American Volhynians. Ewald knows German and has frequently spoken at conventions and on lecture tours, since he is recognized as the leading North American expert on Volhynian Germans. Ewald has also published a detailed booklet on German parish registers in Central Poland. 3492 West 39th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6N 3A2.

FEEFHS Convention August 3-5, 1995

Holiday Inn -- Middleburg Heights
7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH 44130
(near Cleveland airport on south side of town;
hotel van available)

REGISTRATION, BOOK SALES, AND GENEALOGICAL CONSULTATION

Registration

Check-in for pre-registered people and registration of walk-ins on a space-available basis:

Thurs., Aug. 3, 7-10 p.m.

Fri., Aug. 4, 8-11 a.m.

Sat., Aug. 5, 8-11 a.m.

Registration fee if postmarked by July 15: \$45 for the conference; \$30 for one day (specify which one). After that, \$55 and \$40, respectively.

Friday buffet banquet (Edlund), \$21;

Saturday buffet luncheon (Grabowski), \$17.

Make check for registration and meals payable to FEEFHS 1995 Conference and mail to: FEEFHS 1995 MDBO Conference, P.O. Box 501, Edgewater Branch, Lakewood, OH 44107.

The Book sales room will be open Fri. and Sat., 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. A great variety of books dealing with East European genealogy and related topics will be available for sale. Included are a new edition of the *FEEFHS Resource Guide to*

East European Genealogy prepared especially for the convention, the convention syllabus, and the *FEEFHS Newsletter* for past years.

Genealogical Consultation

Besides the formal presentations, a number of speakers have offered to be available for genealogical consultation with respect to various areas during the convention. Details will be listed in the program you will receive upon arrival in Cleveland.

CLEVELAND CONVENTION PROGRAM

(as of July 3, 1995; some changes are probable)

Thursday, August 3

3-5 p.m.: Visit to the Western Reserve Historical Society (which has the largest genealogical collection of any library between New York City and Fort Wayne), with a briefing and some time for browsing. The maximum number of people who can be accommodated is 30-40. Since we don't know whether we will have too few people to make the program feasible or too many for the library to accommodate, please indicate on your registration form whether you expect to attend and whether you will need transportation from the hotel. (There will be a small charge for transportation from the hotel, so please indicate whether you will need transportation.)

7-10 p.m.:

Opportunity for informal get-acquainted get-togethers

Friday, August 4

Session 1: 8:15-9:15 a.m.

(a) Mark Vasko Bigaouette and Paul Makousky, "Origin and Location of Czech and Slovak Settlements in the United States"

(b) Judith R. Frazin, "Climbing Your Family Tree -- The First Steps: A Family History Workshop for Beginners"

(c) Charles M. Hall, "Linguistics and Name Changes"

(d) Donna (Devenec) Cuillard "Document Collections for East European Research" (this talk will probably start at 8:00 a.m. and run through 9:30 a.m.)

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Session 2: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- (a) Joseph J. Hornack, "1990 Census Shows Slovak Awareness; Putting This Awareness into Networking"
- (b) Ann Sindelar, "Genealogical Resources in Cleveland, Part I: Holdings of the Western Reserve Historical Society"
- (c) Robert Ward, Ph.D., "Southeast European German Groups in Greater Cleveland"
- (d) Andrew Fedynski, "Ukrainian Immigration to the United States"

Session 3: 10:45-11:45 a.m.

- (a) Karen Long and Areta Nadozirny, "Genealogical Resources in Cleveland, Part II: Cleveland Public Library"
- (b) Arlene Rich, "Putting Families Together through Genealogical Research"
- (c) Ernest Thode, "Genealogical Resources on Germany and Austria"
- (d) Jan Zaleski, A.G., "Following the Paper Trail to Your Ancestral Village in Eastern Europe"

12 noon-1:15 p.m.:

Lunch on your own.

Session 4: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

- (a) Jessie L. Daraska, "Lithuanian Genealogy: American Sources"
- (b) Judith R. Frazin, "Finding Old Polish Records and Unlocking Their Secrets"
- (c) Duncan B. Gardiner, Ph.D., C.G., "Czech and Slovak Genealogy"
- (d) Leona Schmidt Janke, "East European Migration of Germans"

Session 5: 2:45-3:45 p.m.

- (a) John R. Daraska, "Lithuanian Genealogy: Lithuanian Sources"
- (b) Thomas Kent Edlund, "Genealogical Resources for All Christian Ethnic Groups in Ukraine and Russia"
- (c) Louis Schonfeld, "Hungarian Jewish Genealogy: Historical Perspectives and Practical Applications"
- (d) John D. Movius, "Surfing the Internet, Browsing the Web, and Using On-line Services for East European Genealogy," with panel including Chris Elia.

Session 6: 4-5 p.m.

- (a) Michael Kopanic, Ph.D., "Slovak Immigration to the Cleveland Area"
- (b) Ken Meter, "The Ethnic Composition of the Austro-Hungarian Empire"
- (c) Maralyn A. Wellauer, "Swiss Genealogy and Eastward Migration"
- (d) Jan Zaleski, A.G., "How to Proceed Once You Determine Your Ancestral Village in Poland"

Session 7: 5:45-7:15 p.m.

Official banquet
Speaker: Thomas Kent Edlund, "The Current Status of Microfilming in Eastern Europe"

Session 8: 7:30-9 or 10 p.m.

John D. Movius, chair, "The Future of FEEFHS" (introducing representatives of organizational members)

Saturday, August 5

Session 9: 8:15-9:15 a.m.

- (a) Michael Kukral, Ph.D., "Part I: The Changing Boundaries of Central Europe"
- (b) John D. Movius, "Part I: Building *Your Own HomePage* within the *FEEFHS HomePage* on the Internet's World Wide Web" (see note on page 23)
- (c) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "World War I Draft Records - No Male is Exempt"
- (d) Peter Pavel Klasinč, Ph.D., with Tina Klasinč: "Family and Private Documents in Slovenian Archives, with Special Emphasis on Maribor"
- (e) Roy J. Rushka, "Family History Research in Western Ukraine"

Session 10: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- (a) Patricia A. Eames, "What Researchers Should Know When Seeking Information from Archives of the Former Soviet Union"
- (b) Clare Ann Gaouette, "Genealogical Sources Available in Poland to Aid Polish Research"
- (c) Michael Kukral, Ph.D., "Part II: The Changing Boundaries of Central Europe"

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(d) John D. Movijs and Chris Elia, "Part II: Building *Your Own HomePage* Within the *FEEFHS HomePage* on the Internet's World Wide Web"

(e) Albert Peterlin, "Slovenian Genealogy: American Sources and Resources"

Session 11: 10:45-11:45 a.m.

(a) Donna (Debevec) Cuillard, "Slovenian Research: A Case Study Using American and Slovenian Records"

(b) Thomas Kent Edlund, "Genealogical Resources for Croatia and Slavonia"

(c) Ken Meter and Robert J. Paulson, "Border People: The Böhmisches (German-Bohemians) in America"

(d) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "Researching the People from 'No Man's Land': The Carpatho-Rusyns of Austria-Hungary"

(e) Myron Momryk, "The Russian Consular Records for Canada, 1900-1921"

Session 12: 12 noon-2 p.m.

Official luncheon and brief annual meeting

Speaker: John J. Grabowski, Ph.D., "Cleveland's East European Ethnic Neighborhoods: An Illustrated Tour" (accompanied by slides)

Session 13: 2:15-3:15 a.m.

(a) John C. Alleman, "How to Handle 100 Foreign languages on the Computer"

(b) Clare Ann Gouette, "Polish Surnames - Their Origins, Definitions, and Frequency in Poland"

(b) Duncan B. Gardiner, Ph.D., C.G., "Magyar and Hungarian Genealogy"

(c) Myron Momryk, "Resources at the National Archives of Canada for the Study of East European Genealogy"

(e) Peter Pavel Klasinč, Ph.D., and Tina Klasinč, "The Archives of the Republic of Slovenia"

Session 14: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

(a) Edward R. Brandt, Ph.D., A.G., "Genealogical Resources of Hungarian Archives for Magyars and Minority Groups"

(b) Adam S. Eterovich, Ph.D., paper on "A Guide to Croatian Genealogy" (for all ethnic groups)

(c) Paul Makousky and Mark Vasko Bigaouette, "Using American Sources to Get Information from the Czech and Slovak Republics"

(d) Albert Peterlin, "Slovenian Genealogy: Slovenian Sources and Resources"

(e) Ernest Thode, "Deciphering the Gothic Script"

5:30 p.m.:

Annual meeting of the FEEFHS Board of Directors. All members are welcome to attend as observers.

Sunday, August 6

1-3 p.m.:

Reception for Peter Pavel Klasinč and his 19-year-old daughter, Tina Klasinč of Maribor, Slovenia, location to be announced (admission free to those who have registered for at least one day of the FEEFHS convention; a small fee will benefit a Slovenian-American Charity \$1 per adult or \$2 per family for others)

ABOUT OUR CLEVELAND SPEAKERS

John C. Alleman, *FEEFHS Newsletter* editor, is a linguist and computer specialist with a graduate degree in linguistics. As a professional linguist, he translates many languages, including Finnish, Hungarian, German, French, Spanish, Swedish, Russian, Italian, Esperanto and other European languages into English, is a member of the Finno-Ugric Society and has done research in Silesia. He was employed by the LDS Church Translation Department for over 18 years, most of that time as manager of its computer systems, which he developed to handle over 100 non-English languages. 204 West 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108.

Mark Vasko Bigaouette, a genealogist for 15 years, is the founder and president of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and a member of other Czech societies in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Texas and California. He attended the summit meeting of leaders of the Czech-American community at the Czech Embassy in 1994, is a voice for the Czechoslovak Information Hotline in Minnesota and has spoken on local TV on travel to the Czech and Slovak Republics. He has given presentations at the National Genealogical Society conference and in Iowa, Arizona, California, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Ohio. He is also a member of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and past president of its branch, the Irish Genealogical Society. He currently leads genealogical/heritage tours to the Czech and Slovak Republics. 4219 Thornill Lane, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127.

Edward Reimer Brandt (see Calgary speakers above).

Donna (Debevec) Cuillard is the director of the Simi Valley Family History Center. She has been researching her Slovenian ancestors since she was 19 and has traced them back to the sixteenth century without ever leaving the United States. 6273 Anastasia Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063.

Jessie L. Daraska, who majored in history at Northwestern University, is chairperson of the Immigration History and Genealogy Department at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, has developed the museum's resources for genealogical research, and serves as an advisor to the Lithuanian American Genealogy Society. She is the creator and director of the Lithuanian Pioneer Project, a historical study of pre-World War I Lithuanian immigrants to the United States. The American Library Association has invited her to speak on the role of national heritage societies in genealogical research at its conference in June 1995. 6158 S. Narragansett, Chicago, IL 60638.

John R. Daraska is a board member of the Lithuanian American Genealogy Society, a researcher and a Lithuanian language translator. As owner-operator of a general aviation services and consulting firm, he has visited Lithuania with a business men's group exploring the possibility of business opportunities between Lithuania and the United States. He was the coordinator and co-leader of the first genealogy tour to Lithuania in September 1995. To date, he has traveled to Lithuania twice to investigate and develop sources for genealogical research. 6158 S. Narragansett, Chicago, IL 60638.

Patricia A. Eames is a Public Affairs Specialist in the Office of Public Programs of the National Archives and Records Administration and coordinator of the Russian-American Genealogical Archival Service. She was the leader of archival exchange delegations in Moscow, Minsk and St. Petersburg, and a speaker at the 1992 International Conference on Genealogy in St. Petersburg. She translates from Russian to English and has been instrumental in helping to open Russian archives to genealogical research. RAGAS, Box 236, Glen Echo, MD 20812-0236.

Thomas Kent Edlund, a cataloger at the Family History Library, has authored two books which are being published in 1995: one on the Evangelical Lutheran church books of the St. Petersburg Consistory for 1833-1885, and one on the "Ahnenstammkartei" in Leipzig, which includes 2.7 million names. Earlier publications include *An Introduction and Index*

to the German Minority Census of 1938. He is cataloging the Croatian and Slovenian microfilms at the Family History Library. He knows Russian, Latin, Greek, Coptic and Nahuatl (Aztec). 2223 Carriage Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84117-4423.

Chris(tina) Elia of Southern California is the co-host of the America Online (AOL) East European SIG (Special Interest Group). (N.B.: AOL's definition of Eastern Europe excludes Germany and Switzerland). Chris's personal genealogy research leads her to several foreign countries, 3 of which are in the East European area. She belongs to several genealogy societies, which help her facilitate the exchange of information. When she found out that all of her ancestors immigrated to the U.S. within a 10-year time span, and each has at least 2 children still living, she organized an oral history project to record her family's experiences. Chris also has an extensive background in using computers and helping others use them. She tries to stay one step ahead of the pack and can't wait to see what the next year will bring. She has contributed to the building of the AOL Genealogy Forum's East European SIG into the leading East European online message boards and chat hour. GFSCChris@aol.com.

Adam S. Eterovich, Ph.D., is president of the Croatian Genealogical and Heraldic Society and the leading Croatian-American genealogist. 2327 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070-1747.

Andrew Fedynski, the director of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives, Inc., speaks Ukrainian, German and French. He visited Ukraine during both the Communist and post-Communist eras, 2 and 25 years ago, respectively. He also traveled in Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and East Germany during the Communist period. His institution is a member of the Ohio Archives Association. 1202 Kenilworth Dr., Cleveland, OH 44113.

Judith R. Frazin, a Spanish teacher, has been a genealogist for 25 years. During that period, she has traced parts of her paternal family back to 1745 and has re-established contact with several "lost" family branches. She has also given lectures and seminars for various Jewish and non-Jewish organizations in the Midwest, California and Ontario. In an effort to help other family-history researchers, she has developed two unique genealogical forms for recording family history information and written two editions of *A Translation Guide to 19th-century Polish-Language Civil-Registration Documents (Birth, Marriage, and Death Records)*. She is past president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois and used to write a genealogical column for *The Jewish Post and*

MEETINGS

Opinion, P.O. Box 637, Northbrook, IL 60065-0637.

Clare Ann Gaouette has been researching Polish-American and Polish genealogy, including all three partitions, for 15 years. She is past president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin, former editor of its quarterly *Korzenie*, a former board member of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, and chairman of the 1996 United Polish Genealogical Societies Conference to be held Salt Lake City. She has authored several articles on Polonia and on the history of Milwaukee, which have appeared in the *Polish-American Journal* and *The Eaglet*. She belongs to quite a few other genealogical and Polish-oriented societies, having served as president of Polanki, Inc., a Polish women's cultural organization. 7822 West Wisconsin Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213-3420.

Duncan Gardiner, Ph. D., C.G., chair of the 1995 FEEFHS convention, is the author of *German Towns in Slovakia and Upper Hungary: A Genealogical Gazetteer* and a number of family histories. He edits *Ročenka*, the yearbook of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. He has been a certified genealogist for five years and has made nine trips to the archives in the Czech and Slovak Republics, researching several hundred ancestral lines of Czechs, Slovaks, Rusyns, Germans, and Hungarians. With a doctorate in Slavic linguistics, he has taught college Russian and Czech, is proficient in Slovak, German and French, and reads Polish, Latin, Serbo-Croatian and Hungarian. 12961 Lake Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107-1533.

John J. Grabowski, Ph.D., is Director of Research and Planning at the Western Reserve Historical Society and formerly Curator of Documents there. He is intimately involved with sources for ancestral research, is co-editor of the monumental *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*, and author of *Cleveland: A Tradition of Reform* and a number of articles on Cleveland ethnic history. He has taught at Kent State University and Cuyahoga Community College. Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106.

Charles M. Hall is the founding president of the Federation of East European Family History Societies and author of *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany*, now working on Volume 9 of the series. He is a professional linguist, has taught Russian, German and French at the college level, as well as Esperanto, and knows Latin and Norwegian. He has made ten extended research trips to Germany, Austria, Poland, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Croatia, Romania, Slovenia and Ukraine. P.O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-1346.

Joseph J. Hornack began genealogy-related work in 1971 and made his first visit to Slovakia, where he met relatives, in 1983. His paternal grandparents immigrated from Krakovany, Nitra County. In 1986, Joe founded the Slovakia-Surname Location Reference Project (SLRP), an effort to link American communities to their roots in specific communities in Slovakia (data computerized). In 1991 he directed a series of columns by volunteer specialists for various counties to prompt networking about North American communities and surnames in counties with a concentration of Slovak immigrants. In 1992 he became the first Secretary in the Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Program. P.O. Box 31831, Cleveland, OH 44131-8954.

Leona Schmidt Janke is a board member of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia and chair of its Genealogy Committee. She grew up in Southwest Michigan, a center of immigration for Germans from Volhynia, especially from the formerly Polish part. The *Journal of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia* has published several of her articles on the Volhynian Germans. She has done extensive research on this group and amassed a large amount of genealogical material. 7938 West VW Ave., Schoolcraft, MI 49087.

Peter Pavel Klasiňč, Ph.D., at age 49 is archival councilor and former director of the Regional Archives at Maribor, Slovenia. He has been the director of Mednarodni Institut Arhivskih Znanosti -- the International Institute for Archival Science (IIAS) -- at Maribor for ten years and is editor of the IIAS publication *Atlanti*. He graduated from Zagreb University and has studied in most European countries as well as in Canada and America and is an international authority on the subject of preservation of classical and new information carriers in archives. He has published over two hundred papers in the field of archival theory and practice and he has lectured frequently in Slovenia and abroad. He is a professional consultant to the Round Table of World Archives (CITRA/ICA). He is a active member of the professional section of the international committee for building and equipment of the International Council on Archives (CBQ/ICA). He is also the deputy mayor of Maribor. He speaks good English but has chosen to bring his daughter Tina to help present his papers. Mednarodni Institut Arhivskih Znanosti, Glavni trg 6, SLO-62000 Maribor, Slovenia.

Tina Klasiňč was born in 1976. She has just completed secondary grammar school (high school) and is now a pre-med student in Slovenia. She speaks excellent German and English. She will read her father's papers at this FEEFHS conference and will help him as a translator during the question and

answer period.

Michael Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D., who teaches social sciences at Mount Aloysius College, is a versatile scholar and a prolific writer. He is primarily a historian, specializing in Eastern and East Central Europe, but especially Slovakia, the subject of much of his writing. Topics on which he has spoken include Slovak-Magyar relations in Austria-Hungary and in Cleveland, Slovak-Czech relations in Cleveland, Slovak immigration to the Cleveland area, and ethnic relations in northeastern Ohio. He is responsible for the Spis County portion of the Slovakia-Surname Location Reference Project (SLRS). His knowledge of Slovak is excellent, he reads and understands Czech well, and reads German, French and Polish. 20 Maplewood Ave., Cresson, PA 16630-1521.

Michael Kukral, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor of Geography at Ohio University, with research interests in Central Europe and political/cultural geography. In 1989-90 he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Prague, Czechoslovakia, and participated in the "Velvet Revolution." Kukral recently published this extraordinary experience in his book, *Prague 1989: Theater of Revolution, A Study of Humanistic Political Geography*. He is a member of the International Society of Czech Scholars and the Association of American Geographers. In addition, he has given a series of lectures in Prague and has completed extensive genealogical research on his ancestors from Bohemia and Moravia, as well as those from Lebanon. Department of Geography, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701.

Karen Long is the head of the Foreign Literature Department at the Cleveland Public Library, which has been collecting foreign-language literature for 100 of its 125 years and has complete collections (including all subjects, children's books, journals and audiotapes) in 45 foreign languages, with its greatest strength in Slavic languages. To illustrate the extent of these holdings, there are 32,000 books in the German collection. Karen has traveled in 21 countries and is a member of the American Library Association. Cleveland Public Library, 325 Superior Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114.

Paul Makousky, convention bookstore chair, is a founding member and treasurer of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, who has organized four Czechoslovak genealogical/cultural conferences in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin. His research activities have included trips to the Czech archives in Zámrsk and Litomyšl, East Bohemia; Brno (Moravian Provincial Archive), Olomouc and Zlín in Moravia; and extensive research for 12 years on Czech families who

settled just west of Minneapolis. Thus he has become a specialist on Czech and Slovak genealogical resources and has frequently lectured and written on the subject for CGSI, as well as at the 1994 National Genealogical Society Conference. 7690 Steepleview Rd., Woodbury, MN 55125.

Ken Meter, a free-lance writer who used to write for Reuters News Service, teaches at the University of Minnesota and Metropolitan State University. He co-authored the first article on German-Bohemian emigration to America, published in *Ročenka*, the yearbook of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, as well as *Border People: The Böhmisches (German-Bohemians) in America*. He has published several historical essays and oral histories, and contributed articles to the CGSI newsletter, *Naše Rodina*. His maternal ancestors came from Western Bohemia to Menominee, Michigan, and his paternal ancestors from Germany and Alsace. P.O. Box 7423, Minneapolis, MN 55407.

Myron Momryk of the Manuscript Division of the National Archives of Canada indexed the records of Czarist consuls in Canada, which contain information about anyone who might have been involved with the Russian authorities. This would include Canadian immigrants who returned to Russia for a visit or planned to do so, sent money to relatives through official channels, etc. The collection is strongest for the World War I period. He is a Ukrainian specialist. NAC, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON, Canada K1A 0M3.

John D. Movius (see Calgary speakers above)

Areta Nadozirny has been a Slavic specialist in the Foreign Languages Department of the Cleveland Public Library for nearly 30 years. She is of Ukrainian ancestry, speaks Ukrainian, and has made three trips to Ukraine in the last four years. She also reads Russian, Polish and other Slavic languages, as well as German and French. On occasion she has talked about library resources. Cleveland Public Library, 325 Superior Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114.

Robert J. Paulson is the founder of the German-Bohemian Heritage Society, co-author of two books on German-Bohemians: *Border People: The Böhmisches (German-Bohemians) in America* and *German-Bohemians: The Quiet Immigrants*, and a frequent contributor to *Naše Rodina*. He has spent nearly 20 years researching German-Bohemian history, visited Bohemia numerous times, and organized and led four genealogical tours to Bohemia. 800 W. Idaho Ave., St. Paul, MN 55117.

MEETINGS

Albert Peterlin was born in the Slovenian coal mining community of Vandline/Forest City, Pennsylvania. He founded the Slovenian Genealogical Society in 1968 and has been its president since then. Some of his articles have been published in *The Genealogical Helper*, *The Eaglet* (journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan), and elsewhere. He works for the National Weather Service in Silver Spring, Maryland, and is a retired Lieutenant Colonel of the U.S. Air Force Reserves. 2018 Springdale Dr., Martinsburg, WV 25401.

Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., has been active in New Jersey/German/Slavic ancestral research since 1980. He specializes in tracing German-American, Slovak-American and Rusyn-American ancestors back to their European homeland. He expects to concentrate client research on Eastern Slovakia and Western Ukraine as Family History Library microfilms become available. Knowledge of church book German, Latin, Hungarian, Slovak, and Ukrainian languages. 59 Tracy Ave., Totowa, NJ 07512-2041.

Arlene Blank Rich has been the president of the Cleveland Jewish Genealogical Society for the past ten years and editor of its newsletter, *The Cleveland Kol*, since it was established in 1986. Her genealogical articles have appeared in *Toledot* and *Avotaynu*, as well as in *The Cleveland Jewish News*. As an advocate of genealogical networking, she has helped out-of-towners with Cleveland roots in their research, resulting in the restoration of many family ties, often between close relatives. She herself has discovered over 100 lost or totally unknown family members, including her father's four siblings. 996 Eastlawn Dr., Highland Heights, OH 44143.

Roy J. Rushka of Rush Associates is a genealogist with 25 years of experience in the United States Foreign Service. He is the author and publisher of a 4-volume book about 50 interrelated ancestral families with 300 individuals and over 10,000 descendants from western Ukraine, with roots going back to antiquity in Bohemia. He has done genealogical research in Ukraine, Russia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, and several English-speaking countries. He has a limited knowledge of Ukrainian, Russian, Czech and Polish. 1455-C Holly Bush Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324-6512.

Louis Schonfeld is the coordinator of the Hungarian Jewish Special Interest Group and edits its publication, *Magyar Zsidó*. He has a B.A. *cum laude* in history and sociology from the University of California at Los Angeles. Currently he is a nursing home administrator in a nursing facility in northeastern Ohio. At the first opportunity he plans to undertake in-depth research and write about Hungarian and

European Jewish themes. Concurrently, he will advertise himself as a professional genealogist, specializing in Hungarian Jewish families. P.O. Box 34152, Cleveland, OH 44134-0852.

Ann Sindelar has been reference supervisor at Western Reserve Historical Society Library for more than ten years. She has given genealogical classes and has lectured on primary and secondary resources at the library, which includes materials for the whole United States, although the focus is on the Cleveland area. Furthermore, she has given presentations on Jewish and Irish genealogy. Her own ancestors were Czechs and Germans from Bohemia. Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106.

Ernest Thode is author of numerous books, including the trail-breaking *German-English Genealogical Dictionary*, the comprehensive *Address Book for Germanic Genealogy*, *Atlas for Germanic Genealogy*, and *Genealogical Gazetteer of Alsace-Lorraine*. One of his projects is compiling a list of pre-1820 Germanic immigrants, totaling over 40,000 by now. Now employed as the Local History and Genealogy Librarian at the Washington County Library, he is a professional genealogist, translator and lecturer, and formerly taught German. He also has a knowledge of genealogical Latin, French and Dutch. Rt. 7, Box 306, Kern Rd., Marietta, OH 45750-9437.

Robert E. Ward, Ph.D., an attorney, is one of the pioneers of German-American genealogy. He is a former president of the Society for German-American Studies and was awarded an honorary SGAS membership for outstanding contributions. He has taught at four colleges and received the Dr. Hilbert Ficken Memorial Prize for Excellence in Foreign Language Teaching. His editorial activities have included the *Journal of the Society for German-American Studies* (chief editor), *The German-American Genealogist* (editor), and *The Genealogical Journal* (contributing editor). 21010 Mastick Rd., Fairview Park, OH 44126.

Maralyn A. Wellauer is founder and editor of *The Swiss Collection* and author of numerous books, including *Tracing Your German Roots*, *Tracing Your Polish Roots*, *Tracing Your Czech and Slovak Roots*, *Tracing Your Norwegian Roots*, *German Immigration to America in the Nineteenth Century*, *Family History Research in the German Democratic Republic*, and *Record Keeping and Archives in West Germany*. She has made numerous research trips to Europe, lectured extensively since 1974 and worked with teachers to include genealogy in their English and social studies courses. 3239 North 58th St.,

Milwaukee, WI 53216.

Jan Zaleski, A.G., has been actively researching his Polish and Bohemian ancestry since 1983 and became an accredited genealogist specializing in Polish research in 1990. He is a director and past president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. Since 1992 he has served as editor of *The Eaglet*, the society's journal, with an editorial policy of publishing as many names as possible linked to ancestral villages in Poland in addition to surname lists from Polish parishes. His frequent lectures focus on various aspects of Polish and immigrant research, especially on record sources containing ancestral villages for Poles and East Europeans generally. P.O. Box 10416, Detroit, MI 48210-0416.

INFORMATION FOR VENDORS OF BOOKS AND OTHER ITEMS PERTAINING TO EASTERN EUROPE

Vendors' tables at the FEEFHS convention in Cleveland on August 4-5 are still available at a cost of \$25 per table or 10% of gross revenue, whichever is less. Because the sales room can hold more tables than we originally thought, we are not limiting the items to be sold to books. Other items pertaining to Eastern and Central Europe may also be sold. FEEFHS will have one or more tables for the sale of books by publishers, self-publishers and authors who either will not attend the convention or who would like to attend various convention presentations. Staffing arrangements are still being worked out. But you should send the books to the Holiday Inn, 7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH 44107, marked for FEEFHS and timed so as to arrive during the week of the convention. For further information, e.g., with respect to the continued availability of vendors' tables, please contact Paul Makousky, 7690 Steepleview Rd., Woodbury, MN 55125. His home phone is (612) 739-7543).

MEMBER SOCIETIES: SEND BROCHURES AND PUBLICATIONS

Organizational members of FEEFHS are encouraged to send a supply of membership brochures to John D. Movius at the Holiday Inn, 7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH 44107, to arrive during the week of the convention. At least one table in the sales room will be set aside for this purpose. While attendance is notoriously difficult to predict for a new organization meeting in a setting quite unlike last year's, our best guess is that several hundred people will attend. Of course, the number interested in any particular ethnic or religious group is likely to be considerably smaller. FEEFHS

members are also invited to send a sample copy of each of their periodicals (newsletters, journals) to the convention for display, so that prospective members will have a better idea as to what they can expect from the organization. Follow the same shipping procedure as described above.

NOTE FOR FEEFHS ORGANIZATIONS

There will be two events where it would be desirable to have as many organizational members represented as possible. One is the annual business meeting to be held at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 5. The other one is a repetition of John D. Movius's popular presentation of FEEFHS members, which will take place Thursday evening. Because FEEFHS now has about 85 organizational members, there will not be time to allow members of each organization to describe its activities and services, as was done in Salt Lake City last year. However, representatives of all organizations will be introduced. If your representative on the FEEFHS board of directors will not be present, you can authorize another member of your society to serve in that capacity for the convention. In the highly unlikely event that there should be a sharply split vote on a controversial issue, any representative other than your board member should have the appropriate certification that he or she is authorized to cast a vote on your behalf. Since FEEFHS is constitutionally dedicated to the goal of agreement by consensus, this is probably an unnecessary precaution.

Report on the Palatines to America convention by Charles M. Hall

In the summer of 1975, 20 years ago, in Columbus, Ohio, Palatines to America was born. On a Friday evening in a Holiday Inn on the Buckeye (Ohio State Univ.) Campus, Craig Weaver, George Pruner and I met with a room full of curious people, who had responded to Craig's publicity, to find out if we really could help them find the place of origin of their "Palatine" (German-speaking people emigrating to America (1709-1775) ancestors.

The following day, at the Ohio State Historical Society Building on the state fair grounds, most of the same group, plus a few additional, met to ratify the simple constitution (written the night before) elect officers and discussed the projects of helping each other find places of origin for our Palatine Ancestors.

Last month, Palatines to America, with its national membership of 2500 to 3000, became a member of FEEFHS through the energetic recruiting efforts of our FEEFHS Vice Presidents. This week, Palatines to America paid me, their founding President, the honor of asking me to speak at their national convention in Denver. It was a marvelous experience. It was a time of reminiscing, of renewing, and of rededicating ourselves to the task ahead, of reuniting all people because of their, yes "our," shared heritage.

As I presented my subject matter during the 3-hour time slot assigned to me, and led a discussion on "Preparation for German Research," I made references to books by Ernest Thode and Annette Burgert, both founding members of Pal Am. I also made reference to a new book entitled; *Germanic Genealogy*, by our own Dr. Ed Brandt and his group of co-authors from Minnesota. In fact this book was a "hot item" at Alice's Ancestral Nostalgia book display, which was also at the Pal Am Convention.

The large group of enthusiastic German Genealogists in my session was typical of the kind of people attending the convention for the whole three days. Also, the excellent presenters and organizers administering the affairs of the convention made it easy to see why Pal Am has existed and remained so strong for 20 years. It is also very worthy to note that some of the most powerful and effective publicity FEEFHS received in its formulating stages, came from Palatines to America.

It has been one of the great experiences of my life to have been involved in the formulation of both organizations. Better people I have not worked with, than those I have met in my association with these two groups.

***FEEFHS HomePage* on the Internet's World Wide Web**

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When the original assignments to vice-presidents were established in 1992, I was assigned responsibility for FEEFHS computer databases. Little did I envision then that this would lead to a *FEEFHS HomePage* on the Internet.

This is the gist of an announcement I made by e-mail to the FEEFHS Executive Council and to all FEEFHS member organizations with e-mail or e-mail gateway addresses, (with

a few additions to bring it up to date):

"I am pleased to announce on behalf of FEEFHS (the Federation of East European Family History Societies), that a '*FEEFHS HomePage*' was posted on the Internet's World Wide Web (WWW – the Web) thru the Davis Community Net (DCN) at 11 p.m. on Saturday 20 May 1995. The WWW web address for FEEFHS is:

<http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>

"The *FEEFHS HomePage* was written in WordPerfect 6.0c (DOS) and edited into HTML (HyperText Markup Language) by myself with the help of David Larson of Dynasoft Enterprises of Davis California. He corrected my HTML coding mistakes, converted the good stuff into UNIX computer code and we posted it on the Web thru DCN.

"This all occurred in two working sessions within four days with a total of 12 man hours for both of us. Having started it from scratch, I am of the opinion that there soon will be a millions of home pages. Certainly the barrier to entry here is very low. It is not difficult to create a modest home page on the web, although designing to attract readers to repeatedly return to it and to effectively solve their genealogy problems is more challenging.

"This *FEEFHS HomePage* represents a unique development for genealogy Federations and societies. FEEFHS is the first national or international genealogy Federation or Society to establish its own HomePage on the Internet. Ours has a simple, logical format with several very sophisticated features.

Three Related Internet/Web Publications

"The *FEEFHS HomePage* is evolving into a triad of inter-related Internet/WWW publications: The first edition was aptly called Volume 1, Issue Number 1. It represented two sections:

- 1) The *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Resource Guide*
- 2) The *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Journal*.

"The combination originally comprised about 19 printed pages of Courier 12-point text, if you turned on your printer. The third issue, published on 3 June 1995, more than tripled its size and now it is well over 100 printed pages in size.

*Vol. 1 No. 3 presented the start of a third related publication:

3) The *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Reference Library*.

This was started with indexes for the first two volumes of the printed *FEEFHS Newsletter*. It will grow in interesting and useful ways in the future.

E-Mail to your officers

*One feature that is already popular is the ability of a browser to send a direct e-mail message to President Charles M. Hall or First vice-president Ed Brandt from WITHIN our FEEFHS home page. By merely clicking on a highlighted (hypertext) e-mail address, a blank message document appears.

This e-mail message form is ready to go, you just add the message. Since the sender and recipient's e-mail addresses are already preformatted, it is off across the Internet with one more mouse click. 'Cool' is the reaction of some early users.

No pictures means fast loading

*Our *FEEFHS HomePage* is a modest first effort. To help genealogists using older 386 computers and DOS based browsers minimize waiting time, we have kept our HomePage as text-only with not pretty but trivial pictures. The use of graphics has been reserved for non-trivial uses, such as the new map room in the *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Reference Library*. The map room arrived with issue No. 4.

Frequent New Issues

*This FEEFHS publication will be re-issued (updated) frequently, on an irregular basis – at least every week in the beginning as each new issue is ready to be added. A few more interesting features are the basis of some of the planned near-term upgrades.

*Hints of future improvement are found in the opportunity for all FEEFHS member organizations to publish their *own page* within this *FEEFHS HomePage*. Thus the prospect is at hand for every FEEFHS organization to publish (on the net) pages of important genealogy information. This can be in a great variety of forms and variety of topics that best suit the individual needs of each organization.

'Morphing' to Larger Sizes

*A unique aspect of the *FEEFHS HomePage* is that each upgrade it will gradually morph from a page to a magazine to

a book. It will grow to encompass a large series of books on East European genealogy. The potential exists for a chapter for each FEEFHS member organization. Each of these chapters may grow to the size of one or several books. With FEEFHS still doubling in size each year, this means a very large number of books and many detailed maps within this so-called HomePage. A virtual online library is being built.

Envision a HomePage

Persons unfamiliar with the Internet WWW home page can envision the *FEEFHS HomePage* as a compact *Table of Contents* page for the new *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Resource Guide*, the *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Journal* and the *FEEFHS Internet/WWW Reference Library*. (Using graphics browsers, it operates under a Windows, MAC or OS2 operating system. DOS browsers such as Lynx also work well, but forego the graphics).

Then envision highlighted words that transport you (via the new computer technology called hypertext) directly to a specific page within the FEEFHS Resource Guide or FEEFHS Journal – or to another home page on the web – just by clicking your mouse once, not having to get there by plodding thru page after page, like a word processor.

Contents of the Early Issues

FEEFHS Vol. 1 No. 1 has all the details on the Calgary Canadian-Western Regional conference planned for this 25 July. FEEFHS Vol. 1 No. 2 added The Banat genealogy Listserver as a FEEFHS member and Reference Guide sections for the *Wandering Volhynians* and *Die Pommerschen Leute* newsletters.

FEEFHS Vol. 1 No. 3 added full details of the second FEEFHS international conference (Cleveland August 4 and 5) and welcomed SLOVAK-WORLD, a new Slovakian genealogy Listserver to the FEEFHS fold. The FEEFHS Reference Library came into existence with online indexes to the printed FEEFHS Newsletters Volume I and Volume 2. (The actual FEEFHS newsletters are only available in printed form).

Worldwide visibility for member organizations

What does this mean to a genealogy organization interested in East European family history? It gives Internet WWW access and full visibility for EVERY FEEFHS organization ... who they are ... what they have to offer ... how to contact them ... how to join.

Future issues will start to include membership forms (including one from FEEFHS) that can be downloaded and mailed in. It's a win-win situation for every East European genealogist worldwide.

The size of our Internet audience

*With estimates of twenty million persons currently 'on the net,' it is estimated that the *FEEFHS HomePage* may eventually have the potential of being seen by as many as half of the 350,000 to 500,000 genealogists currently on the Internet. These are the genealogists who surf the net using Web browsers.

The Importance of Online Services

*Many genealogy browsers will open our *FEEFHS Homepage* from an AOL direct link from the AOL Genealogy Forum or an Internet gateway from CompuServe or Prodigy. AOL Genealogy Forum and CompuServe are both FEEFHS member organizations. An aggressive effort to cooperate and link up with the major web 'search engines' such as Yahoo and InfoSeek will begin shortly.

Internet Genealogy Mailing Lists

*A growing number of mailing listserver (message repeater) genealogy groups also exist on the net. Two have already joined FEEFHS (Banat and Slovak World). The largest listserver I know of is ROOTS-L with about 5,000 subscribers. They don't surf the net, but use e-mail to send questions, answers and advise subscribers of other things like new web sites. They are helping AOL and other on-line services to revolutionize the way genealogy is being done in profound and important digital ways.

The Davis Community Net

*For your information, Davis Community Net (DCN) is a pioneer nonprofit community Internet service provider in California. It was founded in early 1993 by Caltrans (California State Department of Transportation), the city of Davis and the University of California at Davis (UCD).

*Fifty modems (mostly 28.8K baud) at DCN feed a hungry Sun SPARC workstation server. This DCN 'server' stores all our *FEEFHS HomePage* files. It accepts all operating systems (DOS, MAC, OS2, etc.) and then speaks in UNIX computer language thru the UCD computer center directly onto a high speed (T-1 class) onramp of a wideband ISDN

stub of the Internet backbone.

*DCN provides FEEFHS with hard drive storage space and a twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week home page accessible from any computer connected to the Interent World Wide Web. DCN and our home page are accessed by PPP (Point to Point Protocol), the most advanced form of high speed Internet connection available.

HomePages for each FEEFHS organization

*I hope you share with FEEFHS our pleasure to offer this new service to member organizations and potential member organizations. *Your Own Page* within *FEEFHS home page* is a new reality for FEEFHS member organizations. It will also become available soon to include a section for our professional translators, record searchers and genealogists.

The future on the Internet

*The future for genealogy is now on the Internet and especially on the world wide web (WWW). FEEFHS estimates there are now more genealogists on the Internet and 'the web' than there are genealogists searching without a computer/modem. Older genealogists are either unaware or resistant to this fact of life. Fundamental changes in genealogy are occurring in 1995. But because of the Internet, the World Wide Web, hypertext technology and web browsers, genealogy as it once was known will never, ever be the same.

*Non-member organizations are encouraged to contact president Charles Hall or vice president Ed Brandt by e-mail (from within our Home Page -- under officers, see bullet #3) for further information about the benefits of FEEFHS membership.

Short Course Available

*A two-session short course on *Writing your HomePage* for posting on *FEEFHS's HomePage* has been announced for the FEEFHS conferences at Calgary (25 July) and at Cleveland (5 August) (see page 23). It will be open to accredited representatives of FEEFHS member organizations as well as professional translators and professional genealogists and new organizations who have become FEEFHS members by the time of the course.

*Some organizations are happy to have the 'minimum HomePage' as represented by their present entry in the printed FEEFHS Resource Guide. Others are seeking a professionally

prepared home page.

*For example, the AHSGR computer committee is headed by Sherrie Stahl at her e-mail address of

PAFSTAHL@aol.com.

She has already prepared the first three files of a very informative *AHSGR HomePage*. It will have very attractive 'thumb-nail' graphics, including the AHSGR logo.

Professional Help Available

*Bill Firestone is the former editor of *Stammbaum*, the German-Jewish newsletter. He is also a full time professional home page author and is preparing one for ROM-SIG, the Romanian-Jewish newsletter. Bill is available to quote on building your organization's home page. You can reach him at the following e-mail address:

70401.1663@CompuServe.com.

*Special rates are available at Dynasoft for FEEFHS member organizations wishing to establish their own professionally created home page. Contact them at

dmlarson@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us

That is Dynasoft's forte ... and they and Bill Firestone and Sherrie are really good at it. East European genealogy is ours."

AOL GENEALOGY FORUM DIRECT LINK TO THE *FEEFHS HOMEPAGE* WEB SITE

The following is an updated version of the announcement sent on 24 June 1995 to the FEEFHS Executive Council and all FEEFHS member organizations with an e-mail address or an e-mail gateway thru one of their members:

One Friday June 23, less than five weeks after the first posting of the *FEEFHS HomePage* on the WWW ("the web") at:

<http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>

the *FEEFHS HomePage* was selected as a PRIMARY *WEB SITE* by AOL (America Online). Thus AOL is now recommending our *FEEFHS Homepage* (along with four others) to all AOL subscribers who access the AOL Genealogy

Forum. The *FEEFHS HomePage* is directly linked to the front page of the AOL Genealogy Forum using AOL v2.5 - the AOL web browser.

The profound and favorable impact of this should be felt soon by most of our member organizations - especially those with e-mail gateways or their *Own HomePage*. In the coming months there will be a substantial increase in queries from persons who are in many cases new Internet users and are new to genealogy. The following facts may be of interest:

FEEFHS Member AOL

AOL is the world's largest and fastest growing Online Service with 2.0 million subscribers in January and over 2.5 million subscribers in April. It grew by over 700,000 new members in the first quarter of 1995. Starting in July 1995 when the U.S. government drops financial support of the Internet, AOL will also be one of four major commercial investors in the Internet "backbone".

AOL Genealogy Forum has been a FEEFHS member organization since March 1995. The AOL Genealogy Forum had 160,000 "hits" in January 1995 and over 200,000 hits in April 1995. Thus it is growing at least as fast as the parent company. One hit means one person logging onto one web file. It is used to measure web activity.

Activity Measured on the *FEEFHS HomePage*

For your information, the first three weeks our homepage was on the net, we recieved 2,348 "hits". These hits came from America, Austria, Canada, Denmark, England, Germany, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, the Ukraine and Russia.

A substantial increase of hits to our *FEEFHS HomePage* to the low five figure level is expected by this mid-summer. If or when we reach the 50,000 hits per month level we may need to consider acquiring our own computer "server".

Background on the Internet

The Internet was started by the Defense Department's ARPA (Advanced research Projects agency in 1969. Dr. Steve Lukasinck, one of the ARPA fathers of this project, recently told me that he approved "a little experiment" to link 5 university computers in California and Utah so scientists could share research data. When time came to review it a month later, he was told 21 universities were already linked to the

ARPAnet. When he asked why, he was told -- "every one wants it. It is exploding".

The rest of this story is well documented elsewhere, including the July issue of *Byte Magazine*. According to *Byte*, one million "host computers" were connected to the net in 1992. The Internet now has over 4 million host computers in early 1995. Strong trends continue to indicate growth is accelerating. A host is a large computer or a computer complex that represents a library, a university, a government agency or a major or a minor commercial "provider" like AOL and CompuServe. Over 25 million persons are now on the Internet, accessing these hosts. Most persons currently use the net just for e-mail.

The World Wide Web (WWW)

The fastest growing part of the Internet is the world wide web (WWW or the web). It is a graphical image that employs a "browser" under a Windows, Mac and OS2 operating system. The web, created by CERN in Switzerland in 1989 (so physicists could communicate their unusual formulas and research activities), is now in a highly explosive growth mode. The web is growing much faster than the Internet itself.

This incredible growth of both the net and the web shows no sign of diminishing in the near term. Currently there are an estimated 15 million persons with direct access to the WWW. 10 million of them use a version of Netscape Navigator -- the web browser for which *FEEFHS HomePage* was originally designed.

Your *Own HomePage* for each FEEFHS Member Organization

Currently the names, addresses and e-mail, FAX or telephone numbers listed for all of the 86 member organizations on our *FEEFHS HomePage*. By this time next month we hope that all of the printed FEEFHS Resource Guide to our *FEEFHS HomePage* will be coded and posted on our "page" of the web.

FEEFHS Rents Hard Drive space

FEEFHS has offered to provide each member organization with its' *Own HomePage* -- the text equivalent to about 4 pages of single spaced Courier 12 point text (at 6 lines to the inch. Additional space is also available to every organization, but a modest cost will be involved. I will be happy to quote the cost (a reasonable one). To do so, please

describe your envisioned need in terms of pages of text or kilobytes or megabytes of text and/or graphic images.

Currently FEEFHS has 7 megabytes of hard drive space on the Davis Community Net (DCN). We became the largest HomePage on our DCN domain the first time we posted -- with 19 pages of printout. Our current *FEEFHS HomePage* represents about 150 pages of printed text plus some maps. It could approach the equivalent of 1,000 printed pages by yearend.

Eastern Europe Maps in our Map Room

A major map scanning project begins in early July. It will produce quality maps of the entire land mass of Eastern Europe (as we define it). They will start appearing in July. Excellent 18th and 19th century maps of particular ethnic areas are sought for scanning and posting.

FEEFHS To Post a Minimum HomePage for All Organizations

You are welcome to submit text to me to start or enhance *Your Own HomePage* by e-mail. This material can include mentor lists, surname and pedigree files, publications, ethnic histories of interest to genealogists, lists of alternate names of towns in different languages, descriptions of border changes, foreign language terms, gazetteers, e-mail directories for record searcher members, etc. Lists or long documents should be sent by diskette to avoid "packet-clipping" by the Internet when sending a long document.

Designing Your *Own HomePage*

Two organizations now have their own computer expert designing a HomePage for me to post, or have a professional friend who is doing it. This is not needed if you have the patience to wait for me or if you attend my short course in Calgary or Cleveland. If you have not seen the web, you have a surprise in store for you. There is no adequate description in words that will suffice for it.

Redesigning the FEEFHS HomePage for AOL Viewing

All "web browsers" are not equal. Three different standards currently exist or are being developed and each web browser has its own peculiarities. The Netscape 1.1 Personal Edition is used by FEEFHS. It accepts certain coding (such as a centering command) that the AOL browser rejects. While this is a minor item, it has a major impact on the looks of our

page on AOL. Since first impressions are important, considerable work is now underway to recode each file to a common standard accepted by the AOL browser and well a that of Netscape. Currently the AOL browser does not recognize formatted tables of information. This is a minor technical problem. But it is also a fast-moving target, AOL now upgrades it's web browser weekly! Fixes for all of this will be addressed at my short course in Calgary and Cleveland. As an active member of the a HTML (HyperText Markup Language) Guild, I am doing a study for the Guild to determine the correct coding needed so that the AOL web browser views our HomePage in the specific way it is intended.

Editor's note: The following reports were originally sent by the author to FEEFHS vice-president John D. Movius, whom we thank for making the arrangements to have them published here. The author can be contacted at 26 Penny Lane, Ithaca, NY 14850-6267, Tel. (607) 272-5159, or on the Internet at LJensen@aol.com.

Trip to Czech Archive in Plzen

by Larry R. Jensen

In April, I posted a message to soc.genealogy.german about my plans to visit the Czech archive in Plzen, to do research on some of my Bohemian-German ancestors. Various problems in my travel schedule cut short my visit, but I did spend one afternoon there, on May 31. Here is a brief summary of my visit there.

First of all, the archive is again open to the public, after being closed for renovations in 1994. It was not necessary to obtain advance permission to study in the archives. For each book examined, the archive charged a fee of 20 Koruna (about \$0.80), which must be paid in postage stamps bought at the post office about a block away.

The clerks at the archives could only speak a little English and German, so it is advisable to come prepared with a list of the records you want to examine, or at least a list of the towns you are interested in. You should know the modern Czech names of these towns, since the clerks were not familiar with the old German names. Also, when you go into the reading room, you will not be allowed to carry a briefcase or handbag (you will be given a key to a locker for these), so have your notes prepared before you arrive, in a notebook or on looseleaf paper.

The archive published a bibliography of its holdings in 1955, which is available through the Family History Library in Salt Lake City (EUROPE Book 943.71/P2 A.3sa V.1 or microfilm 0962395). This book should still be fairly accurate; I examined the records for Srni (Rehberg), for which the bibliography listed 7 volumes of church registers:

Births 1789-1861 (3 volumes)
Marriages 1790-1864 (2 volumes)
Deaths 1790-1866 (2 volumes)

In fact, the archive had all of these volumes, plus one more register:

Births 1862-1895

Some of these older registers are now on microfilm, but none of these microfilms are available through the FHL.

My own personal research at the archive was only a limited success. I have experience with contemporary records from Bukovina (now in Romania), so I thought I would be able to read these Bohemian records without trouble.

In fact, I found the handwriting for most of these records to be very small, and written in the old Gothic script, which made it nearly impossible for me to decipher in the time I had available. My only significant find was the birth record for a great-grandmother, from which I discovered the names of her grandparents. Overall though, I quickly decided it would be more effective for me to hire the archivists to research my lines for me, instead of trying to stay there long enough to do it myself.

For others interested in contacting this archive, its address is:

Statni Oblastni Archiv v Plzni
Sedlackova 44
CZ-306 12 Plzen
Czech Republic
Telephone: +42-19-362 63

Some hints on finding the archive: look for Republic Square (Namesti Republiky), with St. Bartholomew's Cathedral, in the center of town. Sedlackova street runs north-south, one block west of this square. The archive shares a large yellow building with a police station, at the north end of this street, at the intersection with Sady 5. kvetna street. Some railroad tracks and the Mze river are just beyond this. I did not spend a night in Plzen, but for those who do, the Central Hotel is right on Republic Square, and the (older) Continental Hotel is just one block off the square. Single rooms in both were about \$60 per night. The Cedok travel agency, which is also nearby at Presovska 10, can also arrange for rooms in private homes.

Travel to Bukovina

by Larry R. Jensen

On June 19, I returned from my European vacation, which included one week in Romania, for my third visit to Bukovina. Here's a brief report on the trip, mostly my observations on how things in Romania have changed since my last visit in June, 1993.

I travelled to Bukovina along with my friend Maria Becker, (born Maria Lang, in Bori, Bukovina); Erwin Koller (also born in Bori, now living in Lohmar, Germany); and Erwin's friend, Eckhard Ahrens, who joined our group after Maria's brother, Arthur Lang, decided not to come along. Erwin had offered to drive us to Romania, so we made the trip in his Ford Mondeo.

Maria and I started (and ended) the trip in Plettenberg, Germany, where her brothers and sister live, along with their children and grandchildren. We had originally planned to spend a week visiting people in Germany, while working our way down to Augsburg, for the annual convention of the Landsmannschaft der Buchenlanddeutschen. This convention is traditionally held on the weekend of Pentecost, but we learned that, for some reason, it was postponed this year until October. This announcement, which was published in their official paper, *Der Sudostdeutsche*, only a week before we arrived, caught us, as well as a lot of Bukovina Germans, by surprise. It would actually be the first of many SNAFUs. But making the best of the situation, we arranged to start our trip south and east a few days earlier than we had expected.

After making our sidetrip to the Czech archive in Plzen (which I've described in the previous article), we met Erwin and Eckhard in Bavaria on Thursday, June 1. We drove with them to Bad Schallersbach, Austria, where we spent the night as guests of some of Erwin's Koller cousins. Some of his cousins own a very nice restaurant there, the Rasthaus Friedl. As with all the other places we visited in Germany, we showed the data we had collected for our Bori descendants project, and we gathered some more from interviews.

On Friday, we continued across Austria and Hungary, taking the main highway from Vienna to Budapest (E60/75, also labelled M1), and then continuing on E60 towards the Romanian border. The progress in Hungary was quite apparent in the new highways that have been constructed, which rival the German autobahns. Except for a few miles near the Austrian border, we were able to take these divided highways all the way to Budapest. While we drove through Budapest on

the way out -- very slow with all the local traffic -- we realized that there are new bypass highways that circle the city to the south. We took this route (M0) on the way back, and saved at least an hour of driving.

On my first two trips through Hungary, I had already noticed McDonalds (the outpost of American culture) in Budapest and some other large cities. This year, there was even a McDonalds restaurant constructed at a rest-stop on the highway, outside any city. Many other western businesses are also present in Hungary now, including Pizza Hut, Dunkin Donuts, and various automobile dealerships.

We spent Friday night at the same hotel/restaurant we used in 1993. By coincidence, we arrived here exactly two years later, to the day! This was:

Hotel Angela
Kossuth u. 51
4100 Berettyóújfalu
Hungary
Telephone: 0036-54-404040 (this is a new phone number!)

Being so close to border, this hotel has become a favorite for people travelling on to Romania. Because it takes a full day to travel across Romania to the Suceava district (Bukovina), I highly recommend this hotel to anyone making this trip. We met some other German tourists there, as well as a group of nuns from Bavaria, who were on their way to do some volunteer work in Transylvania, and were then going on to visit the Painted Monasteries of Bukovina.

Since our last visit, the hotel has expanded, adding a new wing with eight new rooms (for a total of 18), all beautifully done in wood panelling and brick, each with a private balcony. At about \$40 per night for a single room, including breakfast, it would be challenging to find a room that nice in America for triple the price. Only drawback: a very strong smell of sulfur in the water supply.

Our first objective on Saturday morning was crossing the Romanian border at Bors, just outside Oradea. This took us about an hour, mainly waiting our turn with all the traffic in front of us. Once again, the truck traffic must suffer through enormous waiting lines; I counted about 175 trucks queued up for the crossing into Romania.

Confirming an OMRI news report I read on the net in March, Americans are no longer required to purchase a visa, so Maria and I were spared that expense. Erwin and Eckhard already

had visas for their German passports, from the Romanian embassy in Bonn, so we did not have to wait for that paperwork to be processed.

Aside from easing the visa requirement, the Romanian government still seems to be in love with its paperwork. Each of us still had to fill out an entry card, listing name, address, birthdate, passport number, automobile license number, destination, etc. ad nauseum. The bottom portion of this form was kept in our passports, and was collected by the Romanians when we left the country. We had to fill out a similarly lengthy visitor's form at the home where we stayed. I still don't know if anyone actually keeps track of all this data, or if it is just red tape left over from the days of Ceaucescu.

From Oradea, we continued on Route E60 to Cluj-Napoca, where we stopped to take some photos and exchange some money. Since this was already Saturday afternoon, the banks were closed, but we found a small exchange office still open. It was quite busy, mostly with Romanians exchanging their Lei for Marks. Two years ago, the exchange rate was \$1 = 800 Lei. This year, \$1 = 2055 Lei, even though the dollar is way down compared to other hard currencies! That's how bad inflation has been in Romania. From there, we continued on Route 17 (E576) through Bistrita (with another short stop for photos) to Gura Humorului, where we would stay for the week.

Altogether, it took about 11 hours to cross Romania. Unlike in Hungary, all the highways in Romania are still simple two-lane roads. To make any speed at all, you have to constantly pass a stream of slower cars and trucks – not to mention horse-drawn wagons that share the road. Since there was also a one hour time difference between Hungary and Romania, it was a long day.

Erwin and Eckhard would spend the week with another of Erwin's cousins, while Maria and I had arranged to rent some rooms where we had stayed in 1993, in the home of Constantin and Anisoara Stoica. With Erwin's cousin to help translate for us, we arranged to have breakfast and a light dinner there, along with our rooms, all for 22 DM per person, per night. Anisoara took very good care of us while we were there, always bringing far more food than we had asked for, and always looking so concerned and disappointed when we couldn't finish it all. After we found out that three more relatives were coming to stay with Erwin's cousin on Monday, Maria and I knew that we had made better plans for our accommodations.

We had been told that Sunday mass at the Roman Catholic church would be at 10:30 AM. Unfortunately, we walked to the church only to find that mass was just ending; the pastor (Pr. Dumitru Farcas) had posted a notice which many of the parishioners had missed – suddenly changing that week's mass to 9 AM! We found out later that the pastor's mother passed away that week, so we never had a chance to meet with him.

We were able to look inside the church, to see the renovations that had just been made last year, with money donated from Bukovinians in Germany and Austria. The altar, walls, and ceiling have all been beautifully repainted, with portraits of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and other saints. Some of us who are only occasional visitors to our homeland may be sorry that the old, historic paintings have now been covered up, but I'm sure that the local parishioners, surrounded as they are with all the drab and dreary buildings of the communist era, are quite pleased with this bright, new church!

We spent the rest of the day resting from all our driving, finally taking a walk through a city park along the Moldova river, past the Cabana Voronet (where some of our group had stayed in 1993), to the Painted Monastery in Voronet.

Monday and Tuesday would be the primary days for our genealogical research, as we returned to the Romanian state archives, where five parish registers for Gurahumora – not available on microfilm or anywhere else – are stored.

Its address is:

Prof. Gavril Irimescu, Director
 Filiala Arhivelor Statului
 Str. Stefan Cel Mare Nr. 33
 5800 Suceava
 ROMANIA

The official policy in Romania is still that someone desiring to do research must write in advance to the main archive in Bucharest for permission. Maria and I did not do this, and we naively went to the archive in Suceava, hoping that we would be allowed back in, since we had already been there two years (and in my case, three years) ago. In town, we asked directions from someone who spoke German (he turned out to be a Siebenburger Sachsen), so we took him along to help translate for us. Professor Irimescu delayed us again for a while, as he explained the official policy, and we explained that we were visiting from America, and didn't have time to wait for an answer from Bucharest. He disappeared in his private office for a while, to "call Bucharest", then came back out and gave us permission to proceed.

Maria and I spent the next two days copying as much data as we could from these records, trying to concentrate on filling in the missing links in our records for the 30 Bori colonist families, but once again, our limited visits only scratched the surface. Until the day comes when Romania allows the Family History Library to microfilm these records, it would take a researcher a month or two of full-time work to extract all the information available in these five volumes alone. And I did not even get a chance to inquire as to the other holdings of this archive!

One final point worth noting: each book in the archive has a record sheet inserted at the front, for each researcher to sign when examining them. Maria and I are still the only people to have requested these books from Gurahumora!

On Wednesday, while Erwin and Eckhard continued touring the Painted Monasteries, Maria and I spent the day walking through Bori (which used to be a separate village, but is now part of the town of Gura Humorului), and up the mountain behind it, for another scenic overview of the town. We also visited with a couple of Romanians in Bori, who still remember Maria from when she was a child there, before the Umsiedlung of 1940. We found that they had a common complaint about the Germans who come back to their homeland in Bukovina: they always decline an invitation to visit their homes with the excuse that they have no time. Therefore, they have given all these Germans the nickname "Keine Zeit" (No Time)!

On Thursday, Erwin drove us to see the village of Stupka, where one of my great-grandparents was born. It is now called Ciprian Porumbescu, after a Romanian composer who lived there (and who would have been only six years older than my great-grandfather). There is a museum there today, along with a large Orthodox church, with gravestones for the Porumbescu family very prominent in the front of the cemetery, but I could find no evidence of the few Catholic families that used to live there.

We then stopped in Ilisesti (Illischestie), where I videotaped the outside of the Catholic and Lutheran churches (the former has had its exterior freshly repainted, with a new tin roof on the steeple), and the old German cemetery, which still lies abandoned (used only as a hayfield) behind the still-used Romanian cemetery.

Erwin then brought us back to see the Painted Monastery at Moldovita, and to have lunch with a friend of his, an artist who makes exquisite painted easter eggs. On a recent trip to

Germany, she sold 300 of these for 15 DM each, which was enough money to buy a good, used car. Again on this trip, Erwin picked up a number of eggs that had been pre-ordered in Germany. My apologies -- I did not write down her name.

On Friday we drove back to Hungary, by the same route we came in on. Our earlier plans to take the northerly route back, past the "Merry Cemetery" of Sapinta, was changed when we heard that the long, hard winter had left the roads to the north in very bad condition. We had a pleasant surprise at the border, it took only 20 minutes to cross through both the Romanian and Hungarian checkpoints (compared to waiting two and a half hours in line last time)! Perhaps we just picked a good time to cross (Friday afternoon, when the customs officials were eager to go home), or maybe the Romanians really are becoming more efficient. Either way, this avoided the most irritating experience of my last trip, leaving me pleasantly surprised.

Having entered Hungary, we again stayed the night at the Hotel Angela. Then on Saturday, we continued back across Hungary, finding the bypass around Budapest, and making such good time that Erwin and Eckhard decided to press on all the way to Plettenberg, where we finally arrived about 12 hours later, thanks to some very fast driving on the German autobahn.

My best suggestion for someone planning a trip to Romania: be in charge of your own transportation, or be sure you're very clear and specific about the travel schedule. In 1993, sixteen of us travelled in two vans, which was too large a group to manage. One vanload of this group (including my friend Sophie Welisch) also returned to Bukovina this year, coming back only a couple of days before we started. Instead of joining this group, Maria and I accepted Erwin's offer to drive us because we thought a we could concentrate on our research objectives better with only a single carload of people. But in the end, we agreed that Erwin and Eckhard both rushed us back too quickly. We should have spent more time in Romania; working in the archives, and visiting some more of the towns we didn't have time for. My apologies to those who hoped for reports from other towns: Poiana Mikului, Radauti, Satulmare, etc. There was just no time. Not being fluent in German, I particularly felt like a piece of driftwood floating on the current; I often wasn't sure where we were going until we got there!

Here are some miscellaneous observations about Romania I haven't mentioned. One of the biggest changes I saw: In 1993, the only place you could buy gasoline was at the state

monopoly "Peco" stations. Usually, they were in one of two conditions: there were long lines of cars waiting for gas, or there was no gas. This year, a large number of private gas stations have sprouted like mushrooms across the country. Some of these buildings are still under construction, but already have their pumps working. Only two drawbacks to these: 1) Most Romanian cars -- the "Dacia" brand -- still run on leaded fuel, so lead-free (labelled as "Fara Plumb" in Romanian or "Bleifrei" in German) is still not available at every station. 2) The gas can frequently be contaminated with water. The van that Sophie's group was travelling in was delayed on their return for six hours, because of water contamination. On the other hand, gasoline in Romania does not include the outrageous taxes that make it about three times as expensive in western Europe as it is in America! Another big change: Coca-Cola has expanded everywhere! It was available in Romania on my last trip, but since then, nearly every block in every town hosts a small store displaying the familiar Coca-Cola sign. The New York Times had a article in March, describing what a boon this has been for Romania, helping a host of small businessmen get started while exposing them to western quality standards. The main block in Gura Humorului now has a big patio tent for this, as well as a couple other stores across the street.

American clothes styles have also become much more common than on my last trip. On my first two trips, I saw many boys wearing what looked like a dark blue school uniform, along with a traditional knit cap (like a ski cap). This time, I was much more likely to see tee-shirts and jogging suits, along with baseball caps. The caps were probably made locally, but the most common ones I saw had the phrase "California-USA" on them!

For others in Romania, including those still working in the out-dated state factories, and the farmers still using horse-drawn plows and manual labor, life is still hard, and working conditions are deplorable. But at least seeing the new businesses being opened and the many new houses being built, there's evidence that, for some people at least, Romania is moving forward.

One final personal note from my trip: after returning to Germany, Maria and I made a day trip to Salzgitter-Lebenstedt, where I re-established contact with some cousins who have been out of touch for 25 years. My grandfather had a sister who's family relocated there during World War II. Until his death in 1968, and hers in 1970, they had continued to exchange letters at Christmas and Easter. After all this time, I was able to meet one of her surviving

sons, still living at the same address, and to gather a good deal of information on the new generations of this family in Germany. Once again, though, my timing was just a little off: we visited on Monday, June 12, only to learn that the oldest of my great-aunt's daughters was still alive, and would be celebrating her 89th birthday that Friday!

That's enough for this report. If anyone has any additional questions, I'll be glad to answer them if I can, even though this trip did not really turn up any new sources of information that I had not seen before.

Spring Harvest of New Member Organizations

by John D. Movius

Since the last issue of our *FEEFHS Newsletter*, we have added eleven new member organizations in a burst of growth during the second quarter of 1995. All these member organizations will be listed in the printed FEEFHS Resource Guide (due out by mid-July) and also have the opportunity to provide their *Own HomePage* on the FEEFHS HomePage* on the Internet's World Wide Web. Here they are in brief:

Banat (Internet genealogy listserver -- mailing list)
1571 York Way, Sparks, NV 89431-1939.
E-mail: madler@sierra.net

California District Council, American Historical Society of Germans from Russian (AHSGR),
3233 N. West Street, Fresno, CA 93705-3402. Telephone:
(209) 229-8287.

CompuServe Genealogy Forum,
c/o Martha Reamey, Genealogy Review Editor
94-106 Manawa Place, #P-204, Waipahu, HI 96797
E-mail: 71271.2042@compuserve.com
Telephone: (808) 671-8433

British Columbia Chapter, Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS-BCC)
2400 25th Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
Telephone: (604) 542-2110

International Institute of Archival Science
c/o Regional archives of Maribor
ul. Herola Staneta 1, 62000 Maribor, Slovenia.
Telephone (From US): 011 386 62 222 564

Osturna Descendants (Slovak/Carpatho-Rusyn Village Association)
 119 Belvedere Street, Nazareth, PA 18064
 E-mail: 76163.1402@CompuServe.com
 Telephone: (610) 759-2740.

Palatines to America, Colorado Chapter,
 c/o Marg-Ann Barton, President
 551 South Otis Street, Lakewood, CO 80226-3445 Telephone:
 (303) 922-2372.

Silesian-American Genealogy Society
 P. O. Box 21346, Salt Lake City, UT, 84121-0346
 (801) 278-4586.

S.I.P.E.O. — Greek Association of Family History and Tradition
 P. O. Box 211027, Salt Lake City, UT 84121
 Telephone: (801) 278-5689.

Slovak Genealogy Research Center
 6862 Palmer Court, Chino, CA 91710.
 Telephone: (909) 627-2897.

SLOVAK WORLD (Internet genealogy listserv -- mailing list)
 c/o Forest Research Institute
 Zvolen, Slovakia
 e-mail: Miro.gecovic@fris.sk

Not all of these new organizations realize they have an important opportunity to write an article for the FEEFHS Newsletter to describe themselves. This is a great chance to summarize who they are...who they represent...what they do...how they do it...what services they provide...what publications they issue...what books they sell...their library hours...membership categories and costs...and how they can help genealogists solve problems.

So please, if you represent a new FEEFHS member organization, submit a 500 to 1,000 word article on diskette to John Alleman, our editor, or e-mail it to him at 70274.2777@compuserve.com. And please — new or existing member — if you do not have an e-mail address listed below, send it to John Movius: feefhs@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us. E-mail is the primary communication mode now used by the FEEFHS Resource Guide.

With these new member organizations, FEEFHS now represents 86 organizations from twenty-one states, four

Canadian provinces and twelve countries: America, Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Lithuania, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland.

Progress Report: New Societies

by John D. Movius

New genealogy societies are being created by FEEFHS where none now exist in the United States or Canada.

New genealogy societies are being created for:

- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Estonia
- Finland
- Latvia
- Silesia
- Romania
- Russia

BACKGROUND: A year ago, FEEFHS President Charles M. Hall announced a major effort by FEEFHS to assist in the grass roots formation of new genealogy societies for those countries and ethnic groups of interest where none now exist. Current efforts are focused on nine Central and East European countries which are not thought to have representation by an existing family history society in America or Canada.

At that time Hall said "We are being approached by a growing number of persons wanting to join such societies, but none have been found. A FEEFHS goal to help establish new societies where none exist. Once created, they will be independent, just as other FEEFHS member organizations", said Hall.

"Our first task is to get the publicity needed to attract a critical mass of potential members and volunteer leaders for each society. We will link them up with persons having the needed language skills and with genealogical specialists who have genealogical research skills for these countries."

"As qualified candidate leaders and persons with language and/or genealogy skills step forward, we'll mention their names in our *FEEFHS Newsletter* and on the FEEFHS HomePage. We'll then turn over our database of interested persons to these leaders so they can get organized, while continuing to seek out more members."

"When each society feels it is ready to announce its officers, set dues, select a name and start publishing a newsletter,

they'll make their own decision to do so and then will be off and running. We will wish them well, continue to help publicize their existence and continue to pass on any inquiries relating to them, just as we are doing now for our other FEEFHS member societies."

TO REGISTER INTEREST in helping to create one of these nine new societies, persons are asked to please either send a letter of interest or an e-mail message, describing your genealogy interest, any language skills and any other skills or help you can offer toward organizing such a society and include one or two self addressed stamped envelopes (SASE) if its a letter. For the moment, please mail to: FEEFHS, P. O. Box 4327, Davis, CA 95617-4327. Please send a separate letter and two SASE's for each society of interest. You can also send an e-mail request to <feefhs@wheel.dcn.ca.us> We hope to adapt this to a file on the Internet *FEEFHS HomePage* to permit anyone to register their interest by e-mail.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

Galizien German Descendants (GGD) is a new Galician-Germanic society formed by two west coast FEEFHS members who attended the first FEEFHS Convention in Salt Lake City during May 1994. They have published their third quarterly newsletter - an excellent 26 page issue. GGD continues to seek additional new members. Please send e-mail to <73733.351@compuserve.com> or write 12367 South East 214th Street, Kent, Washington 98031-2215. FEEFHS supports with pride and publicity this new FEEFHS member society.

Because of this success, GGD has become the "creative template" we are using in seeking to create these other nine new societies.

Significant progress has occurred in laying the groundwork of these new and independent societies:

Since this notice was first released, databases for all nine of these new starts have been fully activated, one existing society was located and another is about to be activated. FEEFHS has started to receive letters of interest for each of these proposed societies. Additional publicity is welcomed by FEEFHS for these exciting tasks.

Austrian Genealogy Society: This database of potential members has reached the critical mass needed to launch a new society. The probability exists that a resource person in both

America and Canada and will be available when a leader and a newsletter editor are identified. That is all we need to be able to activate this new organization.

Bulgarian Genealogy Society: A potential founding President (Julia Caswell) has been found. However Julia is returning to BYU to gain her teaching credentials in an accelerated program. This will only permit her to continue translating and serving as a resource person until mid 1996. Thus we need a leader and a newsletter editor to work with Julie. A little more new member interest to activate this group is also needed. It is timely to find one, since a camera crew is now filming vital records in Sofia.

Estonian Genealogy Society: Over the last year, this database has gradually grown. The opportunity to activate this society is enhanced by the AOL Baltic Countries message board and their weekly Baltics genealogy chat hour (Fridays at 9 p.m. EDT, AD - Ancestral Digs -- Room). This is maintained by a FEEFHS member, the AOL Genealogy Forum. The minimal basis for membership has been reached and a resource person has been located. Perhaps by year's end a leader and a newsletter editor will step forward.

Finnish Genealogy Society: The *FEEFHS Newsletter Editor* (John Alleman) is fluent in Finnish. We have located the name of a genealogist in Finland as a potential in-country resource and another one exists in America. The Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) has a Finnish SIG (special interest group) to which we are referring all persons inquiring about the society until such time as a leader and newsletter editor is found. It is our hope that all members of this FGS maintain a dual membership in the MGS-Finnish SIG as well.

Greek Genealogy Society: America Online (AOL) East European co-host Chris Elia (FSChris@aol.com) mentioned to FEEFHS in April 1995 that she had as many as 10 potential members for such a society. She asked if FEEFHS was interested in adding Greece to this list. The answer was yes. While looking for a leader, a four year old Greek society of Salt Lake City joined FEEFHS in mid June: S.I.P.E.O., the Greek Association of Family History and Tradition, P. O. Box 211027, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84121. So our search for a leader, resource person and a newsletter editor have ended. We will support the existing S.I.P.E.O organization which has just joined FEEFHS.

Latvian Genealogy Society: Over the last year, this database has grown gradually. The opportunity to activate this society is enhanced by the AOL Baltic Countries message board and

a weekly AOL Baltics genealogy chat hour (Fridays at 9 EDT, AD Room) maintained by a FEEFHS member, the AOL Genealogy Club. The minimal basis for membership has been reached and a resource person has been located. Perhaps by year's end a leader and a newsletter editor will step forward.

Romanian Genealogy Society: Since the original announcement in 1994, ROM-SIG, the Jewish-Romanian Genealogical Special Interest Group has joined FEEFHS. ROM-SIG is interested in making contact with all Romanian record searchers.

Recently the BANAT Genealogy Listserv on the Internet has also expressed an interest in contacting persons seeking Germanic ancestors from the Romanian part of the BANAT. While we continue to add to the roster of potential members and seek a leader and a newsletter editor, ROM-SIG is willing to accept non-Jewish record searchers interested in the non-Jewish aspects of Romanian genealogy that they are reporting.

Russian Genealogy Society: While we still seek a leader, resource person and a newsletter editor, the potential exists for this society to become activated within the next year, once a genealogy Listserv is established on the Internet.

Silesian-American Genealogy Society (SAGS): In late 1993 FEEFHS initiated support for the Psilocin Genealogy Society, based at Wrocław, Poland (formerly Breslau, Germany). It is headed by a distinguished group of Polish genealogists, but has faced enormous problems inside Poland as it struggles to become viable.

Since the English language edition of *Chronicle*, its quarterly publication, seems to be appearing on an annual basis, FEEFHS is taking the unusual step of forming a separate sister society in North America.

Founding president is Charles Hall has been to this part of Poland to record search before the iron curtain came down. He will help start the organization and remain as the resource person in Salt Lake City after a permanent leader is found. A temporary newsletter editor will issue the first newsletter while a permanent newsletter editor is found.

It is clear that substantial resources are available on microfilm at the FHL in Salt Lake City to solve many of the problems posed by over 50 persons who have written us regarding Silesian genealogy. In this way, we hope to make good on our desire to assist record searchers with Silesian genealogy, while fully supporting the Polish SGS, which has great potential for

accessing additional and unique records in-country.

The Silesian Genealogy Society in Poland has published two important contributions to Silesian genealogy through its *Chronicle* issues. It is the intention of President Hall and the SAGS to be fully supportive of dual memberships for SAGS members in both SGS and SAGS.

Publicity: FEEFHS thanks the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and the Council of Genealogical Columnists as well as many other newsletters of American genealogy societies in helping publicize this initiative.

Future plans – Internet listserv for new start-up societies?

Establishment of a genealogy listserv is being investigated by FEEFHS. Such systems include Majordomo, (a free software system on the Internet) is popular and commonly used by computers operating under UNIX – the common language of the Internet. This has been a viable way for the Banat Genealogy listserv and the SLOVAK-WORLD listserv to become active (See the reference to a listserv under these organizations above).

Efforts are underway to create a new genealogy listserv on the Internet for the balance of these new societies. It is not yet clear whether any of these listservers will be on the Majordomo listserv of the Davis Community Net or if FEEFHS will need to seek space on an existing list server at another Internet domain site from a university or other Internet provider able to offer such a service on a pro-bono basis.

FEEFHS is currently helping, via e-mail, the director of Historical Archives in another European country to create a genealogy listserv for that country using the Majordomo LISTSERV or some other listserv software. We then hope to utilize the experience of this friend and the knowledge we learned to establish it as a creative template to eventually replicate listservers for ALL East European countries and ethnic groups that are not presently represented by an AOL or other online message board or genealogy society – on or off the Internet.

Nominations Committee Report for 1966 Elections

by Charles M. Hall

According to the FEEFHS Constitution, which was ratified in autumn 1993 by a voting majority of the FEEFHS member societies, the immediate Past President automatically becomes the chair of the Nominations Committee. In our formational stages, when there was no past president, we used the willing help of our Newsletter Editor to serve as chair of the Nominations Committee. We wish to thank John Alleman for his service in this area.

The Executive Council now plans to come closer to our constitutional designation by having the "soon to become Past President," namely myself, serve as chair of the Nominations Committee.

Other members of the Nominating Committee will be appointed by the time of the Cleveland meetings, and the committee will meet then to compile nominations received. If no nominations are received for a particular office, the committee will seek out qualified individuals to run.

Therefore, from the time you get this issue of the *Newsletter* in your hands, up to and during the Calgary and Cleveland conventions, I would like to encourage individuals and more especially societies, to submit nominations to me or to one of our Vice Presidents for FEEFHS officers for the 1996-1997 term. The offices to be filled are president, three vice presidents, secretary, and treasurer. A form that can be used for this purpose is enclosed, but nominations can also be made in any other convenient way, such as regular mail, e-mail, fax, etc., but not telephone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

FEEFHS
Federation of East European Family
History Societies
eMail: feefhs@feefhs.org
WWW: <http://feefhs.org>

P. O. Box 510898
Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA

Presidential Message

by Charles M. Hall

I would like to take this opportunity to let all of our readers know how blessed I believe FEEFHS is to have the kind of tireless, aggressive vice presidents we have. My 20 years' experience of being involved with generating growth of non-profit genealogical societies, has given me much understanding of what an asset our dynamic, publicity-minded vice presidents are. It is interesting that, in spite of the fact that I was founding president of Palatines to America, it was really our FEEFHS vice presidents, not myself, who motivated Pal Am to join FEEFHS.

In the area of the Internet, electronic mail or the "Information Superhighway," it has been our vice presidents who have put FEEFHS on the map of the world. It is still difficult, at this point, to estimate what a tremendous impact our FEEFHS example of utilizing telecommunications will have on genealogical societies of the future. I only wish to encourage all of you who love adventure in the family history field to "come aboard" for the FUN has just BEGUN.

Please plan to meet with us in Calgary and/or Cleveland if at all possible.

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FEEFHS

Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MAILING ADDRESS:

Effective immediately, our mailing address is: FEEFHS, P.O. Box 510898, Salt Lake City, UT 84151-0898. Because we will have new officers next year, it is important that mail concerning memberships, subscriptions, etc., be sent to this address, and not to the homes of the outgoing officers.

Communications about articles for the *Newsletter* should still be sent to: John C. Alleman, FEEFHS editor, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108. Correspondence about next year's FEEFHS conference in Minneapolis should be sent to the chairman: Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave., S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55141-3101.

NEW MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION FEES:

Effective January 1, 1996, the cost of FEEFHS membership or subscription will increase to \$US 20.00 per year. For individual members and subscribers, this includes four issues of the *Newsletter* and one issue of the *FEEFHS Resource Guide*. For member organizations and professional genealogists, translators, etc. it also includes a minimum HomePage on the FEEFHS Web site, based on their entry in the *Resource Guide*. New memberships and renewals will be accepted through the end of this 1995 at the currency rate of \$US 15.00. Renewal forms are enclosed with this issue of the *Newsletter*. The membership/subscription fee will be waived in certain hardship cases, especially from countries with currency restrictions. Contact the FEEFHS president at the above address to apply for this consideration.

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**FEEFHS Western Regional Conference
July 25, 1995, Calgary, AB**

**FEEFHS Convention
August 3-5, 1995, Cleveland, OH**

by Duncan Gardiner, Walt Rusel,
Ed Brandt, and Jerry Frank

As convention and program chairs for the Cleveland convention and the Calgary conference, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the speakers, attendees, and volunteers who participated in these two events.

Although both events were successes in every sense of the word, the profits FEEFHS earned were too small to enable us to pay any significant amount of the speakers' travel expenses. If you attended either program and especially enjoyed a particular presentation, it would be a nice gesture to send a letter of appreciation to the speaker who devoted so much time and money to providing you with information. All of the addresses of the speakers were published in the July issue of the *Newsletter*.

We also wish to thank the government of Slovenia for making it possible for us to hear Dr. Peter Klasanč present first-hand information as to the contents of the Slovenian archives.

FEEFHS owes a debt of gratitude to John D. Movius (who spoke at both events) for compiling and producing the two-volume syllabus for the Cleveland convention under great deadline pressure and despite numerous problems. Since not all of the speakers had submitted material for their talks prior to the convention, John plans to produce a new, more complete syllabus, as well as one for the Calgary conference. Details of these publications will appear in the next issue of the *Newsletter*.

The volunteers who helped the two events function more smoothly also deserve a round of applause.

In Calgary, David Bickman assisted with publicity, and the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia kindly let us put a notice of our conference in its convention packet. Lena Enns and Douglas Brandt staffed the table where FEEFHS publications were sold and memberships accepted.

Paul Makousky devoted a lot of time to the book sales room

in Cleveland, not only selling, but also unpacking and repacking many books on behalf of FEEFHS members with books for sale.

We appreciate the management and graciousness of Ann Sindelar and the Western Reserve Historical Society in inviting registrants to visit that facility and providing them with a useful briefing.

Many people deserve credit for aiding us with publicity. We especially thank Jan Zaleski, editor of *The Eaglet*, and Arlene Blank Rich, editor of the *Cleveland Kol*, for printing our entire convention program or enclosing it in their periodicals. John D. Movius and Chris Elia saw to it that genealogists using on-line services were aware of our events.

We also extend a hearty welcome to the organizations and individuals who joined FEEFHS in Calgary and in Cleveland.

**Canadian Jewish-Mennonite-Ukrainian
Conference**

by Ed Brandt

Whatever else may be wrong with North America, efforts to promote inter-ethnic understanding and harmony are blossoming all over the place.

A conference on "Building Bridges: Jews, Mennonites, and Ukrainians in Canada" was held in Winnipeg on August 28-30. It was jointly organized by the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada, the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society, and the Ukrainian Section of the Manitoba East European Heritage Society.

Although this was a scholarly event at St. Paul's College, part of the University of Manitoba, I was not the only genealogist present. A considerable portion of the program was devoted to historical topics focusing on emigration/immigration and ethnicity. Many of the speakers dealt with all three groups in a comparative sense or in terms of historical and contemporary relationships, although some focused on just one or two.

Illustrative examples of programs of interest to genealogists included:

(1) Lawrence Klippenstein, "The Mennonite Experience in Ukraine, 1789-1943: Highlights of a Foreign Encounter"

- (2) Daniel Stone, "Poverty, Not Persecution: The Main Cause of Jewish Immigration"
- (3) Peter Melnycky, "Following the Volksdeutsche": Early Ukrainian Migration to Canada"
- (4) John Lehr and Yossi Katz, "Jewish, Mennonite and Ukrainian Patterns of Settlement in Manitoba: Expressions of Faith in the Landscape"
- (5) Lawrence Tapper, Barry Hyman, Zenon Hluszok and Lawrence Klippenstein, "Association of Manitoba Archives Panel Discussion: Jewish, Mennonite and Ukrainian Archival Sources in Canada"

Why were these three groups selected?

- (1) They are among the most numerous non-Anglo-Saxon groups in Western Canada, especially in Manitoba.
- (2) Many of their immigrant ancestors came from present-day Ukraine, although a large number of Ukrainians and Jews were from the former Austrian crown lands of Galicia and Bukovina, which are only partly within Ukraine today.
- (3) They were geographic neighbors (Ukrainians and Mennonites in the east, Ukrainians and most Jews in the west), but their perception of, and behavior toward, each other often could not be characterized as "neighborly," nor did the disharmony vanish when they crossed the ocean.
- (4) All three groups have a history of having suffered from persecution and oppression, partly a shared experience, partly a distinctive one.

One of the outcomes of the conference and my subsequent contacts is expected to be greater Canadian participation in the 1996 FEEFHS convention, in terms of both speakers and registrants.

Genealogical Gala-Rama Scheduled for June 1996

by Ed Brandt

The Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS), which now has over 100 organizational members and many individual members, will hold its third annual international convention in Minneapolis on June 9-12, 1996.

The convention will include five simultaneous presentations (or a total of about 70-75). Its convention site in Minneapolis will be announced later. We are tentatively planning to start the sessions on Sunday afternoon and continue all day on Monday and Tuesday. Some of the talks may be repeated for the

benefit of people who cannot be present all three days.

Although program planning has just begun, the following speakers have been confirmed already (topics in parentheses):

- John C. Alleman, *FEEFHS Newsletter* editor (Finns, Hungarians)
- Stanley Brescoll, Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan (Polish-American Research in the U.S.)
- Denise Carlson and Dallas Green, Minnesota Historical Society Research Center
- Prof. C. Winston Chrislock, University of St. Thomas (Czech and Slovak Immigration to the United States)
- Helene Cincebeaux, Slovak Heritage and Folklore Society International
- Donna Cuillard (Slovenes; beginners' track)
- Kent Cutkomp, Germanic Genealogical Society
- Patricia A. Eames, Russian-American Genealogical Archival Services and National Archives
- Dr. Adam S. Eterovich (Croatia)
- Dr. Duncan Gardiner, C.G., Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International journal editor (Czechs, Slovaks; writing family history)
- Myron Gruenwald, editor, *Die Pommerschen Leute* (Pomerania)
- Charles M. Hall, FEEFHS President (Germans; linguistics and boundary changes)
- Nina Jejel (Cyrillic script before and after 1917)
- Dr. Bruce Kahn, president, Jewish Genealogical Society of Rochester (Jewish research; computers)
- Dr. Lawrence Klippenstein, director, Mennonite Heritage Centre
- Brian Lenius, founding president, East European Branch, Manitoba Genealogical Society (Galicia)
- Pat Lowe, director, Oakdale Family History Center
- Mavis Menzies (Canadian resources; Czechs)
- John D. Movius, FEEFHS vice-president (basic Internet, advanced internet, on-line services, World Wide Web HomePages)
- Halyna Myroniuk, Immigration History Resource Center (Ukrainians): Wednesday at IHRC
- Tom Peters (Carpatho-Rusyns)
- Duane Wiita, president, Finnish Interest Group, Minnesota Genealogical Society
- Jan Zaleski, A.G., Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan

Several other speakers have indicated a willingness to come, but I was unable to reach them in time to secure confirmation for this issue of the *Newsletter*.

Wednesday will be set aside for individuals or small groups of genealogists to visit one or more Twin Cities genealogical resource centers. These include the Immigration History Research Center (one of only two such American multi-ethnic archives which concentrate on East European immigrants), the very extensive Borchert Map Library at the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society Research Center, and numerous libraries with extensive genealogical holdings (the Minnesota Genealogical Society library, which includes the holdings of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International; Concordia College, where the Germanic Genealogy Society collection is housed; the Minneapolis Public Library's Genealogy Room, which is modest in size but includes some hard-to-find books; and two Family History Centers (with a third scheduled to open), including one which is among the largest in the world. Expert assistance will be arranged for those who wish to browse or do serious research.

Efforts will be made to include presentations for every East and Central European ethnic or religious group represented in significant numbers among the people of Minnesota or neighboring states and provinces. We fully expect to have presentations on the Balts, Czechs, Finns, Germans (from the Germanic countries and Eastern Europe), Greeks, Hungarians, Jews, Kashubians, Mennonites, Poles, Romanians, Rusins, Russians, Slovaks, South Slavs, Ukrainians, and possibly two or three other groups.

In addition, there will be programs with a multi-ethnic focus, including the latest information on filming by the Family History Library, as well as generic ones on such subjects as beginning genealogy, local resource centers, writing a family history, foreign languages and non-Roman scripts, migration history, demography and boundary changes.

Many genealogical books will be available for sale or on display, as will free brochures of FEEFHS member societies.

The December issue of the *FEEFHS Newsletter* will contain extensive details concerning programs, the backgrounds of speakers, official banquets, registration, hotel rooms, etc. The program should be almost complete by that time. A multi-ethnic convention planning committee of more than 20 people held its first meeting on September 26.

The date of the 1996 FEEFHS convention was deliberately chosen to enable registrants to attend two or more events. Enthusiastic genealogists of mixed ancestry will have an opportunity to pick and choose from among three other genealogical events, and two cultural festivals, just before or

after the FEEFHS convention: (1) the Greater Minnesota meeting of the Minnesota Genealogical Society on June 14; (2) the Gene-A-Rama in Wisconsin Dells on June 14-15, sponsored by the Wisconsin Genealogical Council; (3) the international convention of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia in Minneapolis on June 12-15; (4) Český Den (Czech Day), Hillsboro, Wisconsin, June 8; and (5) Phillips Community Czech and Slovak Festival, Phillips, Wisconsin, June 15-16.

For families who wish to combine attendance at the convention with personal pursuits, the Mall of America is probably the most prominent of many Twin Cities attractions. Wisconsin Dells is a favorite vacation spot.

Meanwhile, genealogists who may be interested in attending the convention are requested to complete the enclosed "Indication of Interest" form and mail it to Ed Brandt, 13 - 27th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101. This questionnaire will be most helpful in facilitating program and convention planning so as to ensure that the interests of the largest possible number of genealogists will be satisfied.

Societies that would like to obtain up-to-date information on the program and other details should send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope, with the deadline date for receiving material for their newsletter written in the upper left-hand corner. (The stamp requirement is waived for non-U.S. societies.) Send as many envelopes as the number of issues of your newsletter which will appear between now and the convention. The same applies to independent periodicals or other institutions.

I will send a poster concerning the convention to societies, libraries, research centers, archives, and other institutions frequented by genealogists upon request. A poster with more specific program details should be available by early 1996.

LDS Microfilming in Eastern Europe

by Thomas K. Edlund

[Editor's note: The following is a revised version of the keynote address given at the FEEFHS convention banquet in Cleveland on August 4. For a number of reasons, the countries mentioned do not coincide exactly with FEEFHS' area: several FEEFHS countries are not discussed, but Armenia and Georgia are. We thank the Family History

Library in Salt Lake City, where the author works, for permission to publish this information.]

Good evening. I thank Charles Hall for his introduction, and likewise all attenders at this conference for the welcome that has been extended me. First off, I would like to contextualize my subject by discussing not the recent developments of LDS microfilming in Eastern Europe, but rather the general background of a program that has led, finally after half a century of extensive and arduous work, to the acquisition and preservation of genealogical records from those countries that formerly constituted the Warsaw Pact. I feel obliged to point out that my remarks in no way are to be construed as an official statement on the policies and positions of my employer The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, nor am I to be considered a spokesperson for that organization.

The Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) was officially incorporated 21 November, 1894, and celebrated its centennial last year. From a one room beginning at the LDS Church Historian's office in Salt Lake City, the Society has grown through these past five score years to include over 2,200 Family History (circulation) Centers located worldwide. Of all activities the Society has been noted for (and these endeavors range from the early compilation of family pedigrees on paper to the development of digital electronic media) undoubtedly the most conspicuous is its extensive microfilming program.

This undertaking began in 1938 at the height of the Great Depression. In October of that year the Society purchased its first microfilm camera, a Graflex Photorecord, for \$250. Ernst Koehler, a German immigrant and photographer who initially brought microfilming to the attention of the Society, became its first full-time camera operator. By year end twelve reels of film had been produced.

Several collateral developments had led the Society to consider microfilming genealogical materials. One of these was the very real threat of war engulfing Europe and the danger that devastation could bring upon the many government depositories of the continent. Two years earlier, in 1936, John A. Widstoe, a high official of the LDS Church, had warned of this possibility. Cost effectiveness and reliability of documentation were other important considerations that originally gravitated the efforts of the Genealogical Society towards microfilming.

Before buying its first camera, the Society had raised money to purchase genealogical records filmed by other agents in the United States and abroad. Projects in New York involving the early Dutch churches and also at the Tennessee State Library

produced impressive results. A deal cut in 1939 with the then fledgling UMI at Ann Arbor to film parish registers from the Isle of Man, however, came to naught. Simultaneous attempts to acquire copies of the vast storehouse of records filmed by the Bureau for Racial Research in Berlin (a department of Hitler's "new and improved" *Reichsippenamts*) dissipated in the destruction and holocaust which consumed our planet in the Second World War. During these years of global chaos and insanity, microfilming outside the United States stood at a standstill. Within the U.S. work continued, most notably in New York, Tennessee and North Carolina.

The end of World War II witnessed an expansion in LDS microfilming of immense proportions. Total output for 1944 had been 24 reels. By 1948 production had risen to 10,012. Projects were begun at the Newcastle Library in Great Britain in 1945; at the Danish National Archives in 1946; by 1949 Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Italy, Switzerland, Sweden and Finland all had active filming projects; the latter two undertaken by contract with Rekolid Filming Company.

Microfilming began officially in East Germany in 1949, interestingly a full three years before similar work in West Germany. This is the date we can set as the inception of the Society's collection development from Eastern Europe. Many patrons of the Family History Library (FHL) and genealogists in general have erroneously assumed that genealogical records from Eastern sources were unavailable prior to the dissolution of Communist block Europe. Filming projects in East Germany belie this conclusion. Tens of thousands of parish registers pages were filmed in the late 1940s from the countries of Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Poland, Moldova, and Belarus. An illustration of this misunderstanding is a recent publication concerning a Catholic community of Bessarabia. The authors, in order to publish a parish register transcription, both coordinated with and travelled to the *Zentralstelle für Genealogie* in Leipzig to "fill a void which has existed for many years." The village church books of concern had in fact been microfilmed earlier and were available via loan from Salt Lake City.

I return now to the early success experienced in East Germany. This was due in large part to the unflagging efforts of Paul Langheinrich, a colorful German. Herr Langheinrich had worked as a genealogical researcher both for the German government and the LDS Church in the 1930s. His presence in Germany in the '40s proved most fortuitous. For the National Socialists, as Germany's *Wehrmacht* retreated before the advancing Allies, had secreted vast stores of government papers and genealogical records in places deemed as unlikely

military targets, such as castle ruins and abandoned mines. At the war's conclusion, Paul and several collaborators were successful in locating literally tons of documents from the salt mines at Strassfurt and the castles of Rothenburg and Rathsfeld. At the latter Schloß was discovered a huge store of Jewish records. All three of these locations housed extensive archives of church books. Over the next few years Langheinrich, working with 16 LDS missionaries, secured these documents from Russian control and transported them to first West and then East Berlin, where many were filmed. The records were later returned to their countries of origin or accessioned into special repositories such as the *Evangelisches Zentralarchiv* in Berlin and the *Zentralstelle für Genealogie* Leipzig. Work in East Germany ended abruptly in 1952. This East German experience, I believe, deflates another myth popular among modern genealogists: that governments hostile to our Western ethos have systematically destroyed materials of genealogical value. In the Langheinrich saga we have strong evidence to the contrary: dreaded NAZI's safeguard records so they would fall into the hands of Soviet communists, who in turn bend over backwards to accommodate a rather unorthodox German Mormon in their recovery and preservation. I mention as further evidence that Herr Langheinrich obtained direct encouragement and authorization in his search from General Sokolovsky and the great Field Marshal Zhukov himself, commandant of Berlin.

Numerous genealogical materials, however, have been lost; and the destruction continues. Yet the culprit most often is not the malice or intolerance of Man, but rather neglect. In 1952 the Society, in cooperation with the Mexican government and UNESCO, began filming census records at the National Archives. The documents had been previously found stored in an abandoned church subject to flooding and radical temperature fluctuations. To further compound the conservation problem, the records were covered with thick dust and guano dropped by pigeons living in the rafters overhead. Natural disasters, the havoc coincident with war, indifference or a genuine lack of resources to provide legitimate care account for the ongoing loss of materials documenting our genealogical heritage. It is a rare occasion that destruction is found to be deliberate.

Following the activities in Berlin, the Society undertook numerous projects throughout Western Europe and the Atlantic Commonwealth Nations. Not until 1961 was another camera assigned to a communist country. In this year microfilming began at Budapest. Through the efforts of Dr. Borsa Ivan, former Hungarian Deputy National Archivist, the Society filmed over 7000 reels of Protestant, Reformed, Roman

Catholic, Greek Catholic, Orthodox and Jewish records by 1967. The Hungarian microfilming project has continued until the present.

Filming began at the *Kriegsarchiv*, Vienna, in 1966. Austria as a modern nation, of course, is geographically outside the scope of East European research. Previous to the First World War this was not the case. The former Empire consisted of territories now in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine. Over this vast territory was strewn the Austrian Army. I discovered during my own period of service, as did many here I'm sure, that incredible quantities of paperwork are generated by military organizations. The Austrians were no exception to this rule. Three cameras have been filming in Vienna for nearly thirty years. My presentation tomorrow on Croatia will outline the specific details concerning these materials. Beginning in the 1950s, unfortunately, significant portions of the *Kriegsarchiv* collection were deaccessioned, and many records generated after 1885 were given to the Empire's relevant successor states. As a result the Family History Library collection, even when filming is concluded, will be incomplete.

The next theater of engagement for the Society in Eastern Europe was Poland. Microfilming began there in 1967 at the request of the Director General of the Polish State Archives, Heinrich Altman. Operating with two cameras in what would become the most productive program to date in Eastern Europe, 10,675 first rate 35 mm. reels of civil registration records were filmed under agreements with the Polish government from '68-'75. Major geographic areas included Białystok, Gdańsk, Katowice, Kielce, Koszalin, Kraków, Łódź, Lublin, Olsztyn, Opole, Poznań, Warsaw, and Zielona Góra. Large areas of Polish Ukraine and Lithuania were also filmed at this time. These records, in my experience, are second in quality only to those of Croatia.

Contractual agreements were made with the Roman Catholic Church in Poland in 1979. Filming began at the Archdioceses of Poznań in that year, followed by Breslau in 1985. In total, twelve projects involving Catholic archives and sixteen at State archives, have been undertaken in Poland.

Microfilming began anew in East Germany in 1981. The first project was to film the *Ev. Kirchenbuchduplikate* from the *Stadtarchiv* Magdeburg. This later evolved into citizenship records for Preußen, Sachsen; then local censuses, and city council court records (2057 reels). Similar projects were undertaken at the *Staatsarchiv* Potsdam, Weimar, Rudelstadt,

Karl-Marx-Stadt, Schwerin, Dresden, Aschersleben, Halle, Erfurt.

The former Yugoslavia followed as the next site for acquisition. A collection of documents as rich, diverse, and beautiful as the Balkans themselves has resulted from microfilming started in 1985. Consisting largely of bishops' transcripts, the church records of this nation form a linguistic tapestry of Latin, Italian, Hungarian, German, Glagolitic, and Serbo-Croatian. Until the dissolution of the South Slav Federation in 1991, microfilming opportunities in Yugoslavia were restricted to the Austro-Hungarian kingdoms of Croatia, Dalmatia, and Slavonia.

Yugoslavia proved to be the last point of expansion for LDS microfilming in communist Europe prior to the Soviet bankruptcy of 1991. Following the collapse of the Union's economic and political structures, archives throughout Eastern Europe negotiated with the Society for microfilming contracts. In 1991 Slovakia, Bulgaria and Estonia concluded negotiations; these were followed by Russia and Slovenia in 1992; Albania, Armenia, Belarus and Ukraine in 1993; Lithuania, Moldova and Georgia in 1994.

To attempt a detailed discussion of active microfilming projects for Eastern Europe would require far more time than we have been allowed, and still we would fail to address the specific questions each of you have about your own area of interest. For this type of information I refer you to mail drops such as Mr. Movius's FEEFHS Internet homepage. I am told that among others my name is an access point. I will attempt to address all inquiries that are posted me. A more appropriate source of information, if not as current, is the microfiche Family History Library Catalog. I urge all of you to learn the intricacies of how to use this tool. It is essential to successful research. I am constantly amazed by how many genealogists, including those professionally successful and accredited, fail to discover basic information because of an inability to use the catalog or understand how and why it is constructed.

Now I would like to describe what the Genealogical Society of Utah has recently microfilmed, paying attention to record types and geographical areas. Where cameras are located, a perennial preoccupation for many researchers, I will shy away from discussing. I do this for several reasons, not the least of which is that the information most often has no research value. I offer an example: The Society placed seven cameras in Russia in 1992. From 1993 to 1994 two of these were assigned to film the St. Petersburg Lutheran Consistorial transcripts, span dates 1883-1885. When this project was

completed, the same cameras at the same location began filming Orthodox Church records from Pskov. Cameras sometimes go to the records, other times, records come to the camera. The point I need to make is that two cameras stationed in a certain city or archive does not necessarily translate to material from that city or institution being filmed. In fact, having a camera in place does not necessarily mean that anything is being filmed, as has unfortunately been discovered.

Presently I am aware of 42 cameras in the East. Radical differences in productivity exists between them, ranging from one reel to over thirty reels per month; that productivity is increasing across the board as crews become more experienced. In 1991 eight cameras in Poland, Hungary, and Croatia produced 724 reels of film. In 1994 production from the East was 3,409. The count to date for 1995 already exceeds the total of 1994. I will now briefly address each country, proceeding alphabetically. Time requires me to be brief.

Albania

Operations began in Albania in the latter part of 1993. Attention was directed at records from the Central State Archive, Tirana. The majority of material filmed has been Catholic and Orthodox Church registers. Text of the records are Albanian, Greek, Italian, and Turkish. Span dates cover two centuries: 1744-1944. Nineteen small record groups [F.] are completely filmed. They represent the areas of Shkroda, Dures, Korca, Elgasani, Tirana, Kavaja, Pequin(i), Janina, Gjirokastra, Saranda. Record groups for those with an archival interest are F. 103, 104, 130-134, 139, and 141-143. Civil registration for 1930, consisting of one additional record group, F. 622, was being filmed as of 1994. Total production as of October 1994 was 77 reels.

Armenia

Filming of materials under the custodianship of the Central Historical Archive of the Armenian Republic at Yerevan began September 1993. Documents I have seen are for the Armenian Apostolic Church and the Orthodox Churches of the Transcaucasus. So far, I have identified four record groups: F. 52: Armenian Eparchial Consistory of Astrakhan; F. 53: Armenian Churches in Georgia, which additionally includes some villages in Azerbaijan and Armenia; F. 320: Armenian Churches of Novonakhichevan and Bessarabia; and F. 63: the Transcaucasian Orthodox Churches. All these materials appear to be bishops' transcripts. Total production for the project as

of March 1995 was 192 reels.

Belarus

I noticed with some interest a recent FEEFHS electronic newsletter describing Belarus as a major, if not the major, problem for East European genealogists. GSU microfilming has not experienced these difficulties. Filming of documents from the State Historical Archives at Minsk and at Grodno began in January 1993 and 1994 respectively. An interesting spectrum of records has been duplicated. Some of the more high profile record groups include: the *ревязская сказка* from the *казённая палата* of Minsk, church books of the Minsk Orthodox Consistory, official papers of the Lutheran *правление* Minsk (these are of little genealogical but of immense historical value), crown rabbinic records of the Minsk and Mogliev provinces, and church books of the Roman Catholic Consistory of Mogliev. I mention as an aside that until 1847, Mogliev was the sole Catholic consistory in Russia. In that year, the Kherson eparchy was established, and relevant records were deaccessioned from Mogliev. The headquarters of the new administration was then moved to Tiraspol in 1852, and finally to Saratov in 1855. Some books were missed in the moving process, however. I have noticed a few registers from the Volga Catholics in this record group, as well as the surrounding areas of Voronezh, Tambov, and Penza. Orthodox books of the Grodno province including the districts of Brest, Grodno, Velkavisk, and Pruzhany are also of interest.

Bulgaria

Not much can be said concerning Bulgaria. Work there has been homogenous: civil registration for 1892-ca. 1913. Geographic area of concentration is exclusively the county of Sofia. [258 reels].

Croatia

As mentioned earlier, microfilming in Croatia began in 1985 as result of a contract signed the previous year. Filming has been focused on Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic and Orthodox church registers from the early eighteenth century through the end of the First World War. Small quantities of Protestant, Reformed, Jewish and Moslem records have been filmed, especially those deriving their provenance from the Austrian Army during WWI. Linguistic diversity is great, ranging from the nationalistic use of Glagolitic to Latin. Recent acquisitions are the Orthodox records of Dalmatia, and the Catholic records of western Croatia around Rijeka. Filmed

previous to this were materials at the State Archives of Croatia/Zagreb; Osijek, Varasdin, Zadar, Split, Dubrovnik and the Bluski diocese.

I have assisted several library patrons who have insisted that church books of many localities exist that are older than what the GSU has filmed, e.g. have a starting date of 1650 instead of 1711. In fact, some claim to have seen the documents personally. I have taken all such claims seriously, and made every effort to verify these reports with in-country professionals or residents, consultation with archival inventories and registers. I have turned up nothing to substantiate these claims. All material is being filmed.

Estonia

In Estonia filming started in March 1992. Target records were the original Lutheran church books for an extended region around Tallinn. Dates for these books are early 1830s through 1940. Language of text begins with German, moves to Russian in 1892, and then Estonian following the Russian Revolution of 1917. Vital records as well as *Familienbücher* are represented. Five hundred ninety-five reels of these records have been produced. Additional Lutheran records from the city proper, beginning in the early 1600s, were filmed in 1993.

Another Lutheran collection listed in the State Historical Archive of Tartu is also filmed. Span dates for original books are early seventeenth century to 1833. From 1834 through 1907 the records are duplicates. Text to 1721 is Swedish. Following the Treaty of Nystad and the region's separation from the Church of Sweden, the records are in German. The transcripts comprise those church books, the *копия метрических книг*, mandated by the Imperial Consistory of St. Petersburg in 1832.

Also acquired from Estonian repositories are the *Brüderschaftbücher* [Guild records] for 1340-1939, and *Einwohnenregisteren* [household censuses] for 1740-1917. These are written mostly in German and Russian.

Georgia, Moldova

Georgia and Moldova both have active projects. The inevitable time delay between microfilming, processing, transport to the US, and distribution to the Family History Library for cataloging is such that no one has seen what is being filmed. Until I can physically inspect the microfilms, I prefer not to suggest what might be on them.

Hungary

Extensive work in Hungary has made the FHL collection virtually complete regarding church books through 1895. Over the last few years filming of civil registration (began in 1895) has extended the cut off date to 1908, primarily for areas surrounding Tolna, Fejér, Szeged and Szolnok. These projects are filming bishops' transcripts before 1895 as well as civil registration.

Lithuania

GSU activities began in Lithuania in May of last year. The first documents received from this country were Расколники metrical books, F. 662, for the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. They were followed by Orthodox Church and Orthodox Confession (i.e. Penitent) records for the latter 1840s through the First World War. Major Lithuanian regions represented are Vilnius, Kaunas, Telshiai; and in Belarus, the Molodechno. A half dozen record groups for the Reformed churches of Birzai, Shvobishky, Naujamiestis, Vilnius, Zuprany, Belicy, Koidanovo, Kopyl, and Nepokoichicy are also completed.

Poland

Right now, the GSU is filming records for several Roman Catholic archives in Poland. Recently completed projects include the Archdiocese of Poznań, and the Archdiocese of Wrocław. Current acquisitions include Roman Catholic church books from the region of Gniezno, Płotsk, and Tarnow; the latter having both Roman and Greek Catholic church books. Cut off date for records from Poland is 1900.

Russia

Microfilming began in what once was the Russian FSR in August 1992. Negotiations had begun after the World Conference on Records of 1969. Little progress occurred until 1991, when the Russian archival administration expressed a renewed interest. The Society has identified two primary sources for pre-revolutionary genealogy in Russia: parish register transcripts and revision lists. Orthodox transcripts begin in the middle eighteenth century and consist of forms completed annually. Revision lists were kept between 1719-1858 to support a national poll tax, and covered 95% of the population. The last revision was used in the distribution of land during the emancipation.

The first Russian microfilms, received with some excitement,

were from the Volga delta city of Astrakhan. While Astrakhan is home to a large Moslem population and possibly the oldest Protestant community of the interior excluding the environs of Moscow, to date only Orthodox Church records have been filmed. By and large, the documents are transcripts compiled for civil registration purposes in the metropolitan area proper. I expect regional records to follow the completion of the larger urban churches.

Large segments of the Orthodox Consistories of Pskov, Tobolsk, Tomsk, Tula and Tver are also now in the FHL collection. These records can pose serious research difficulties. Those of Tobolsk Consistory, for example, cover the entire oblast, which is the Siberian equivalent of a province or губерния. On one segment of microfilm, all localities of the area could be included: city churches, provincial parish villages, and yamu's. I have seen up to one hundred sixty-nine localities in a single volume.

This type of archival accessioning was a common practice in the Empire. Researchers familiar with the Petersburg Lutheran records know this. The bishops' transcripts for this consistory were filmed 1993-1994 and so far have proven to be the most frequently requested items concerning Russian genealogy. Additional filming has been done involving the Central State Archives of the Kazan Republic, and most recently Karelia. Both these projects are Orthodox consistorial records.

Slovakia

The Slovak Republic has seven regional state archive located at Levoča, Prešov, Košice, Bytča, Banská Bystrica, Bratislava and Nitra. Microfilming was initiated in this nation in September 1991. Acquisition for the area surrounding the Levoča produced Reformed, Lutheran, Greek and Roman Catholic, as well as many synagogue records. Prešov, the seat for a Greek Catholic diocese and divinity school, is predominately Greek Catholic. Roman Catholic church records dominate in the area of Košice. Currently the library is receiving materials from the region around the Banská Bystrica repository.

Slovenia

GSU work began in Slovenia in September of 1992 and continued through January 1994. Filming has now stopped. Records that were obtained were civil registration for the Hungarian counties of Vas and Zala, and represent around sixty civil registration offices currently located in Croatia and Slovenia. The split between the two nations is about 50-50.

Total production was 249 reels.

Ukraine

Ukrainian records are very similar to those in Russia. Currently active projects involve the church books of the Orthodox Consistories of Kiev, Podolia, and Chernigov. Of more interest to the researcher of emigrants to the United States and Canada is a large collection of Greek Catholic church books of the L'viv Consistory. Over 7,400 files of records are described in the listing to this collection. As of this week I have cataloged only one percent of the project.

This is the recent history of GSU microfilming in Eastern Europe. As a final topic I would like to mention several East European collections obtained under contract from the Mikrofilm Center Kossenblatt in Germany. These materials have been high profile, and a brief description of them will conclude my presentation this evening. Three specific series of note are the *Seuberlich Sammlung*, the *Ahnenstamkartei*, and the church books of Bessarabia and Bukowina.

Seuberlich's work comprises extracts from church books throughout the Baltic, especially localities in Latvia and Lithuania. The records fill several gaps in the FHL collection, and for many areas, provide the only source of information available. Areas of concentration for these records are Courland, Nord- and Südlivland; Seuberlich also directed special attention towards Riga and Mitau (Jelgava).

A far more important collection, in my opinion - one that concentrates on central and eastern Europe, is the *Ahnenstamkartei* of the German Central Office for Genealogy. The *Ahnenstamkartei* consists of over 11,000 family pedigrees from all over Europe, and is indexed by a soundex-like card file of over 2,700,000 names. The *Kartei* have been used as a last chance database for many researchers who have not succeeded with other more traditional materials such as church registers or civil registration. The index provides many links to German ancestry that "disappeared" through emigration to the East. Dr. Ed Brandt, a vice-president of FEEFHS, is currently arranging the publication of a register to this collection.

In conclusion, I address my introduction into East European bibliography, which involved documents received from Kossenblatt. These records were the original church registers for the communities of southern Bessarabia and Bukovina

filmed in 1991. All major Protestant parishes, including Radautz, Jakobeny, Klöstitz, Sarata, and Tarutino together with their *Filialgemeinden*, were at last made available at the Family History Library. As I struggled to catalog these materials, besieged by a host of enthusiastic German-Russian researchers, the true irony of what was happening escaped me. Not until several years later, while attempting to establish the provenance of this collection, did I discover that the Society, as we this evening, had come full circle back to its beginning. For these records, long touted as missing in war or destroyed in rage, were in fact part of the material retrieved by 16 unnamed LDS missionaries and Herr Langheinrich so many years ago from the salt mines of Preußen, Sachsen. Why they were not filmed then, one can only guess. Nonetheless, they survived, to surface again; as have so many other genealogical resources once considered lost forever. It is my hope that those records, as yet missing and of interest to you or your heritage, have so done likewise.

FEEFHS Web Site Review and Interview with John Movius

by Jay Hall

[Note: The following was downloaded from the Everton Web Site, reformatted in WordPerfect to remove HTML codes, and slightly updated. The reviewer and interviewer is Jay Hall of Everton Online. The review is based on the FEEFHS Web Site version of Volume 1 Number 12 (15 August 1995). With over 50,000 readers, Everton's Genealogical Helper is the largest circulation genealogical magazine in the world.]

FEEFHS: The Federation of East European Family History Societies

The political map of Europe, especially eastern Europe, has a history of borders that have changed, and continue to change, with the shifting tides of political fortunes, religious fervor, and economic movements. This constantly changing scene has had a devastating impact on records of genealogical value, and upon families themselves. The results of such shifts have caused records to be lost, moved, or destroyed. In many cases, records that have survived change languages often, with the resulting register being a mix of several tongues, sometimes even on the same page.

These difficulties have been exacerbated in recent years by the political rift between East and West, with many records

"behind the iron curtain" being inaccessible to researchers in western Europe and America.

Fortunately, the same spirit of cooperation behind family history federations in Europe and America has spawned a similar organization for genealogical groups focused on eastern Europe. The Federation of East European Family History Societies began with an idea in the head of a single genealogist in the late 1980's. In 1992 eleven societies became founding members, and today membership numbers over 100 organizations in 14 countries.

The FEEFHS Web site <<http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>> is one manifestation of this spirit of cooperation. The webmeister has created the site with the purpose of providing *content* for genealogists, not just another list of links to sites on the Internet. As such, the front page of the site changes each week, becoming a sort of electronic newsletter.

One of the editorial policies they have put into place is to keep graphics off the front page, in deference to the slow transfer times most of us have to endure. (That isn't to say that you won't find graphics here, but more on that later.)

As you would expect, you can get some background history on FEEFHS, its officers, publications, and membership benefits straight from the front page. You can also get a full list of the current member societies of FEEFHS, with street and e-mail addresses, telephone and FAX numbers, and a link to *their own home pages*, often created with the help of the FEEFHS webmeister.

Of course, FEEFHS is more than just an umbrella organization. It also hosts conferences and publishes its own newsletter and journal. The full text of all activities and publications are not available on the Web site, but you can find summaries of recent conferences, annual indexes to its newsletters, and articles from its journal. For example, the current front page has links to articles on LDS/FHL microfilming in Slovakia, German Ahnenstammkartei, German church books in Leipzig's Central Archive, and new microfilms of German church records from St. Petersburg.

One of the nicer sections is the "map room", with its collection of area maps from eastern Europe. These are JPEGs, which are smaller than the comparable GIF files, with sizes ranging from 95 Kbytes up to 304 Kbytes. These are excellent maps, as evidenced by the small extract shown here from the map of Moravia.

FEEFHS is a dynamic organization because it is dedicated to

helping people, and this site is well on its way to fulfilling that promise to those of us who use the World Wide Web in our search for our ancestors.

If you are in the leadership of a genealogical organization with eastern European interests, convince your organization to join with others who share your interests. If you are a family historian seeking help in your search for your eastern European ancestors, "czech" out this site. Either way, it will be well worth your while.

An Interview with John Movius

As webmeister, John Movius is the moving force behind the FEEFHS presence on the World Wide Web. John has a vision of what the Web can be and how it can be used to benefit genealogists around the world.

ghonline interviewed John by e-mail during July and early August 1995.

Let's begin with FEEFHS. What do the letters stand for?

Federation of East European Family History Societies. The acronym is pronounced like the word fiefs.

What is your definition of Eastern Europe?

From the western borders of the former German Empire and Switzerland, east 11 time zones to the Pacific shores of Siberia. At the moment it does not include several CIS countries east of the Caspian Sea, but this may change in time.

Give us a brief history of FEEFHS.

In 1987, Charles M. Hall of Salt Lake City envisioned both the need for east European assistance and the solution (a federation), based on research trips over there. This was before the wall came down in 1989 and eastern bloc countries were becoming independent. A few of us met at SeaTac (Seattle-Tacoma Airport) near Seattle during the AHSGR conference in 1992. Eleven societies accepted our premise and became founding members that year. We hammered out a constitution in 1993. We've at least doubled in size each year since and continue to grow at this rate in 1995.

We have 87 member organizations [*Note: this has since grown to over 100 member organizations*] from 22 states, 4 Canadian provinces, plus addresses in England, Germany, Lithuania, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia,

and Switzerland. We are a hybrid federation, as we accept voting membership from individuals, too. The real control of FEEFHS is held by the organizational members. Lots of professional genealogists and translators are members. Lots of newbies and intermediate-level record-searchers are members, too.

Who belongs to FEEFHS?

Any person or organization interested in either 1) seeking to solve a problem or learning how to do East European Family History or 2) helping to provide answers or assistance to others that need help. Many organizations, large and small, are joining for access to the cutting-edge articles in our printed *Newsletter* (it is not on the net). Others like the neat idea that we post their Own HomePage as part of our *FEEFHS Resource Guide* in the FEEFHS Home Page.

What kind of organizations belong?

Examples include: ethnic genealogy societies (Bohemian, Czech, Moravian, Carpatho-Rusyn, Hungarian, Volhynian, etc.), state and provincial societies (Minnesota G.S., Saskatchewan G.S.), surname associations (Worsen Association of Poland), international societies (AHSGR), some of their state councils (California District Council of AHSGR) and their regional genealogy associations (Northern California AHSGR), religious genealogy groups (8 Jewish groups, 4 Mennonite groups), genealogy newsletters (*Die Pommerschen Leute*, *Wandering Volhynians*), e-mail genealogy listservers (BANAT, SLOVAK-WORLD), on-line genealogy forums (AOL, CompuServe), archives (Slovenian Regional Archives at Maribor, Danish Historical Archives at Ålborg), Family History Centers (Concord-Walnut Creek, CA), heraldry societies (Lithuania, Poland), and other genealogy HomePages (Kautzmann Family Association of Germany, Rafal Prinke of Poland).

Is FEEFHS Incorporated?

Yes, as a non-profit corporation in Utah. We are also seeking federal non-profit status as a 501(c)3 corporation. I understand our lawyer says the submittal is imminent, but I've learned not to hold my breath when lawyers talk.

Why was it incorporated in Utah?

Convenience. Our founding president, treasurer, and newsletter editor happen to live in Utah. Staying in close touch with present and future accessions of the Family History

Library is an unstated desire, too.

How often do FEEFHS committees or member societies meet?

The FEEFHS executive council is composed of the officers and newsletter editor. Consensus from this body provides the "glue" to govern and administer our activities. It meets several times a year, including at our annual conference. Most of the individual decision stuff is done by telephone, conference calls, and confirming letter. Now that most of our officers are on line with AOL, and since AOL has private chat rooms, we expect to schedule periodic executive-council meeting in the future that way. Our board meets at the annual conference to select an auditor, among other things. The member societies keep their own schedules. Gradually, we will be posting them on their Own HomePage of the FEEFHS HomePage.

How much contact do you personally have with the various societies that comprise FEEFHS?

Lots, especially now with those having e-mail addresses. Right now, I'm concentrating on getting individual HomePages posted for each of our member organizations. Priority is give to those having an e-mail address and those that respond first. I also solicit additions and changes to their listing in the printed *FEEFHS Resource Guide*. Referral requests are funneled their way, too. So there is periodic contact with almost all of them.

What do other FEEFHS officers do to support member societies and organizations?

Quite a bit. President Charles Hall, 1st vice-president Ed Brandt of Minneapolis, and 3rd vice-president Wally Rusel of Cochrane, Alberta, have a full platter responding to member organization requests, referring inquiries to the correct place, recruiting new members, planning and implementing conferences, etc. We are in at least weekly contact with each other. With conferences in Calgary on July 25 and Cleveland on August 5-6, we have been having a very heavy flow of daily e-mail traffic.

What publications, both print and electronic, is FEEFHS involved with?

In print: The *FEEFHS Newsletter* (ISSN 1077-1247, PERSI #EEFN) is published quarterly. Vol. 3, no. 2, was just mailed. Reprints of Volume 1 (1992-1993) and Volume 2

(1994) are fully indexed and available. The annual *FEEFHS Resource Guide* was sent via "snail mail" in July.

On the Internet Web: The FEEFHS HomePage is conceived of as a destination page, not just a pit stop on the Superinternetway. It has several sections, including a *weekly front page* of news and additions, and a large sections dealing with frequently-asked questions (FAQ) about FEEFHS. The FEEFHS Internet/Web Resource Guide is where postal, telephone, fax, and e-mail address our organizational members are found. This is where the individual HomePages of each organization are located. The FEEFHS Internet/Web Reference Library is where the index to Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 of our *Newsletter* can be found. An Eastern European Map Room will be added shortly. A Gazetteer Room will follow.

FEEFHS operates a Web site at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>. What is currently available there, and what do you plan on adding in the future?

Future additions include:

A FEEFHS Resource Guide section on professional genealogists in America, Canada, Europe, and elsewhere.

A FEEFHS Journal, where some reprints of popular newsletter articles will appear at first. Later, original articles on East European Genealogy are also expected.

A Gazetteer Room, with an initial posting of German colonies in Russian provinces across all eleven time zones to Siberia.

When the HTML-3 standard for hypertext markup is supported by the AOL web browser and others, we will start posting tables of documents like the German, Hungarian, Romanian, and Serbo-Croatian names for all towns in the Banat. Another list of this sort would be one from the Batschka (both of these are former Germanic settlements). There is a lot of interest in this, but tables are not supported by HTML-2 - the standard AOL is now using. We will also have a vision statement linked to our front page.

Who is involved in the design and maintenance of FEEFHS Web pages?

I compose my stuff in WordPerfect, hand code it, and post all files as FEEFHS webmeister. I get some help from web-page designers at some of our organizations and welcome more. Sherrie Stahl (AHSGR), Margaret and Bill Freeman (Glueckstal Colonies Research Association) and Bill Firestone

(Stammbaum, ROM-SIG, and San Francisco Bay Area Jewish G.S.) all have pages either posted or under construction and to be posted soon.

What kind of support does FEEFHS offer for its member societies that want to create a presence on the Internet?

We accept any word-processor text on disk or by e-mail and convert it into WordPerfect. Then we hand-code it into HTML or maybe pass it through the Novell Internet Publisher template (WP6.1 Windows) if there are no tables. A short course on preparing a HomePage was given to member representatives at our Calgary and Cleveland conferences.

You currently use the services of an Internet access provider in Davis. How did you choose them?

DCN has killer prices. I'm on the DCN webteam. It's a convenient assemblage of interest.

Does it cost FEEFHS a lot to use this IAP?

We pay \$20 a month now, with about 125 pages (not counting the maps) on our HomePage if you hit the print button. We will be adding hard-drive space and that will increase the cost. Member organizations can join FEEFHS for only \$15 a year with a free HomePage this year. We keep it low so small societies will be able to join. The big cost for us is in several days a week of volunteer time from me and others who help build pages.

Do you see FEEFHS moving to their own server in the near future?

We first posted in late May and had about 700 hits a week the first three weeks. This went up 1200 a week by late June. All this was "word of mouth." Then AOL put us on the front page of the AOL Genealogy Forum as one of five direct Web sites. I haven't looked at hits lately, but very few AOL'ers downloaded the web browser in this beta (test) form. AOL has just distributed its new AOL version 2.5 to nearly 3 million subscribers. Soon, a significant percentage of the 200,000 hits a month that reach the AOL Genealogy Forum front page will start ricocheting over to us. Then FEEFHS, as a destination HomePage that carries answers to many European genealogy questions, will begin clocking our hits big time.

Infoseek, Yahoo, Web Crawler, Lycos, and dozens of other search engines won't permit searchers to "have at us" for at

least another month or so. So our big growth in hits is yet to come. When 30,000 to 50,000 hits a month arrive, we will need to look seriously for our own server. Such numbers might cramp the style of our provider's server. I think that is at least a year away. But explosive growth is a chronic problem on the Web. A 500-% growth rate forecast for the World Wide Web in the past would have proven conservative.

If so, what type of hardware and software do you think you will use, and how much do you expect the monthly Internet connection costs to be?

This is part of a little study I am doing right now. A used Sun SPARC box is one possibility. A well-equipped dual Pentium 133 server could do the job less expensively if new equipment is purchased. Perhaps our non-profit status will encourage a supplier of hardware or software to let us be a high-hit test bed for a new box. Or maybe someone with unused charitable deductions will check us out, see the profound impact we are having on East European genealogy, and donate an older box or the bucks we need to get the new one we really need.

You seem to be quite excited about the Internet and the World Wide Web. How much time do you spend on line per week?

Yes, it is an exciting time to be surfing the Web on the cutting edges of the Internet. I'm only on the Web maybe 3 or 4 hours a week. E-mail is maybe 30 hours, with several mailing lists to deal with. I just deleted 834 messages from my FEEFHS in-box. It was getting stuffed, and I needed the 4 megs for other things.

What tool (e-mail, FTP, Web, telnet, gopher) do you use the most?

E-mail the most. I use ftp and telnet to post my weekly or daily additions to our HomePage. I'd like to use gopher and the Web more, and will when I get back to personal research.

You've mentioned your belief that hypertext and the Web will have a similar impact on mankind as the invention of movable type. How do you see this technology evolving?

Yes. I sense there will a profound impact felt from the combination of computers with modems on the Internet, using various Internet protocols, especially HomePages with hypertext links, as well as mailing-list servers and newsgroups. In particular, the linking of ideas through files

is as creative a thing is 1995 as the invention of movable type was by Gutenberg 500 years ago. It does for ideas what Gutenberg did for printed words.

There is no question in my mind that genealogy will never, ever be the same. My feeling is that Tim Berners-Lee (formally of CERN and now at MIT directing the WWW consortium), deserves the Nobel Prize for creating and implementing the HomePage concept with hypertext links and GUI web browsers.

How will it evolve? One way is that it permits multiple indices to be created with ease. Re-indexing of on-line databases for new purposes can be automated with relative ease. When combined with full-text search engines, the sheer harnessed power available to solve genealogy problems cannot be underestimated.

The concept of hypertext technology for software today is at a similar stage to that of digital technology for hardware was a decade or two ago, and to that of Gutenberg's movable type in its infancy. Who could have forecast all of the impacts that movable type would have on the map of Europe of the Reformation? Who could have forecast the impact digital technology would have upon our lives today after only a few decades?

I feel the same thing will be said in 20 years when we look back at the first two decades of the age of hypertext technology. Maybe my crystal ball will be less hazy after my trips to Calgary and Cleveland.

How do you think genealogists will benefit from this?

That might take a book for a full answer. But the short answer would include:

New links between researchers will quickly bring important genealogy issues forward. Example: FEEFHS built a HomePage and linked to the BANAT listserv with a "mail-to" document. You go to the mail-to document screen, type "Subscribe" and your name. One click later, you are a subscriber getting messages from that BANAT listserv. I think this is a first for FEEFHS in genealogy.

More new societies will be available to help newbies and experienced searchers alike. We've already created one new, independent society (Galizien German Descendants) and learned what it takes to start others, for which none

exists in North America. Our current "short list" includes Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Romania, Silesia, and Russia. We already have mailing-list of databases for each of them.

Linking, for example, a UKRAINE HomePage with a corresponding UKRAINE-L Listserv by using Majordomo or equivalent software will create a viable worldwide base for Ukrainian genealogy on line. It will have a huge impact on internetworking among genealogists. It will also pull Wally Rusel, our 3rd vice-president, and his members of the Ukrainian Genealogical Society of Canada on line to internetwork with persons in the Ukraine and other record searchers.

FEEFHS is proposing to our provider (DCN) that they help FEEFHS to partially underwrite four mini-projects for the CIS (Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine), the Baltics, Scandinavia, and a couple of Balkan countries. That's another nice thing about DCN. They sometimes have subsidized accounts to pass out. This helps groups like ours to get started with a HomePage and Listserv combo. Davis has an international perspective as a university community with three sister-city links, including one with Uman, Ukraine.

There will be breakthroughs in the access to archival data located in formerly inaccessible parts of Eastern Europe. Example: Someone in our BANAT crowd posted by e-mail a summer-job offer to computer students at the University of Timișoara in Romania. It said in essence: "Send back pages of genealogy research (as requested by American Banat record searchers) in English, and you will get paid US \$6.00 per page of e-mail text."

These concepts above are being used by FEEFHS as a "creative template" to seek access to genealogy records in Belarus, as explained in our FEEFHS HomePage vol. 1, no. 8. Belarus is as tough as it gets for Eastern European genealogy. If we succeed in Belarus thanks to the Internet, the rest of the challenges we all face elsewhere will be tractable.

New search techniques will exploit the multi-gigabyte on-line libraries of the future. Example: One of several full-text search engines for on-line documents is probably being used "as I speak" on the Digital Library of German-Russian Genealogy, where megabyte files are common.

We've neglected some of the personal side in all of this.

We'd like to know about you. When and where were you born and raised?

Born in Fargo, North Dakota, grade school in Sycamore, Illinois, and prep school in St. Louis, Missouri.

Where did you go to college?

Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey (M. E.), Stanford University Graduate School of Business (Stanford Sloan Executive Fellow; M. S. in Management, 1969).

What do you do professionally? Where are you employed?

Developed the first metal brake lining for the XB-52 at American Brakeshoe Research Labs in New Jersey, and then was a CIC special agent at the Pentagon for a while. Became an aerospace executive in Minneapolis, Newport Beach, Washington, DC, and the Los Angeles area. We a pre-Sputnik member of the American Rocket Society. As part of the RANGER team, helped build and launch the first payloads in the history of man to escape earth gravity. Was also a member of the manned lunar landing team, starting with Mercury, through Apollo. Now, old and gray, I only work part-time -- maybe 60+ hours a week -- on FEEFHS stuff.

How about your background in computers? Does it stretch back a bit, or are you a relative newcomer?

I've been on computers since I had three QX-10's with CPM (DOS's daddy) in 1983. I cut over to an i486-dx33 box about 1991 and went to a P5-90 box a year ago. I'm active in the Sacramento Internet/Web Genealogy SIG and the PC Users groups in Sacramento and Davis.

FEEFHS is for Eastern European genealogy. Are your own ancestors from this part of the world?

Yes ... all over that map. I have to deal with 17 different languages, and that's not my tea-bag.

How long have you been tracking your roots?

Granddaddy put me on notice back in Lidgerwood, North Dakota, at age 6 (1936) that it was my turn to carry on which 1912 genealogy book when I grew up. I've remembered that every month or so since. I finally decided I'd grown up enough in 1989. Then I started the serious stuff.

Is there any specific ancestor you're having a tough time

finding right now?

Yes, lots of them. One was Abbott Mevius in 769 AD in Franconia. Another is the father of Rambau von der Moevius, a Pomerania Roderer) in 1463. I'm subscribing to the newly established soc.medieval newsgroup as soon as I get back from Cleveland next month.

FEEFHS WEB Site Update by John D. Movius

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Current World Wide Web URL (address):

<http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>

Current e-mail to our web site:

feefhs@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us

New "Domain alias" WEB Site URL (address):

<http://www.feefhs.org/>

New e-mail "Domain alias" address: feefhs@feefhs.org

By the time you receive this issue of Vol. 3 No. 3, we will have had five months of experience in building the FEEFHS "HomePage" on the Internet's World Wide Web and posting weekly issues. FEEFHS is the first Federation or National Society to post a web site. We offer every member organization a HomePage on our web site as part of their membership fee.

Our FrontPage is about 4 to 5 printed pages long. While longer than most HomePages, it is only about 15K bytes in size and it is all text. Thus it "loads" into your web browser much faster than most others that feature graphics.

A "home" it is. A "page" it clearly is not. Since deciding on Earth Day at the University of California, Davis last May that "it was time," signing up with Davis Community Net (DCN) and first posting a hundred thousand bytes of text within a week, our web site has gradually grown to over 4.8 megabytes in size.

It takes from 300 to over 400 pages of printed text to become a megabyte of coded files on the web. Since most of our content is text, you can get an idea of why FEEFHS is the largest web site on the DCN. FEEFHS also has one of the larger genealogy web sites of any kind.

A fad of many current genealogy web sites is to list "bookmarks" - links to other genealogy sites. I call such a site a "pit stop" on the super-internet-highway. What FEEFHS is seeking to do is to build a destination site - a place where a record searcher comes seeking answers to questions ... and hopefully often finds the answers to their questions.

Maybe one of these questions is how to identify an ethnic or religious society so they can join or subscribe to this FEEFHS member organization. Perhaps it is to identify an issue of a newsletter or journal that has an article of interest on a family or a city or a region. Or maybe it is in how to find out about a surname listed in a given database and what town that surname is from. All of these are valid reasons to visit and revisit the FEEFHS web site as we post more information each weekend.

My initial effort was to begin to place all of the content of the printed FEEFHS Resource Guide on the web. It is these listings that are then used to create a basic HomePage for each member organization. This is still a primary goal. Over half of our organizations already have web sites. Many have already started to receive inquiries. Hopefully completion of this project will be a holiday present by December for all FEEFHS organizations.

FEEFHS Internet Journal and FEEFHS Internet Reference Library also have FrontPage space. Currently popular article in the Journal are the Ahnenstammkartei reprint from the FEEFHS Newsletter last year, Duncan Gardiner's review of Tom Edlund's comments (at the Cleveland Conference) on Slovakian microfilming activity (this was downloaded from messages on member SLOVAK WORLD's listserver) and President Charles Hall's comments on writing his *Atlantic Bridge to Germany* series.

At the moment, the Reference Library is limited to Indexes for the 1993 and 1994 Volumes of the FEEFHS Newsletter, plus Volume 3 No. 1 of 1995. Yet it is attracting significant interest. We will not only bring these indices up to current status, but hope to start adding other reference material until all ethnic, religious and national groups are well represented here and it is another valued reason to seek out our web site.

Thanks to member and professional genealogist and map dealer Ted Gostin, we have started to build a map room. Currently eight maps take up about 1.5 megs of space. They now attract about 10% of our hits. In September the

most popular map is Galicia, followed by Ukraine, Bohemia, Belarus, the Baltics, Moravia, Lithuania and the Banat. But this seems to vary from month to month. Over time we expect to add the balance of Eastern Europe's land mass to our map room.

In September over 8,600 hits were recorded at our web site. A hit is one person looking at one "page" (file). This is up from 4,000 in June, 7,000 in July and 7900 in August. Much of this growth has been by word of mouth and e-mail. No serious effort will be made to advertise our site to the major search engines until we have posted HomePages for all our member organizations. However several search engines, including Lycos and InfoSeek, have already added us to their list.

In late July, Jay Hall of Everton Online published the first review of Volume 1, Number 12 of our web site, then three months old. (Please see reprint below). Everton is the leading on-line magazine. Thus Jay's favorable opinions, and his mention of our excellent map room, have attracted substantial interest from many persons who had not heard of FEEFHS before.

It now is taking two or three days a week to hand code text files into HTML (hyper text markup language - the code that permits a browser to display a HomePage). Additions are posted throughout the week, but they are announced each week with a FrontPage online issue late Friday or early Saturday. Vol 1, Number 22 was issued on October 14th.

Three Indexes are now available to help in locating the growing number of member HomePage sites. The first and most complete one is an Alphabetical Index of all member organizations. It lists the postal, telephone, FAX and E-mail addresses of each member organization as well as providing a hypertext link to permit jumping to that file.

The most popular Index is a recent one that lists member organizations by an Ethnic, Religious and National grouping Index, also with hypertext links to each member HomePage but without the address information. The most recent is an Index based on the location (country, province, state) of the principal address of each member organization, again with a hypertext link to the HomePage. Both of these indices also show where FEEFHS still has its work cut out for it, as a number of these groupings not yet represented by a FEEFHS member organization.

I never cease to be amazed at where interest in our web site can be found. In September most came from America, with heavy interest also coming from Canada and Germany. Other hits in September came from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, England, France, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden and Switzerland.

Online hits have been especially important to us in attracting new members to our organizations. When AOL (America Online) linked FEEFHS to the FrontPage of the AOL Genealogy Forum, hits from AOL represented about 50% of our web site activity in July. Many of these persons are "newbies" - new not only to AOL but to genealogy as well.

AOL still represents over 30% of our hits. It is likely to increase in share as it continues to grow as more subscribers install the AOL web browser. It is now possible to access FEEFHS from two research lists within the AOL Genealogy Forum as well as from the FrontPage and the Internet site. CompuServe and Prodigy both were about 3% share each in September.

One of the reasons for the popularity of this web site is the diversity and depth of the information available. Each of our member organizations has been promised its own Homepage. Over half of these are already built, posted and on display on a 24 hour a day 7 day a week basis. It is hoped that the balance will be posted by the December holiday season.

The most popular HomePages are for those members that have something to offer besides the HomePage itself. The three most popular are *Die Pommerschen Leute* (Pomeranian newsletter), *Stammbaum* (German Jewish newsletter) and the Glueckstal Colonies Research Association (a Bessarabian German-Russian association).

Die Pommerschen Leute has posted an excellent history of the Pommeranian people before and after immigration and good summaries of their nine books. Editor and Publisher Myron Gruenwald's 17 years of genealogy summaries are condensed into a Die Vorfahren surname, town and Kreis database, covering over 33,000 surnames. It is not hard to realize why his HomePage is first in popularity, especially since Myron promotes his web site in his newsletter and also lists the e-mail addresses of new members in his newsletter.

Stammbaum is an excellent German-Jewish newsletter with a

table of contents/Index to its newsletter as well as a surname index derived from it. Glueckstal Colonies Research Association has a huge 2.8-megabyte database of extractions of vital records from the St. Petersburg Consistory duplicate church books of about 1834 to 1880 or so. Glueckstal also has posted a membership form and other important information.

Within the next month or so FEEFHS will activate a Domain "alias" that simplifies the address of our web site and our e-mail. However for the indefinite future, you will be able to contact us by either the old address or the new one.

Future projects include posting an e-mail address book of current FEEFHS member organizations. So please contact us if you have an e-mail address we may not know about. Communicating this way is both low/no cost and swift. This also permits additions and changes to occur quickly. Organizations with at least an e-mail gateway through a trusted member are much more likely to be contacted by an online genealogist.

Once you have activated your Computer modem with an online service (AOL and Compuserve are FEEFHS members) or an IP (Internet provider) you will probably find it hard to return to the old days of posting and waiting for snail mail to crawl back and forth.

ΣΙΠΕΟ (SIPEO)
Σύλλογος Ιστορίας και
Παράδοσης Ελληνικών Οικογενειών

by Carol Kostakos Petranek

Lica Catsakis, President of SIPEO, has asked me to respond to your request for information about our organization. The word "SIPEO" comes from the first letters of the Greek translation of the name of our organization, "The Greek Association of Family History and Tradition." SIPEO was formed in 1990 for the purpose of encouraging people of Greek ancestry to become engaged in genealogical research, and to provide such individuals with resources and assistance. I am the editor of SIPEO's newsletter, which is named *Reezes*, which means "Roots" in Greek. It is published three times per year.

SIPEO is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, which

assesses no dues. An Annual Meeting, which is open to all members and interested person, is held each year in June. At that time, the Board of Trustees is elected and the membership is brought up to date on SIPEO's activities.

SIPEO's library is modest, but grows continuously thanks to members' donations. We have books, gazetteers and maps, Greek telephone books, some vital records, and "family lists" from several Greek municipalities. Dr. Catsakis has published a manual entitled "Greek Genealogical Research," which provides important background information and valuable research tips. This book can be purchased from SIPEO for a nominal cost (approximately \$5.00).

The main service that SIPEO provides is responding to written requests and telephone inquiries about doing research. We do not provide genealogical research services, but advise members as to correct procedures and suggest resources that will assist in their work.

For more information, contact:

Carol Kostakos Petranek
 3116 Castleleigh Road
 Silver Spring, MD 20904
 Tel. (301) 572-4105

or: SIPEO
 P.O. Box 211027
 Salt Lake City, UT 84121

NOMINEES FOR FEEFHS OFFICERS,
1996-1997

by Charles M. Hall

According to the FEEFHS Constitution, we are required to hold elections at this time for officers to served during the years 1996-1997.

For each of the available offices, the nominating committee has proposed one candidate. Write-in votes are also permitted.

Following are brief biographies of the candidates:

President: John D. Movius, currently FEEFHS 2nd Vice President. John has already been introduced through

other articles in this issue of the *Newsletter*.

1st Vice President: Thomas A. Peters. Tom comes to us from the RUSIN society, which ethnic group originates in what is now southeastern Ukraine. This area was part of the original nation of Czechoslovakia and contains the cities of Uzhgorod and Mukachevo (formerly known in Hungarian as Ungvár and Munkács).

2nd Vice President: Laura Hanowski. Laura is currently serving as an officer in the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society, based in Regina. We will be pleased to have Laura represent Canada on our new Executive Council.

3rd Vice President: Bruce Kahn. Bruce is president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Rochester in upstate New York. Since so many Jewish Immigrants came from Eastern Europe, we are gratified to have Bruce representing the Jewish Societies.

Secretary: Sherrie Petrovich Pehrson. Sherrie has ancestors from Slovenia. She is especially pleased to be involved since the Slovenians played such an important role in our 1995 convention.

Treasurer: Miriam Hall-Hansen (no relation to the outgoing president). Miriam has been heavily involved in the Germans from Russia organizations and was one of the presenters at our Regional Conference in Calgary, Alberta.

Publications available

by John C. Alleman

As has been announced previously, and elsewhere in the newsletter, FEEFHS publishes various materials of interest. Those available at this time are summarized below:

Volumes I (1993) and II (1994) of the *FEEFHS Newsletter* have been reprinted with indexes and are available at the (cheap!) price of US \$5.00 each. Those interested in all four issues of a particular year should order these reprints, as in this way you get the index too. A few copies of

individual issues from Volume II and III are available as replacement copies at US\$ 2.00 each.

The *FEEFHS Resource Guide* is a directory of addresses, including e-mail addresses, of FEEFHS organizational members and professionals working in the field of Eastern European genealogy. One copy per year is distributed to members and subscribers at no charge. As reprints are made throughout the year, corrections are made. These corrected versions are not sent out automatically, but they are sold at conventions and sent to new members are subscribers. Old versions are not available. The cost of this publication is US\$ 5.00 for FEEFHS members and \$10.00 for non-members.

Orders from outside the United States should add \$1.00 extra for postage.

We are aware that there is still a possibility that some people have ordered and paid for some of the above publications and not received them. In particular, if you have joined FEEFHS during 1995 (before October 1), you are entitled to but may not have received, issued 1 and 2 of Vol. III of the *Newsletter*. If you are one of these situations, please contact us again and the missing items will be sent at no additional cost.

At this time, no other publications are available from FEEFHS, but more are planned for the future and will be announced soon. This issue of the *Newsletter* includes an advertisement for many important publications that are available privately through Ed Brandt. We welcome advertisement from publishers and distributors of other pertinent information as well. The cost of a one-page ad is US\$ 10.00 per issue.

Presidential Message

by Charles M. Hall

Although I was unable to attend our regional conference in Calgary this year, I was greatly honored, as President of FEEFHS, to be able to attend our annual convention in Cleveland, Ohio. Our convention chair, Duncan Gardiner, and his committee did an excellent job. Our FEEFHS Vice Presidents also did excellent jobs of arranging the programs. It was obvious that we had made much progress in putting on conventions since our initial effort in Salt Lake City in

1994. With the precedent that has now been set, we expect to have another great convention in Minneapolis in 1996.

Without reiterating many details about our 1995 Convention, has been covered elsewhere in this issue, I would like to mention what a great asset I feel it was to have Dr. Peter Klasinč, an archivist from Maribor, Slovenia, in attendance and participating. Since Dr. Klasinč has hosted archivists conventions in Maribor, with archivists coming from all over Eastern Europe, and expects to host more in the future, we could hardly get better publicity for FEEFHS than the kind he will be giving us. This, added to the publicity we received from the office of the governor of Ohio, also a Slovenian, gave this Convention special significance.

Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to make this Convention a success.

In the July issue of the Newsletter, I made an appeal for nominations for 1996-1997 officers of FEEFHS. I mentioned that I was doing this in the capacity of outgoing president, hence, by constitutional definition, Chair of the Nominations Committee. The nominations committee, had a wonderful opportunity, during the Convention in Cleveland, to meet some of the nominees which you see on the attached ballot.

FEEFHS

Federation of East European Family

History Societies

eMail: feefhs@feefhs.org

WWW: <http://feefhs.org>

P. O. Box 510898

Salt Lake City, Utah 84151-0898, USA

FEEFHS

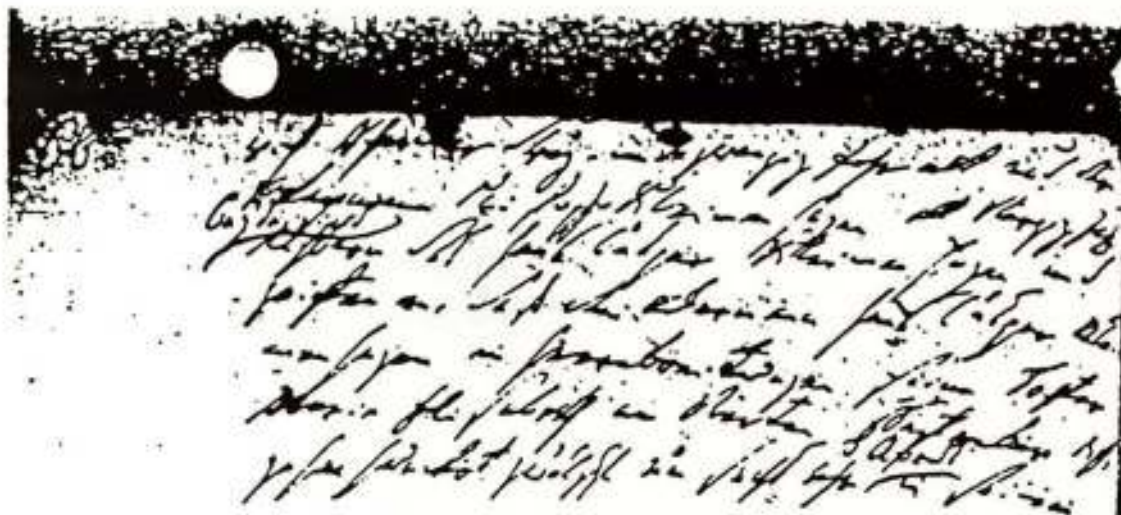
DIVERSITY

UNITY

HARMONY

GERMAN GOTHIC SCRIBBLING?

Can You Transform This . . .



Into This?

Page 66

(Hein)rich Schirmer, 23 years old, and the farmer (at?) Prefect Kleimenhagen, 40 years old. Both are neighbors of Hans Caspar Kleimenhagen and gave notification that Marie Elisabeth, daughter of the farmer, Hans Caspar Kleimenhagen of Herrenbreitungen, had died on the 4th of September in the year 1812 at 6 p.m. in his

DECIPHERING?

Difficult -- Yes
Possible -- Often yes

If you have German documents or letters which are not only written in the Gothic script, but also in horrible penmanship, contact:

Edward R. Brandt, Ph.D., A.G.
13 - 27th Ave. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101
Tel.: (612) 338-2001

Qualifications: learned the Gothic script as a child; 5 years of work experience in Germany; extensive research involving original pre-1785 records in Germany and other European countries; accredited by the Family History Center as a genealogist specializing in German research; professional translator; 20 years as a professor of political science and history.

For maximum chances of successful deciphering at minimum cost, send self-addressed, stamped envelope (omit stamp if outside U.S.) for tips on how to proceed.

GENEALOGICAL BOOKS

- Germanic Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns** (Brandt et al) \$24.00
 Comprehensive book covers descendants of German-speaking residents or immigrants in 60 countries, history, geography, religion, language, maps, and bibliographies.
- The Lutherans of Russia** (Edlund) \$30.00
 Parish index to filmed church books of the Black Sea area, Volhynia and Ingria for 1833-1885.
- Where to Look for Hard-to-Find German-Speaking Ancestors in Eastern Europe** (Brandt & Brandt) \$18.50
 Indexes nearly 20,000 surnames in 13 books. Strongest on Danube Swabians and Galician Germans, but includes smaller books on other areas.
- Register to the Ahnenstammkartei** (Edlund) \$20.00
 Index to films of the 2.7 million names in this famed German pedigree collection.
- Korzenie Polskie: Polish Roots** (Chorzempa) \$18.00
 Most authoritative, comprehensive book on Polish research. Multi-ethnic, but main focus is on Polish Catholics.
- In Search of Your European Ancestors** (Baxter) \$17.00
 Details genealogical records in every European country.
- Contents & Addresses of Hungarian Archives** (Brandt) \$15.00
 Based on out-of-print guide from the Hungarian National Archives. Includes supplementary information from other sources, with particular attention to Germans in Hungary.
- Geographical Origin of German Immigrants to Wisconsin** \$ 7.00
 Specifies European place of origin of German settlers in various counties (Levi, 1898).
- Genealogical Addresses in Current East German States** \$ 4.00
 Addresses of religious and public archives; selected libraries; genealogical organizations; and miscellaneous institutions compiled by Wermes. Adapted for English-language users, with additional material, by Brandt.
- Where Once They Toiled** (Brandt) \$ 3.50
 Report of visit to former Mennonite homeland in the Vistula River region.

Add shipping: \$3 for each book costing \$20 or more; \$2 for each book costing \$10-\$19; \$1.50 for each book costing less than \$10. Prices in U.S. dollars. Request order form for other books and articles.

Order from:

Edward R. Brandt, Ph.D., A.G.
 13 - 27th Ave. S.E.
 Minneapolis, MN 55414-3101

FEEFHS

Newsletter of the Federation of East European Family History Societies

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTION RESULTS: We announce officially that the nominees for FEEFHS officers for the years 1996 and 1997 have been elected. This comes as no surprise, since all nominees ran unopposed, but we take this opportunity to thank the new officers for their willingness to serve and also thank the members who showed their interest in FEEFHS by filling out and returning their ballots. The names and addresses of the FEEFHS officers are found on the inside front cover.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE: This issue appears some two months behind schedule, due to a variety of unforeseen circumstances. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. The next issue (Volume IV, Number 1) will appear as soon as we can get it ready, probably in April 1996. The Index to Volume III will be published with this issue. Articles for this and future issues are always very welcome.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES: In addition to our International Convention to be held in Minneapolis June 9-11, 1996, described in detail in this issue, FEEFHS representatives will be at these 1996 conferences (please visit us):

March 8-9: Family History Fair (CGS), San Francisco, CA

April 12-13: Utah Genealogical Association (UGA), Salt Lake City, UT

April 12-13: Genealogical Jamboree (SCGS), Pasadena, CA (John Movius is a speaker)

June 1: California State Genealogical Alliance (CSGA) annual conference, Sacramento, CA

mid-September: Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), Rochester, NY (Tom Peters is a speaker)

September 21-22: Family History Fair (SDGS), San Diego, CA

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Federation of East European
Family History Societies
**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON
EAST AND CENTRAL EUROPEAN
GENEALOGY**

at the Thunderbird Hotel and Convention Center
2201 E. 78th St. (I-494 & 24th Ave.)
Minneapolis (Bloomington), Minnesota
June 8-12, 1996

by Ed Brandt, Convention Chairman

CONVENTION ADDRESS

The address for all communications concerning the convention is: P.O. Box 624, South St. Paul, MN 55075-0624, unless specified otherwise. This is the address to use when writing to the various committee chairs mentioned below who have not been appointed yet, but soon will be.

COSTS AND REGISTRATION

Registration fee for the FEEFHS convention: \$49 (syllabus extra); Sunday only: \$24; Monday or Tuesday only: \$29; Wednesday resource center tour: \$5. Family registration, including dependents, is twice these amounts. College student registration is 50% of these amounts. Fees are valid only for registrations received by Saturday, May 18, or postmarked by Saturday, May 11; thereafter, \$10 extra for the convention or \$5 for one day. Other fees are:

Luncheons: \$15 each

Banquets: \$18 each

Saturday ethnic tours: \$10 for one or \$15 for both;

Saturday evening ethnic dinner and entertainment: \$20, with \$5 extra for transportation.

Mid-afternoon snacks extra.

Early registration is recommended. It is quite possible that the number of people wishing to attending specific lectures or meal functions could exceed the capacity of the rented rooms. If this is apparent early enough, we may be able to obtain an extra room and repeat the most popular presentations toward the end of the convention. Otherwise, if interest exceeds capacity, those who registered first will be given priority.

If you register early and later find that an unforeseeable event (illness, change of job situation, important but unexpected family event, etc.) prevents you from attending, FEEFHS will cheerfully refund your fees. We hope that you will not request a refund simply because you changed your mind.

The registration desk will be open on Saturday, June 8, during the late afternoon and early evening, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, and during the morning and late afternoon on Monday and Tuesday. Pre-registered genealogists may pick up the convention kit, including the final program, during these hours. On-site registration will be on a space-available basis. The syllabus is expected to be available before the presentations start. You may get much more benefit from certain talks if you have a copy of the syllabus.

LODGING

To qualify for the Thunderbird's lower convention rate of \$79, plus taxes, for a room with one double bed, you must use the special FEEFHS advance registration form and the hotel must receive your reservation by Sunday, May 19. Rooms with two double beds are also available at a special price: \$85 for 3 persons and \$91 for 4.

For information on cheaper lodging, write the Lodging Assistance Chair.

PROGRAM, JUNE 9-11

We will have 110 hours of presentations, including banquets and luncheons, at the biggest convention of this kind which has ever taken place. There will be 7 simultaneous sessions on Sunday (5 50-minute time slots) and 5 each on Monday and Tuesday (7 such time slots).

The presentations will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 9, and end with the banquet on Tuesday evening, June 11. A tentative time schedule is now being circulated to speakers for approval and should be available very soon.

BANQUET SPEAKERS

Sunday: Prof. William E. Wright, "The Ethnic Composition of the Austro-Hungarian Empire"

Monday: Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner, C.G., "Hunting for Ancestors in Eastern Europe: A Genealogist's Journey During the Momentous Year of 1989"

MEETINGS

Tuesday: Patricia A. Eames, "Beyond the Family: Profiling the German-Russian Village"

LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

Monday: Jan Steven Zaleski, A.G., "Overcoming Geographic Obstacles to Polish Research"

Tuesday: Dr. Arlene H. Eakle, "Don't Take No for an Answer: The Miraculous Discovery of Records Previously Thought to Have Been Lost"

OTHER CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

- (1) Rev. George Alexe, "Eastern Romanity Genealogy of the Romanian Immigration to the United States and Canada"
- (2) John C. Alleman (Finns)
- (3) John C. Alleman (Hungarians)
- (4) Brent Allison, "Cartographic Resources for East and Central European Genealogical Research"
- (5) Astra M. Apsitis, "Records for Post-World War II Latvian and Other Baltic Immigrants"
- (6) Betty Bodnar Belanger, "Researching Magyars in Hungary, Romania, and the Serbian Vojvodina"
- (7) Prof. Hyman Berman, "Jewish Immigration to the Upper Midwest"
- (8) Scharlott Goettsch Blevins, "Research on Schleswig-Holstein, Germany"
- (9) Scharlott Goettsch Blevins, "Getting It Right: Record Your Research to Save Time, Money and Anxiety"
- (10) Dr. Edward R. Brandt, A.G., John D. Movius et al, facilitators-advisers (discussions on forming new genealogical groups, by ethnic group)
- (11) Stanley Brescoll, Jr., "Polish-American Research in the U.S."
- (12) Helene B. Cincebeaux, "Who Are the Moravian People?" (historical and cultural slide presentation)
- (13) Helene B. Cincebeaux, "Lithuania: Research in Archives and Villages"
- (14) Helene B. Cincebeaux, "Slovakia: Pre-History to the Present; Find Your Village, Find Your Family" (historical and cultural slide presentation),
- (15) Helene B. Cincebeaux, "Genetic Genealogy"
- (16) Donna (Debevec) Cuillard, "Slovenian Research: U.S. and Slovenian Sources"
- (17) Donna (Debevec) Cuillard, "The Slovenian Genealogical Society: Resources and Services"
- (18) Donna (Debevec) Cuillard, "Slovenian Research: A Case Study"
- (19) Donna (Debevec) Cuillard, "Beginning Research" (2 hours)
- (20) Kent Cutkomp, "Minnesota Resources for Germanic Research"
- (21) Fay S. Dearden, "Deciphering Gothic Records"
- (22) Patricia A. Eames, "Finding Your Family at of the National Archives"
- (23) Dr. Arlene H. Eakle, "'Place of Birth: Prussia'; But Where? New, Often Unused Records and Newly Available Sources That Tell Where"
- (24) Dr. Arlene H. Eakle, "New Immigration Indexes: A New Approach to Finding Places of Origin of German, Swiss and French Ancestors"
- (25) Patricia A. Eames, "Finding Your Family at the National Archives"
- (26) Thomas Kent Edlund, "The Current Status of Microfilming in East, East Central and Southeast Europe" (excluding Croatia)
- (27) Thomas Kent Edlund, "Sources for Genealogical Research in Croatia and the Former Slavonia in the Family History Library"
- (28) Thomas Kent Edlund, "The Lutheran Church in Russia: Its Origins and History"
- (29) Thomas Kent Edlund, The 'Ahnenstammkartei des Deutschen Volkes': Successful and Unsuccessful Searches"
- (30) Irmgard Hein Ellingson, "Czechs, Slovaks and Germans in the Bukovina and Volhynia"
- (31) Dr. Adam S. Eterovich, "Researching Ancestors from Croatia, including Members of Minority Groups" (paper)
- (32) Linda Fournier and James A. Sazevich, "If You're Searching for Your Belorussian Roots, Don't Give Up Hope"
- (33) Margaret Amar Freeman, "Benefits of Village Research for Your Personal Research"
- (34) Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner, C.G., "Czech and Ancestry Slovak Research: The Basics"
- (35) Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner, C.G., "Czech and Ancestry Slovak Research: Beyond the Basics"
- (36) Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner, C.G., "The Austro-Hungarian Empire: Research Sources and Geographical-Historical Background"
- (37) Larry Goga, "The Rusins of Minnesota"
- (38) Myron E. Gruenwald, "Baltic Sea Germans: The Persistent Pioneers" (paper)
- (39) Harry Gutkin, "The History and Genealogy of Jews in Western Canada"
- (40) Charles M. Hall, "Boundary and Name Changes"
- (41) Charles M. Hall, "What Genealogists Can Learn from *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany*"

MEETINGS

- (42) Miriam Hall-Hansen, "The History and Genealogy of the Germans in Russia"
- (43) Prof. Walter Hanchett, "Documents for Peasants from the Russian Empire: Their Usefulness in Research on Early Twentieth-Century Ukrainians"
- (44) Prof. Walter Hanchett, "Searching for Richard Patrick's Ukrainian Village"
- (45) Karen Hobbs, "Genealogy and More: Your Ancestors Also Had a Life"
- (46) Nina Jejel, "The Cyrillic Script Before and After 1917"
- (47) Dr. Bruce E. Kahn, "What Non-Jews Can Learn from Jewish Genealogists"
- (48) Dr. Bruce E. Kahn, "Lithuanian and Latvian Jewish Genealogical Research"
- (49) Dr. Bruce E. Kahn, "Internet Resources for Jewish Genealogy"
- (50) Dr. Bruce E. Kahn and Stephen Kymlicka, "The Internet: Beyond the Basics"
- (51) James A. Kerrigan and Georgia Haidos "Search for Greek Roots: (1) Problems and Successes; (2) Passport and Citizenship"
- (52) Dr. Lawrence Klippenstein, "Genealogical Resources for Mennonites: Canada, Mexico, Ukraine, Russia, etc."
- (53) Father Alfons Kubat, "Obtaining Genealogical Information from Latin Parish Registers"
- (54) Arthur Kurzweil, "How to Trace Your Jewish Ancestors" and Miriam Weiner, "A Time to Gather Stones Together (videotapes)"
- (55) Stephen Kymlicka, "The Internet: The Basics"
- (56) Stephen Kymlicka and John D. Movius, "Soc.Genealogy.Slavic, Soc.Genealogy.Germanic and Other USENET Newsgroups"
- (57) Edward G. Langer, "Emigration of Germans and Czechs from Northeastern Bohemia to the United States"
- (58) Brian J. Lenius, "Researching Galizien Germans"
- (59) Brian J. Lenius, "Multi-Ethnic Research in Galicia"
- (60) Dallas R. Lindgren, "Genealogical Resources of the Minnesota Historical Society Research Center"
- (61) Glen Linscheid, "Mennonite Mix: New World and Old"
- (61) Patricia A. Lowe, "LDS Resources for East and Central European Genealogical Research"
- (62) Paul M. Makousky and Eugene M. Aksamit, "An Overview of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International Library Collection"
- (63) Mavis Menzies, "Canadian Genealogical Resources for East European Research"
- (64) Christopher Miksanek, "The Use of European Fonts and Their Application in Genealogy"
- (65) John D. Movius, "FEEFHS and the World Wide Web: Past, Present and Future"
- (66) Beth Mullinax, "Beginning Genealogy" (2 hours)
- (67) Halyna Myroniuk, "The Slavic Collections of the Immigration History Research Center: Sources for Genealogical Research"
- (68) Edward Nelson, Iron Range Research Center, "The East Europeans on the Iron Range"
- (69) Raluca Octav, "Romanian Immigration: Boundaries, Ethnicity, Gender and Typology"
- (70) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "Researching the People from 'No Man's Land': the Carpatho-Rusyns of Austria-Hungary"
- (71) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "Lemko Genealogy -- Cases Studies Emphasizing Procedures and Pitfalls"
- (72) Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., "Why I Didn't Find My Ancestor's Naturalization"
- (73) Steven G. Potach, "The Struggle for the Heart of Europe: Conflicts That Shaped the Lives of Our Czech and Slovak Ancestors"
- (74) John Radzilowski, "The Poles in Minnesota and the Dakotas"
- (75) Judith P. Reid, "Genealogy at the Library of Congress"
- (76) Timo R. Riippa, "Finnish Genealogical Materials at the Immigration History Research Center"
- (77) Prof. LaVern J. Rippley, "Genealogical Research in Baden"
- (78) Prof. LaVern J. Rippley, "Genealogical Research in Silesia"
- (79) Prof. LaVern J. Rippley, "The German-Bohemians and Their Unique Germanic Heritage"
- (80) James A. Sazevich, "The Bohemian Settlements in St. Paul"
- (81) George Soldatow, "Russian Immigration and the Genealogical Holdings of Russian-American Archives"
- (82) Adeline M. Sopa, Wisconsin, "Kaszuby and the Kaszubes"
- (83) Adeline M. Sopa, "Polish Settlements in Wisconsin"
- (84) Vladislav E. Soshnikov, "Archival Records of the Russian Empire in Russian, Ukrainian and Belorussian Archives"
- (85) Vladislav E. Soshnikov (informal discussion with genealogists especially interested in Belorussian archives)
- (86) Prof. Theofanis G. Stavrou (Greeks)
- (87) Andris S. Straumanis, "Latvian Migration to the United States"
- (88) Robert Weiss, "Tracking Your Ancestors Back to the Old Country and Making Maps of Your Ancestor's Neighboring Villages"

MEETINGS

- (89) Robert Weiss, "Finding and Obtaining Records from East European Archives"
- (90) Duane D. Wiita, "Using Finnish-American Newspapers for Genealogical Research in the U.S. and Canada"
- (91) William W. Wolpert, "Jewish Genealogical Resources in the Twin Cities"
- (92) William W. Wolpert, "Jewish Genealogical Resources in the Twin Cities"
- (93) Joel Wurl, "An Overview of the East European Holdings of the Immigration History Research Center"
- (94) Jan Steven Zaleski, A.G., "Following the Paper Trail to Your Ancestral Village in Central or Eastern Europe"
- (95) Jan Steven Zaleski, A.G., "Finding Records on Ancestors Who Entered the United States from Canada"
- (96) David Zincavage (paper on Lithuanian genealogy)
- (97) Olga Zoltai, "Twentieth-Century Hungarian Immigration and Genealogy"

SALES OF BOOKS, PERIODICALS, MAPS, ETC.

A considerable number of vendors selling books and other genealogical and heritage materials are expected. FEEFHS will sell books for FEEFHS members or convention speakers who are authors and publishers but cannot attend the convention, or prefer to attend the various sessions, for 10% of revenue. Vendor tables are available for \$25 each, with an initial limit of three tables. The entire space in the hallway of the second floor, where most of the sessions will be held, has been reserved already. Tables on the ground floor will be rented out on a first-come first-served basis. The third-floor hallway is also available, if needed. Renting a room for sales purposes would be costly and we would have to charge considerably more. Hence, vendors will have to put their books in one of the conference rooms, which will be locked up for the night, and remove them prior to the beginning of programs the following morning.

Authors or publishers who are not FEEFHS members and do not plan to rent a table (or find that they have all been reserved already) are advised to contact one of two local booksellers:

Genealogy House, 3148 Kentucky Ave. S., St. Louis Park, MN 55426-3471, or
Park Genealogical Book Co., P.O. Box 130598, Roseville, MN 55113-0968. If neither bookseller is interesting in stocking pertinent items, FEEFHS will sell them for non-members for 15% of revenue.

To apply for sales tables or request further information, write to the Book Sales Chair.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, JUNE 8 AND 12

There will be a tour of local genealogical resource centers on Wednesday, June 12. This will include the Borchert Map Library at the University of Minnesota, the Immigration History Research Center, the Minnesota Genealogical Society library (which includes the collections of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota and the Finnish Genealogy Group), the Buenger Memorial Library at Concordia College (where the collection of the Germanic Genealogy Society is housed), and the new state-of-the-art Minnesota Historical Society Research Center.

There will be an opportunity for individual research on Saturday, June 8, and Wednesday, June 12, at the above facilities, as well as at the Minneapolis Public Library Genealogy Room and one of the local Family History Centers. Most of these will be open both days. It may be possible to make special arrangements in cases where one of the centers is normally closed either day.

For further information, write to the Research Activities Chair.

ETHNIC CULTURAL EVENTS, JUNE 8

Non-genealogical ethnic activities are scheduled for Saturday, June 8, the day prior to the beginning of the presentations at the FEEFHS convention. These will consist of two ethnic tours of the Twin Cities, plus an ethnic dinner and evening of entertainment.

Morning Tour A, with Gary Bruggemann or Jim Sazevich as guide, will cover the St. Paul neighborhoods, with stops at religious and other landmarks associated with Eastern or Central Europe. The bus will leave the Thunderbird Hotel at 9:30 a.m., with the tour ending with lunch at the Kramarchuk East European Deli, 215 East Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, at 12 noon. Those participants who do not want to take the afternoon tour will be returned to the Thunderbird at 1 p.m.

Afternoon Tour B, with Marie Brandt as guide, will cover the Minneapolis neighborhoods and institutions associated with East European immigrants. The bus will leave the Thunderbird at 11:30 a.m. and join the Tour A participants for lunch at Kramarchuk's. This tour will begin at 12:45 p.m., with participants returned to the hotel by about 3:30

p.m.

The cost will be \$10 for either tour or \$15 for both tours, excluding lunch. A minimum of 25 people are necessary to make each tour feasible. A maximum of 40 people can be accommodated. However, if there is sufficient interest, it is possible that a second bus could be rented, with the order of the tours reversed.

The evening meal and entertainment will be at the Gasthof zur Gemütlichkeit, 2300 University Ave. N.E., Minneapolis. There will be a social hour at 6 p.m., a dinner buffet at 7 p.m., and ethnic entertainment by groups from several different backgrounds, from about 8:30 to 10 p.m. A maximum of 200 people can dine in the room set aside for FEEFHS. Guests will be picked up at the Thunderbird at 6 p.m. and returned by about 10:30 p.m., assuming that at least 25 people will require transportation. The cost of dinner and entertainment will be \$20, with an extra \$5 charge for those who need transportation.

For further information, please write to the Special Events Chair.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

A list of churches and synagogues which have or had a distinct East or Central European ethnic identity will be included in the convention kit for the benefit of those who wish to worship before the convention starts.

EVENTS SPONSORED OR SUPPORTED BY MEMBER SOCIETIES

Three FEEFHS member societies will have events immediately before or after the FEEFHS convention. The Minnesota Genealogical Society Greater Minnesota meeting will be held in Red Wing on June 8. The Wisconsin Genealogical Council's Gene-A-Rama will take place in Wisconsin Rapids on June 14-15.

The international convention of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia will be held in Minneapolis, with presentations on June 12-15.

The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International supports, although it does not directly sponsor, Český Den (Czech Day) in Hillsboro, Wisconsin, on June 8 and the Phillips Czech and Slovak Community Festival in Phillips, Wisconsin, on June 15.

Requests for information about any of these events may be obtained directly from these FEEFHS member societies. FEEFHS will forward any requests it receives to these organizations.

TWO SENTENCES ABOUT EACH OF OUR SPEAKERS

More detailed biographical data on our speakers will be published in the next newsletter, on the FEEFHS HomePage on Internet's World Wide Web (<http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>), and in the convention syllabus.

Eugene M. Aksamit is the librarian of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. He has put the books and other items in its extensive collection on the computer.

Rev. George Alexe, currently with the publishing department of the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America and Canada, is a Romanian-born theologian and author-publisher who was a founder and long-time director of *Romanian Communion: A Literary Herald of Theology, Culture and Art*. He did post-graduate work in theology at the University of Bucharest and worked as a librarian, theological researcher and Patriarchal General Inspector at the Department of Foreign Relations of the Romanian Patriarchate before immigrating to Canada in 1970 and shortly thereafter to the United States.

John C. Alleman, multilingual translator, co-founder of FEEFHS and editor of its newsletter, belongs to the Finno-Ugric Society. He worked for the LDS Church Translation Department for many years as manager of computer systems, which he developed to handle over 100 non-English languages.

Brent Allison has degrees in geography and in library and information sciences. He is the director of the Borchert Map Library at the University of Minnesota, which has an excellent collection of historical and current maps, gazetteers, atlases and related items.

Astra M. Apsitis serves as the Immigration History Research Center's Project Archivist responsible for processing eleven collections under the Post-World War II Émigré Project, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is a Baltic specialist, with a Latvian background.

Betty Bodnar Belanger has been involved with Hungarian research since 1984, when she presented a paper

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(subsequently published in Hungary) on the settlement of Magyar dairy farmers in the Elk River, Minnesota, region at an international Emigration History Research Conference in Budapest. She is proficient in Hungarian and is planning her eighth trip to Hungary in April 1996, when she also plans to go to Romania and Serbia.

Prof. Hyman Berman teaches history at the University of Minnesota. He is best known in genealogical circles for his authoritative article on the Jews in *They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups*, published by the Minnesota Historical Society.

Scharlott Goettsch Blevins, a past president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Iowa Genealogical Society, was a founder of the American/Schleswig Holstein Society, now serving as its Genealogy Director and Librarian, and is president of the German American Heritage Center in Davenport. She has researched genealogy for 29 years, has taught and lectured on the subject for 19 years, and has written a Guide to Genealogical Research in Schleswig-Holstein.

Edward Reimer Brandt has been a co-founder of FEEFHS (1996 convention chair, program chair in 1994 and 1995), the Germanic Genealogy Society, the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota, and non-genealogical organizations. He is a Germanic specialist and an East European generalist, with membership in societies for many ethnic groups.

Stanley Brescoll, Jr., is active in the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. He lectures on Polish-American genealogy, especially American sources, and has contributed to the *FEEFHS Newsletter*.

Helene B. Cincebeaux, a genealogist for 35 years, founded the Slovak Heritage and Folklore Society International, now serving as director and editor of Slovakia. She also co-founded the Moravian Heritage Society, editing *Morava Krasna*, is on the board of directors of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, and spent the fall of 1993 researching in Lithuanian archives and villages.

Donna (Debevec) Cuillard has chaired the annual genealogical seminar of the LDS church in Simi Valley, California, which attracts 400-600 participants, for the past eight years. She has researched Slovenian ancestors for 30 years, is a board member of the Slovenian Genealogy Society, a genealogy columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*

OnLine newspaper, *Time Link*, and a lecturer on a wide range of genealogical topics.

Kent Cutkomp, a computer consultant and former German teacher who studied in Germany and Austria, has served as president of the Germanic Genealogy Society. He is a co-author of *Germanic Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns*.

Fay Dearden, a long-time Family History Center volunteer, is well-known as a lecturer and author. Her best known publication is *The German Researcher: How to Get the Most Out of an LDS Family History Center*, which incorporates her earlier booklet on common abbreviations in the *Meyers Orts- und Verkehrslexikon*, the preeminent gazetteer of the pre-World War I German Empire.

Arlene H. Eakle, current editor of the *Immigration News*, is co-author of *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy* and *Ancestry's Guide to Research*, and author of many other genealogical publications. She has received Awards of Merit from the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Patricia A. Eames, a Public Affairs Specialist at the National Archives, helped establish the Russian-American Genealogical Archival Service and functions as its U.S. coordinator. RAGAS, which does research in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Estonia, and occasionally elsewhere in the Commonwealth of Independent States, is becoming an independent Russian organization, but Pat now edits the *RAGAS Newsletter* to keep people up-to-date about genealogical sources in the ex-Soviet archives.

Thomas Kent Edlund is a multilingual senior librarian at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, responsible for cataloging Russian, Croatian and Slovenian microfilms. His most recent publications are the *Register to the Ahnenstammkartei des deutschen Volkes*, a pedigree collection of 2.7 million German names, and *The Lutherans of Russia, Vol. I: Parish Index to the Church Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Consistory of St. Petersburg, 1833-1885*.

Irmgard Hein Ellingson is a German teacher who serves on the board of the Bukovina Society of the Americas and the editorial board of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. She is the U.S. representative of the Canadian periodical, *Wandering Volhynians*, and has traveled extensively in Eastern Europe.

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Adam S. Eterovich, Ph.D., is president of the Croatian Genealogical and Heraldic Society, a non-profit educational genealogy and research organization. He also publishes Croatian-American books and sells Croatian books.

Linda Fournier has been researching Belorussian and Ukrainian ancestors for five years. She has a Master's degree and is a public school teacher.

Margaret Amar Freeman serves as executive director of the Glückstal Colonies Research Association, which she founded with the help of friends nearly a decade ago, and edits its semi-annual newsletter. She has been on the board of the American Historical Society of Germans from America, has spoken at many conventions of AHSGR and the Germans from Russia Heritage Society, gives local workshops and serves as a volunteer at the local Family History Center since retiring from teaching.

Duncan B. Gardiner, Ph.D., C.G., is a former university Russian language and linguistics instructor, now specializing in Czech, Slovak, Rusyn, and German genealogical research and making annual research trips to Europe. He is the editor of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International's journal and served as 1995 FEEFHS convention chair.

Larry Goga is president of the multi-purpose Rusin Association, which has published a book on the Rusins in Minnesota. He is also the editor of the association's newsletter, which provides extensive coverage of European events affecting the Rusins, and does some Rusin translations for members.

Myron E. Gruenwald, although disabled, is still very active as editor of *Die Pommerschen Leute* and has collected a huge genealogical card index file of German-Americans with ancestors from Pomerania and neighboring areas. He has published a series of heritage booklets on historical, cultural and philosophical themes broadly related to Pomerania.

Harry Gutkin is president of the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada, which has an extensive collection of Jewish genealogical material. He was one of the co-organizers of the 1995 conference on Jews, Mennonites and Ukrainians in Canada, which explored a wide range of topics relating to their experiences in neighboring settlements in Europe and Canada.

Georgia Haidos, who is fluent in Greek and has parents

born in Crete, is visiting Greece together with her husband, whose forebears came from north of Athens, in early 1996. She recently took an honors course in Journalism and Journeyming, for which she wrote a paper, "Passport and Citizenship," about her immigrant mother.

Charles M. Hall, an avid Esperantist with extensive contacts in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, initiated the idea of establishing the Federation of East European Family History Societies and served as its founding president. He is well-known for his 10-volume series (nine published to date), *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany*.

Miriam Hall-Hansen, the new FEEFHS treasurer, has been a genealogist for 30 years, a volunteer at the Family History Library for 10, and has taught genealogy classes in the Salt Lake City school system and for the Family History Library. She assisted with the compilation of the *Mecklenburg Gazetteer* and with cataloging the microfilmed duplicate records of the mostly German Lutheran Consistory of St. Petersburg.

Walter Hanchett is a professor emeritus of Russian history at the State University of New York College at Cortland. He is now chiefly involved with studying Ukrainians who came from the Russian Empire to work in the Cortland, New York, area before World War I and has written an article on Ukrainian genealogy which will be published in *Heritage Quest*.

Karen Hobbs is a graduate of the College of St. Catherine and studied cultural anthropology at the Centre des Études du Moyen Age in Poitiers, France. She is currently working on documenting the life of an Austrian foot-soldier (1840-70) with a view to the wars of 1859-70 as a cause of emigration.

Nina Jejei is a former college instructor who emigrated from Russia to the United States several years ago. She is a computer specialist, writer and translator, who also has a good knowledge of German, and proficient at deciphering old documents.

Bruce E. Kahn, Ph.D., is president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Rochester (New York), on the moderator team of JEWISHGEN and the new 3rd Vice-president of FEEFHS. He is a native Minnesotan, with many ties to Jewish genealogists in the Twin Cities.

James A. Kerrigan is an Iowa-born attorney, who has

visited Greece numerous times to visit relatives and trace his ancestry in Southern Greece, including once in the middle of a revolution. He speaks Greek fluently, having grown up bilingual.

Lawrence Klippenstein, Ph.D., is the director of the Mennonite Heritage Centre in Winnipeg, which has an extensive collection of books, periodicals, research papers and archival records on the Dutch-Prussian-Russian Mennonites who moved to the United States and Canada, including those who later went to Mexico and Paraguay. He served with the Mennonite Central Committee in Moscow for a year.

Father Alfons Kubat, who is particularly familiar with the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, has been involved with using parish registers to help people put together pedigree charts ever since Hitler instituted such requirements, for evil purposes, throughout the area under his domination. One of his assignments, after fleeing from his native Czechoslovakia following the brief Prague Spring of 1968, was to prepare a list of priests of various ethnic origins who had served within the Archdiocese of St. Paul.

Arthur Kurzweil is the author of the leading Jewish genealogical guide, *From Generation to Generation*, which was revised and updated in 1994. His lectures included the keynote address at the 1995 Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy in Washington, excerpts of which were printed in *Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy*.

Stephen Kymlicka runs his own computer consulting firm and has been researching Czech and German ancestors for ten years. He is the founder of soc.genealogy.slavic, a USENET newsgroup for Slavic genealogists.

Edward G. Langer, a Milwaukee tax attorney who has been researching emigration from northeastern Bohemia to the United States, especially Wisconsin, for 20 years, serves on the board of the Friends of the Max Kade Institute of German-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin. He has visited the village formerly called Landskron five times and has written articles awaiting publication in *Ročenka* and the *German-Bohemian Heritage Society Newsletter*.

Brian J. Lenius has specialized in research on the former Austrian province of Galicia for ten years, is author-publisher of the *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia* (with place names in Polish, Ukrainian and German) and

has written articles on Galician research for numerous periodicals before and since his recent research trip to that area. He was a co-founder of the East European Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society (founding president, currently journal editor), FEEFHS (founding 1st vice-president) and the Galizien German Descendants.

Dallas R. Lindgren is a reference archivist at the Minnesota Historical Society Research Center. She participates with other staff members in teaching genealogy classes and is responsible for helping people with East European genealogy.

Glen Linscheid is editor of *Along the Galician Grapevine*, a newsletter which seeks to keep lines of communication open among the scattered descendants of Galician Mennonite emigrants to the United States, who originated in Switzerland and southwestern Germany. His interest was heightened as a result of coordinating the 1981 Galician Reunion, which produced worldwide contacts, and he authored *We Did Take Root*, a saga of the migrations of their forebears to the New World, that same year.

Patricia A. Lowe is the director of the Oakdale Family History Center and past president of the Germanic Genealogy Society. She co-authored *Germanic Genealogy: A Guide to Worldwide Sources and Migration Patterns* and has engaged in Jewish research.

Paul M. Makousky is a charter member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and served as its treasurer for many years. He has been the principal organizer of many of CGSI's well-attended conferences in the Upper Midwest.

Mavis Menzies, former Administrator of the Manitoba Genealogical Society, is now president of its East European Branch, having also served in three other EEB offices. She has been researching her maternal Czech ancestors for five years.

John D. Movius, the current president of FEEFHS, was one of its founders and serves as its webmaster and editor of its *Resource Guide to East European Genealogy*. He is a genealogical lecturer and writer and a specialist on European University Matrikel Registers, with personal interests extending back to the Roman and medieval eras and including the Baltic countries (especially Livonia), the Teutonic Knights, Pomerania and the Friuli region in northeastern Italy.

Beth Mullinax, a former president of the Irish Genealogical Society, lived in continental Europe for a number of years. She has taught genealogical classes for the Minnesota Genealogical Society and presented a beginners' workshop at the 1995 conference of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International in Chicago.

Halyna Myroniuk has worked for the Immigration History Research Center for more than 25 years and is now its assistant curator. She is a Slavic, especially a Ukrainian, specialist.

Edward Nelson is the archivist at the Iron Range Research Center in Chisholm, an important resource especially for Finnish, Slovenian, Croatian and Serbian immigrants who worked in the iron ore mines in Northeastern Minnesota. He is involved with the annual Slavic and Finnish festivals in the area.

Raluca Octav is a Romanian interpreter at the Minnesota Historical Society. She is an active member of the planning committee for the 1996 FEEFHS convention.

Thomas A. Peters, C.G.R.S., specializes in tracing the ancestors of Slovak and Rusyn-Americans back to Eastern Slovakia, the Galician Lemko region of Poland and the Transcarpathian area in Ukraine. The new 1st vice-president of FEEFHS has a knowledge of churchbook German, Latin, Hungarian, Slovak and Rusyn.

Steven G. Potach describes himself as an enthusiast of Czech history and culture who has spoken to the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and contributed to its journal, *Naše Rodina*. He has a B.A. in History and won the University of Minnesota's Ida B. Davis Ethnic Heritage Award in 1976 with his essay on "The Potachs of South Omaha: Two Generations of a Bohemian-American Family."

John Radzilowski is doing his doctoral dissertation at the University of Arizona on the Poles in Minnesota. He is a native Minnesotan.

Judith P. Reid has been a reference specialist in local history and genealogy at the Library of Congress since 1977. She has written *Guides to Genealogical Research*, *Genealogical Reference Interviews* and various articles about local history and genealogical resources at the Library of Congress.

Timo R. Riippa is a curatorial assistant at the Immigration History Research Center, with a background in Finnish-American History. He wrote the chapter on the Finns in *They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups*.

Prof. LaVern J. Rippley of St. Olaf College, newsletter editor of the Society of German-American Studies, traces his ancestors back to Baden and Silesia. He has authored, co-authored or translated numerous books and over 100 articles dealing with German-Americans, including those from Bohemia and Russia, and is popular on the lecture circuit.

James A. Sazevich is an independent historian, researcher and tour guide. He has done research in Belarus and is knowledgeable about the Bohemian settlements in St. Paul.

George Soldatow has a master's degree in theology from Holy Trinity Seminary in New York City. He has published about 20 books, mostly on topics related to Russian-American churches.

Adeline M. Sopa is a native of Portage County, the location of the oldest Polish rural settlement in Wisconsin and the second oldest in the United States. Her research concerning her ancestors from the Kaszuby area in what was then West Prussia has generated an interest in Kaszuby and the emigration of many Kaszubes to North America.

Prof. Theofanis G. Stavrou, a history professor and director of Modern Greek Studies at the University of Minnesota, edits the *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook*. He has been at the university for 35 years and teaches Russian, as well as Greek and history.

Andris S. Straumanis is a senior editor and a doctoral candidate in journalism and mass communication at the University of Minnesota. He knows Latvian and has done dissertation research in Latvia.

Miriam Weiner, C.G., is a former executive director of The American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust, co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy*, a founding board member of FEEFHS, and an internationally known author, lecturer, and syndicated columnist. She is the president of Routes to Roots, pioneering in offering customized research visits to countries in the former Pale of Jewish Settlements and has established a permanent second home in Ukraine, with her latest booklet being *Routes to Roots in Ukraine*,

Moldova, Belarus, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Robert Weiss is the past president of the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society. He was recently elected as president of the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies.

Duane D. Wiita is the past president of the Finnish Genealogy Group, as well as a former president and current board member of the Scandinavian-American Genealogy Society, both branches of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. He has specialized in researching Finnish-American newspapers.

William W. Wolpert is a member of the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest. He co-authored a booklet on Jewish genealogical resources in the Twin Cities.

Prof. William E. Wright, a retired history professor, former editor of the *Austrian History Yearbook* and founding director of the Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota, speaks German and reads Czech and Polish, with numerous publications on Austria and Bohemia to his credit. He studied in Vienna and has traveled widely in Eastern and Central Europe every summer for the past 20 years.

Joel Wurl is curator and assistant director of the Immigration History Research Center. He is a co-author of *The Immigration History Research Center: A Guide to Its Holdings* and has written related articles for a number of publications.

Jan Steven Zaleski, A.G., is a former president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. He has served for the past several years as editor of its journal, *The Eaglet*, and does professional genealogical research.

David Zincavage is co-host of the Eastern European Special Interest Group of the America OnLine Genealogy Club. He is an active member of the European-based, multi-continental Lithuanian Nobility Society, about which he has written an article published in the *Augustan Society Newsletter*, as well as the Belarus Nobility Society.

Olga Zoltai is a retired caseworker, formerly employed by the International Institute of Minnesota, which published the *Minnesota Ethnic Resources Directory*, provides assistance such as English-language classes to recent immigrants, and offers other classes to help preserve the heritage of various

groups. She and her husband are post-World War II immigrants from Hungary and travel to Hungary every summer.

CALL FOR INVITATIONS 1997 FEEFHS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

by John D. Movius

Good conventions don't just happen ... they are the result of good planning. The 1995 Cleveland convention resulted from discussions with Duncan Gardiner, C.G. of suburban Lakewood Ohio and FEEFHS officers at the Salt Lake City convention in May 1984. The possibility of 1996 convention in Minneapolis was also first discussed with Ed Brandt, A.G. of Minneapolis in May 1994. It was confirmed by our executive council in the spring of 1995. So ... it is that time again for us to think about a venue for the 1997 International Convention.

The new officers of FEEFHS are now thinking about a suitable location for the 1997 FEEFHS International Convention. Would you care to join in the dialog with us?

Characteristics of an attractive convention site for FEEFHS might include: an urban or suburban location in the Continental U.S. or Canada, a hotel within a reasonable cab/limo fare from an airport, an airport served by at least one or two major air carriers with national connections, and a hotel that probably already is booking and serving small conventions. It would have banquet facilities seating several hundred persons and a reasonable number of convention rooms to handle maybe four or more threads of lectures.

But perhaps the key ingredient is an individual and/or organization(s) with a sincere interest in FEEFHS and East European genealogy who can help organize the on-site arrangements. If you are interested in attracting a FEEFHS convention to your city, please let any FEEFHS officer know or contact John Movius by eMail: feefhs@wheel.dcn.davis.ca.us or by letter to P.O. Box 4327, Davis CA 95617-4327.

GRHS Northern California Workshop -- Russian Genealogical Sources

by John D. Movius, Gwen Pritzkau,
and Kahlile Mehr
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The first annual Northern California Chapter workshop of the Germans From Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) held in Sacramento on Saturday, September 18, November 1995. The keynote speaker was Gwen Pritzkau of Riverton, Utah.

Gwen has gained the reputation of being the foremost advocate in Salt Lake City for obtaining German-Russian genealogy materials. She is known to have been an important advocate and a moving force in encouraging the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) to locate and place a high priority on the St. Petersburg Lutheran consistory duplicate churchbooks microfilming project. The wisdom of her recommendation is clear. These 137 reels have become the most popular of any collection ever filmed by the GSU, with the lone exception of the U.S. Census.

The GSU is the LDS entity, based in Salt Lake City, that overseas and conducts the microfilming activities that result in accession into the FHL of large quantities of microfilm of important genealogical value. It is understood that the GSU's Office of Collection Development (OCD) works with GSU negotiators to schedule and prioritize future filming projects.

Gwen reported the death of Jared Suess on Monday, 31 October, 1995. Mr. Suess was the veteran director of the GSU Office of Collection Development (OCD). Mr. Suess was author of several significant genealogy texts. He was an important decision maker in identifying high priority projects while mounting the extensive microfilming program in Eastern Europe earlier this decade. His death leaves a large void in this office. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Other talented members of this office, including his assistant Kahlile Mehr and Steve Blodgett reportedly will continue these important tasks. It is understood from Gwen that East European author, lecturer and expert Daniel Schlyter, A.G. of the International Reference Desk (FHL Level B-1) will be moving upstairs to add his expertise to this office.

FEEFHS, 3:4 (January 1996), p. 82

Gwen presented a lecture titled: "Family History: Why, What and What's Wunnerful About It". Her talk was based in part on her personal knowledge of recent developments in German-Russian microfilm availability at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City, where she has volunteered her time for many years. The main substance of her extended comments came from a mid-November 1995 paper on "Russian Genealogical Sources" authored by Kahlile Mehr, of the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU).

The *FEEFHS Newsletter* is pleased to offer the text of this Kahlile Mehr paper with Gwen's full consent. At this moment it is the most current and authoritative review of this subject generally available to genealogists today. The text is copyrighted and all rights reserved. The creative content is by Kahlile Mehr. Any errors are the full responsibility of the John Movius, who re-typed, formatted and coded it for posting on the FEEFHS web site November 19, 1995.

Russian Genealogical Sources

by Kahlile Mehr

1) GENERAL

The two primary sources for pre-revolutionary genealogy in Russia are revision lists (poll tax census) and parish registers (more precisely, parish register transcripts). In both cases, the annual returns for a particular region were often bound together, no matter how many folios existed for that region.

2) METRIKI, metrical books (parish registers)

The majority begin in the middle of the 18th century. Normally two copies were made. One (a transcript) was sent annually to a central ecclesiastical or civil office. The transcript is the copy most likely to have survived the civil disruptions in Russian history.

2a) Russian Orthodox

In 1589 the Russian Patriarchate was established. It followed the Byzantine rite in Russia. The keeping of metrical books was mandated by a 1722 decree of Peter the

Great. The format of three parts -- christening, marriages and deaths -- was established in 1724. The printed format was established in 1806. The 1838 format prevailed until the revolution. The consistory copy was considered official and the parish record was considered a copy.

Russian dioceses were coterminous with Russian guberniias. A diocese (eparkhia) was divided by blagochenie, then by prikhod (parish).

2b) Roman Catholic

In 1563 the Council of Trent mandated the keeping of parish registers for christening and marriage. Burial was mandated in 1614. Russia mandated the keeping of registers in 1826. Three copies were made. One may have been for the deanery (dekanat), the level between the diocese and the parish. There were five dioceses in 1900: Tiraspol, Zhitomir, Mogilev, Vilnius (Vilno) and Kaunas (Kovno).

2c) Evangelical (Lutheran)

Russia mandated the keeping of records in 1832. There were two diocese offices, one in St. Petersburg and the other in Moscow. The registers were kept in German, until the law of 1891 required that they be kept in Russian.

2d) Jewish

Russia mandated the keeping of records in 1835. Two copies were made, the official one was turned into the government. Beginning in 1857 a Crown rabbi, paid by the state, kept the registers.

3) REVIZSKIE SKAZKI (revision lists)

Church books are not the best research source for Russian genealogy. Both archivists and researchers told me that the best place to begin research is in the revision lists. Revision lists were kept between 1719 and 1858 to support a national poll tax. They covered 95% of the population.

The poll tax was announced by Peter I in 1718 and was undertaken in 1719. He instituted it in order to change the basis of taxation from households to individuals. It still took several years for the returns to come in. In the meantime Peter I died.

The second revision was initiated in 1743 by Elizabeth.

The third revision, 1761-1767, coincided with the ascension of Catherine II to the throne. It included females for the first time.

The fourth revision (1778-1787, was the first to be conducted by the region fiscal chamber (kazionnaia palata), established in 1775 to handle income and expenses of governmental institutions, the collection of taxes, and the conduct of revisions.

The fifth revision was in 1794-1808.

The sixth revision was in 1811-1812.

The seventh revision was in 1815-1825.

The eighth revision was in 1833-1835.

The ninth revision was in 1850-1852.

The tenth revision was in 1857-1859.

The last three revisions noted changes in families during the interim between the revisions.

The tax was imposed on all male persons of the lower classes at a rate of 80 kopeks a year. Nobility, clergy, officialdom, army, and higher strata of the urban population were exempt -- about 10% in the 19th century.

Separate volumes were kept for the different classes of society.

- dворянство -- nobility
- духовенство -- clergy
- купецество -- merchant
- meshchane -- urban dweller
- krest'iane -- peasant
- inorodtsy -- native peoples
- kazaki -- cossaks

4) PEREPIS 1897 (1897 census)

The 1897 census was the only universal census in tsarist Russia. It was conducted on January 28, in the middle of winter because this was the time when the population was least mobile. The census tabulated information on name, age, sex, relationship, social class, occupation, religion, native tongue, literacy, birthplace, military status, and disabilities.

A copy was made locally and both copies were forwarded to the provincial census commission. One copy was kept by that commission and the other sent to the Central Census

Bureau in St. Petersburg. The name lists of that copy have been thrown away but the statistical sheets have been kept. The local copy has survived in some regional archives. For example, the 1897 census for Ekaterinoslav is in Dnepropetrovsk.

5) MICROFILM PRODUCTION

Cameras sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Utah are currently located as follows:

- Russia -- 14
- Ukraine -- 5
- Estonia -- 2
- Belarus -- 2
- Armenia -- 1
- Georgia -- 1
- Moldava -- 1
- Lithuania -- 1

Production of microfilm reels as received in Salt Lake City to the present time is:

- Armenia -- 212
- Belarus -- 288
- Estonia -- 1478
- Georgia -- 271
- Lithuania -- 92
- Moldava -- 168
- Russia -- 3,179
- Ukraine -- 321
- TOTAL -- 6,009

6) GEOGRAPHIC AIDS

[Webmaster's Note: Book citations (call numbers) listed in bold below are for the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City, Utah. The FHL uses the Dewey Decimal System. When searching for these books at other libraries, remember that many universities and archives in America use a different numbering method -- the Library of Congress Cataloging System. Some of the newer books at the FHL are not available on microfilm due to copyright restrictions]

6a) Russia

Vasmer, Max. *Russisches Geographisches Namenbuch* (Russian Geographic Name Book). Wiesbaden: Otto Harassowitz, 1964-1981. *Nachtrag* (Supplement) 1988. 11 volumes. **947 Er5**

Spiski naselennykh Mest Rossiiskoi Imperii, v. 1-65, 1861-1885. **GS 6002224**

Additional "spiski" were published in a later series.

6b) Baltics

Feldmann, Hans. *Baltisches historisches Ortslexikon* (Baltic Historical Dictionary of Placenames). Vienna: Boehlau, 1985. Teil 1: Estland, Teil 2: Lettland. **GS 947.4 E5fh**

6c) Ukraine

Istoriia Mist i. USSR (History of Towns and Villages in the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic). 26 volume encyclopedia of Ukraine. Missing Zhytomyr, Krym, Rivne, Ternopil, Chernivets. **GS 947.71 E5u**

Ukrains'ka RSR admynystrativno-teritoryal'nii podyl (Ukrainian Republic administrative Territorial Divisions). **GS 947.71 E5u**

6d) Western Ukraine/German names

Gemeindelexikon der im Reichsrat vertretenen Koenigreiche und Laender (Gazetteer of the Crownlands and Territories Represented in the Imperial Council [of Austria-Hungary]). 14 volumes. Vienna: K. K. Statistisches Zentralkommission, 1903-1908. **Q 943.6 E5g**
FHL Film # 1187925-1187928, 924736

6e) Western Ukraine/Polish names

Bystrzycki, Tadeusz. *Skorwicz miejscowosci Rzeczypospolitej polskiej* (Listing of Localities of the Polish Republic). 2 volumes. Przemysl: Wydawnictwa ksiaznicy naukowej, 1934. **943.8 E5sm**
FHL Film # 1343868

7) RUSSIAN BORDER CHANGES

Bessarabia/Ottoman Empire:

- 1812 to the Russian Empire
- 1918 to Romania
- 1945: West to Moldava, East to Ukraine

Bucovina/Ottoman Empire:

- 1774 to Austria
- 1918 to Romania
- 1945: North to Ukraine, South to Romania

Courland (Kurland)/Russian Empire:

- 1918 to Latvia

East Prussia/Germany:

- 1945: North -- Kalingrad to Russia, South to Poland

Estland/Russian Empire:

- 1918 to Estonia

Galicia/Poland:

- 1772 to Austria
- 1918 to Poland
- 1945: East to Poland, West to Ukraine
- Grodno/Russian Empire
- 1921 to Poland
- 1945: East to Belarus, West to Poland

Kovno/Russian Empire:

- 1918 to Lithuania

Livland (Livonia)/Russian Empire:

- 1918: North to Estonia; South to Latvia

Memel/East Prussia:

- 1918 to Lithuania

Poland:

- 1772, 1793, 1795: East to Russian Empire, North to Prussia, South to Austria
- 1918 to Poland
- 1939: Northeast to Belarus, Southeast to Ukraine

Suwalki/Poland:

- 1918: North to Lithuania, South to Poland
- Ruthenia/Hungary
- 1918 to Czechoslovakia
- 1945 to Ukraine

Vilna/Russian Empire:

- 1921 to Poland
- 1945: North to Lithuania, South to Belarus

Vitebsk/Russian Empire:

- 1918: North to Latvia, South to Belarus, East to the Russian Republic

Volhynia/Poland:

- 1795 to Russian Empire
- 1919 to Poland
- 1945 to Ukraine

Vyborg/Finland:

- 1939 to Russian Republic

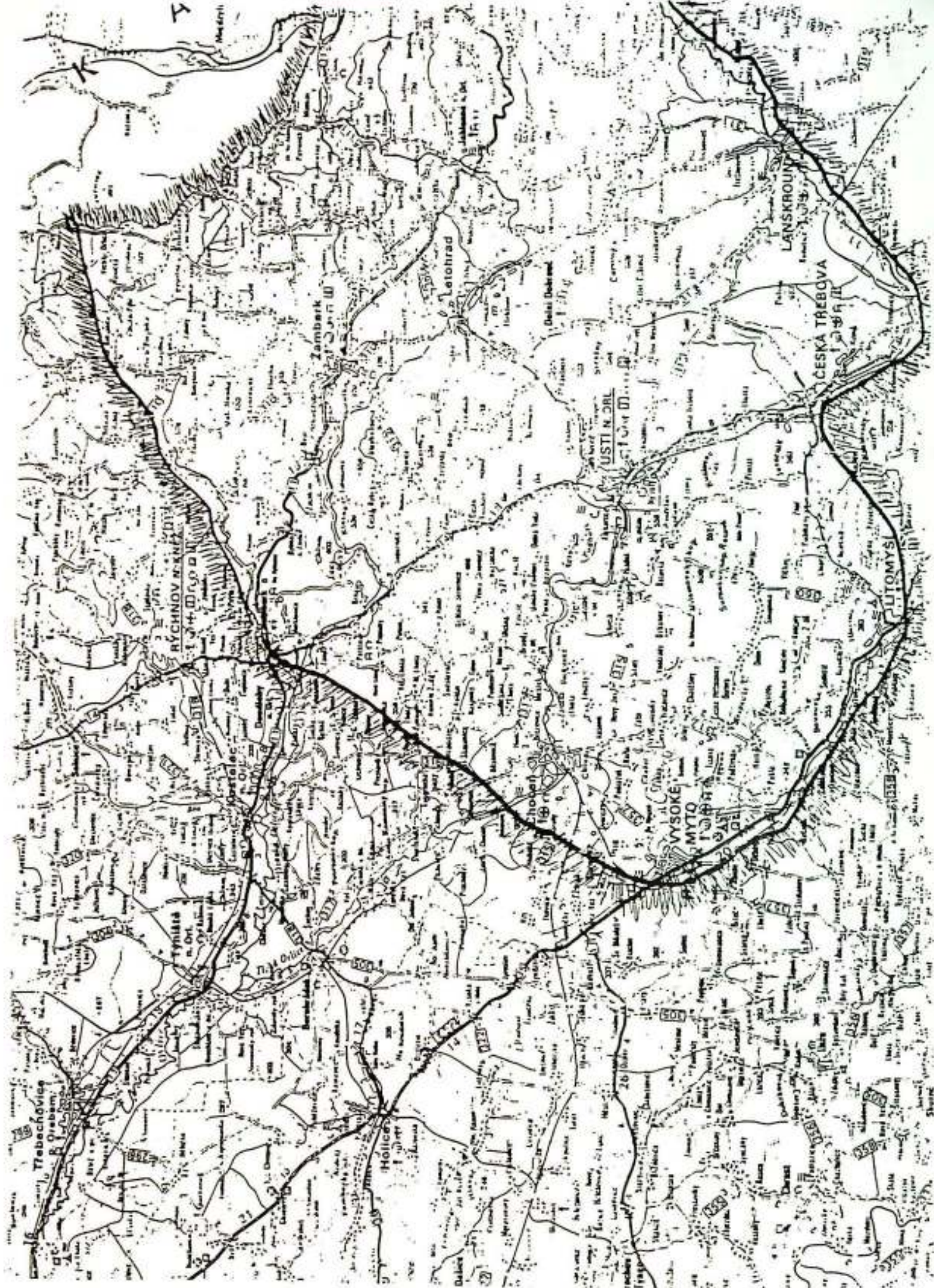
RESEARCH IN NORTHEASTERN
BOHEMIA

by Kathy Betlach Dankowski

We are announcing a new research project which includes the area outlined on the following map of northeastern Bohemia, Czech Republic. We hope you will join us as we build a database of information about our ancestors that will develop into a great research tool for all of us. But even more than that, we are hoping to rebuild our ancestors' lives in the old country with the help of the Czech village historians and to follow our ancestors' paths to America and establishing their new lives here. To help us do this, we will need you to send us photocopies of your family-history material, charts, emigration facts, personal histories, and "family tradition" stories. Tell us about your trips to the area and finding your relatives, etc. We will scrutinize, analyze, and then put it all on our ever-growing database, which will include a listing of their surnames with birth dates, Czech villages with house numbers, migration data, and U. S. residencies and experiences here. We plan to explore all facets of their lives. It will be most interesting.

We have tried to reach many interested parties, but know we have missed many too. If you know other people researching this area, please notify them or send their names and addresses to me for processing. You can also distribute these to your area genealogical societies, Sokols or lodge halls. We would appreciate your help in that way. We are also open to any suggestions you might have of any type to make this more interesting and complete. We will try to answer your questions, too. Please let us know if you want to get more involved with the project. We can probably find work for you. A list of the villages appears below with the German names in parentheses and a list of surnames with spelling variations we have so far (November 1995). I am sure they are not all included yet.

The response to our first call for family-history information for our ancestors originating from northeastern Bohemia was overwhelming and exciting. We want to thank everybody who has contributed to the project and those who are continuing to provide information. It is proving to be a wonderful research tool for people working in this area; their interest and enthusiasm are very encouraging. We have compiled a database of more than 10,000 people with 2560 of them being born in Bohemia. We hope to continue receiving additional data on an on-going basis while we



process the collating of all this information for use by members in this research group.

We are doing all of this with a sincere interest in the subject, a hope to help other people, and, I might add, out of the goodness of our hearts. If you want to be notified of possible family connections or items of interest to you, please send us some stamps or money to cover the costs. This is a "not for profit" endeavor. We will accept donations to help cover our costs. So let's get the ball rolling on this and see what we can get organized.

Please contact Jim Kleinschmidt or me at any time at the following addresses:

Jim Kleinschmidt, 2917 Muir Field Road, Madison, WI 53719; tel. (608) 273-3389, e-mail JimEd@AOL.com
Kathryn Betlach Dankowski, 727 Appleberry Drive, San Rafael, CA 940-3-1205; tel. (415) 479-8482; e-mail IBKayD@AOL.com.

FAMILY NAMES

Andrie, Barta, Bartos (Bartosch), Bednar, Benes (Benisch, Benesh, Benesch), Beran, Beskar, Betlach, Binstock, Birkel, Blaska (Blaschka), Blazek, Brickner, Boorks, Cejnar (Zeiner), Cepela, Coufal, Dittrich, Domesle, Doubrava (Doubrava), Dusek (Duscheck, DUSchack, Dusack), Dvorak, Fiser (Fischer), Falteisek, Fromanek, Frodl (Freudel, Freidel), Gregor, Haberman, HEbl (Hubl, Huebel, Hiebl), Heinz (Hines), Herman, Holub, Hrdina, Hrdlichka, Janes, Janis, (Janisch), Janovec, Jansa, Jezek, Jilk (Yelg, Yelk), Jirousek, Kabarle, Kafka, Katzer, Klekar (Klecker), Kolar, Komarek, Kubicek (Kubischek), Kubka, Kusilek, Kvapil, Langer, Loida, Ludvick, Marek, Mares (Maresh), Metejlicek, Matuska, Matzerk, Meitner, Mera, Moravec, Motl, Muller (Miller), Nachazel, Neugebauer, Niki (Nickel), Novak, Paukert, Pechacek, Pelzel, Peskar, Peters, Pitterle, Pirkl, Pomije, Prokop, Prokopec, Prokcher (Brookshaw), Raehsler, Richter, Rolelr, Rosenberg, Rotter, Rysavy, Schmith, Schoeberle, Silar, Skalicky (Skalitsky, Skalicka, Skala), Slez, Sovaty, Suster (Schuster), Svec, Tajerle (Tyler), Tikler, Uhrova, Vacek, Vagner (Wagner), Vasku Vavra, Veith (Vait, Fait), Vencl (Wencil), Byprchticka, Wurst, Zimbrich (Zimbrick, Zimpric)

CZECH VILLAGES IN NORTHEASTERN BOHEMIA WITH GERMAN TRANSLATION

Albrechtice (Olbersdorf), Bestovice, Bohunovice, Brandys nad Orlici, Brezenice, Bystrec (Waltersdorf), Cermna Dolni & Horni (Böhmisch Rothwasser), Cernovir (Tschernovier), Česká Třebová (Böhmisch Trubau), České Libchavy, Cenkovice, Dlouha Trebova (Langentriebe), Choceň, Dobrouč-Dolni (Libenthal), Dobrouč-Horni (Bitterbach), Halda, Herbortice (Herbotitz), Hermanice-Dolni & Horni (Hermanitz), Houzovec-Horni (Hertertsdorf), Houzevec-Dolni (seibersdorf), Hnatnice, Hradiste, Jablonne nad Orlici, Jakubovice (Jokelsdorf), Hehnedi, Kaliste, Kerhartice (Kerhartitz), Kelckersberg, Kanpovec (Knapendorf), Kobert (Koburk), Kuncice, Kunvald, Lanskroun (Lichtenstein), Lansperk (Blandsberg), Letohrad (Geyersberg), Lhoka (Nathutten), Libchavy Dolni & Horni, Lukavice, Litomysl (Leutomischl), Malá Retova (Kl. Ritte), Mostek, Nekor, Nemcice, Nepomuk(y), Oldrichovice, Orlov, Ostrov (Michelsdorf), Pekla, Petrovice (Petersdorf), Podrazak, Přívrat, Rozsocha, Rudoltice (Rudelsdorf), Rviste, Rybnik (Riebzig), Skorenice, Skrovnic-Malá & Velká, Skuhrov (Rathsdorf), Sloupnice-Dolni & Horni, Sudislav, Tisova, Tresnovec-Horni & Dolni (Johsdorf-Ober & Nieder), Ústí nad Orlici (Wildenschwerdt), Vamberk, Velká Retova (G. Ritte), Vermerovice, Voderady, Vracovice, Byprachtice (Weipersorf), Vysoké Mýto, Zalsi, Žamberk.

FEEFHS Web Site: The First Eight Months -- A Progress Report

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Since FEEFHS went on line in May of 1995 with a so-called "HomePage" on the World-wide Web segment of the Internet, a number of changes have occurred in FEEFHS. Some of this change has been gradual, as "hits" from viewers (one person looking at one file) steadily increased to 10,000 in October, 36,000 in December and 46,000 in January. Other aspects of changes within FEEFHS may turn out to be more profound when viewed from a perspective in the future.

Gradual changes have included the continued growth of FEEFHS. In calendar year 1995 FEEFHS doubled its size, growing to 125 organizations in fourteen countries,

including five Canadian provinces and about twenty of the United States. But this sort of growth -- doubling in size for the third straight year - is old news and no surprise to anyone but a few founders. Some of us still recall having a hard time back at SeaTac in mid-1992 visualizing FEEFHS to ever exceed fifty organizations, even in our wildest dreams.

FEEFHS WEB SITE -- THE INITIAL STAGES

The initial posting of the FEEFHS HomePage on the World Wide Web was a case of placing the old two sided legal size "FEEFHS Flyer" on line. It a small 17K digital file; that happened on 20 May 1995. The second step was more difficult. It was our effort to do the same thing with 40 page and growing *FEEFHS Resource Guide*. This was finally accomplished almost eight months later in early January 1996.

THE FEEFHS FrontPage -- WEEKLY ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Starting last May, the first page of our so-called HomePage became an online newsletter. Last fall it was named the *FEEFHS FrontPage* - the weekly on-line newsletter of East European Genealogy. Its URL (Uniform Resource Location = web address) is found at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>. Thirty-three weekly issues were published last year. This has continued and is a permanent weekly part of the FEEFHS Web Site.

The *FEEFHS FrontPage* is intentionally kept slim (3 pages, 8 to 10K in size) using only text (no graphics). It loads much faster this way for the multitude of older computers and the slow modems that tend to be the norm for all but a handful of genealogists today.

The *FEEFHS FrontPage* started by recognizing for a week each new organization that joined FEEFHS and linking to its HomePage. It also chronicled the additions made to our web site as individual HomePages were built for each member organization as a gratis part of their membership. This kind of news has yielded space to reports of new ways to access related files - the major ways to find information on our web site - and to a number of cross-indexes.

THE MASTER INDEX PAGE

The Master IndexPage is at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/masteri.html>. It carries all of the basic indexes to

very place of interest on the FEEFHS Web Site. The two best ways to find a members page is the Ethnic, Religious and National Index - <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/ethnic.html> and the Location (Address) Index: <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/location.html>

FEEFHS CROSS-INDEXES

The cross-indexes derive from the ethnic, religious and national index. One cross-index now permits access to four reports on the status of microfilming in Eastern Europe. Its URL is found at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/indexmf.html>. A surname index now links the growing number of surname databases that now are on our site at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/indexsur.html>. Still others connect organizations within major ethnic, religious and national genealogy groups.

THE FEEFHS MAP ROOM

The FEEFHS Map Room started last July with several maps as we experimented with different storage formats. It now represents 44 maps covering all of central and eastern Europe - from the French/German border across the Russian steppes to the Urals (a geographic border of Asia) - and from Finland to Greece. The URL for the index to the Map Room is <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/maps/indexmap.html>.

These maps were scanned from the same 1882 Scottish atlas (Blackie and Sons. and are stored in compressed JPEG format. They were contributed by our member Tom Gostin, a professional genealogist from Pasadena. They represent all the German, Russian and Austro-Hungarian Empires and the Balkans. Maps of Finland, and a special map of the Crimea are part of this collection. Only one map of the Russian provinces of Poland is from another 1902 Atlas.

At 8 Mb, this FEEFHS map collection now takes about half of our hard drive space. The maps range in digital size from about 150 K to about 350 K each. The scale ranges from about 50 to 80 miles per inch. They have excellent detail, show provincial borders and display many cities. Our collection was praised by *Everton Online* last July. Experts have said our maps are more detailed and more useful to genealogists than the only other set of East European maps on the web today (the University of Texas collection of contemporary Eastern Europe).

Soc.Genealogy.Slavic ESTABLISHED

The FEEFHS *FrontPage* also has started to report "hard news", including election results of our member organizations. We are taking an activist stance in helping to create new genealogy organizations. It already has one major online scoop to its credit: being an important factor in helping to establish Soc.Genealogy.Slavic. This is the most important new online Usenet newsgroup for FEEFHS record searchers since the establishment of Soc.Genealogy.German several years ago.

Last fall FEEFHS offered its full support to the chief "proponent", Stephen Kymlicka of Regina, Alberta, Canada. The s.g.slavic RFD (Request for Discussion) and information on how to vote were posted on the FEEFHS web site. Continuing awareness of it was maintained in November and December on the FEEFHS *FrontPage*. We covered the gestation of Soc.Genealogy.Slavic like a blanket each week, reported its approval the same day it occurred and its online status within an hour of its activation on January 9th 1996.

Once it was established as a new Usenet newsgroup, FEEFHS provided Soc.Genealogy.Slavic with a "home" on the World Wide Web for its own Soc.Genealogy.Slavic HomePage at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/frgslav.html>. A space has also been provided for its FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) linked to the newsgroup's HomePage. This FAQ is a basic source to turn to for genealogy advice in searching for Slavic ancestors.

Soc.Genealogy.Slavic is important to FEEFHS members because the Slavic areas it covers falls within our charter of interest. It covers most of the East European land mass that the Soc.Genealogy.German newsgroup does not cover. The East Slavs: are Russia, Belarus, the Ukraine and Ruthenia. The West Slavs are Poland, Czech, Slovakia, Lustia (the Sorbs and the Wends). The South Slavs cover much of the Balkan Penninsula: Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, Dalmacia and Serbia.

Stephen Kymlicka of Regina will speak on Soc.Genealogy.Slavic at the 1996 FEEFHS Convention. What is his opinion of the FEEFHS Web Site (as quoted from the Soc.Genealogy.Slavic FAQ 3)? "One stop Slavic (genealogy) shopping. Highly recommended. Take a good half hour and do this site justice. Use the ethnic index and the cross-indexes. You will be rewarded for your efforts."

THE FEEFHS *Internet Journal*

The FEEFHS *Internet Journal* has gradually grown to represent nine articles. It is found at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/indexfij.html>. Already there are enough articles on East European microfilming (four) to have a Microfilm Status Cross-Index on East European microfilm activities. It is found at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/indexmf.html>

SURNAME CROSS-INDEX

The Surname Cross-Index now has six databases at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/indexsur.html>. One big one is from *Die Pommerschen Leute* Newsletter at <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/frgdpl.html>. Myron Grunwald reports he gained 21 new subscribers in the first 15 days of January from visitors to his *Die Vorfahren* 33,000 full name database (3 Mb) on the FEEFHS Web Site at: <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/frgdiev0.html>

Other databases online at the FEEFHS web site include the 2.8 Mb Gluckstal Colonies extraction program, Slovene surnames and German-Jewish surnames, the SERL (Southeast European Researcher's List) deals with Germanic ancestors in the Balkans and the FEEFHS Obituary Index from *Volk Auf Dem Weg*, the monthly Journal of one of our Stuttgart Germany based members, the Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Russland.

The German-Bohemian Heritage Society's surname database is being prepared now by Bob Paulson for addition soon. The German Genealogical Digest's surname database is also expected to arrive shortly from editor-in-chief and publisher Laraine Ferguson.

SEARCHING THE WEB FOR GENEALOGY

Our web site has now reached 17.8 Megabytes of hard drive storage space. We represent the largest web site at DCN (Davis Community Net) and account for about 25% of all the DCN web site traffic. Yet no time or effort has been invested so far in becoming listed with search engines, the large indexing arms of the web. Thus even major search engines ... like Yahoo ... have not yet found us. In using the web for personal reasons, I have discovered a few excellent search engines for genealogy. Currently the FEEFHS *FrontPage* has a link to our list of the top seven search engines for genealogy on the web at this URL: <http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/sesearch.html>

Thanks to all of you who have visited and benefitted from browsing our web site, and who check in weekly to learn

about the latest news from FEEFHS. Thank you is in order for helping us to get started and encouraging us to continue. I hope this update will encourage other online members and non-members to stop by and browse our web site in the future.

Computers and Information on Slovakia

by Jan George Frajkor,
Professor of Journalism
Carleton University, Ottawa

[Reprinted by permission from *lednota*, September 20 and October 18, 1995]

More than three years ago, right after the overthrow of the Communists, but before the independence of Slovakia, I remember giving a 1200-baud modem to the president of Matica Slovenska, Jozef Markus.

That was in the hope that Slovaks at home could keep in close touch with their many relatives and exile communities abroad at a time of great need for cultural and personal contact. Markus seemed puzzled by the modem, as well as by the whole concept of electronic communication. As far as I know, he has never used that modem. But today he has an electronic mail address.

And Slovakia is well on its way to being one of the most computer-literate communicative societies in all of Europe. The change in just a few years has been almost unbelievable.

Two years ago, I went to Slovakia to lecture at Comenius University on (among other things) electronic communication. The young people catch on fast. Comenius students today are giving the world a news digest, in English and Slovak, every two weeks during the school year.

Slovakia has not only joined the electronic world through the Internet and the World Wide Web -- it is helping to lead it.

Here are just a few of the things you and your home computer can get from your home country:

1 The Comenius journalism student newsletter is called

Nase Slova (Our Words). The students do each item in Slovak, then immediately in English, so that those who want to learn either language can compare. They are delighted that they have had responses from America, Australia, Canada, and all of Europe.

- 2 One of the most complete and best-looking collections of documents about Slovak history, culture, and geography -- including city maps, color photographs, and airline schedules -- has been assembled by EUnet Slovakia in Bratislava. With the right software, you can blow up maps to get closeups of the streets and find hotels, museums, and tourist attractions. The Slovakia Document Store is a labor of love by a passionate computer-enthusiast, Ivan Lescak, the manager of the EUnet Slovakia network service. He didn't have to do it. He just believes in computer communication, and is proud to do a good job of it. The American computer magazine *PC Computing* in May called this the best Web site in Eastern Europe. It's also the fastest and easiest way to connect to all the other computer services in Slovakia.
- 3 All the major newspapers are available electronically. You can read them at home, and because of the time difference, you will be reading tomorrow's Slovak newspaper today. Magazines and cultural journals are also on. No other post-Communist state can say that. *SME* was the first newspaper to get on line, and is still the most prolific contributor. But *Pravda*, *Praca*, *Slovenska Republika*, *Novy Cas*, *TREND*, and *Narodna Obroda* are now also posting full or partial stories. *Narodna Obroda*, unfortunately, has not updated its contributions for some months. *TREND* even posts an English-language digest.
- 4 The text of radio broadcasts from private and state radio are available via computer. You can even get the sound of actual broadcasts of Radio Twist on your own computer, if you have sound capability. The Teletext service of Slovak TV is also available.
- 5 Slovakia has the biggest on-line database of newspaper and magazine articles of any of the new democracies. It's a system called "Storin."
- 6 A new project just now getting underway will link radio stations and newspapers in all of Slovakia via Internet, so that they can discuss their mutual problems, swap information, and decide quickly how to protect their interests.
- 7 Matica Slovenska is, at last, on the Internet. You can get schedules of the major cultural events in Slovakia or ask information if you are a researcher.
- 8 There is a thriving forum for people to discuss the

details of Slovakia's history, culture, economy -- all of life, in fact. It's called the Slovak-L mailing list, or bit.listserv.slovak-l, depending on how you access it. Every day you'll find Slovaks from all over the world either helping each other out with information or insulting each other in the usual lively Slovak way over politics and history.

The swiftness of this change from the backwaters of journalism and communication to the forefront of modern technology is a credit to the media and the academic community of Slovakia. They saw how important electronic communication has become in this era of "technological Darwinism," in which information is power. It belies the image of a poor, backward, and inward-looking country that so many Westerners have of Slovakia.

The newspapers are on line with help from the LOGOS project -- a Western European aid program -- in cooperation with the Slovak Academic Network (SANET) and the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

The "Storin" database was a project of the Independent Journalism Foundation. It will be managed by the Centre for Independent Journalism in Bratislava.

Nase Slova was conceived as a training exercise for journalism students, and became a regular newsletter put out by students supervised by professor Svetlana Hlavcakova.

Slovak-L was one of the earliest discussion forums set up after the fall of Communism -- I believe that only the Poland-L list was ahead of it. It is based at the University of Buffalo in the U.S. and managed by me at Carleton University in Ottawa. Hey, with computers, it doesn't matter whether you're in Buffalo or Bratislava!

So, what do you need if you want to tap into this? In the following, I will outline what hardware and software you need to make Slovakia as close to you as your neighborhood McDonald's.

You need a computer, a modem, communication software, and some access to a telephone link to Internet services. Most of you who have a computer probably already have all of this except the modem and Internet access.

If all you want do is read the news about Slovakia or join a discussion group, any old computer will do. Even a modem as slow as 2400 bits per second (that's a measure of how

fast information is sent and received is OK). The simplest way is to sign up with a commercial firm like CompuServe, Delphi, Genie, America OnLine, or, in Canada, the big Toronto-based Canada Remote System. All of them will give you some measure of access to Internet, but the services may be limited to sending and receiving electronic mail and reading or posting to discussion groups. You have to check around to see if they give you "full Internet access," which lets you get sound and pictures and everything available.

In many big cities, there are community-owned networks which are well worth joining, because they are cheap and because they can provide most services on the Internet.

There's a Freenet in Cleveland, in Toronto, in Ottawa, in Victoria, British Columbia, and even in Kiev, Ukraine. They are linked together and they are cheap, be warned that you might not be able to get all of the services listed above. Still, it's a good way to start and the price is right.

Any modem software will also do for reading text. Whatever's easy and cheap is fine.

If you want to see pictures, graphics, and charts, or hear radio broadcasts, then you will need a much more modern computer -- a Macintosh, an X386 or better, and Amiga, or something similar.

You will also need lots of memory, because pictures use it up in great quantity. Four megabytes is a minimum. Even the most powerful new computer with small memory is not as good as an older X386 with lots of RAM memory.

You will need special software. Two programs are good -- Mosaic and Netscape. Netscape is newer and better.

You will need a fast modem. A speed of 14,400 bits per second is a minimum, and these modems are quite cheap now -- some are as low as \$100. A speed of 28,800 cps is better, because pictures may take a long time to show.

And you need real Internet access, not just partial access. That can cost anywhere from \$30 to \$200 a month, depending on who provides what level of service. Internet Service providers are a whole new business, but you should be able to find them in your telephone directory or through computer clubs. It will take some shopping around to get a good price, and don't commit yourself to a long-term contract. Prices are steadily getting lower as competition

increases.

OK, so you have the equipment and the service. What now? You have to know computer terms like World Wide Web, URL, http, and Home Pages. It's something you can learn quite easily.

Supposing you have Netscape, for example, and you want Slovakia Document Store so you can read the Slovak newspapers. Here is the address you will need to type in to reach EUnet Slovakia:

<http://www.eunet.sk>

It's as simple as that. It's heart-stopping to see the EUnet logo on your screen in full color for the first time. From the opening screen (Home Page), the rest is just a matter of following the menus to reach Slovakia Document Store and the Media/News section. From there, it is just a matter of picking out which newspaper or magazine you want to read.

If all you can get are text discussion groups, here are the important addresses:

Through Freenets or commercial services that offer what are called Usenet groups, look for:

bit.listserv.slovak-l

If you want to get Slovak-L delivered to you every day, send a message to

listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

saying

subscribe Slovak-L Jan Slovak

(Use your OWN first name and last name unless your name really IS Jan Slovak.)

Here are some useful e-mail (electronic mail) addresses:

prokop@esix.matica.sk is Igor Prokop at the National Library of Matica Slovenska;

kz@fphil.uniba.sk is the School of Journalism, Comenius University, Bratislava;

slovakem@fox.nstn.ca is the Slovak embassy in Ottawa;

gajados@inforamp.net is Andrej Gajdos, the editor of *Kanadsky Slovak*;

gfrajkor@ccs.carleton.ca is me in Ottawa.

GERMAN INTEREST GROUP OF SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

by Peggy Rockwell Gleich

The German Interest Group of Southern Wisconsin was formed 4 years ago because of an interest in German genealogy and a need for specific German topics. This group has mushroomed and now boasts over 100 members.

Workshops and seminars are presented annually. A quarterly newsletter is just beginning its third year. Topics and interests are varied and will continue as such. "Hands-on" presentations are frequently held.

The mailing address is: German Interest Group, 4327 Milton Ave., Janesville, WI 53546. Dues are currently \$7.50 for an individual and \$10.00 per family. The board consists of the President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, one Director, and the Newsletter Editor.

Several members are also speakers and assists with workshops for GIG and other groups. Many of our members have had genealogical credential for well over 20 years each. We have members throughout the United States as well as Germany.

GIG is fortunate to have many resources close at hand from which to draw speakers as well as research material. The Max Kade Institute of German Studies is located at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. They do genealogical research as well as translations. They have a large collection to browse through for your first visit. The Area Research Center of the UW system is located at Whitewater and has microfilm and maps among their large collections. You will find naturalization papers here also. You do need to call ahead for an appointment.

The Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society Library and Museum is located in Janesville. This is an untapped source of genealogical material, and your ancestors do not need to be Seventh Day Baptist to be found in their records. The Julius F. Sachse Ephrata Collection of manuscripts, books, and other artifacts related to the Ephrata Cloister and 18th and 19th Century German Seventh Day Baptists of Pennsylvania are located at the Museum. A large card catalog for the Sabbath Recorders as well as their other publications is available. For more information, write to the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society, Donna Kjendlie, Librarian, P.O.

Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678.

The Rock County Historical Society in Janesville houses the Rock County Genealogical Society Library, which has a very large collection for all genealogists. The Rock County Society has published many books, including cemeteries as well as newspaper obituaries and churches.

We are fortunate to have several Family History Centers close at hand at Elkhorn and Madison, WI, and Rockford, IL. The Walworth County Genealogical Society, with their new library in Delavan, WI, has many German members and shares a common interest in GIG. Joint workshops have been successful.

The Janesville Public Library is one of the few libraries in the state to house another large genealogical collection. Many genealogical magazines are subscribed to. There is also a card file of obituaries prior to 1907 from the Janesville Gazette. On-going donations keep building this genealogical collection. Other libraries within the county have genealogical collections that are steadily growing.

Another, though smaller, library that is genealogically related is owned by GIG President Donna Kjendlie. It is housed at Origins Genealogical Book and Supply Store in Janesville. Many, many books are Germanic in nature. This is an excellent local resource. Appointments must be scheduled by calling (608) 754-9179.

GIG is also fortunate to be only 40 miles away from the second largest genealogical library collection in the United States -- the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (816 State St., Madison, WI 53706). If you need United States genealogical material, this is the place to go. They do run on student class schedule, and parking is a problem, so you must plan this trip carefully.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (608) 756-3759.

Volunteers for Preserving Awareness: Slovak Surname Location Reference Project

by Joseph J. Hornack and
Anthony K. Sutherland, PhD

[Reprinted by permission from *Iednota*, April 5 and August 23, 1995]

The Surname Location Reference Project (SLRP) functions through a group of volunteers that receives from providers their known lineage back to a related roots community in the Slovak Republic. Each volunteer is a specialist for a particular historic county of old, about which they write periodic columns for publication. This group of volunteers accepted the invitation to participate through the founder and director of the SLRP, Joseph J. Hornack.

The columns published show only a portion of the surnames and communities of roots. The total list for each county is in the possession of that column writer. The total list of surnames and communities provided to the SLRP are sent on to another volunteer who manages the entry into a computer file. The computer volunteer does supply periodic printouts on request to the column writers, but the total database is left to the discretion of the founder and director. As an example: Matica Slovenska and the Slovak Embassy in Washington, DC, would have access to the total database.

All those in North America with lineage tracing back to the Slovak Republic are asked to write their county of roots specialist, that SLRP column writer. Those wanting to accurately preserve their lineage need to take the time to prepare how it is provided. The clearest form from which to extract the data requires is a Lineage Chart. A blank Lineage Chart can be gotten through the mail from any column writer. Start the chart with yourself under position #1 and project back to your related surname, or surnames, born in Slovakia.

The SLRP system has been working since 1986 and possesses over 3000 knowledgeable entries, with a vast potential for more. Your lineage is important! Record it to the SLRP database as a reference. Those who have already provided information have a permanent reference number assigned in the SLRP.

We also announce the publication of a book *Ancestral Tree -- Slovak Roots*, containing all the names collected during the SLRP project to date. The book contains over 3000 names arranged both alphabetically and according to villages. All the pertinent information is included with each name: county and village, state, and ZIP code of the person submitting the name, and the reference number. To obtain the book, send \$12.00 to Joseph J. Hornack, P.O. Box 31831, Cleveland, OH 44131-0831.

If you would like to include your name in the database, send it along with the village of origin to the pertinent county

correspondent.

Here is the current list of the SLRP county correspondents:

- 1 Abov (AT)
Ms. Jean Kubik Hooker
3964 North Byronell Drive
Mobile, AL 36693
(205) 666-0763
- 2 Bratislava (BP)
Ms. Helene Baine Cincebeaux
151 Colebrook Drive
Rochester, NY 14617-2215
(716) 342-9383
- 3 Gemer (GC)
Mr. Josephine Lahotaj Almasy
5343 Cleveland Ave. South
Canton, OH 44707
(216) 484-1852
- 4 Liptov (LI)
Mr. Gregory J. Fasing
1325 S. Colorado Blvd. #3202
Denver, CO 80222-3393
(303) 692-3037
- 5 Nitra (NI)
Mr. Joseph J. Hornack
5223 Eastview Drive
Independence, OH 44131-6027
(216) 624-3037
- 6 Orava (OA)
Mr. Thomas Klimek Ward
7034 W. Cermak Road
Berwyn, IL 60402
- 7 Saria (SA)
Mr. Thomas J. Kachur
5460 State Route 46, NE
Cortland, OH 44410
(216) 637-1415
- 8 Spis (SP)
Dr. Michael J. Kopanic
20 Maplewood Ave.
Cresson, PA 16630
(814) 886-9367
- 9 Trencin (TR)
Mr. Joseph P. Klucho
P.O. Box 77
Chardon, OH 44024
(216) 286-4170
- 10 Uz (UZ)
Mr. Gregory Kolojeski
660 Saranac Drive

Winter Springs, FL 32708
(407) 679-6555

- 11 Zemplin (ZE)
Mr. Ray Plutko
6862 Palmer Court
Chino, CA 91710
(714) 393-5797
- 12 Zvolen (ZV)
Mr. Joseph M. Javorsky
1584 S. Hubbard Road
Lowellville, OH 44436
(216) 536-8602

Limited

Fr. George M. Franko
1418 Douglas
Youngstown, OH 44502
(216) 782-9126

Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner
12961 Lake Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
(16) 221-9460

Mr. Milan Sismis
MS-SGHS, Secretary
Novomeskeho 32
032 52 Martin, Slovakia
(011 42 842) 331 88
(011 42 842) 313 71 fax

Mr. Jerrold F. Tibor
5081 Buckingham Way
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 561-6871
J.TIBOR@genie.geis.com

National Slovenian Genealogy Society

by Donna Cuillard

The National Slovenian Genealogy Society, under the direction of Founder-President Albert Peterlin, is pleased to announce the formation of the following Satellite Chapters:

SGS - California Chapter

Pres. Joann Hanson, 8588 Woodpecker Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708
Board Member: Christine Jensen, 17117 Lorne St., Van

Nuys, CA 91406-1048
 e-mail gateway: Christin Jensen, cej@earthlink.net

SGS - Canada Chapter

Pres. Linda Tomlin, 1383 Maple Bay Rd., RR 5, Duncan,
 B.C., Canada V9L 4T6

SGS - Colorado Chapter

Pres. Cathi Kimmel, 837 Swiggler Rd., Jefferson, CO
 80456

Anyone interested in Slovenian research in any of the above-listed areas, please feel free to contact the Chapter President for further information. The California Chapter will be having their first state-wide meeting on March 9, 1996. All interested researchers are welcome, whether or not they belong. Contact the California Chapter for more information.

Slovenian researchers in other states who are interested in helping the National Slovenian Genealogy Society, please contact: Mr. Albert Peterlin, President, 52 Old Farm Rd., Camp Hill, PA 17011. If your interested in helping to establish local chapters, please contact Donna Cuillard, 6273 Anastasia Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063. My new e-mail address is: LRFM15A@Prodigy.com.

The purposes of the SGS are to further genealogical themes among interested researchers; help preserve and translate Slovenia documents, letter, etc.; help keep researchers up to date on research tools and sources; maintain a database of Slovenian Ancestors; provide a forum for researchers to share ideas, suggestions, problems, and successes; and to coordinate efforts between Slovenian researchers, archivists, historians, and others interested in preserving the Slovenian heritage.

We are excited about all that is happening in the world relative to Slovenian researchers and records, and we welcome input and suggestions from everyone. We especially wish to thank John Movius, as Webmaster for FEEFHS, for his untiring efforts in furthering the work for those interested in Eastern European Research and for the establishment of the Slovenian HomePages on the Web.

Presidential Message

by Charles M. Hall

To begin my final message as President of FEEFHS, I would like to express gratitude to the outgoing officers for the support they have given during my time in office. Walter Rusel, as third Vice President, and representative of Canada and Ukrainian Societies has done a commendable job, especially considering how much time he had to think about being an officer at the time we approached him. Our treasurer, Azra Jojić and secretary, Kathy Fisher, have also done well. When Azra accepted the position, she had only been in the USA, from Bosnia, five months, and the English language was being a big challenge to her. She has learned a lot as FEEFHS treasurer.

Although Ed Brandt will no longer be serving as a Vice-president, he is serving as chair of our 1996 Convention in Minneapolis. Along with expressing thanks to Ed, I would like to make our readers aware that he recently suffered a heart attack. So I would also like to acknowledge the faithful service of his committee, who are diligently working to make the 1996 Convention a success.

I would next like to recognize the continued service of our faithful Newsletter Editor, John Alleman and of Radmila Ranovic in the Membership area. Radmila will be helping our newly elected Secretary, Sherrie Petrovich Pearson, and Sherrie's sister, Wendy Petrovich Musig. With our newly elected treasurer, Miriam Hall-Hansen, the clerical part of our Executive committee has never been in better hands. Those who have felt, that we have been negligent in responding to correspondence have a lot better service to look forward to.

For the new term of 1996-1997, I would like to wish our new President, John D. Movius and Vice Presidents, Tom Peters of New Jersey, Laura Hanowski of Saskatchewan, Canada, and Bruce Kahn of Rochester, New York, great success in their administration of FEEFHS.

Since I am now about to become the PAST President of FEEFHS, my prime purpose will be to help struggling new Genealogical Societies get started. My proposed method of helping Genealogical Societies get started will be as follows:

- 1 Create an address list of interested persons.
- 2 Identify those who are willing to serve as Pro Tem

officers.

- 3 Coach the Pro Tem officers on creating a Newsletter, formulating a constitution and drawing up a ballot of officers to be elected.

The Silesian-American Genealogy Society. is the first Society I have chosen to help. This Society already has the following factors as catalysts of its potential success:

- A There is currently in existence a Silesian Genealogical Society, based in the city of Wroclaw Poland (formerly Breslau, Germany)
- B The key person in this Silesian Genealogical Society is Edward Wojtakowski, a Pole.
- C Edward's wife is Wanda Knoblauch Wojtakowski, a German from Cernovci, Bukovina, Ukraine.
- D Edward is fluent in Polish, German, and Esperanto, and he publishes his Newsletter in those languages.
- E One of the presenters at the upcoming 1996 Convention in Minneapolis is Prof. LaVern J. Rippley, who will be speaking on genealogical research in Silesia.

The second society I have put on my list to help, is the Bulgarian Genealogical Society. The events leading up to the potential success of this society are exciting. Here are a few:

- A Julie Kiriakov Caswell (Mrs. Tom Caswell) of Orem, Utah, author of an article in the February 1995 issue of the *Reader's Digest*, entitled; "Thank You Mr. Lincoln," has already agreed to be the Pro Tem founder of this society.
- B In October, my wife and I took an anniversary trip to Manti, Utah. We were pleased to learn that the proprietors of the motel where we stayed, were Jan and Anita Gelov. Jan is from the area of Steele, North Dakota, where he says there are a number of Bulgarians. His parents were born in Bulgaria. The Gelovs also said that a teacher at Manti High School lived a year in Bulgaria and hosts foreign exchange students from Bulgaria to Snow College, near Manti.
- C I recently received a letter from my Esperantist friend, Ivano, in Svistov, Bulgaria. Ivano had been in the hospital for a month, and while there had met Todor, whose family had been visited by a previously unknown cousin from Missoula, Montana. Fortunately, Ivano had gotten the address of this cousin, whose name is Marry Ann Anderson. So I called Marry Ann, in Missoula,

and we had a great visit comparing notes. Marry Ann is excited about the prospects of a Bulgarian Genealogical Society, and so is Ivano.

- D From one of the above mentioned sources, I have learned that Columbus, Ohio, and Falls Church, Virginia, have Bulgarian settlements, as well as North Dakota. In fact, my Esperantist friend John Dale, is married to a Bulgarian and lives near Falls Church.

At our Convention in Cleveland, we saw evidence that our FEEFHS theme of UNITY and HARMONY amid DIVERSITY could actually reach beyond genealogical societies and ancestral research. One of our Slovak presenters, Joe Hornack, is linked into a long established and extensive cultural organization in Slovakia called "Matica Slovenska."

The governor of Ohio, a Slovenian, sent a representative to our convention. This may help us understand why the recent summit regarding US troops going to Bosnia was held in Ohio. We even see our US President showing interest in genealogy, since just before Thanksgiving this year, he invited a genealogically oriented delegation from Salt Lake City to the White House. He and Hillary and Chelsea were presented three thick binders containing their recently researched "Roots."

We have also learned, through the Internet, that there exists a federation of 50 genealogical societies in Russia with headquarters in the city of Perm. Since Perm lies on the edge of Europe, near the Ural mountains, one can only guess, at this point, how extensive that organization actually is.

As we consider the growth potential of FEEFHS, we can easily imagine that we are not soon going to run out of ethnic groups, which will need our help organizing Societies. For example, I recently saw an article about a newly formed republic, which was cut form the new nation of Georgia. This republic, named: "Abkhazia," has produced a special postage stamp with a picture of MARX and LENNON (Groucho and John) and features an appeal for peace.

As Past President to be, I am excited about the prospects of being able to devote more time to helping new societies organize. Thanks to all of you, Societies and Individuals for supporting me as your president.

INDEX TO FEEFHS NEWSLETTER, VOL. III

Editor's note: This index is similar to those previously issued for Vols. I and II, with a few important differences. In Vol. III, the pages are numbered consecutively throughout all four issues, so the issue numbers do not appear below. Pages 1-22 constitute issue no. 1, 23-48 no. 2, 49-70 no. 3, and 71-94, no. 4. Names of books and periodicals are printed in italics. The letters a and b after page numbers refer to left and right columns, respectively. To facilitate transmission by e-mail, all diacritical marks and other special characters have been omitted.

As before, this index was prepared by a rapid but imprecise method, and it surely contains many errors and omissions. We would appreciate being informed of any you find. Write to: John C. Alleman, FEEFHS Newsletter editor, 204 W. 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103.

- Aalborg, Denmark: 60a
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