

# MESSER / NEU MESSER

## Newsletter 8

### April, 2016

Hello Everyone,

**HAPPY SPRING!** The year is moving along quickly. Here is the latest edition of the Messer / Neu Messer Newsletter. I hope you find it of interest. I will be attending this year's AHSGR convention in Concord, California and hope to see many of you there. As always, please let me know if you have suggestions for upcoming newsletters or articles or photos you would like to share.

Regards,

**Mike Meisinger**  
**Village Coordinator for Messer and Neu Messer**

**2016 Convention:** The 2016 AHSGR Convention will be held in Concord, California July 11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Concord. Board meetings will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and welcome night will be on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. Tours of Wine Country and San Francisco will be available on Tuesday and Wednesday and on Thursday and Friday we will have three foreign speakers; Alexander Spack, Dr. Reinhard Nachtigal of Frieburg University, and Jorge Bohn of Cordoba, Argentina. There will be sessions on GR history and genealogy, the Storytelling Contest, Banquet and Polka, and much more. We will also get together for a Messer meal provided there is enough interest. Registration through May 31<sup>st</sup> is \$145 for AHSGR members, \$165 for non-members. After May 31<sup>st</sup>, it is \$165 for members and \$185 for non-members. Watch your mail for a registration packet or register on line at:

<http://www.ahsgr.org/default.asp?page=2016Convention>

**Celebration of 250<sup>th</sup> Year of Messer's founding:** The first colonists arrived in Messer on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1767. On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Center for Volga German Studies at Concordia University is hosting a seminar series on the campus of Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado! This event is being co-hosted by the Archives & Special Collections Department of the Colorado State University Libraries. These seminars will feature the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the colonies of Dönhof and Messer. I will be attending and presenting "The History of Messer". Additional information is available at:

<http://cvgs.cu-portland.edu/events/2016Jul23.cfm>

It will be a busy July. I look forward to seeing many of you at this event and/or the Convention.

**Designation of Donations for Messer / Neu Messer Records Acquisition:** In the last newsletter I suggested that you might want to designate some of your donations to the AHSGR for the acquisition of additional records from the Russian Archives. I am happy to report that some of you have done just that, and we now have a fund of \$350 for that purpose. I plan to talk to the chairman of the Archives Committee about our fund and see what the next steps might be in acquiring additional records. If any of you want to make additional contributions to this effort, just write **in the comments field** for your donation that you would like your money to be used for “**Messer and/or Neu Messer records acquisition**”. Many thanks to those of you who have already contributed.

**Pictures of Messer from the AHSGR Library:** On a recent trip to AHSGR headquarters in Lincoln, I found the following pictures of Messer.



**Threshing Barley in Messer**



**Messer Street Scene**

**New Clues on German Origins:** Maggie Hein, one of the Village Coordinators for Frank has once again found a great website that might help some of us find our German Origins. The following site discovered by Maggie has a list of Colonists who signed up with the recruiter Facius from November 13, 1765 to February 15, 1766. Comments on the site are in a mixture of German and Russian, but the names listed are in German so it is relatively easy to locate names. The website is:

[Wolgadeutsch sitehttp://forum.wolgadeutsche.net/viewtopic.php?f=15&t=2428&hilit=Facius&sid=e5fab75e027c82a2a74a5a8583e7160f&start=20](http://forum.wolgadeutsche.net/viewtopic.php?f=15&t=2428&hilit=Facius&sid=e5fab75e027c82a2a74a5a8583e7160f&start=20)

In looking at the site I found four names that match quite closely with names on the Messer first settlers list.

1. Konrad **Götz**, Reformed, from Wächterbach. (*Wächterbach is located about 9 miles east southeast of Büdingen.*)
2. J. Thomas **Herdt**, age 40, Reformed, from Rinderbügen. (*Rinderbügen is located about 4 miles northeast of Büdingen.*)
3. J. Philipp **Nonias**, age 24, Catholic, from Gelnhaar. (*Gelnhaar is located about 6 miles north northeast of Büdingen. Although this J. Philipp **Nonias** is listed as a Catholic and Johann Philipp **Nenies/Nunius** is listed as Reformed in the first settlers list, the transport lists show Johann Phillip **Nonius** as a Catholic and his wife as Reformed, so it seems likely she got*

4. Lorenz **Ulrich**, age 24, Reformed, from Spielberg. *(There are several Spielberg(s) in Germany, but since Facius was recruiting near Büdingen, I assume it was the one located about 8 miles east northeast of Büdingen.)*

**Archion Website:** Maggie Hein has also made the Village Coordinators aware of the Archion Website which contains digitized church records for many German Protestant churches. These records can be useful in researching the German origins of your ancestors. A good description of what is available and how it can be used is available at:

**Johannes Meisinger travel document:** One of my distant relatives, Daniel Beros, from Argentina sent me the following travel document of his ancestor, Johannes Meisinger. Yulia Tsymbal, from headquarters staff provided the translation. You will see from the translation that Johannes was to return to Messer within one year. Instead, he went to Argentina and never returned to Russia.

[illegible]

<p>Age 19  Height 2 arshin 7 vershok  (5' 8")  Hair and eyebrows black  Eyes brown  Nose and mouth ordinary  Chin round  Distinctive marks absent</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>By decree of His Majesty</b>  <b>Alexander Alexandrovich</b>  <b>Emperor of all Russia, etc., Autocrat</b></p> <p>Bearer of this, settler-proprietor of Saratovskaya gubernia, Kamyshinsky uezd, village of Ust-Zolikh, Johanes Maizinger, single, is allowed to go to different towns and villages of the Russian Empire for his personal needs for one year commencing from the date stated below to the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 1893, and at the expiration of the time to return back; otherwise he will be dealt with according to law. Issued on the basis of a document entered under № 200 in the book of Sosnovskoye Volost Administration with affixing its seal thereto.</p> <p>24<sup>th</sup> of February 1892</p> <p>Chairman  Volost Clerk</p>
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**Passenger Records for immigrants from Neu Messer:** As I was surfing the internet I ran across the following Passenger Arrival Records that I thought might be of interest to some of you:

**SS Main** Departed Bremen on April 11, 1912 and arrived in Baltimore on April 25, 1912

Name: John Jakob **Zieg**  
Age: 41  
Occupation: Farm Laborer  
Last Residence: Neu Messer, Russia  
Contact in Russia: wife, Kat. **Zieg** in Lysanderdorf  
Destination: Friend Henry **Meng** in Red Oak, Iowa  
Hair Color: Bld  
Eye Color: Bl  
Health: Trachoma

Name: Peter **Meisinger**  
Age: 30  
Occupation: Farm Laborer  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia

Contact in Russia: wife, Marie **Meisinger** in Lysanderdorf  
Destination: Cousin Henry **Meng** in Red Oak, Iowa  
Height: 5' 4"  
Hair Color: Bld  
Eye Color: Bl  
Birthplace: Lysanderdorf, Russia

Name: Heinrich **Lipps**  
Age: 25  
Occupation: Farm Laborer  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Contact in Russia: wife, Amalie **Lipps** in Lysanderdorf  
Destination: Cousin Henry **Meng** in Red Oak, Iowa  
Hair Color: Bld  
Eye Color: Bl  
Birthplace: Lysanderdorf, Russia

**Friedrich Der Grosse** arrived in New York City from Bremen on July 2, 1913

Name: Friedrich **Schanz**  
Age: 29  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Male  
Marital Status: Married  
Destination: Brother-in-law Heinrich **Kaiser** in Durham, Kansas  
Height: 5' 6"  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Gr  
Birthplace: Saratov

Name: Anna **Schanz**  
Age: 28  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Female  
Marital Status: Married  
Height: 5' 4"  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Gr  
Birthplace: Saratov

Name: Friedrich **Schanz**  
Age: 2  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Male  
Marital Status: Single

Destination: Uncle Heinrich **Kaiser** in Durham, Kansas  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Gr  
Birthplace: Saratov

Name: Jacob **Schanz**  
Age: 5 months  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Male  
Marital Status: Single  
Destination: Uncle Heinrich **Kaiser** in Durham, Kansas  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Gr  
Birthplace: Saratov

Name: Heinrich **Laufert**  
Age: 28  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Male  
Marital Status: Married  
Destination: Cousin Peter **Kaiser** in Durham, Kansas  
Height: 5' 6"  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Br  
Birthplace: Saratov

Name: Margaretha **Laufert**  
Age: 28  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Female  
Marital Status: Married  
Height: 5' 2"  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Br  
Birthplace: Saratov

Name: Maria **Laufert**  
Age: 4  
Nationality: Russia / German  
Last Residence: Lysanderdorf, Russia  
Sex: Female  
Marital Status: Single  
Hair Color: Bl  
Eye Color: Br  
Birthplace: Saratov

**Naturalization Petitions of Intent from Lancaster County, Nebraska:** I discovered the website below which has an index of Germans from Russia who signed petitions for citizenship in Lancaster County, Nebraska.

<http://www.odessa3.org/collections/ships/link/lancast.txt>

Here are the entries I found for Messer, Neu Messer, or Lysanderdorf:

Name	<b>Dorn</b> , Katremarie
Age	50
Birth Date	25 May 1887
Birth Place	Neu-Messer
Last Residence	Neu-Messer
Departed	Hamburg
Arrived	New York
Date	30 Sep 1906
Ship	Bluecher
Date Filed	13 Sep 1937

Name	<b>Meng</b> , Jacob Jr.
Age	21
Birth Date	2 Aug 1907
Birth Place	Neu-Messer
Last Residence	Neu-Messer
Departed	Liverpool
Arrived	Boston
Date	10 Apr 1911
Ship	Latonia
Date Filed	23 Feb 1929

Name	<b>Meng</b> , Katharena
Age	82
Birth Date	31 Aug 1860
Birth Place	Alt-Messer
Last Residence	Saratov
Departed	Libau
Arrived	Boston
Date	13 Apr 1913
Ship	Ivernia
Date Filed	5 Jan 1943

Name	<b>Ochsenhart</b> , Heinrich
Age	40
Birth Date	5 Jun 1868
Birth Place	Messer
Last Residence	Saratov
Departed	Quebec
Arrived	Detroit
Date	15 May 1904

Ship	RR
Date Filed	31 Aug 1908
Name	<b>Reisbig</b> , Fred
Age	35
Birth Date	12 Jun 1873
Birth Place	Lysanderdorf
Last Residence	Mostok ?, Russia
Departed	Hamburg
Arrived	New York
Date	4 Aug 1904
Ship	St. Paul
Date Filed	31 Aug 1908

### Links from Neu Messer back to Messer and from there back to Germany:

Many of us are frustrated by the lack of census records for Neu Messer, so I am always thrilled when I find a link back for someone born in Neu Messer to their ancestors in Messer.

According to a family tree submitted to the AHSGR and information on Find-a-Grave, Henry J. **Laubach** who was born in Neu Messer in 1872 was the son of Henry **Laubach**, born January 2, 1854 and Mary Katherine **Schantz** born September 7, 1852. The family tree says Henry senior and Mary Katherine were both born in Neu Messer, but Neu Messer wasn't established until 1863, so we can assume they were born in Messer. According to the family tree Henry senior and Mary Katherine were married in Neu Messer. They both died in Blaine County, Oklahoma near Okeene. We find Heinrich Jakob **Laubach**, age 3 in the 1857 Messer census, the son of Heinrich Franz **Laubach**, born about 1827. We find Heinrich Franz in the 1834 census, the son of Jakob, born about 1801 and Maria Christina, born about 1806. In the 1816 census, Johann Jakob is listed as the son of Johann Adam **Laubach**, born about 1767. In the 1775 census and the First Settlers List, Johann Adam and his two sisters; Philippina and Marie Elisabeth are living in the home of their step-father, Johann **Lehr**. Their mother's name is Elizabeth. In the Russian Ship Arrival Lists, Andreas **Laubach**, a farmer from **Darmstadt** is listed with his wife; Elisabeth, and children, Georg, age 8, Johann, age ½, Phillipina, age 14, and Maria, age 4.

On the **Schantz** side of the family above, Mary Katherine, age 5, is listed in the 1857 census as the daughter of Johann Georg, born about 1826 and Maria Christina, born about 1830. She is living in the home of her grandfather, Johann Christoph **Schantz** who was born about 1798 and died in 1850. Christoph is listed in the 1816 census as the son of Georg Jakob who was born about 1779. Georg Jakob is listed in the 1798 census as the son of Georg Adam **Schanz** who was born about 1754. Georg Adam is listed in the First Settlers List as the son of Christoph **Schanz**, age 39, Lutheran, farmer from **Falkenstein**.

I ran across a 1930 US Census record that said Henry **Meng** was born in Neu Messer. According to records on Ancestry and Find a Grave, his father was John **Meng** who was born in Messer December 25, 1832 and died in Red Oak, Iowa September 7, 1904. This John **Meng** seems to be the Johannes **Meng** age 26 in the 1857 Messer Census. We can trace this Johannes' ancestors all the way back to Germany. According to the 1857 Messer census,

Johannes' father was Jakob Christoph **Meng**, born about 1784. According to the 1816 / 1834 Messer census, Jakob Christoph's father was Johannes **Meng**, born about 1760. This Johannes **Meng** appears in the 1775 Messer Census as the son of Johann Meng, born about 1732, and the Messer First Settlers List includes Johann **Meng** age, 34, a Handwerker aus **Kurpfalz** and his son Johannes, age 8.

## Messer Surnames listed in various books and documents

Surname	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Achzig				X									
Altach					X	X							
Arnbrecht/Armbrecht			X	X	X	X	X				X		
Backer/Baker/Becker			X	X	X	X	X	X					
Baumgartner				X									
Bauer				X	X	X	X						
Beckel			X	X									
Berger				X									
Bert?			X										
Betz			X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Bockel					X	X							
Bohn	X												
Brauer			X	X	X	X	X				X		
Bruch								X					
Brug				X	X	X	X	X					
Brunner			X	X									
Burbach	X		X							X	X		
Daut?/Thaut?			X	X									
Deckman				X									
Deisel			X	X	X	X	X				X		
Didion/Gideon			X	X									
Dietrich				X									

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4. "Ust-Zolikhla\Messer 1775 and 1798", AHSGR, 1995
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Surname	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Dinkelacker/Dinkelaker			X	X	X	X			X				
Ditman/Dickmann			X	X						X	X		
Donhoffer							X						
Eckel/Engel			X	X									
Emert/Emmert			X	X	X	X		X			X		
Emmerling?/Eymmerling			X								X	X	
Ernst			X	X			X					X	
Fischer					X	X	X						
Focht/Vocht/Vogt			X	X									
Fritzier				X									
Gamel/Hamel?				X									
Gebel/Gobel		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Geier/Herr/Geyer			X	X	X	X						X	
Geis			X	X	X	X	X				X		
Gerkhengailar?				X									
Getz/Gotz			X	X	X	X					X		X
Grave/Grabbe?				X									
Gutman/Gutmann				X	X	X							
Hammel			X										
Hardt/Hart/Herd/Hert			X	X	X	X		X		X	X		X
Heidel				X	X	X		X					
Heidenreich				X	X	X	X	X					
Heil		X											
Heilberg				X									
Hein				X									
Henkel/Hinkel			X	X	X	X					X		
Hergenhein/Hergenheim			X	X	X	X							
Hoffmann			X	X							X		
Holland/Goland?			X	X						X			
Huck				X									

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Surname	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Jakel				X									
Jacobi				X									
Jost		X											
Just			X										
Kaiser	X		X	X	X	X	X			X			
Karezal				X									
Keiderling/Keiterling/Heiderling				X	X	X							
Keim				X									
Klauk?/Klapp			X	X	X						X		
Klur				X									
Koch							X						
Konrad?Konrady				X	X	X	X						
Kranner?/Krecker?			X	X							X		
Kraus		X	X	X	X	X	X				X		
Kunkel				X									
Lang			X	X	X	X	X			X	X		
Lantz/Lanz/Lans				X	X								
Laubach			X	X	X	X	X	X					
Laufer			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
Lehm				X									
Lehr		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Leichner				X	X	X	X	X					
Lipps			X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Loch					X								
Lorei/Lorey			X	X							X		
Lorentz/Lorenz			X	X	X	X	X	X					
Mai				X									
Manweiler			X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Masch			X	X	X	X					X		
Maul				X				X					

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Mauter			X	X	X	X			X				
Meier				X									
Meininger			X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Meisinger/Meissinger	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Meisterling			X	X	X	X	X		X				
Meng			X	X	X	X	X	X					
Mentz					X								
Mersch						X							
Merz				X									
Messer			X										
Michel				X	X	X							
Milker/Melchior?				X									
Muller			X	X	X	X					X		
Neger/Neher			X	X							X		
Neidgard				X									
Nenies?/Nunius/Nonius			X								X	X	X
Nuss			X	X	X	X					X	X	
Ochsenhirt			X	X	X	X	X			X	X		
Osterreich/Ostereich			X	X	X	X	X						
Pfeifer					X								
Phillip							X						
Popp/Bopp		X	X	X						X	X		
Preisendorf				X									
Rader/Roder	X		X	X						X	X		
Rady/Raddi			X	X	X	X	X				X		
Redel?				X									
Reinhart				X									
Reisbach/Reisbich				X	X	X	X	X					
Reischer					X								
Rennert				X									

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Surname	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Resch/Risch/Riesch				X	X	X	X						
Ressler/Rosler			X	X	X				X				
Reuscher				X									
Riel/Roehl?				X									
Riesch				X									
Ritter			X										
Roder	X		X							X	X		
Rott/Roth?				X									
Satler/Sattler			X	X						X	X		
Schafer			X	X	X	X					X		
Schanz/Schantz			X	X	X	X	X						
Scheibel/Schibel	X			X	X	X							
Scheiber					X								
Schenkel				X									
Schlegel/Schlagel	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Schmall/Schmal			X	X	X								
Schmer				X									
Schmidt			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Schneider			X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Schott			X								X		
Schotz					X	X							
Schrauch/Strauch?				X									
Schreiner				X	X	X	X	X					
Schroder/Shrodin?				X						X			
Schuetz/Schutz				X			X						
Schulteis				X									
Schumann					X	X	X	X					
Schw an			X	X					X				
Schw indt				X									
Seifert						X							

1. "Volga German Settlers Identified in Isenburg and other German Church Records", Wayne H. Bonner, M.A., 2007
2. "German Migration to the Russian Volga (1764-1767)", Brent Alan Mai and Dona Reeves-Marquardt, 2003
3. "Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet 1764-1767 Band 3", Igor Plevé, 2005
4. "Ust-Zolikhalmesser 1775 and 1798", AHSGR, 1995
5. "1834 Census of Messer in the District of Saratov, Russia", Brent Mai, 2008
6. "1857 Census of Messer in the District of Saratov, Russia", Brent Mai, 2008
7. "Messer 1930-1940", Jacob Lehr and Lydia Lehr Reinhardt, 1988
8. "Plevé Passport List", Computer Translation by Mike Meisinger of data posted by Dr. Plevé at [http://w.olgadeutsche.net/pleve/liste\\_A\\_B.htm#aa](http://w.olgadeutsche.net/pleve/liste_A_B.htm#aa)
9. "The Immigration of German Colonists and Their Subsequent Emigration to Russia in the Years 1759 – 1766", by Dr. Jacob and Mary Eichhorn and Dr. Alexander Eichhorn
10. "Volga German Settlers Identified in Isenburg and other German Church Records – Volume 2 Draft", Wayne H. Bonner, M.A., 2007
11. "List of Colonists to Russia in 1766", Igor Plevé, 2010
12. "Transport of the Volga Germans from Oranienbaum to the Colonies on the Volga 1766-1767", Brent Alan Mai, 1998
13. "List of Colonists recruited by Facius November 13, 1765 to February 15, 1766" at <http://forum.w.olgadeutsche.net/viewtopic.php?f=15&t=2428&hilit=Facius&sid=e5fab75e027c82a2a74a5a8583e7160f&start=20>

## Messer Surnames listed in various books and documents (continued)

Surname	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Spater					X	X							
Stando?			X										
Stenzel			X								X		
Tietz					X								
Trachmiller				X							X		
Trautmüller			X	X	X					X			
Treibrecht				X									
Ulrich/Ulrich			X	X	X	X		X			X		X
Wacker				X									
Wasch					X								
Weber			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Weibert			X	X	X	X	X						
Weigand/Weigandt				X	X	X	X	X					
Weise							X						
Weng					X								
Wersch					X								
Werth				X	X	X							
Wiederhold/Wiederholt		X	X	X	X	X					X		
Willman/Willmann		X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		
Wolf				X	X	X	X						
Worsch					X								
Zeh				X									
Zeiler								X					
Zeller/Zöller			X	X	X	X		X			X	X	
Zieg	X		X	X		X					X		
Zink					X								
Zw ingmann			X	X					X				

1. "Volga German Settlers Identified in Isenburg and other German Church Records", Wayne H. Bonner, M.A., 2007
2. "German Migration to the Russian Volga (1764-1767)", Brent Alan Mai and Dona Reeves-Marquardt, 2003
3. "Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet 1764-1767 Band 3", Igor Pleve, 2005
4. "Ust-Zolikhalmesser 1775 and 1798", AHSGR, 1995
5. "1834 Census of Messer in the District of Saratov, Russia", Brent Mai, 2008
6. "1857 Census of Messer in the District of Saratov, Russia", Brent Mai, 2008
7. "Messer 1930-1940", Jacob Lehr and Lydia Lehr Reinhardt, 1988
8. "Pleve Passport List", Computer Translation by Mike Meisinger of data posted by Dr. Pleve at [http://wolgadeutsche.net/pleve/liste\\_A\\_B.htm#aa](http://wolgadeutsche.net/pleve/liste_A_B.htm#aa)
9. "The Immigration of German Colonists and Their Subsequent Emigration to Russia in the Years 1759 – 1766", by Dr. Jacob and Mary Eichhorn and Dr. Alexander Eichhorn
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**Video on the Volga Germans:** Phil Moser has kindly shared the link below to a very well done YouTube video on the Volga Germans. It is rather long, 1 hour and 34 minutes, but well worth the time. Thank you Phil.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRtZIH9DsA&list=PL1WK46wnyEh3PVKgVnKzeQfWOUzYQRRnS>

**Tour of Volga German Colonies:** To celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the first German colonies along the Volga River in Russia, two 10-day tours are being offered to the Volga German colonies in 2016! The first tour (August 9-20) will visit colonies on the Bergseite (west side of the Volga River). The second tour (August 19-30) will visit colonies on the Wiesenseite (east side of the Volga River). Both tours are open to the public and will be led by Drs. Brent Mai and Mila Koretnikov. Only 30 people will be taken on each tour, so get your Tour Application Form and deposit turned in as soon as possible. Questions about the tours should be directed to Brent Mai at:

[brentmai@volgagermantours.com](mailto:brentmai@volgagermantours.com)

or call at 971.322.8124.

**If you aren't a member please consider joining the AHSGR:** Once again, I would encourage any of you who are not members of the AHSGR to join. The organization needs your support to continue to fulfill its mission “... *the discovery, collection, preservation, and dissemination of information related to the history, cultural heritage and genealogy of Germanic Settlers in the Russian Empire and their descendants.*” Unfortunately, we are losing many of our older members and if we don't replace them, the future of the organization is in jeopardy. Information on joining is available at:

<http://www.ahsgr.org/?page=Join>