

2022 ANNUAL AHSGR STORYTELLING CONTEST

The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia is seeking **unpublished** personal stories about the history, culture, folklore, language, or life experiences of **Germans from Russia**.

All stories must be in **English**. Written stories must be no longer than **1,500 words** and audio/video stories must be no longer than **15 minutes**. See page two for additional rules and details. **Deadline is May 31, 2022.**

Please check the category for which you are entering your submission:

CATEGORY	AWARDS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult Division: age 15 and above	First Place	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Division: age 14 and below (Youth membership to all winners)	Second Place	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> Written	Third Place	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-media	Fourth Place	\$25
	Honorable Mentions possible	

ENTRY FORM

This completed form must accompany your entry.

I hereby give my permission to allow the inclusion of the following story in the annual Storytelling Contest of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia:

_____ This story/multimedia has not previously been published/posted in any form.

_____ I own all copyright to my story/multimedia.

I grant AHSGR the rights to publish my story and multimedia for AHSGR use.

Signature: Shirley A Pfeifer Date 5-16-22

Story Title: Memories of My Great grandparents

Format of your story: Written

I am currently a member of AHSGR: _____ Yes _____ No

FULL NAME: (please PRINT clearly): Shirley A Pfeifer

ADDRESS: (Street & Apartment Number): 503 W 37th Apt B

CITY: Hays STATE: Ks ZIP: 67601

PHONE (Include Area Code): 785-623-1105 EMAIL: sa.pfeifer@eagle.com.net

_____ YOUTH ONLY: _____

AGE: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____ PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

Memories of my great-grandparents

My great grandfather, Johannes was born in the mid 1800s in Herzog Russia.

In 1876, Johannes, his wife Susanna, and their children, along with his parents and their children departed from Saratov Russia on the SS MOSEL. They first arrived in New York and a month later settled in Herzog Kansas. In time, Johannes, his family, and his parents homesteaded northeast of Herzog. That homestead is still lived and farmed by the seventh generation.

Johannes was better known by his nickname-"Darhallaba". He was given this name when he was a teenager. It was harvest time and all the manpower was needed in harvest the crops. Johannes only being a husky teenager was too strong to lie around the house. He was taken along as a harvest hand. Being equivalent to one half a man, this is how the nickname came about.

In 1910, four years after Susanna past away, Johannes accompanied a good friend to Russia. The man was called a "kuppelmann" (German) or a matchmaker. A kuppelmann is someone who finds a suitable marriage partner for other people, or who arranges marriages for others. Here in Russia Johannes met and married Catherine. They returned to America with her son from a previous marriage. Catherine was know to say this about her husbands-first one was always sick, the second was poor, and the third, Johannes was wealthy, but stingy.

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I am Shirley A Pfeifer and live in Hays Kansas. The area I live in here are a lot of Volga German descendants and you will find we keep the Volga Germans alive with are festivals and food, and yes the language. Especially at New Years-when going to a relative-most likely-say the wishing in German.

I am retired, and like keeping up our family tree for both my mom and dad. I also like to research the Volga Germans heritage and get more curious as time goes on.

Sorry I don't have a picture available of myself.