

The following village reports are contained in this document.

**ALEXANDER-HOH, VOLGA AND ALEXANDERDORF, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**ANTON, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**BALZER, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**BEIDECK, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**NORTH/SOUTH CAUCASUS 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

INCLUDES THE CAUCASUS VILLAGES OF: ALEXANDERDORF-NC, ALEXANDERDORF-SC, ALEXANDERHILF, BAKU, BLUMENFELD, DOWNSUNSKOJE, DUCHLONOFF, EMAUS, EIGENFELD, EIGENHEIM, ELISABETHAL, FRIEDRICHSFELD, FREUDENSTAL, GEORGSTAL, GNADAU, GROB MARKOSOWKA, HOFFNUNGSTAL, JOHANNESDORF, KATHARINENFELD, KLEIN MARKOSOWKA, KRONENTAL, LILLIANFELD, MARIENBRUNN, MARIENFELD, MARTINSFELD, MARXHEIM, MICHAELSDORF, NALCHIK, PILENKOFELD, PETERSDORF, PILENKOFELD, ROSENFELD, STEINFELD, TIEGENHOFF, TIBLIS, TIFLIS

**DIETEL, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**DINKEL, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**DOBRINKA, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**DÖNHOF (ALT-DÖNHOF), VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**DREISPITZ 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**ENDERS, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**FRIEDENBERG, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**FRIEDENSDORF, MOLOCHNA COLONIES 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**GALKA, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

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**HILDMANN, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**HOFFENTAL, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**HOLSTEIN, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**HUCK, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**HUSSENBACH, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**JOSEFSTAL, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

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**KAMENKA, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**KATHARINENTAL, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**KAUTZ (WERSCHINKA), VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**KOEHLER, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

**KONSTANTINOVKA, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT**

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LAUB, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT  
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WALTER, WALTER KHUTOR AND KLEIN WALTER, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT  
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WEIZENFELD, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT  
WIESENMUELLER, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT  
YAGODNAYA POLYANA, VOLGA 2021 ANNUAL VILLAGE COORDINATOR REPORT



## Alexander-Hoh, Volga and Alexanderdorf, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Limited individuals contact this year, allows for additional research.

Numerous Alexanderdorf villages in Russia causes confusion as to which village is the primary focus. Thus, it is essential to have the latitude and longitude coordinates.

Alexanderdorf was a small village, many villagers eventually relocated to other areas; some of these folks traveled to the Caucasus.

Research focus is and has been to locate data for various Alexanderdorf families. Looking for all primary information.

Records are difficult to acquire for Alexanderdorf; looking at other villages for information. To-date I have reviewed numerous publications at various locations.

Books: I frequent the Family History Library a couple times a week looking for Alexanderdorf and other village data. New publications are frequently added to the library shelves, it takes time to read all these resources.

Research: While at the Library I am frequently called upon to assist others with similar interests. Thus, I have frequent contact with Germans from Russia in many states. I take this opportunity to inform them of resources at AHSGR.org.

I would like to return to Lincoln soon and spend time at the library. There are many publications to study.

Villagers from the Volga traveled to the Caucasus for various reasons. I am always looking for publications on the subject; appreciate any input from others.

Also seeking military for my villages; assistance from others would be appreciated.

Germany: I am researching German areas for origin information.

South America: I am gathering data on GR migration to South America.

My goal as village coordinator is continued research of all my villages, both Volga and Caucasus and to assist others with similar interests. I have retained records of anyone who made contact with me regarding Volga and Caucasus villages.

Please contact me if you have questions or are interested in collaborating on a purchasing project.

Dee Hert  
Member Intermountain Chapter



## Anton, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Interaction with interested individuals has slowed but allows for additional research.

Primary focus is and has been to locate data for various Anton families; any records.

Census records are difficult to locate for Anton; I have been looking at other villages for information regarding movement. The 1811 census is reported to be located in the Russian State Archives in St. Petersburg.

Publications: I frequent the Family History Library a couple times a week looking for Anton data. New publications are frequently added to the library shelves, it takes time to study all these resources. Come and join the search.

Research: While at the Family History Library I am frequently called upon to assist others with similar interests. Thus I have contact with several Germans from Russia in many states. I take this opportunity to inform researchers of resources at AHSGR.org.

I plan to return to Lincoln and spend time at the library; there are many publications to study.

Movement: Villagers from the Volga traveled to the Caucasus for various reasons. I am always looking for publications on the subject; appreciate any input from others.

Military: Also seeking military information for my villages; seeking assistance from others.

Germany: I am researching German areas for origin information.

South America: I am seeking to gather data on GR migration to South America.

My goal as village coordinator is continued research of all my villages, both Volga and Caucasus and to assist others with similar interests.

Tool Box: Each year I purchase or are gifted with valuable Germans from Russia publications. We are all aware of the urgent need for additional records. Contact AHSGR to see if your village records will soon be available. ***Support the cause that supports the research.***

Please contact me if you have questions or are interested in collaborating on a purchasing project.

Dee Hert  
deehert@gmail.com  
Member: Intermountain Chapter

Sharon White  
slmwhite@aol.com  
Member: Intermountain Chapter



## Balzer, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Despite the pandemic, 2021 was a very active year for Balzer research

Requests were received from researchers investigating six Balzer families. This includes Eurich, Fech, Idt, Köhler, Scheck, and Schwabauer. Ancestral charts were created for all of these families using the copies of the parish records that we currently maintain.

Through the great generosity of Balzer researcher Richard Rehrig, we were able to purchase the last available volume of the 1906-1920 Communion Records (families Röhrig to Zieg).

With Mike Meisinger's assistance we completed examining the online searchable Schleswig and Jutland church records. We were astounded that in total we identified nearly 350 baptism records, some 100 marriage entries, and approximately 85 death records. Of these totals, 21 baptisms, 5 marriages, and 7 deaths were for families that eventually went to Balzer. Church records were found for first families of 30 Volga colonies and 4 non-Volga colonies.

In August, I gave a presentation at the virtual national convention about our Danish finds. Copies of the records were submitted to headquarters where they are now available in the research village files for everyone to examine.

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City reopened in 2021, permitting my wife and I to do another week-long visit in early October. Researching printed Familienbuchen and Ortzippen books and other resource material, I was able to add missing children for the Klein family, the second wife of Philipp Decker, the name of Jacob Hofmann's wife, and confirmed the marriage of Wilhelm Kolb and his wife Anna Christina. Rechecking the church records of Hüttengesas in Hessen, I was able to extract 20 more baptisms and 4 marriages.

I was asked to fill out a position on the National Board, representing California. In that capacity, I have been added to the genealogy and folklore committees.

During the year, I exchanged information with several other coordinators including, but not limited to Maggie Hein, Marv Heckmann, Dee Hert, and Mike Meisinger. Maggie has assisted me in posting new origins. She is a great editor and made sure that my postings were correct.

Looking forward into 2022, I will be giving a Treffen Tuesday presentation in March and attending the convention in Lincoln. Also look forward to assisting members with ancestral charts and finding more German origins.

Happy Healthy 2022 to ALL!!!!  
Wayne H. Bonner, VC Balzer



## Beideck, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

I am the VC for Beideck and have not had many requests for info. I have contacted person who has asked for help. To my knowledge there are no unanswered questions. As far as my research in Beideck, I have a pretty complete file on families up to about 1855 and less data after 1855. I am always eager to communicate with people looking for connections.

John Lauck. My email address is [jdlauk23@djuno.com](mailto:jdlauk23@djuno.com) and phone is 8324074448.



## North/South Caucasus 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Includes the Caucasus villages of: Alexanderdorf-NC, Alexanderdorf-SC, Alexanderhilf, Baku, Blumenfeld, Dowsunskoje, Duchlonoff, Emaus, Eigenfeld, Eigenheim, Elisabethtal, Friedrichsfeld, Freudenstal, Georgstal, Gnadau, Grob Markosowka, Hoffnungstal, Johannesdorf, Katharinenfeld, Klein Markosowka, Kronental, Lillianfeld, Marienbrunn, Marienfeld, Martinsfeld, Marxheim, Michaelsdorf, Nalchik, Pilenkofeld, Petersdorf, Pilenkofeld, Rosenfeld, Steinfeld, Tiegenhoff, Tibilis, Tiflis

Names: Thousands of Germans from Russia resided in this huge geographic area. Please contact me with your questions.

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

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

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

Tool Kit: My personal library is growing rapidly as I locate and purchase new material.

Villagers were very mobile, thus I must search in numerous areas. Villagers intended destination plans were often altered due to various events.

Concordia Library collection now resides in Utah, once the collection is cataloged I will spend days reading this material.

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

I am looking forward to searching numerous libraries and traveling for research. All contact information regarding the Caucasus is retained and cross referenced with each contact.

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

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Hert  
Intermountain Chapter  
deehert@gmail.com



## Dietel, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

I have completed a book on Dietel and how my Kindsvater family emigrated from Germany then to Russia. it will be published later this year. We have completed a smaller book on Dietel. if anyone wants a copy of the shorter booklet let me know and I will send it to you. The longer book has many other information in it about my life as a German Russian.

I also have a book on Dreispitz where the Galliarts lived.

Don Soeken [donsoeken@gmail.com](mailto:donsoeken@gmail.com)

Co-VC Dietel Village

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I went through a major life change moving from Kent, WA where I have lived all my life, to Lilliwaup, WA. I love my new home, but the process had taken up a lot of my volunteer hours in 2021.

Surname requests I worked with this year were: Adam, Busch, Bereth (and all the various spellings), Foos, Gradwohl, Grauberger, Jung, Kindsvater, Koch, Kramer, Lederer, Mill, Muller, Riechel, Schmidt, Simon, Strecker, Tautfest, Wambold.

A Volga German Ukrainian, Alexander Bush, provided a hand-drawn sketch of Dietel dated the Summer of 1941 in a PDF form. I plan to have it translated and printed so I can share it.

In August of 2021, Lee Ann Schlager, provided the Flegler surname chart to enter into the Dietel database that I plan to work on soon. Currently, there are 24778 individuals and 6075 marriages in the database.

Progress on the 1897 census! I forwarded \$660.00 in October 2021 to Tanja Schell as the Engels Archives finally sent the images to her. Tanja's goal is to have it translated by March 2022; then she will start on the 1908 family list [but we are unsure if this is the same documents that AHSGR has "Dietel Family List 1908-1918" that has not yet been translated]. Everyone that contributed to this project will get a free digital copy and then it will be forwarded to AHSGR for publication and sale.

The Dietel Facebook page now has 544 members from all over the globe.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Bouton  
Co-VC Dietel Village





## Dinkel, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

We had 3 inquiries for Dinkel this year: Nicolaisen, Wagenleitner and Muller.

Purchased the translated 1811 Dinkel census. It had only males listed but got a lot of death years for Dinkel villagers.

We are trying to get these Dinkel records from the archive: births, deaths and marriages for 1826 to 1833. The archive will not take digital images of these records as they are fragile. We are trying to get typed information but no word yet. Trying to get other records from the archive for Dinkel.

Collecting obituaries and declarations of intent for people from Dinkel.

Sharon White and Jack Saunders, Co-Dinkel VC's



## Dobrinka, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were several dozen inquires during 2020 from several countries.

There is a significant number of census and church records for the village of Dobrinka, as follows:

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1850, 1857

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

First settler information for people who immigrated to Denmark, contains the following surnames: Baumgaetner, Krassel, Hafele, Hueber, Keller, Clauser, Knedler, Kraut, Moninger, Mueller, Flom, Flomart, Rau, Reiser, Schindler, Schneider, Schwend, Simon, Strep, Utz, Weber, Wenz, Ziegler, Siemon, Dieterle, Brunner, Meyer.

Births: 1852-1867, 1882-1894, 1895-1905 (being translated)

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1905 (not translated)

Deaths: 1904 (not translated)

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

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

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

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

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

Villages in the project include Dobrinka, Dreispitz, Galka, Holstein, Kraft, Mueller, Shcherbakovka, Schwab and Stephan. Dubovka was erroneously included in the project because a small Russian village near Dobrinka was thought to be the place where a Grauberger family had been employed by a Russian merchant. The real Dubovka is 150 kilometers from this location.

A project to create a database containing all available census and church records for these villages has been underway for several years. There are separate databases for Dobrinka, Galka and Shcherbakovka, then another large database for the remaining 6 villages.

Records for these villages which will be in the databases are the following census: 1767 (First Settler), 1798, 1834 and 1857. The following church records will be in the database:

Dobrinka:

Births: 1852-1867, 1882-1894, 1895-1905 (being translated)

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1905 (not translated)

Deaths: 1904 (not translated)

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

Dreispitz:

Births: 1902



Marriages: 1894, 1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1904

Galka:

Births: 1863-1884, 1901-1902  
Marriages: 1894, 1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1904

Holstein:

Births: 1799-1849  
Marriages: 1800-1852, 1894, 1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1799-1849, 1904

Kraft:

Births: 1848-1866, 1902  
Marriages: 1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1904

Mueller:

Births: 1902  
Marriages: 1894-1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1904

Shcherbakovka:

Births: 1809-1867  
Marriages: 1809-1867  
Deaths: 1809-1867

Schwab:

Births: 1902  
Marriages: 1894-1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1904

Stephen:

Births: 1836-1850, 1902  
Marriages: 1836-1864, 1894, 1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1836-1959, 1904

In addition, there are 18 daughter colonies where people from these villages moved in the 1847 to 1861 time period. These daughter colonies are Alt-Weimar, Avilova (Wiesefeld), Blumenfeld (am Belaya Kuba), Eckheim, Erlenbach, Frankreich, Friedenber, Gnadentau, Langenfeld, Morgantau, Neu-Galka, Neu-Kano, Neu-Mueller, Neu-Weimar, Oberdorf, Rosenberg, Strassburg and Wiesenmueller.

I maintain a separate database for Wiesenmueller (originally started by Hugh Lichtenwald) and have obtained the Wiesenmuller Family List 1895-1914. I have also obtained the Neu-Galka Family List 1887-1900, and the Blumenfeld (am Belaya Kuba) Family List 1874-1900.



Additional birth records covering 1892-1900 have been obtained for Khutors which are in the vicinity of the Lower Volga Villages including the following khutors: Avilova, Dobrinka, Knorov, Rudik.

Gary Martens  
VC for Dobrinka,  
[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Dönhof (Alt-Dönhof), Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

2021 was a productive year for Alt-Dönhof. I received queries and research requests for the following families: Aab family, as well as the Bröning, Schwartzkopf, Reifschneider, Kaiser, Lind, Miller/Müller, Erbes, Deines, Gomer, Wiedeman, Huwa, and Boltz families. I was able to help with most requests, including one from a researcher currently living in Germany, whom was researching a Kaiser ancestor.

One of the highlights for 2021 was the publication of the Alt-Dönhof baptismal records for the years 1815-1852. I was able to help with the proofreading and editing of these records and they are currently available at the AHSGR bookstore for \$100.00. They will be of great help to Dönhoffers researching the time period listed and information included in the records are the name and birthdate of the child, the parents names, including the mother's maiden name and the sponsors/witnesses of the baptism, whom are often family members. The place of baptism is listed, along with the pastor's name and, occasionally, the pastor has also recorded a death date.

AHSGR Headquarters has also obtained family list records for Alt-Dönhof for the years 1874 and 1882. These family lists from church records often include names of family members, birthdates, death dates, and some marriage dates. These records are currently being translated and we look forward to their publication, as the information will fill in some of the gaps we now have past the last published Alt-Dönhof census for 1857.

I continue to add to the Alt-Dönhof database, and one of my goals for 2022 is to continue learning how to use DNA test results to connect families and find missing ancestors. I have been able to use DNA results in some of my research for Alt-Dönhof, and I feel it can be a very useful tool. Having done my own testing through 3 of the major DNA testing companies, I have been able to make connections with new family members and am continuing to find more Dönhof ancestors through this type of research.

I also want to thank the Alt-Dönhof researchers whom have shared information and added to our database. It is always greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kaiser - Co-coordinator for the village of Alt-Dönhof



## Dreisnitz 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

This year has been another slow year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

I received only 5 inquiries this year from people looking for information on the following surnames - Meier, Feil, Steinle/Steinley, Gallart & Wollert. Although I had little information on these specific family lines, I was able to add this information to the database.

I also received several inquiries from people trying to get letters translated that were written in the old gothic script.

Throughout the year I was able to attend several zoom meetings sponsored by headquarters. They were both interesting and informative.

Mark Wills  
Village Coordinator for Dreisnitz  
[mark.b.wills@jci.com](mailto:mark.b.wills@jci.com)



## Enders, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Enders has had no research requests in 2021. I heard from one distant cousin in Germany, which is always a treat.

All Enders vital records have been translated and are available for purchase from the AHSGR store:

- Lutheran Birth Records 1785 - 1805, Enders and nearby colonies
- Lutheran Marriage Records 1787 – 1805, Enders and nearby colonies (process pending)
- Enders Birth, Confirmation, Marriage and Death Records 1829 – 1833
- Enders Births/Baptism Records 1834 - 1848
- Enders Marriages 1834 – 1883

I am continually working on adding all available census and vital records into the Enders database, which will be forwarded to AHSGR upon completion. I ask anyone working on vital records, please send me entries for Enders families to be included in the database.

Facebook is still the best source for connecting with descendants around the world.

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

I am excited to have had the opportunity to visit the town of Gedern in Germany, ancestral home of several Enders and Reinwald families including Ruppel, Weber, Müller, Landmann, and Oberheim. <https://volga.domains.unf.edu/origins/gedern-kr-wetterau-hessen> One of the highlights there is the Evangelische Kirche in Gedern, which dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. <https://ev-kirche-gedern.ekhn.de/startseite/kirche/die-geschichte-unserer-kirche.html>

I attended the AHSGR virtual convention this year, and look forward to the upcoming convention, July 27-31, 2022.

Beth R Davenport (Mueller) [volgadeutsch@gmail.com](mailto:volgadeutsch@gmail.com)  
Enders Village Coordinator



## Friedenberg, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

This past year I have had no one contact me for information on Friedenberg. Perhaps 2022 will be different.

Brenda Silvey  
brenda\_silvey@dccnet.com  
VC for Friedenberg





## Friedensdorf, Molochna Colonies 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Friedensdorf is one of the small villages found within the Molochna/Molotschna colony, located within what is now known as the Zaporizhzhia Oblast, Ukraine. It was founded in 1824.

There were no inquiries, projects, or new information gleaned for the village in the past year.

John Niessen - [jsniessen@yahoo.com](mailto:jsniessen@yahoo.com)



## Galka, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were about a dozen inquires during 2021 from several countries.

The records for the village of Galka as shown below:

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1857

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

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

Birth records: 1863-1884, 1901-1902

Marriages: 1894-1895-1905 (Not translated)

Deaths: 1904 (Not translated)

Family Lists: None

Note that there is a Family List for the daughter colony of Neu-Galka, for 1887-1900, that contains information on many people from Galka. There were a large number of Bernhardt's that moved to Neu-Galka, and their records in the family list have been translated, along with the surnames Riffel and Schick.

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

During several years prior to 1912, Max Praetorius from Riga, Latvia, lived in the village of Galka, and wrote a doctorate thesis about the village, for his studies at the University of Leipzig. The thesis titled "Galka – a German Settlement on the Volga", has been translated, and is available for downloading at the Galka

website: [http://galkagr.org/Galka\\_book/Galka\\_German\\_Settlement\\_on\\_the\\_Volga.pdf](http://galkagr.org/Galka_book/Galka_German_Settlement_on_the_Volga.pdf) The report in PDF format is over 80 pages long, so it might take a minute to download.

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

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

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

The Dobrinka 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report contains a detailed report on the status of the Lower Volga Village Project databases.

Gary Martens

VC for Galka

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Gnadendorf, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

No activity.

Jeremy Landt

[jeremysfm@gmail.com](mailto:jeremysfm@gmail.com)

Village Coordinator for

Katharinental, Samara, Volga

Gnadendorf, Samara, Volga

Rosental (am Jeruslan), Samara, Volga

Weizenfeld, Samara, Volga



## Hildmann, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

2021 continued to be a busy year for inquiries and work on Volga German ancestral records.

The Hildmann webpage is now complete and linked to AHSGR. To view the Hildmann Webpage - <http://hildmanvillage.com> or access the link from AHSGR's Village Co-ordinators' Section under Hildmann. There you will find the translation of Hildmann's 1767 First Settler's List for Hildmann (compiled by Darryl Boyd). The 1830, 1850, and 1857 Hildmann Censuses (Translated by Juri Schulmeister in Germany). Please consider sending researchers to this site for Hildmann Censuses and information.

This year, I was able to purchase the supposedly "lost" Kamenka Parish birth, marriage and death records: 1797 to 1801, 1806, 1813, 1817 – 1826. They were located in the archive in Engels (archive of the Volga Germans. If you would like a digital copy (no charge) to help others or for your own research, contact me by e-mail at [reginaremisch@sympatico.ca](mailto:reginaremisch@sympatico.ca).

In 2021, numerous people contacted me for assistance - from South America, Germany, and the United States. I also collaborated with other AHSGR village co-ordinators and I continue to receive requests from members of "Ancestry.com" and had one question from "Find-A-Grave."

This year, I have assisted researchers to find information on the following surnames - Grimm/Krim, Haas, Reiss/Reis, Ruhl, Steinbach/Steinbock, Roth, Gitlein/Guettlein, Amarhein, Rickert, Maibach, Feit/Feid, Kloster, Goebel, Gertje and Roemisch.

I have been assisting M. Goebel with her extensive Ancestral Tree by comparing her tree with birth, death and marriage records in my possession. Some of the ancestral names include: Guettlein, Weissbeck, Prediger, Gallinger, Martinewski and Hildmann.

I have been diligently "extracting" Kamenka Parish and Semenovka Parish birth, marriage, and death information from the Latin images. The information, including copies of the actual images, is now available at <http://volgaparishes.com>. Please consider visiting this site and encourage other researchers to check it out. The Volga Parishes site is free and full of valuable information about the Bergseite Parishes.

I continue to search for a **Plat map of Hildmann**. There are other Plat maps of neighbouring villages so hopefully there is also one of Hildmann. If anyone has a Plat map of Hildmann or knows how I could obtain/purchase one – please contact me. It would be appreciated.

As well, if anyone has any information on how/where to get birth records (for first settlers of Hildmann and Koehler) from their native homes in Germany – I would welcome your input.

All the best for the new year,

Regina Remisch (Römisch)  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
[reginaremisch@sympatico.ca](mailto:reginaremisch@sympatico.ca)



# Hoffental, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

## Village Coordinators

Michael Fyler, Researcher, Hoffental and Walter databases.

## Reference

*1870-1876 Brunnental, Russia, Communion Register 1870-1886, Vol 1 and Vol 2 Translated by and made possible by Margreatha Hein.*

*1857 Census of Hoffental in the District of Samara, Russia Translated by Dr. Brent Mai*

Bartel Bauer Becker Benner Bräutigam Bretthauer Dehl Dietz Dörr Ebert Ehlenberger Eisenhut Flath Frick Geisel Geisner Geist Gerlinger Giesick Greif Hahn Hardt Hartung Hartwig Heberlein Heifneder Heimelt Herber Hill Hofmann Jost Kaiser Keller Kimmel Kling Klippert Leonhardt Lichtenberg Link Liphardt Meier Meisner Michel Mohr Mohrlang Müller Pfeiff Reckling Rein Rothenberger Schilling Schneidmüller Scholl Schönemeier Schwenk Steinmetz Störkel Thorn Vogel Volk Weber Weiss Wiedemann Wiederspahn

Founded in circa 1859 a protestant daughter colony, Hoffental currently known as Zhdanovka, Saratov Oblast, Russia.

AHSGR: <https://ahsgr.org/villages/view/hoffental-saratov-volga/#village-search-button>

Volga German Insitutes: <https://volga.domains.unf.edu/colonies/hoffental>

The Hoffental database is a work in progress.

Currently investigating the availability church records.

Michael Fyler

waltermillage@yahoo.com



## Holstein, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were seven inquires during 2020 from several countries.

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

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1857

First settler information: known as the 1767 Census

Birth records: 1799-1852

Marriages: 1800-1852

Deaths: 1799-1849

Family Lists: None

The birth records for Rudik Khutor, which was near Holstein, have been translated. The records cover 1895-1900, and there were 41 births in the khutor recorded by the Lutheran pastor, during that time.

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

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

The Dobrinka 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report contains a detailed report on the status of the Lower Volga Village Project databases.

Gary Martens

VC for Holstein

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Huck, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

2021 has been a repeat of receiving pleas for family history assistance during the 1858-1888 period for which no Huck Archive materials have been found. Disappointing for me and for those who are asking questions. Maybe someday a new Portfolio will be discovered but until then ....

Maggie Hein continues to be helpful and Huck records for the translation work she is doing in Archion.de because occasionally she finds a stray Huck reference in what sometimes seems impossible to translate. I suspect many coordinators have not tried their hand at translating the old script in the Archion records – it is possible, just takes practice and dedication but usually easy to decode given and surnames. Yes, I need to do it more often.

I've had multiple good inquiries from persons in Argentina this year. Exchange of information continues to help both of us. Beginning researchers are often shy to expose what little they know when they first ask a question and I respond – an example of more than one inquiry is “I've been told my grandfather's family is from Huck White Russia. The family name is (\_\_\_\_\_). Just curious if that name is known to your group?”

I try to explain what I know about that surname in available Huck records and that I will freely share what information I have but will need more than Jake \_\_\_\_\_ to help. I suggest using one or more Family Group sheets (copy provided) to organize what information living Aunts and Uncles can provide (or visiting graveyards to fill in some sections) before attempting to develop a Pedigree chart (copy provided). A ‘no answer’ response makes me think I need to change how to respond to such inquiries, and I'm open to all suggestions.

Pam Wurst, the other Huck co-coordinator, and I continue to share new information to avoid holes in our records.

Dennis Zitterkopf  
[zitter@cox.net](mailto:zitter@cox.net)  
316-648-1849



## Hussenbach, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There are now 50,992 people in our Hussenbach database. Please send Family Group Sheets to Sue at the email address below to be included in our growing database. I often find that our immigrant families have the information that can help us bridge the gap in our records. When we bring together the information of a few distant cousins we are able to piece together the branches of a family.

This year, Sue finished the entry of the 3870 birth records for Neu-Hussenbach and sent an updated database to Shari. Hussenbach is still receiving the benefit of origins research from Maggie Hein. Maggie has done excellent work on finding the Germanic origins of the Hussenbach and other village(s) colonists.

Collaboration is ongoing with the other Village Coordinators in the Frank Canton as many people intermarried between villages or moved for other reasons. Sue has a Trello board: Hussenbach-Germanic Origins there are 28 confirmed origins for people who lived in the village. Research is on going for the 95 other names identified as having a connection to Hussenbach. Sue made a Google map: Hussenbach Origins showing the location of the villages of the Germanic origins. Links to both of these were also published on the Facebook group: Hussenbach (Linevo Osero) and Neu-Hussenbach (Gashon) Russia Descendants.

Sue also has a Hussenbach village website: Hussenbach (Linevo Osero), Sue had inquiries about the Fuchs, Besel, Hemel, Leis, Mehling, Propp, Sauerbrei, Schilling, Schmidt, Schwab families and Shari had ... Mehling, Schilling, Schwab, Stenzel, Pepler, Schwarz, Stroh, Besel, Fuchs, Körbel, Schumaker.

I have also been contacted by numerous other inquiries of other villages. It has been a great year and I so appreciate all that have allowed me into your family's world. I always encourage people to get their DNA test done. If your family falls into the time periods when the records were destroyed it really does help to follow a DNA trail. I recommend Ancestry.

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

Village Coordinators:

Susan Hopp Nakaji

2022 AHSGR Lincoln NE Convention Chair

1172 Mallard Crest Dr Sparks NV 89441

[susan.nakaji@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susan.nakaji@sbcglobal.net)

Surnames: Hopp, Jäger, Fries, Wurttemberger, Mauer, Rommel, Rauter, Schütz

Shari Mehling Stone

Trustee Secretary, IFAHSGR Board of Trustees

4782 West Vermillion Drive South Jordan, UT 84009

[sharistone2007@gmail.com](mailto:sharistone2007@gmail.com).

Surnames: Mehling, Lies, Marker, Wink, Suppes, Herrmann, Stroh, Hoffmann, Schumaker.

I'm DNA connected to about 90% of the Hussenbach village.





## Josefstal, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

I continue to collect and respond to inquiries about this Catholic village, located near the city of Kamyshin.

The big news this year was the purchase of Church records for the Parish of Marienfeld, which included the villages of Josefstal and Marienfeld, plus the small Catholic Prayer house located in Kamyshin.

The following records have been received:

Births: 1859 to 1918

Marriages: 1859 to 1915

Deaths: 1859 to 1919

Then civil deaths for Josefstal for 1919 to 1922. (These include people that died in the famine of 1921 -1922)

Currently work is being done to translate them all, and we will be sharing freely the spreadsheets with whoever wants them.

Respectfully submitted:

Edward (Ted) Gerke



## Jost, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Jost saw very little traffic in 2021, with only a few requests for assistance from U.S. descendants.

Dave has added all available Kanton Kukkus records, including Jost, into the Jost database, which has been forwarded to AHSGR in Lincoln for safekeeping. Although no additional Jost records have been located in the Russian archives, we continue to seek Jost residents that appear in other villages. We ask that anyone working with vital records to forward Jost entries to Dave for inclusion in the database.

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

Beth attended the AHSGR virtual convention this year. We look forward to the 2022 convention July 27-31 in Lincoln, NE.

Jost Co-Coordinator,

Beth R Davenport (Mueller) [volgadeutsch@gmail.com](mailto:volgadeutsch@gmail.com)

Dave Halm [davehalm@heartofiowa.net](mailto:davehalm@heartofiowa.net)



## Kamenka, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

### Things Accomplished:

- Have continued to add and revise information in the Kamenka database. There are 7500 individuals to date.
- Have updated the Kamenka website as we have more information to share. We have received a map of Kamenka in 1930s from the Library of Congress that we want to add to the website with a key for the map symbols.  
Website URL: <https://sites.google.com/view/kamenkawebiste/home?authuser=0>
- Have periodically uploaded the revised database to Rootsweb. A link to the database is on the Kamenka website.
- Have cross-checked the translated Kamenka Parish Marriage Records for 1865-75 with other sources of information. The entire printed document of these marriages has been given to the AHSGR Library for research. Individual pdf documents for the marriages in the three villages (Pfeifer, Husaren and Kamenka) in Kamenka parish at this time were uploaded to the AHSGR Village File pages for online research. Those pdfs were also shared with Pfeifer and Husaren Village Coordinators.
- Although not directly related to Kamenka, we purchased, translated, formatted and published the Schuck Church Records (1826-45.) Those were made available digitally on the AHSGR village pages for Schuck, Degott, Volmer, Sewald and Rothammel. They were emailed to the Village Coordinators for each of those villages. A printed copy was sent to AHSGR library in Lincoln.

### Plans:

- We have purchased the birth, marriage, and death church records for the Kamenka Parish from 1797-1848. We will be translating, cross-checking and formatting those records this upcoming year. We plan on creating pdf documents for use on the AHSGR website and a printed copy for the library, as well as sharing with village coordinators of the villages in the Kamenka Parish.
- Kamenka Database on Rootsweb will be updated as we update the database.

### People Helped:

- We have answered six individual's email requests; some with more than one question over the year.
- The people we have helped live in Argentina, Ireland, and United States.

### Feedback from Last Convention:

- We enjoyed the annual AHSGR online convention. There were excellent workshop speakers.
- We viewed many pre-recorded workshops at the online 2021 Roots Tech conference.



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

- 1775, 1834, 1850, and 1857 Kamenka censuses.
- Kamenka Marriage Records for 1865-76.
- Volga Transport books by Brent Mai
- 1798 Russian census by Brent Mai

**Who Helped:**

- The following Village Coordinators have been very helpful at answering questions and helping us resolve problems found in the church records we translated: Barb and Nick Bretz, Cathy Hawinkels, Joe Gertge and Ted Gerk.
- The Koehler Parish birth and marriage records from Nick and Barb Bretz were helpful in finding the spouses of Kamenka residents.
- Juri Schulmeister has been invaluable in obtaining records and Jeffrey Holdman has helped cross-check records.

**Point of Contact:** Joe Schell and Lynn Zemanek  
Kamenka\_village@hotmail.c



## Katharinental, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

One inquiry from Argentina. Researched and provided some information, but I could not find the desired connections between 1857 and 1900s.

Jeremy Landt

[jeremysfnm@gmail.com](mailto:jeremysfnm@gmail.com)

Village Coordinator for:

Katharinental, Samara, Volga

Gnadendorf, Samara, Volga

Rosental (am Jeruslan), Samara, Volga

Weizenfeld, Samara, Volga



## Kautz (Werschinka), Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

2021 saw fewer requests for information from me for the village of Kautz. I had approximately 23 people contact me. Two were from Germany, one from Russia, and the rest from the USA. Two from the USA were fishing expeditions for surnames common to many villages. For the rest I was able to provide detailed ancestral charts and genealogical reports. Many requestors provided much more information on their specific lines than I had in my Kautz database.

I am still missing 50 years of Kautz births, which, if found, would complete the acquisition of Kautz Lutheran records of births, marriages, and deaths for the years of 1834 through 1918.

Currently I am translating several thousand Merkel (Makarovka) birth and death records. This is keeping me busy.

Michael Frank  
Kautz Village Coordinator



## Koehler, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Nick & Barbara Bretz - [rothammeler@aol.com](mailto:rothammeler@aol.com) - 303-424-5145

David Haspert - [haspert@yahoo.com](mailto:haspert@yahoo.com)

A year or so ago we were able to acquire the Koehler Parish records for the years 10/1839 - 1917. Our goal is to enter them into our village file before making them available to researchers. The reason is that we are finding many errors, whether in translation or in the actual church record. An example is that a groom's first wife is listed as his mother! We know this because of other records we hold. We believe that the corrections should be made so researchers can determine the heritage more correctly. It is taking a great deal of time to sort out the records but we hope to have it done this year.

We have some records of those married in Buedingen before leaving for Russia, some records of those arriving in Oranienbaum, & some records of those on their way to the village. We also have copies of the 1798, 1834, 1850 & 1857 Koehler census records and files others have shared.

We hope to be able to share the church & census records with AHSGR headquarters when the translations are completed. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us for help with your research. We have been able to help those from the US, Germany, Russia, South American and others.

Be sure to check out [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) because David Haspert has undertaken entering records of many people with German/Russia heritage.



## Konstantinovka, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There was 1 inquiry during 2020. Konstantinovka was founded in 1859 by people from Schilling, Moor, Jost, Doenhof, Kutter and Merkel. It was adjacent to the daughter colony Schilling, which was merged with Konstatninovka.

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

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: 1895-1919

Marriages: 1895-1908

Deaths: 1895-1910

Confirmation records: 1895-1915

Communion records: 1895-1905 (not family list)

Gary Martens

VC for Konstantinovka

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)





## Kraft, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

This is my fifth year as the Village Coordinator for the Village of Kraft. In 2021 we had 12 queries for information on ancestral family members coming from Kraft. 11 queries came from either Canada or the United States and 1 came from Argentina. This was a decrease of 1 as we had 13 queries in 2020. We were able to help all 12 queries in various degrees. In two cases I worked in conjunction with other VC's. Surnames requested included Becker, Bertram, Greb, Gottwig, Kraft, Maar, Mahr, Meier, Peil, Reichert, Schlotthauer, Schmidt, Schneider, Schreiner, Schultz, Volker, and Weimer. Weimer appeared the most times as it was included in 4 of the queries. Some of these will be ongoing into 2022.

None of our plans listed last year came to pass, compliments of Covid 19. All meetings throughout the year were virtual. We made no plans to continue our "once in a lifetime plan" to visit Russia and the Volga colonies and will not pursue this again until Covid actually comes to an end. We continue to support our local Chapter in Calgary Canada. I will continue to help them as Treasurer and Heather as Membership's person. So instead of travelling we stayed home and had virtual Chapter meetings. In 2021, we also attended virtual conventions in Edmonton and as a Lincoln BOD member in March and July. Still feel that the computer is not the same as being there.

Resources I have, include

1. A 8871 name database of people who resided in Kraft primarily up to 1866 but including some later updates.
2. Original Settler's List in 1767 for Kraft.
3. Complete 1798 Volga Census by Brent Alan Mai.
4. Census Reports for the years 1816, 1834, 1850, and 1857 for Kraft.
5. Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet 1764-1767 by Igor Pleve Vol 1 and 4. Unable to get Vol 2 and Vol 3 as they were out of print and are presently being reprinted, we hope.
6. Spreadsheet of Lutheran Church births 1848-1866 and 1902, marriages 1895 and 1905 and deaths 1904 recently translated.
7. Lists of Colonists to Russia in 1766 by Ivan Kulberg newly reprinted.
8. Passports to Freedom Index of names of Volga residents seeking to leave Russia 1877 to 1916.

Projects for 2022 - I think that judging by last year's failure to fulfill our plans, we will not make any travel arrangements for the time being until Covid 19 subsides. So far 2022 is not looking much better than 2021 even with the prospects of vaccines. We will continue to work on our database and with those who seek help with finding their ancestors from Kraft. Some of the other colonies have received more information from Russia but nothing else has appeared for Kraft or Neukraft to reduce the gap between 1866 and the present time. Do any of you have any old pictures of Kraft when it was in its prime that I could copy for our records??

Respectfully submitted by Gerald and Heather Sieb



## Krasnoyar, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There has been very little activity for this village this year. The 1834, 1842, 1843-1851, 1852-1862 church records have been translated and are available thru AHSGR. The church death records for the same timeframe have been donated to AHSGR and I assume they are currently being translated.

Sue Hess

VC Krasnojar

Sue Hess [suehess1@wi.rr.com](mailto:suehess1@wi.rr.com)



## Kukkus, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

I did not have anyone contact me for information on the village of KUKKUS in 2021. I corrected an entry for Sebastian Krumm to add his first wife Anna Julianna and moved the children from the second wife to the first wife. The data came from Brent Mai's books.

Eleanor Sissell



## Laub, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

During the past year I have attended and was a presenter at the virtual AHSGR convention and attended the GRHS convention in Bismarck, ND. I also attended numerous virtual presentations related to history, genealogy, and culture of our German from Russian heritage.

Our small publishing group at AHSGR continues to purchase, translate, and disseminate vital records as well as records related to military services, passports and other records of our ancestors.

We had 12 village information requests this past year with the majority coming from the USA but also from Russia, Turkey and Germany.

We are working with Prairie Public TV to produce a Volga German Food Ways documentary for our society. We have been delayed 2 years due to the pandemic. Hopefully we will be able to start site visits and filming later this year, complete the filming in 2023-2024 and find the necessary funding to complete this project. Those interested in assisting with this project may do so by donating to AHSGR, earmarked Volga German Foodways. We will need to raise approximately \$150,00 to complete the documentary.

This year we will continue to search for more records for Laub and all the villages of the Kukkus Kanton and beyond. We continue to search for and raise more funds for record purchases and translations.

Individuals interested in assisting with translations or record purchases may contact us through AHSGR. We are always seeking assistance with translations.

Donita Reich Rotherham  
Patricia Gayol Windecker



## Merkel (Makarovka), Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

In the past I have had very few requests for information for this village. In 2021 I had five requests.

I've gone back and translated Lutheran church records which I had postponed because of poor handwriting in some years.

I have now completed births 1848-1863, marriages 1894-1895 and deaths 1848-1863. A USB drive with several thousand more Merkel records arrive tomorrow from a benefactor friend in Greeley, Colorado who very recently received them from Russian archives. It appears there may be a small number of Bauer records included in the batches. I am making them all a priority for translation and assimilation into my database. There will be no charge to him for my time and efforts. We both win!

[dm48@comcast.net](mailto:dm48@comcast.net)

Michael Frank  
Merkel Village Coordinator



## Messer, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

2021 was another busy year. We were able to help several Messer and Neu Messer descendants with their research. We have continued to work with a group in Germany called, "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". They are a group of around 700 Messer descendants living primarily in Germany and Russia. We have been sharing information and helping each other with research requests. Working together we have been able to help a few families in America make connections with their relatives who stayed in Russia.

We continue to acquire and transcribe records from the Russian Archives. This year we obtained Neu Messer Family Lists for 1888 and 1915. They were transcribed and have been placed in the Neu Messer Village Files on the AHSGR website. We have found fewer records for Neu Messer than we have found for Messer and most of the ones we have found only cover short periods of time. As a result we have several documents that are so short it wouldn't make sense to publish them and sell them through the AHSGR book store. Copies of the following "short documents" were also placed in the Village Files for Neu Messer:

- 1904 Neu Messer Death Records
- 1896-1900 Neu Messer Confirmations
- 1900-1912 Neu Messer Passports
- 1894-1895 Neu Messer Marriages
- 1884 Confirmations of Neu Messer young people confirmed in Messer

This year we acquired engagement records for Messer for the years 1858-1892. Previously we have transcribed and published a Messer Marriage Index for 1827-1892. Those index records recorded only the name of the bride and groom and the date of the marriage. The new records also include the ages of the bride and groom and the names of the fathers of the bride and groom, (unless they were a widow or widower). In addition they include information on engagements announced in Messer that did not result in a marriage in Messer, and thus are not included in the previously published index. Some of these are engagements that were canceled, but most are for couples where one of the parties was from another colony. It is likely these marriages did take place in that other colony. All this new information has been added to what was in the previous index and I am working with the Ancestral Records Committee to get the new and improved version published and ready for purchase. Maria Weber from "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*" has been a great help with translating the more difficult parts of the document and Don and Greta Beavers have carefully edited the work. **Many thanks to them.**

We have also obtained Messer Engagement Records 1892-1916. These records are in Russian so they are more of a challenge to translate/transcribe. I have made a first pass through the records and Maria Weber will be helping me complete the document in January, 2022.

Don and Greta Beavers purchased the Messer Family List 1834-1850. This document is very interesting and shows birth dates, death dates, and marriages family by family for the period 1834-1850. We will be working on transcribing it in 2022.

Messer / Neu Messer Newsletters were sent out in April and October and we continue to find new Messer and Neu Messer descendants to add to our distribution list.



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

Our database administrators, Don and Greta Beavers, are continuing to grow our Messer / Neu Messer database. They are entering all the available census information and linking the families together. As time permits they will also add the marriage, birth, death, and confirmation records we have obtained, as well as records shared with us by the "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". This is an ongoing work and Don and Greta are doing a fantastic job. Currently the database contains the names of 12,869 people who lived in Messer and 1,759 who lived in Neu Messer, and many thousand more who are their descendants. **Thank you Don and Greta.**

Fellow Village Coordinators,

Last December I sent out a spreadsheet with information on other locations mentioned in Messer Marriage Records 1827 - 1892. We recently finished transcribing and translating additional engagement records for the colony of Messer 1892 - 1916. The following colonies are mentioned in these new records.

Anton, Balzer, Bauer, Beideck, Brunntal, Dietel, Dobrinka, Dönhof, Dreispitz, Frank, Franzosen, Friedenber, Huck, Hussenbach, Katharinenstadt, Konstantinovka, Krasnojarsk, Kratzke, Kutter, Laub, Moor, Müller, Neu Balzer, Neu Bauer, Neu Dönhof, Neu Messer, Neu Norka, Neu Straub, Neuhausen, Norka, Orlovskaya, Rosenberg, Rosenfeld, Saratov, Schilling, Schöndorf, Schwab, Seelmann, Shcherbakovka, Straub, Unterdorf, Walter, Warenburg, and Yagodnaya Polyana.

Like the information I shared previously, most of the records involve brides and grooms who were both from Messer, but several hundred involve someone associated with one of the locations above. Since these are records of engagements that were announced in Messer, they include some engagements that were canceled, and many that do not include a marriage date. It seems likely that these might have resulted in a marriage that took place in another colony.

I have extracted the records that mention other locations and created the attached file. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike Meisinger  
Village Coordinator for Messer and Neu Messer



## Moor, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Despite the continued pandemic, 2021 was an active year for Moor research.

Through the great generosity of a fellow researcher in Portugal, I was able to receive a copy of the 1811 census for Moor. Apparently, the Engels Archives does not list this document in their inventory so I have no idea where it was eventually located.

With Mike Meisinger's assistance, we completed examining the online searchable Schleswig and Jutland church records. We were astounded that in total we identified nearly 350 baptism records, some 100 marriage entries, and approximately 85 death records for first families of 30 Volga colonies and 4 non-Volga colonies.

In August, I gave a presentation at the virtual national convention about our Danish finds. Copies of the records were submitted to headquarters where they are now available in the village files for everyone to examine.

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City reopened in 2021, permitting my wife and I to do another week-long visit in early October. Researching printed Familienbuchen and Ortzippen books and other resource material, I was able to add the marriage of Abraham Bartolo and Solome Friedricke (Moor Family 35), identify the German origin of the Kempel (Göbel/Kehr) family (Moor 70), and find Anna Margaretha Ruhn, listed as the mother for Moor family 64.

I was asked to fill out a position on the National Board, representing California. In that capacity, I have been added to the genealogy and folklore committees.

During the year, I exchanged information with several other coordinators including, but not limited to Maggie Hein, Marv Heckmann, Dee Hert, and Mike Meisinger. Maggie has assisted me in posting new origins. She is a great editor and made sure that my postings were correct.

Looking forward into 2022, I will be giving a Treffen Tuesday presentation in March and attending the convention in Lincoln. Also look forward to assisting members with ancestral charts and finding more German origins.

Happy Healthy 2022 to ALL!!!!  
Wayne H. Bonner, VC Moor





## Mueller, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were 4 inquires during 2020 from just the US.

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

Census records: 1798, 1834, 1850, 1857  
First settler information: known as the 1857 Census  
Birth records: 1902  
Marriages: 1894-1895, 1905  
Deaths: 1904  
Family Lists: None

There were at least four daughter colonies called Neu-Mueller, two of which were in the vicinity of the adjacent villages of Stephan and Mueller. There are a number of birth and death records in Stephan records noting births or deaths of people living in a Neu-Mueller daughter colony.

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

Mueller is part of the Lower Volga Village Project: <http://www.lowervolga.org/>  
The Dobrinka 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report contains a detailed report on the status of the Lower Volga Village Project databases.

Gary Martens  
VC for Mueller  
[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Neu-Balzer, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

The year of 2021 did not bring very many inquiries for the village of Neu-Balzer as only 3 individuals contacted me concerning the village. However, it was a great year for researching and compiling information about the individuals that left Neu-Balzer and came to the United States and Canada.

I have been able to create a data base on over 100 individuals that arrived in the United States or Canada. The information obtained (when possible) contains the following data:

1. The year of their birth
2. The parents of each individual
3. Information of their arrival in the United States or Canada
4. The census of 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1940 which gives their place of residence for those years.
5. Their naturalization information
6. The draft registration information for each male or military service in the U.S. or Russia
7. The place of death and burial
8. The obituary and a picture of the headstone.
9. Other personal information for each individual.

We have set some very high goals for the year 2022. The 1897 Neu-Balzer census that was printed 2 years ago is being expanded to include anyone that lived in Neu-Balzer at any time from first settlers in 1864 until the present. The information is being taken from family trees that people have placed on the internet which does leave a chance for some error. However, I have a contact in Germany (who was born in Kazakhstan but whose family came from Neu-Balzer) that is checking the information for validity. We currently have added over 80 people to this census and includes many who were born in Neu-Balzer and forced to Siberia and Kazakhstan in 1941. We are also finding more detailed information to add to the 1897 census.

Submitted by Marv Heckman, VC for Neu-Balzer



## Neu-Dönhof, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

We now have 204 village descendants, mainly Dönhof and Neu-Dönhof, but also Gnadenfelders, Rosenbergers (Umet) and Unterdorfers who trace their beginnings back to the mother colony of Dönhof before the option of settling in the daughter colony of Neu-Dönhof was open in 1863. We lose a few descendants each year due to deaths and e-mail changes but so far, our gains out pace our loses. We have descendants from Argentina, Canada, Germany, and the U.S and a database of 13, 917 (this does not include the transport lists or census’).

This year marked our thirteenth newsletter, now one newsletter per quarter. Tibi Maw, our layout person has expanded the newsletter from its simple beginnings to its longer, more colorful format. We continue publishing photos from Russia for more complete identification (this has not been completely successful) and obituaries of passing first and second generation, 100 percent, Volga Germans born in No. America, Dönhofers and Neu-Dönhofers. Hugo Vazquez Eichhorn writes that our Facebook group which he manages has 121 members “is growing a lot, most common topics are the search for data on relatives, at the same time asking questions about the village and sharing photographs. We always try to help and guide them with data and at the same time encourage them to share their photographs, all group members are descendants of Donhof settlers.” Jessi Vandagriff is our Webmaster, where we continue to gain the majority of our new members. Tibi, Hugo and Jessi have been with us for four years now.

I fulfilled research requests for Reinhardt/Schwarzkopfs, Jakobÿ/Schwarzkopfs, Eichler/Schwarzkopfs, Baus/Schwarzkopfs, Baus/Helds, Deines/Kaisers, Deines/Schlagers and Borrell/Linds.

I added two items to the Neu-Dönhof binder: a letter written on 5 Oct 1995 by Wilhelm Jakobi of Gifhorn, Germany, great-nephew of Rev. Jacob F. Flegler, to daughter the Rev.s daughter Martha Flegler Fisher about her father’s visit to Dönhof/Neu-Dönhof in 1928/29 as told to Wilhelm by his mother, Jacob’s niece. Jacob grew up in Neu-Dönhof. I also added a story written by Emma Lebsack Deines as told by her mother-in-law, Elisabethe Erbes Deines, born and raised in Neu-Dönhof

2021 was a year of publication for Dönhof/Neu-Dönhof. We began the year with AHSGR agreeing to translate and publish Olga Litzenberger’s chapter on Dönhof in the first quarter Journal. Along with this they republished Fabian Zubia Schultheis’ article from *Die Doenhoffer, History of the Protestant Settlements in Entre Rios Province, Argentina and the First Dönhof Settlers*. Because we have grown our villages so successfully, I was asked by AHSGR to write an article for their newsletter on *How to Grow a Village* also published in the first quarter. From Wayne Bonner’s work on Schleswig, Fabian was able to add the birth, marriage and death information to the first settlers of whom about 50 percent comprised Dönhof’s population in 1767. We published this in our newsletter the *Die Doenhoffer*.

For my library, I acquired a first quarter AHSGR Journal referred to above, a copy of *Passport to Freedom*, just in case, AHSGR’s latest project acquiring the Russian passports of our emigrants. Finally, after years of waiting, I acquired Part I and II of the Dietz Family History of Kratzke.



This work was completed in 1992 and 1997 and is remarkable for many reasons but includes many Dönhofers.

In March because of an early, dry spring I was finally able to visit the Historic Columbian Cemetery where early Volga Germans are buried as well as Oregon pioneers. In May I was able to devote time to reviewing obits on Family Search and found that many towns in multiple states had been assigned the wrong state. I notified Family Search who identified it as a computer glitch that they would fix—I've not checked back to see if this was done. I attended the AHSGR International Conference via ZOOM.

Via the magic of ZOOM Fabian was able to speak at the AHSGR Calgary Chapter in September.

Lee Ann Schlager  
Neu-Dönhof VC



## Neu-Galka, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

I took over officially as VC for Neu-Galka the end of 2021. However, I had been working with people from Argentina, who also had Neu-Weimar connections.

Neu-Galka was founded in 1860 as a Lutheran colony, with people relocating from the villages of Galka and Dobrinka.

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

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: none

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1901

Deaths: 1901

Family Lists: 1887-1900

The Family List is 195 pages of family information. So far, information for the surnames of Bernhardt, Riffel and Schick have been translated and put into the appropriate database. Further translations will be done as people request information. I've received a lot of information about people that immigrated to Argentina, and their descendants, which has been added to the databases.

Gary Martens

VC for Neu-Galka

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Neu-Messer, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

2021 was another busy year. We were able to help several Messer and Neu Messer descendants with their research. We have continued to work with a group in Germany called, "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". They are a group of around 700 Messer descendants living primarily in Germany and Russia. We have been sharing information and helping each other with research requests. Working together we have been able to help a few families in America make connections with their relatives who stayed in Russia.

We continue to acquire and transcribe records from the Russian Archives. This year we obtained Neu Messer Family Lists for 1888 and 1915. They were transcribed and have been placed in the Neu Messer Village Files on the AHSGR website. We have found fewer records for Neu Messer than we have found for Messer and most of the ones we have found only cover short periods of time. As a result we have several documents that are so short it wouldn't make sense to publish them and sell them through the AHSGR book store. Copies of the following "short documents" were also placed in the Village Files for Neu Messer:

- 1904 Neu Messer Death Records
- 1896-1900 Neu Messer Confirmations
- 1900-1912 Neu Messer Passports
- 1894-1895 Neu Messer Marriages
- 1884 Confirmations of Neu Messer young people confirmed in Messer

This year we acquired engagement records for Messer for the years 1858-1892. Previously we have transcribed and published a Messer Marriage Index for 1827-1892. Those index records recorded only the name of the bride and groom and the date of the marriage. The new records also include the ages of the bride and groom and the names of the fathers of the bride and groom, (unless they were a widow or widower). In addition they include information on engagements announced in Messer that did not result in a marriage in Messer, and thus are not included in the previously published index. Some of these are engagements that were canceled, but most are for couples where one of the parties was from another colony. It is likely these marriages did take place in that other colony. All this new information has been added to what was in the previous index and I am working with the Ancestral Records Committee to get the new and improved version published and ready for purchase. Maria Weber from "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*" has been a great help with translating the more difficult parts of the document and Don and Greta Beavers have carefully edited the work. **Many thanks to them.**

We have also obtained Messer Engagement Records 1892-1916. These records are in Russian so they are more of a challenge to translate/transcribe. I have made a first pass through the records and Maria Weber will be helping me complete the document in January, 2022.

Don and Greta Beavers purchased the Messer Family List 1834-1850. This document is very interesting and shows birth dates, death dates, and marriages family by family for the period 1834-1850. We will be working on transcribing it in 2022.

Messer / Neu Messer Newsletters were sent out in April and October and we continue to find new Messer and Neu Messer descendants to add to our distribution list.



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

Our database administrators, Don and Greta Beavers, are continuing to grow our Messer / Neu Messer database. They are entering all the available census information and linking the families together. As time permits they will also add the marriage, birth, death, and confirmation records we have obtained, as well as records shared with us by the "*Colony Messer Kamensky Kanton ASSR NP*". This is an ongoing work and Don and Greta are doing a fantastic job. Currently the database contains the names of 12,869 people who lived in Messer and 1,759 who lived in Neu Messer, and many thousand more who are their descendants. **Thank you Don and Greta.**

Mike Meisinger  
Village Coordinator for Messer and Neu Messer



## Neu-Norka, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

I have no new information to report. I had a couple of e-mail enquiries, but nothing of significance to report.

Thank you

Marvin Schwartz  
Neu-Norka VC





## Neu-Schilling I and II, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

The daughter colonies of Neu-Schilling I and Neu-Schilling II were adjacent villages, founded in 1855, by people from Schilling. They combined into one village, which were located 153 kilometers (95 miles) south of Krazy-Kut.

The records available for the villages of Neu-Schilling are shown below:

Census records: None

First settler information: none

Birth records: 1871-1890 (not translated), 1890-1909, 1910-1921

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1901

Deaths: 1901-1921

Family Lists: None

Gary Martens

VC for Neu-Schilling I and II

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Neu-Weimar, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were several requests for information during 2021, primarily from Argentina, and Russia.

Neu-Weimar was founded in 1861 as a Lutheran colony, with people relocating from the villages of Galka, Stephan, Schwab and Dobrinka, which are all part of the Lower Volga Village Project

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

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: none

Marriages: 1894-1895, 1901

Deaths: 1901

Family Lists: None

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

Gary Martens

VC for Neu-Weimar

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Nieder-Monjou, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Throughout the past year we received ten queries or correspondence concerning the following surnames: ANSCHÜTZ, BETZ, BINEDELL, MEIER, MUHL, MÜLLER, RIEB/RÜB, SCHÄFER, SCHNARR, TAG and ULRICH.

I completed translating the Nieder-Monjou birth, marriage and death records that Mike obtained. The information from these records has been entered into our database.

AHSGR Nieder-Monjou Village Coordinators  
Michael Grau and Steven Grau



## Paulskoye, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Good news for folks with connections to Paulskoye. I have purchased additional records:

Births 1867-1885 and 1895-1913.

Marriages: 1903-1920.

Deaths: 1866-1888 and 1910-1922.

1874 Family List: (1874-1882).

1882 Family List: (1882-1896)

Many of you will know the proverb about the shoemaker's children who always go barefoot. Well, lately I've begun to remedy that situation by leafing out my own long neglected family tree. In that regard I want to thank Steven Grau (VC Nieder-Monjou) for help with my Tag ancestors and allied families; Maggie Hein (ARCHION expert) for help with my Wintholler vs Wiederhold research, and also Kerry Thompson (VC Susannental) for help with Winterholler and Wegner information. A thank you to Dennis Zitterkopf (VC Huck) and Norka VCs Roger Burbank and Louis Schleuger all of whom helped me rule out a Lofink? ancestor who, in the end, turned out to be a Lobes. My own family research continues...

Some of the assistance I've given to others this year here in the US include George Santos (Lobes, Lenk, and Bachmann), Julie Mertz (Amheiser), and David Markgraf (Markgraf). I've also had an opportunity to again work with Irmal Merkel, my counterpart in Germany, who was contacted by a researcher with Scherer-Dorn grandparents. The availability of church records makes all the difference in the world.

This year I attended the AHSGR 2021 Virtual Conference --- Connections: Keeping Our German-Russian Heritage Alive, as well as several Treffen Tuesday virtual presentations, and a presentation by Dr. Brent Mai.

I plan to finish transcribing the Paulskoye church records and indexing at a minimum the heads of household for the Family Lists. It is all quite a challenge.

Submitted by,  
Tim Weeder  
AHSGR Village Coordinator for Paulskoye  
Email: [tcweeder@gmail.com](mailto:tcweeder@gmail.com)



## Polish Volhynia 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

It has been a quiet year with only one query that I am currently working. The query came from an address in Germany and involves the surname Riske found in the Omsk region of Russia and villages in Volhynia. Three members research information has been added to the database. Surnames were Hein, Domschat, Kenat, Pudim, Pudimat/ Sommer, Sommers, Summer/ Achziger, Kaiser, Winters and the villages Esiotrakia, Kyborti Lithuania/ Volhynia/ Hesse Germany, Kiev Ukraine. I did not attend the 2021 AHSGR virtual convention but did participate in the 2021 Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe virtual convention in September. As a member of the Calgary Chapter AHSGR, I have been participating with the joint virtual meetings held with the Central Oklahoma Chapter where there are Mennonite Volhynians. I have also listened in on virtual meetings held by the Yagodnaya Polyana Village Coordinator to learn how to do virtual meetings. It is a challenge. I would welcome the assistance of another person.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mabel Kiessling  
Village Coordinator for Polish Volhynia  
[m.kiessling@shaw.ca](mailto:m.kiessling@shaw.ca)



## Reinhard, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

This year I was able to purchase the Reinhard Family List, 1834-1843 from the AHSGR library and add it to my collection. I had three inquiries for the Reinhard Village. I was able to help one with records and also directed her to the Reinwald village as this surname is also in my own family line. The other two inquiries I couldn't help because they were searching for dates that I did not have records for. The surnames I researched were Mertz, Scherer, and Müller.

Brenna Stokes  
Village Coordinator for Schäfer and Reinhard Villages



## Reinwald, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There has been very little activity for this village this year.

Sue Hess  
VC Reinwald



## Rosental (am Jeruslan), Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

One inquiry. I supplied information that I could.

Jeremy Landt

[jeremysfm@gmail.com](mailto:jeremysfm@gmail.com)

Village Coordinator for

Katharinental, Samara, Volga

Gnadendorf, Samara, Volga

Rosental (am Jeruslan), Samara, Volga

Weizenfeld, Samara, Volga





## Rothammel, Volga and Seewald, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

Nick & Barbara Bretz - [rothammeler@aol.com](mailto:rothammeler@aol.com) - 303-424-5145

Joe Gertge - [jgertge@msn.com](mailto:jgertge@msn.com) -

Tanja Schell - [tanjatanja12@hotmail.com](mailto:tanjatanja12@hotmail.com)

We have recently acquired the 1811 & 1850 census records for the village of Seewald. After we have checked them for accuracy, we will make them available to researchers.

We have some records of those married in Buedingen before leaving for Russia, some records of those arriving in Oranienbaum, & some records of those on their way to the village. We also have copies of the 1798, 1834, & 1857 Seewald census records and files others have shared.

We hope to be able to share the church & census records with AHSGR headquarters when the translations are completed. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us for help with your research. We have been able to help those from the US, Germany, Russia, South American and others.

Be sure to check out [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) because David Haspert, a Koehler VC, has undertaken entering records of many people with German/Russia heritage into that site.



## Schäfer, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

This year has been slow for Schäfer village. I did not receive any inquiries. I was able to obtain a partial list of 1902-1905 birth records but somehow need to get these translated. I had one inquiry for the Schäfer village, unfortunately, I was unable to help due to lack of records for the dates asked about. The surname asked about was Ertel.

I was able to purchase Metric Lists (birth, baptism, and death) for Schäfer, dates ranging from 1821-1834, but somehow need to get these lists translated as well.

Brenna Stokes  
Village Coordinator for Schäfer and Reinhard Villages



## Schaffhausen, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

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

During 2020-21 I received 4 queries from the USA concerning settlers believed to be linked to Schaffhausen and was able to provide basic assistance from my holdings. The absence of a FSL for Schaffhausen and incomplete later census data continues to be a problem.

Jim Parsonage  
Schaffhausen Village Coordinator  
Email: [jtp16@iprimus.com.au](mailto:jtp16@iprimus.com.au)  
Brisbane QLD, Australia



## Schilling, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were a dozen inquires during 2021 from several countries.

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

Eight daughter colonies were founded that included people from Schilling. The first was Alexandertal in 1853, then Brunntal, Gnadenfeld, Hoffental, Konstantinovka, Neu-Schilling I, Neu-Schilling II, and Schilling. Schilling was adjacent to Konstantinovka and they merged, and Neu-Schilling I and Neu-Schilling II, which were south of Krasny-Kut, merged.

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

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

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

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

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

Marriages: 1903-1912 (NT)

Deaths: No separate death records

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

The church records for Schilling are extensive, covering most of the period from shortly after the village was founded, that is, from 1767 through 1927. Some of the first records are for children born in Oranienbaum. Also, the first Lutheran pastor kept just one set of baptism records for both Beideck and Schilling, so he might have labeled some as Beideck that belonged to Schilling.

For the 1881-1892 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Drumm, Drumheller, Felsing, Harres, Helmuth, Leterich, Luft, Maul, Mende, Schadt, Schmidt, Schreiber, Strackbein, Worster. For the 1881-1905 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Damm, Rube, Worster. For the 1900-1927 Family List, the following surnames have been translated: Damm, Worster

Additional translations for a surname can be obtained from the Family Lists covering 1881 thru 1927. Contact the VC to arrange for a translation to be done.

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



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

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

Gary Martens

VC for Schilling

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Schulz, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

After several years of no activity outside my family I had several people asking for help. I have census records for Schulz, Reinwald, Reinhard and Urbach. I am helping a Weigand family which includes the following names: Zimbal, Gamez, Herstein, Lamb, Merrill, Reigun, Krum,Lamb & Alcox.

Another family is a Dimitroff who was adopted and found his biological parents Niederquell & Martin. Other names include, Meyer, Swanson, Wigard and Syertz.

The Steinhardt family includes the following names: Gross, Ladewig, Kreis and Jeffe. Some of these names intersect with my GR family so I am also looking to find new relatives.

The villages I'm working on are Schulz, Reinwald & Krasengar.

Judy & Peter Kaland  
[pjkaland@charter.net](mailto:pjkaland@charter.net)



## Straub, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

by Sharon White, Straub VC

Purchased the Straub 1811 census. Only males were listed but had lots of years of death for many male villagers.

Had inquiries for these Straub families this year: Bengel, Metzler, Winter.

Was able to get digital Straub birth records for 1794 to 1811 from the Engels archive.



## Volhynia 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

It has been a quiet year with only one query that I am currently working. The query came from an address in Germany and involves the surname Riske found in the Omsk region of Russia and villages in Volhynia. Three members research information has been added to the database. Surnames were Hein, Domschat, Kenat, Pudim, Pudimat/ Sommer, Sommers, Summer/ Achziger, Kaiser, Winters and the villages Esiotrakia, Kyborti Lithuania/ Volhynia/ Hesse Germany, Kiev Ukraine. I did not attend the 2021 AHSGR virtual convention but did participate in the 2021 Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe virtual convention in September. As a member of the Calgary Chapter AHSGR, I have been participating with the joint virtual meetings held with the Central Oklahoma Chapter where there are Mennonite Volhynians. I have also listened in on virtual meetings held by the Yagodnaya Polyana Village Coordinator to learn how to do virtual meetings. It is a challenge. I would welcome the assistance of another person.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mabel Kiessling  
Village Coordinator for Volhynia  
[m.kiessling@shaw.ca](mailto:m.kiessling@shaw.ca)





# Walter, Walter Khutor and Klein Walter, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

## Village Coordinators

Michael Fyler, Researcher, Hoffental and Walter databases (waltervillage@yahoo.com)  
Mary Jane Bolton, Researcher and Facebook Moderator (walter4vc@gmail.com)  
Byron Wagner, Researcher  
Jean Roth, Historian

## Records Inventory

Censuses: 1798, 1811, 1834, 1850, 1857, Einwanderung in das Wolgagebiet 1764-1767  
Vol. 1 and 4  
Volgograd-Walter Church Records:  
Births: 1839-1900, 1903-1913, 1916, 1917, 1918  
Marriages: 1839-1853, 1894-1895  
Deaths: 1839-1870, 1904  
Walter Class Register of Zemstvo School: 1884-1889, 1891-1893, 1896-1898, 1900-1901  
Extracts from the Family list on the military duty

## Reference

*1870-1876 Brunnental, Russia, Communion Register 1870-1886, Vol 1 and Vol 2*  
Translated by and made possible by Margreatha Hein.

The Walter database includes 61,857 individuals and it continues to grow as individuals are added from the Volgograd-Walter church records, obituaries, new AHSGR members as well as from the contacts we make on Facebook. We continue to encourage non-members to join AHSGR.

We had 20 inquiries in 2021 and were able to provide information to assist with their research.

We have five very active researchers we heard from several times over the year.

Surnames researched in 2021 include: Albert, Alles, Amend, Baum, Beck, Benner, Block, Bretthauer, Butherus, Döll, Geist, Gies, Giesick, , Herdt, Hill, Homburg, Ils, Kammerzell, Karl, Kechter, Kister, Maar, Rohn, Roth, Rutt, Schoessler, Seibel, Streck, Voight, Wagner, Walter, Weber, Wiederspahn, Woid

I attended the 2021 virtual convention and felt it went over very well.

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

Submitted by Michael Fyler



## Warenburg, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

by Sharon White, Warenburg VC

Purchased the Warenburg 1811 census. Only males are listed but had lots of years of death for many male villagers.

Had inquiries for these Warenburg families this year: Gobel (2), Lofing, Hartwig, Trippel, Arnst, Schmall, Mahler, Schenk.

Purchased 2 more 1885 Family Lists for these Warenburg families: Lofing and Schafer. Have 34 of the 1885 Warenburg Family Lists now.

Purchased the 1914 and 1915 Warenburg draftees. this contains information on the draftee, his father's name and age, his mother's age and brother's names and ages.

Richard Kisling and Ron Brott did an excellent presentation for the 2021 AHSGR convention, "The Road to Warenburg".



## Weizenfeld, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

No activity.

Jeremy Landt

[jeremysfm@gmail.com](mailto:jeremysfm@gmail.com)

Village Coordinator for

Katharinental, Samara, Volga

Gnadendorf, Samara, Volga

Rosental (am Jeruslan), Samara, Volga

Weizenfeld, Samara, Volga



## Wiesenmueller, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

There were 2 inquires during 2021 from several countries.

Wiesenmüller was founded 27 November 1857 by 7 families who were resettling from the colony of Balzer. On 10 December 1857, those first settlers were joined by 32 families from the villages of Franzosen, Moor and Grimm. On 23 January 1858, an additional 75 families from Galka, Shcherbakovka, Stephen, Mueller, Schwab and Holstein arrived.

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

Census records: None

First settler information: known as the 1857 Census

Birth records: 1914

Marriages: 1894-1895

Deaths: None

Family Lists: 1895-1914

The Wiesenmueller database contains information on all the first settlers, plus significant amounts of information gathered by the previous village coordinator over a 15 year period, ending in 2016. The Family List covering 1895 through 1914 was obtained in 2021. It consists of 465 pages of family information.

Gary Martens

VC for Wiesenmueller

[gpmartens@gmail.com](mailto:gpmartens@gmail.com)



## Yagodnaya Polyana, Volga 2021 Annual Village Coordinator Report

As the pandemic continues to create all sorts of chaos for everyone around the world, we continue to connect in different ways. Zoom meetings have become the norm for our village and we have been able to meet almost monthly on this platform. It is wonderful to be able to build new relationships with people who live great distances from us. The major difficulty we have is the language barrier as some of our visitors do not speak English but for the most part, they seem to be able to understand some of the discussion. If we have any physical presentations (slides), we make sure the caption is in English and German.

During the year there were queries from people looking for surnames: Bafus/Befus, Gerlitz, Leinweber, Luft, Morasch, Scheuerman, Schneidmiller, etc. While many came via email there were a lot of queries found on several Facebook pages.

This year the YP newsletter was published 3 times. There are 168 people receiving electronic copies of the newsletter. I continue to look for a new editor but have had no interest from anyone to take over the duties.

The YP Facebook page continues to grow. We have well over 427 likes and 433 followers on the page with many living in Germany, Russia, Canada, and the United States.

The database continues to grow as more trees are being shared. The use of the Newspapers.com website allows more information to be found on those living in North America. It is a great source of information.

As the use of DNA testing increases, we will hopefully be able to make contact with our relatives who remained in Russia and who were ultimately relocated to Siberia and Kazakhstan. Many moved to Germany in the 1990s and are now searching for their American cousins. The My Heritage DNA kit seems to be the one most used and it is exciting to be able to make a connection.

Respectfully submitted

Marlene Michel

Village Coordinator for Yagodnaya Polyana

