

October 2022 German Schrift



Welcome to the new edition of the German Genealogy Quarterly eNewsletter—the German Schrift! This newsletter will highlight the German Special Interest Group (SIG), featured German resources, research tips, and interesting places to visit.

German Special Interest Group

Review of the July 2022 (Hybrid) Meeting:
The meeting in July was the last hybrid meeting. Our future quarterly meetings will be split: on Saturdays—live meetings only; on Sundays—Zoom meetings only. Feel free to attend whichever option suits you better. Of course, if you live closer, it would be great to see you and hear your stories live!
October will be a busy month. First, on **October 11, at 2:00 p.m. CST**, the class [Researching Your German Ancestors](#) is scheduled. You can sign up for it [here](#).

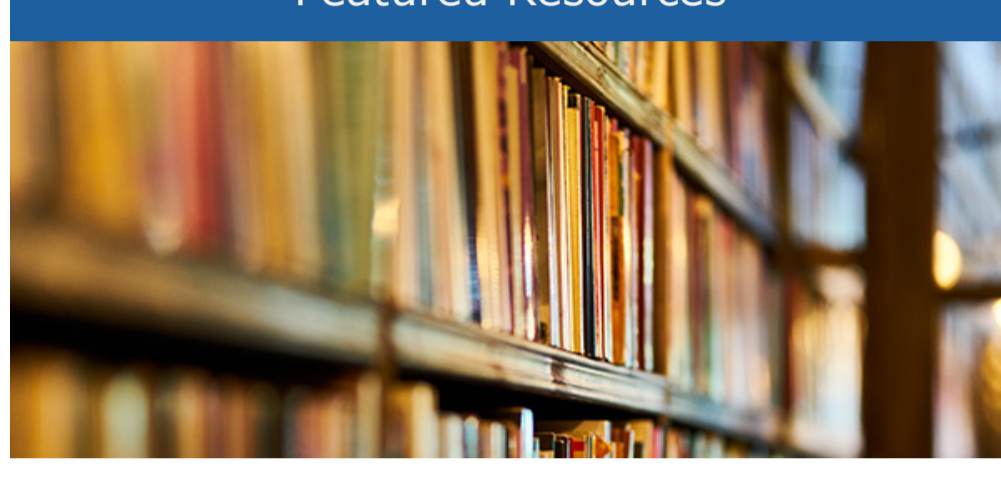
The next in-person Special Interest Group meeting will be on **October 15, 2022**, at 2:00 p.m. CST. You don't want to miss **Bob's Introduction to German Civil Registration Records** (only on Saturday live). Bob H. is the MGC volunteer and helps with German SIG. The Zoom meeting will be on **Sunday, October 16, 2022**, at 2:00 p.m. CST.

In December, we will have a live (in-person) [special edition Holiday German SIG](#) on **December 17, 2022**, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. CST. Prepare to bring and show us any ornament or item you inherited, which is dear to you. Recollect your old-time stories in your memory—the stories your grandparents told you (how they experienced their Christmas, or about you as a child). Do you still keep some of the traditions alive? Let us know. A part of this holiday edition will include a **presentation by Traci B. about the Jewish holiday celebration at this time of the year**. Are you already excited? If you are planning to attend any of these upcoming meetings, you can register [here](#).

In other news, the **2023 International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP) Conference** will be held June 9 – June 11, 2023, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, long known as 'a most German town.' More information is available on their website, [IGGP.org](#). On the other side of the Atlantic, in Tapfheim, Bavaria, the 72nd Deutscher Genealogentag 2022 just ended. This is a yearly genealogy event. The latest flyer is [here](#). To see this year's themes, speakers, and exhibitors, view this pdf: [genealogentag.dagv.org](#) (in German). The host city of the 73rd Genealogentag 2023 will be Kleve, in North Rhine—Westphalia.

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Featured Resources

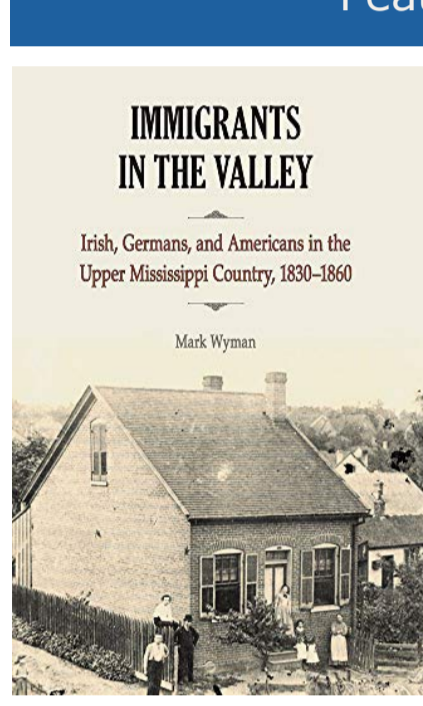


MGC Periodicals

Der Blumenbaum, Sacramento, California, July – October 2022
The latest issue is dedicated to women—to their lives and stories. Flip through the pages to immerse yourself in the daily life duties of common women in all four seasons of the year. Read stories of some more or less famous women and case studies of tracking female ancestors.

[PERIODICALS](#)

Featured Books



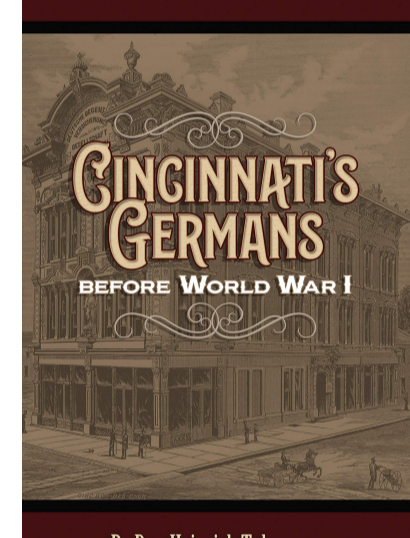
Immigrants in the Valley: Irish, Germans, and Americans in the Upper Mississippi Country, 1830 – 1860
by **Mark Wyman**
This illustrated book is based on family letters sent home, employment records, and other accounts. It brings closer the lives and interactions of these groups in the crucial times before the Civil War, as they overcame hard road and water conditions on their travels into the Upper Mississippi Valley.

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Ontario Fraktur: A Pennsylvania-German Folk Tradition in Early Canada
by **Michael S. Bird**
The book contains illustrations featuring Fraktur. German emigrants brought this decorative writing style to this continent and embellished various documents to add festivity and importance to them. With its use of colors and drawings, Fraktur is considered a form of decorative art. Each illustration describes what it represents.

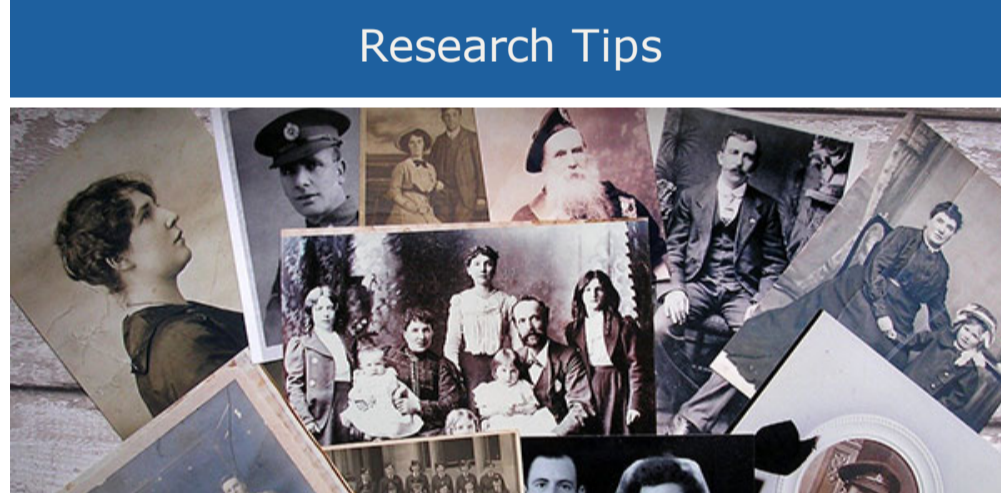
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Cincinnati's Germans Before World War I
by **Don Heinrich Tolzmann**
As Friedrich Gerstäcker, German travel author in the 19th century, stated (his citation appears in the front of the book), 'Cincinnati, the Queen of the West, the El Dorado of the German emigrant!' Read the ship's menu in steerage, what the new settlers wrote home, and how they managed and coped with life in the new place. Visit MGC and delve into the book (over 200 pages).

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Research Tips



Visit [MyGermanCity.com](#) to discover facts about every German state. Whether you're looking for information on marriage customs and traditions, history, or any part of life in Germany, including tips for traveling there, this website has it all. Every town with more than 5,000 inhabitants is covered.

Another Tip – Type in the area you're looking for, and add dot de (.de), which stands for Deutschland (for example, Monzingen.de). If your place is not listed on the website, try looking at the map and type in a nearby place.

One More Tip – [Visit this website for information on emigration from Rhineland Palatinate.](#)

Places to Visit

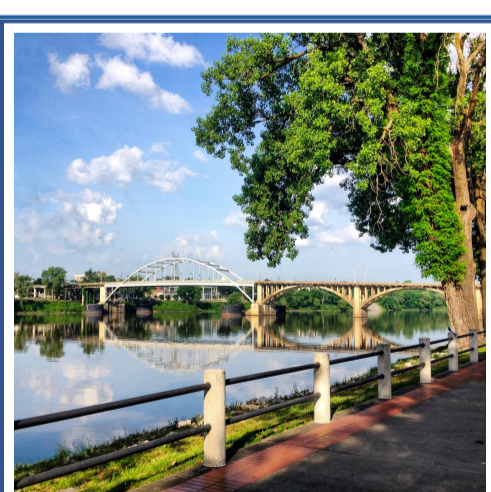


Visit Little Rock, Arkansas

October is a great month for travels—the cooler weather and gorgeous colors outside. For admiring German skills and artwork, visit the Arkansas capitol building in Little Rock, and view the Heerwagen Murals on the third floor. The studio of Bavarian-born artist Paul Martin Heerwagen was commissioned to create these murals. I also recommend visiting and tasting the German cuisine from the *Pantry Crest* or *Fassler Hall*.

I visited Arkansas in 2021, including a visit to Stuttgart, Arkansas, just one hour away from Little Rock. Stuttgart was named after the capital of Baden-Württemberg and a former capital of the Kingdom of Württemberg. Stuttgart, Arkansas, is referred to as the "Rice and Duck Capital of the World" and is a global center of rice research.

On October 3, Germany observes German Unity Day, which is a national holiday. This is the perfect time to visit the [German-American Heritage Museum in Washington, D.C.](#) Check their events, exhibits, video collection, and oral history program.



If this is too close to home, visit **Basel in Switzerland**. Stop at the paper museum to see how paper was transformed to books, and experience this part of history, starting from paper mill to books and printing, absorbing it with all your senses. You can even make your own paper and use your talent of writing with goose quill. [Here is their website.](#)

As a genealogist, you would not want to miss a visit to the Basel Archives. If you plan to visit one day, contact the Genealogical-Heraldic Society of the Region Basel—[Genealogisch-Heraldische Gesellschaft der Regio Basel](#) (right-click for translation).

You can always read what is available at [Canton Basel-Stadt genealogy at FHL Wiki](#) (no travel involved).



Fun and Learning

Book Excerpt:
Pennsylvania German Pioneers, Vol. 1, 1727 – 1775
by R. B. Strassburger, edited by W. J. Hinke, 1975
"Among the interesting documents, brought to Pennsylvania by the pioneer pioneers, two deserve special mention. The first was a passport, with which all the emigrants coming from Germany and Switzerland were supposed to be provided." "The second document, which was taken along on the journey to America, was a letter of recommendation, issued by the pastor of the church to the members of his flock, when they left their homes." The examples of these are cited (pages xxxviii – xxxix).

Little Pearls from Our Books

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

B_e_t_a_t_n_g_s_b_u_c_h_r (Burial books)
E_e_v_e_r_t_a_g (Marriage contract)
E_i_n_u_e_r_u_n_g (Naturalization)
L_e_r_n_s_b_u_c_h (Apprentice books)
N_a_c_h_s_s (Estate)
E_i_n_w_o_h_e_r_v_e_e_i_c_h_s (Directory of inhabitants, census)

Proverbs:
"Anfangen ist leicht, Beharren eine Kunst!" which loosely means **Starting is easy, however, persistence is a form of art.**

Thank you. Danke schön.

Iveta B.