

# Archival Acquisitions [AA] Committee - GRHS

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this committee is to obtain copies of records from old Russian and Ukrainian Archives.

## **MISSION:**

The mission of this committee is to direct energies towards obtaining copies of records that represent the villages, parishes and communities that the GRHS membership is interested in as defined by our GRHS charter.

The Archival Acquisitions Committee works to coordinate its efforts in support of the primary goals and objectives of the GRHS to help preserve its history.

This committee is to locate, acquire and preserve copies of historical documents that pertain to the GRHS members' ancestral parentage and villages in Czarist Russia, and later in the USSR. These, primarily, are documents currently housed in various archives in the Ukraine, Moldova and Russia.

## **GOALS:**

To develop and engage committee procedures that result in defining documents of interest, and obtaining copies of same.

A balance and focus on priorities and judicious use of the members donations must be kept in mind.

## **TASKS:**

- ⊕ Provide committee membership that is geographic representative of the GRHS membership.
- ⊕ Develop relationships with the Ukrainian archives, and others as possible where we might find records of GRHS member's ancestors.
- ⊕ Find out what records are available at the various archives.
- ⊕ Develop and maintain a committee "want list".
- ⊕ Prioritize the want list.
- ⊕ Define page/sheet count and cost for those considered to be the most important documents.
- ⊕ Place offer[s] in front of the committee for a decision.
- ⊕ Develop and maintain a listing of those documents already retrieved.
- ⊕ Maintain a financial status record.
- ⊕ Attempt to procure copies of records in accordance with the monies earmarked by the donators.

- ⊕ Maintain close working relationship with those Mennonite members and leaders who are dedicated to similar pursuits.
- ⊕ Recognize that the Mennonites of North America recognize that GRHS is a Mennonite Archives because of the large volume of donations they have bestowed upon us.
- ⊕ Attempt to develop and maintain close working relationship with its AHSGR sister committee.
- ⊕ Attempt to provide adequate insight into the committee's work for the membership.
- ⊕ Maintain a low level approach of fund raising when suggesting membership donations for the AA fund. [Success with the work of the committee will often provide the desirable stimulation.]

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- ⊕ Attempt to establish liaison links with the various archives.
- ⊕ Informal liaison links with the AHSGR and the Mennonite projects should be established and attended to as activities of this committee moves forward.
- ⊕ Designate specific committee members to be the liaison point for each specific archive.
- ⊕ Committee work will be accomplished by the use of e-mail.
- ⊕ Communications with other GRHS committees will be focused via the committee chairperson[s].
- ⊕ An annual workshop at the convention to report on the activities of the committee will be attempted each year, so the membership is provided insight into our records retrieval business.

### **MEETINGS:**

A status report to the board of directors will be provided at each board meeting. The members of the committee who are present at the board meetings will have a "pre-board meeting" meeting to ready themselves to make the status presentation to the board members.

There is no actual meeting of the whole committee unless it can be planned for during an annual convention when the majority of the committee can be present. The daily business of this committee is dynamically taken care of via the e-mail routine.

If something is to be taken to the board other than just status, then the whole committee must work that up so those present at the board meeting can present the item in behalf of the entire committee.

### **OTHER COMMITTEE INTERFACES/INTERACTIONS:**

- ⊕ Communications with other GRHS committees will be focused via the committee chairperson[s].