

July 2021 German Schrift



German Research Discussion Group

Review of the April 2021 Meeting:
The April 2021 quarterly meeting was held virtually. A document was shared with attendees with a few helpful websites to explore.

It's worth mentioning a few of them here. Two are for church records, [Archion.de](#) (\$) for Protestant and [Matricula-online.eu](#) for Catholic records. Two are for script learning: [Suetterlinschrift](#) and [BYU Script Tutorial](#).

Next meeting: July 17 | 2 p.m.
Let us know about your latest discovery. Did you hit a brick wall? Share it. Maybe somebody else can provide a helpful insight and ideas.

We will continue with the German GenWiki we started exploring in the last session. I will demonstrate on the Swiss newsletter, showing how you can read a newsletter, even if it's written in a different language. If you plan to attend, be sure to register for the ZOOM code.

[REGISTER](#)

Announcements



German Genealogy Conferences
You can still register for the [2021 International German Genealogy Conference](#).

The [41st International Conference on Jewish Genealogy](#) will be held virtually, August 1-5, 2021.

Featured Resources



MGC Periodicals

[Germanic Genealogy Journal](#), Vol. 24, No. 1, 2, Spring – Summer 2021, published by Germanic Genealogy Society in St. Paul, MN.

In the recent MGC blog, [Goodbye! "Nach Amerika!"](#) I mentioned that the travel and railroad agents, along with agents from US companies played a role in the decision of many Germans to emigrate.

This issue includes an interesting article, titled *John Hemmter, Emigrant Agent in Baltimore*, by Lois Hemmter Edwards (note – you might know this author by his book *Beginner's Guide to Germanic Genealogy*). John Hemmter, himself a German 1840's immigrant, was an emigrant agent for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, stationed in Baltimore, who arranged the travels of many Germans to American inland.

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Oversize Collection



Passport issued by Canton Bern, Switzerland 1838 – 1887, Vol 1- 9, with index.

The Vol 9 contains Plus Index of Passports issued 18 March 1887 – 31 December 1913, published by Lewis Bunker Rohrbach, CG, 2004. [The red book series](#) (reprinted from CD-ROM) are stacked in the MGC Oversize section.

Many immigrants from Switzerland came from Canton Bern, and this collection might help you to find a *Heimat* and *Wohnort* (Home/Homeland and Residence).

In addition to this information, you can learn the occupation, age, detailed physical description, *Bestimmung* (Destination), *Reisezweck* (Travel purpose), *Begleitung* (Companion) of your immigrant ancestor. The first Bernese passports were issued by Canton Bern in April 1838, and continued until 1929, when the Swiss federal government took over this process.

Although the passport registered for the time period from 1855-1859 have been lost, the index is preserved. The passports were entered consecutively by date of issue.

If you can track your ancestor to first noble European families (Die Merowinger, Die Karolinger, Die Sachsenkaiser, Die Salier, and other families in current Germany) check the book series [Europäische Stammtafeln, Vol 1 – XVII](#) for genealogical tables. Some of them are as recent as the late 20th century, with last one published in 1998.

Our trip to Oversize section ends with the extra-large green books *Deutsche Städteatlas* series (Title "*Edition 130*"). Although printed in German, these atlases give a cadastral history of the place. The first part contains the Introduction and Explanation of abbreviation. Volumes 2-5 show the maps of cities in their alphabetical order. It starts with Aachen, its history and detailed map, then Ahaus, with houses and their numbers, and church and surrounding pastures... Use any translation tool for help.

Research Tips



This year, we lost an author of genealogy books related primarily to the first wave of German emigration - Annette K. Burgert.

MGC has many books she wrote, including: [Palatine Origins of Some Pennsylvania Pioneers](#), [Eighteenth Century Emigrants from the Northern Alsace to America](#), [Westerwald to America](#), [Master Index to the Emigrants Documented in the Published Works of Anette K. Burgert, F.A.S.G., F.G.S.P](#)

Her books helped many people find the most crucial information – the German town.

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Online resource tip:

This time, we have the website '[How to Germany](#),' that gives an overview of life in Germany, including tips on living, working, banking, driving, education, and more.

The whole website is worth exploring if you want to immerse yourself into the German way of life and/or plan to visit sometime.

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Places to Visit



We can stay in the heart of **Kansas City, MO**, and visit a travelling exhibition installed in Union Station, titled [Auschwitz, Not Long Ago, Not Far Away](#), created by Musealia, in cooperation with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.



Right next to Union Station is the [National Archives at Kansas City](#) building. Possibly, you can find valuable documents there and make new discoveries. Currently, the archives are still closed, however, the website might provide helpful information. The KC Archives holds permanent records for the states of IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, and SD.



If **Kansas City** is too close to home and you have an interest in military history, visit [Neuwied, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany](#), and its surrounding areas. Tip: In Google Chrome switch to German on the left and get it translated to English for a rich article about history.

You might enjoy reading about [Julius Caesar's wooden bridges over the Rhine](#) river (Julius Cäsars Brücke über den Rhein), built in 50s BC. The idea was to build them for the purpose and immediately after usage to destroy them. They are considered the masterpieces of military engineering.

View [a few images](#) of how the bridges looked and places they probably stayed (near Neuwied). Copy link to [Google Translate](#) for an English version.

Also, you can [watch a video](#) about the bridges. Who wouldn't like to listen to the original Deutsch version, right? If you prefer an English version, you can click at CC for captioning, then in Setting, click Subtitles/CC and switch to English.

Because the Neuwied is in Rhineland, a territory representing a strong emigration to America, explore in a detail what is available for [Rhineland genealogy](#).

Fun and Learning

Little Pearls from our Books:

"German family names were particularly subject to mutilation. The Warren County census taker, for example, rendered the typical Westfalian name of Meyer in all its permutations and compounds simply as "Mire."

- Excerpt from [The Westfalians, From Germany to Missouri](#), by Walter D. Kamhoefner, Appendix B, page 204 (in reference to 1850 Federal Census)

What is this German word? Dust off that German dictionary from your shelf.

F o _ _ c h _ _ n g (Research)
A h _ _ n f _ _ s c h _ _ g (Genealogical research)
U _ _ g r _ _ B v _ _ t _ _ r (Great grandfather)
U _ _ r _ _ B m _ _ t _ _ e r (Great grandmother)
U r _ _ r _ _ B e _ _ t _ _ n (Great grandparents)
S t _ _ m b a _ _ m (Family Tree, Pedigree)
A _ _ n e _ _ t a _ _ l (Ancestor chart, pedigree, family tree)

Christ's Proverb:
'Was Hänschen nicht lermt, lermt Hans nimmermehr!'
"You can't teach old dog new tricks."

Thank you. Danke schön.
Iveta B.

