

Bessarabian ~ Newsletter

January 1998

Volume 1 Issue 3

First year of the Bessarabian Newsletter!



his issue is the last issue of the first year.

We for the most part must agree that we have done well for the first year of such an undertaking BUT as they say folks - you have not seen anything yet!

But before we get off into some very exciting things, let us first make sure everyone knows how to subscribe for the coming year.

We have volunteers who take care of collecting and accounting for subscriptions in both the USA and Canada. *(Those in Europe and other places in the world, will want to pay their subscription to the USA point of collection.)* We also have volunteers who take care of the photo-copying and mailing in both the USA and Canada.

USA

Send \$3 "US" funds to:

Martin McMahon
2458 - 17th Dr SE

Auburn WA 98002-6337

Canada

Send \$5 "Canadian" to:

Ralph E Schlinker

224 Millrise Drive SW
Calgary AB T2Y 2S6

(For those other than USA/Canada, send \$6 in US funds to the USA address.)

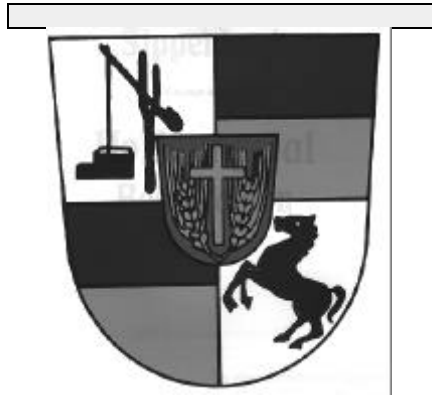
Back Issues - we now have a volunteer who can provide issues to USA addresses for \$3 a year or \$1 per issue — except for third issues (which will be \$1.50).

Carol McCormack

P.O. Box 42037

Tacoma WA 98442

We all give our thanks to these three volunteers.



*This is the emblem used by the
Heimatomuseum der Deutschen Aus Bessarabien
Florianstrasse 17 / D-70188 Stuttgart*

for what it is worth

Several of you continue to ask how we can do this newsletter for such a little amount.

A couple of things need to be understood. We are not trying to make any profits on this, but a break even thing . . . and the second part is that it is done with the power that comes into play when volunteers join together for an undertaking that has so much meaning to so many people.

Another basic consideration is - we must keep this effort as affordable as we can.

There are some who may have difficulty coming up with the few dollars needed . . . If you are among those who feel that you can and do want to send extra \$ into the effort, please feel free to do so. If we have extra money at the end of a year, we will expand the 3rd issue each year, as was this issue.

!!!!!!
**Exciting
News!!!!**
!!!!!!

As you dig into this larger issue of the newsletter, you are going to get into some things that are going to get a many of our subscribers very excited!

I am told that it is o.k. to get excited about these things . . .

However, please think very hard about our future with these efforts and search your own thoughts as to how much you can afford to be involved . . .

What do you know/have about your historic Bessarabian families, the history of the village, or anything similar, that you would like to share here in the newsletter . . . Please think about it

The involvement from willing volunteers is the only way we will ever do the things we now see taking shape for the future.

Two or three of us cannot do it all . . . How can you help?

/Thanks

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We MUST Organize Our Volunteers

Folks, if you are not sitting down, you need to do so — this is going to get very exciting and heavy!

Are you holding onto your chair/seat!?!)

We have found the existance of several of our **Census and Church records in an old Russian archives!**

Yes, you read that right . . . but before we all get too excited, we need to get some group thinking going on here

We need to put together a basic organization of willing volunteers to go do what is necessary to gain what we can afford from these archive collections.

There is something else we must keep in mind: although the emphasis right now will point us all towards thinking and talking about these census and church records, we also know that there are other records in the Ukraine and Moldavia that we must try to find and understand

We will need some small teams of volunteers. Please keep this in mind as you proceed to read this article

continued to the right . . .

(continued from the left column)

Someone is needed to:

1 Collect our funds, a person who is known and trusted by the Bessarabian community who can keep track of the dollars as they come in (from who and which villages) and safeguard them for us until needed.

2 Go find out where the records can be found, and to find someone who can negotiate a good deal for us.

3 Help us ensure that the other groups and organizations in this country and Canada are not overlapping our targets so we do not spend energy and \$ needlessly.

4 Form a liaison with those Bessarabian people in Germany who are supporting the Heimatmuseum archives retrieval efforts over there.

We need a small team (2-4 people) who can take the data on what we find, the costs associated, set our priorities and decide which records we go after.

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Terms, Shorthand & URLs

Organizational

- Village Coordinator VC
- Village Research Project VRP
- German Russian..... GR
- GR Heritage Society..... GRHS
- American GR Historical Society..... AHSGR

Internet

- pixel (aka odessa)**
<http://pixel.cs.vt.edu/library/odessa.html>
- GRHS homepage**
<http://www.teleport.com/community/nonprofit/grhs/>
- AHSGR homepage**
<http://www.ahsgr.org/>
- US GenWeb homepage**
<http://www.usgenweb.com/>

Genealogical Short Hand

- * — birth/born
- + — death/died
- ∞ — marriage
- suggested dating convention - 23 Jan 1876**

Help

My most difficult Genealogy Family is **Haberstock**. I am not certain of their Bessarabian origins but what little information I have obtained has them around the Scholtoi, Belzy Bessarabia somewhere.

Elizabeth **Haberstock** oo John **Schepp** from Scholtoi, and they had two children * 1889 & 1891.

Elizabeth passed away before they immigrated to Canada around 1902.

My address;

Jeanette Chase
Box 742
Roblin Manitoba R0L 1P0
Canada

This newsletter is being put together for Bessarabian researchers by Bessarabian researchers.

There is no profit for any person, group or organization. It does not represent any organized effort of any organization.

Pictures/photo credits;

Teplitz Church from Heimatbuch der Bessarabiendeutschen, by_Pastor Albert Kern



Bessarabian Census & Church Records!

(Continued from page 26)

Your editor has been trying to do all of these jobs, but with this growth in the importance of these efforts almost over night, he will no longer be able to do an adequate job for you

So it comes down to the fact that we must have involvement by others if this is to happen as it should.

We have already been blessed that one of our most dedicated Bessarabian person has stood up to take care of the funds. You need to note her name and address.

— Funds Keeper —

Elaine Morrison
2525 Taft Drive Apt 802
Boulder CO 80302-6824

It is recommended that you forward any \$ you want to put in the pot for these efforts in the form of a check and (in USA funds) directly to Elaine at this address. It is also recommended that you tell Elaine which village/parishes your \$ should be noted for and any division of your \$ towards those village/parish slots . . .

Of course we may have a mismatch between the \$ that come in and the records available, and the priority list the team may set. But if we all tend to this correctly, when the team sits down to do their work, Elaine will have data available that they can use to help them weigh their priorities and selections.

So if you send your input with your \$ we can at least have something to help make the decisions and, as a whole, we will be more effective in what we do.

I (Dale) am willing to turn over any part of my assumed responsibilities on these efforts to

any person who is desiring to be involved in these grand and wonderful efforts . . . just contact me and let us talk.

The other consideration is that anyone desiring to participate in these team efforts should be **on line with e-mail**.

Timely communications is going to be the means with which we pull these efforts together. The old routine of doing the job by correspondence and phone calls will not work here . . . too slow!

I think we have run through most of what has to be mentioned here in the newsletter.

Those of us who are on the Bess-GR listserver will know much about this before those who are not. We will already be involved there first.

But that is not a reason for those who are not on the e-mail server to feel left out or uninvited.

We need all of the help we can get in doing the job the best we can . . .

By the way - for those who feel that they haven't adequate time to participate, - please don't feel bad.

Those who can be involved, even if it is only helping with the funds, can do so at the level with which they are comfortable.

Now — it is time to start sharing some of the preliminary specific data we have in hand at this time - concerning these census and church records.

You should understand that this is very early data. There is other information we have not

completely sorted out yet that is not contained on these two lists.

You should also know that we are not listing the church registers that we know that we already have LDS films.

(please read # as the "file number")

From the Moldova Historical Archives (in Kischinew)

Revision Lists of Colonists

Fond 134 Series 2

— Census —

#9.	Akkerman	1835
#627.	Akkerman	1850
#455.	Akkerman	1855
#343.	Akkerman	1858
#640.	Alt Arzis ????	1858
#459.	Alt or Neu Elft	1858
#603.	Alt Posttal or Wittenberg	1858
#460.	Alt Posttal???	1858
#641.	Wittenberg???	1858
#461.	Beresina	1858
#470.	Borodino	1858
#456.	Brienne	1858
#193.	Dennewitz	1850
#471.	Friedenstal	1858
#469.	Hoffnungstal	1858
#23.	Ismail	1835
#245.	Ismail	1850
#20.	Ismail	1835
#308.	Jassy ??? (Orthodox)	1851
#44.	Kahul??????	1835
#268.	Kahul??????	1850
#644.	Katzbach	1858
#183.	Kloestitz	1850
#462.	Kloestitz	1858
#184.	Kloestitz & Glueckstal	1850
#184.	Kloestitz & Glueckstal	1854
#184.	Kloestitz & Glueckstal	1860
#192.	Krasna	1850
#465.	Kulm	1858
#770.	Leipzig	1858
#492.	Lunga??????	1858
#472.	New Arzis	1858
#643.	Paris	1858
#643.	Paris ?	1858
#629.	Plotzk	1858
#317.	Romanowka	1854

(Continued on page 28)



Status & Info

Christian Fiess (CF) Films

We are most pleased to report that Elli Wise has completed her dedicated efforts to index the 6 CF films. These very large indexes (1 for each film) will be combined into one very huge file and sorted according to the surname, then broken into smaller files that can then be processed for putting onto the pixel.

The process of preparing them for the pixel will entail doing a multi-line format so the data is easily seen on a computer screen. This data will require a large volume of computer time by the fellow who is setting up these files for posting to the pixel. That fellow is Marty McMahon, the same fellow who processes most of these files on their way to the pixel.

The 1940 Exodus Index for Bessarabian Forms

The 19 films of the Exodus forms index have all been put into one large file, sorted to the surname of Head of Household, and then broke back into two large files.

Again, Marty McMahon has a multi-line format that this data will be placed in, and then posted to the pixel. Marty has the files, and only needs time to be able to complete the job.

For Your 1998 Calander

200th ALDINGER - Fellbach

Family Reunion at Iowa Falls Iowa

— contact Don Aldinger, 4410 Wolf's Crossing Rd., Orefield, Pa. 18069
e-mail <donnie@enter.net>

The **American Historical Society of Germans from Russia AHSGR** international convention will be held June 17-21, 1998 in Wichita, Kansas

The **Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)** will hold its annual convention on August 13-16, 1998 at the Radisson Inn, 800 South 3 Street, Bismarck, ND 58504.

The **Gathering of the Bessarabian people in Germany** will occur in June next year - if you have an interest please contact Dale (address on cover - or e-mail <dwahl@kendaco.telebyte.com>)

Other Notes

If you gain access to e-mail, and are interested on signing onto the **Bess-GR listserver**, contact Dale and we will help you sign on.

Addresses of German Russian Organizations

GRHS

1008 East Central
Bismarck ND 58501

AHSGR

631 D Street
Lincoln NE 68502-1199

(Continued from page 27)

#501.	Romanowka	1858
#188.	Schabo	1850
#621.	Soroka ?????	1848
#541.	Soroka ?????	1858
#466.	Tarutino	1858
#191.	Teplitz	1850
#689.	Tiraspol, Akkerman - Od	1835
#689.	Tiraspol, Akkerman - Od	1844

From the Moldova Historical Archives (in Kischinew)

Lutheran Church Books

Fond 211 Series 22

— Church —

(read B for birth, D for death and M for marriage)

#66.	Alexandrowka	D, 1914-1937.
#3.	Dennewitz	B, 1863-1891.
#20.	Dennewitz	B, 1902-1937.
#33.	Eichendorf	B-D, 1908-1933.
#52a-	Hantscheschti	M, 1877-1940.
#43.	Hascheschti	B, 1926-1939.
#35.	Ketrossy?	B-D, 1914-1940.
#5-...	Kischinew	B 1870-1924
#5-...	Kischinew	D 1881-1921.
#55.	Kloesitz	D, 1871-1902.
#28.	Korntal?	B-D, 1910-1938.
#67.	Kulm	B, 1919-1940.
#53.	Kulm	D, 1878-1891.
#68.	Kulm	D, 1919-1940.
#7.	Leipzig	B, 1888-1899.
#40.	Lichtental	B, 1922-1936.
#38.	Neu Nikolajewka	B, 1924-1938.
#24.	Neu Onesti?	B-D, 1902-1940.
#21.	Neu Sarata	B, 1896-1940.
#18.	Neu Strymba	B-D, 1886-1940.
#4.	Rischkanowka	B, 1872-1899.
#39.	Rischkanowka	B, 1921-1932.
#65.	Rischkanowka	D, 1888-1930.
#19.	Sofijewka	B, 1892-1937.
#59.	Sofijewka	D, 1892-1940.
#17.	Strimbeni	B, 1894-1939.
#41.	Tariverde	B-D, 1931-1940.

We must digest these two lists knowing that they both need a lot more homework before we can go forward and start buying copies of the files. They are still rather rough and there may be some that should not be here, as well as some that still need to be added.

Each of us will have to sort for ourself how much involvement, energy or \$\$\$ we can invest into this grand effort



The Wilhelm Wildermuth Family in ND

Children;
Bertha,
Katharina,
William,
Malvina,
Elizabeth,
Herman,
and Johannes

Wilhelm * 1864 in
Lichtental and
Christina geb. Zacher
* 1867 in Neu Teplitz

*Picture provided by
Herman D Wildermuth
himself!*



Front:

Wilhelm & Maria (geb. **Knoll**) **Müller**

Back:

Unknown

It is thought that the four in the back row are children of Wilhelm and Maria, and brother and sisters of Gottfried Müller * 1 May 1883.

Wilhelm was * 13 Feb 1852, and Maria * 20 Sep 1853.

Maria's father was Wilhelm Knoll * 1824 in Krasna, and mother may have been Wilhelmine Karoline Krause * 20 Oct 1822 in Tarutino. This couple married 22 Jul 1845 in Tarutino.

Can you help me identify the children in this picture or provide me with any insight into any data relative to this family.

Thank you, I am

Dianna Moran

P.O. Box 799

Brewster WA 98812

e-mail <earniem@kozi.com>



An Unidentified Picture → to the Published Words, → Then the Chase to the Truths

by Dale Lee Wahl

We are intentionally going to drag this article to many corners that are possible with Bessarabian research. This will be a simple demonstration of just one story and how we can look around and try to shake details from the great volumes of research data that is readily available for the Bessarabian Researcher.

Before the 1997 GRHS Convention in Jamestown, Kay Emel-Powell of Edina Minnesota sent several unidentified pictures to myself. These pictures were put with an accumulation of unidentified pictures to be taken to the convention to hang on the wall to see if anybody could help identify any of them.

One such picture from those sent in by Kay, was identified during the convention by Norma Hettich as being Johan and Katherina (geb. Heier) Wagner of Borodino Bessarabia. This couple was Norma's great grand parents. Not only did she tell us who they were but told us that they came to Walworth County in SD.

Norma told me when she identified the picture that it was the same picture that was used in one of the Walworth books (she told me which one, but I did not write it down and had forgotten by the time I got home).

If you go to the pixel, you will find a Books - Folks List I have been keeping for some time, an index to help find people in some of the community books . . . there you would find;

Wagner, Johann 1Jan1839 172 Selby 1900-1950 Borodino

If you would then go to the text search part of the pixel and check "johann wagner" out in the community books -- it again will come back to the same book - Golden Anniversary - Historical Book 1900 - 1950 Selby, South Dakota.

Since my family archives book collection contains a copy of this book, I can turn to page 172/173 and see this same picture in a very well documented story on Johann Wagner and his wife.

That story is shared as follows;

Selby SD, Golden Anniversary, 1900-1950.
NOTE: This transcription of "Golden Anniversary Historical Book, 1900-1950 Selby, South Dakota" was prepared by Roger W. Ehrich on March 8, 1994. The book bears no copyright. This work may be freely copied for nonprofit purposes.
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MR. AND MRS. JOHANN WAGNER

Mr. and Mrs. Johann Wagner, having raised a family of 11, found that chances for expanding their operations in the homeland were far too limited for the size of the family, which caused them to decide to

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go to America where land could be had just for living on it and tilling it. Johann Wagner was born in the village of Borodeno in Bessarabia in South Russia on January 1, 1839. In 1860 he was married to Katherina Heier who was born October 20, 1839. To this union 11 children were born: Katherina, John I., Peter, Elizabeth, Michael, Christine, Gottfried, George, Hanna, Julius and one son who died very young.

Before coming to America the following children married and established homes of their own: Katherina (Mrs. Martin Kubier); John I. Wagner was married to Christine Riley; Elizabeth to Gottfried Heine; Peter and Michael also were married previous to coming to America. In the spring of 1894 Johann Wagner and his family, together with some of his married children and their families, started for America. Only two daughters and their families stayed behind, Katherina (Mrs. Martin Kubier) and Christine (Mrs. Loeffelbein). The Kubier family came to America a few years later, but Christina never came.

The families were headed for Bowdle, South Dakota where a distant relative lived who had encouraged Johann Wagner to come. The family became somewhat discouraged when they came through Chicago a few days after the violent Pullman strike, but when the sons got further west and saw the fine lands they were satisfied there was no mistake. The family arrived in Bowdle about the 3rd or 4th of May, 1894, and were brought to the Adam Wagner farm northwest of Bowdle, where the women and children stayed a few days while the men located land to file upon, and to build a temporary home.

Johann Wagner and two sons, John I. and Gottfried, located land two miles north of Selby, Mr. Wagner buying a relinquishment as did his son, John I. Gottfried filed on a tree claim. The families built a 12 room sod house, and a sod barn as temporary housing on the NE 1/4 of 28-124-76. Peter and Mike went further north to locate, Peter to Eureka, and Mike to Ashley, North Dakota. Peter did not like the northern climate so went to Oklahoma where he permanently located. Mike located on land northeast of Ashley. One daughter, Elizabeth and her husband were encouraged by friends to join them in going to Salem, North Dakota where they located homesteads. When proper details were arranged the family started to put in a crop. There were a few acres broken on Johann's and John's quarters, and beside that they were able to rent 60 acres from a neighbor. The father and sons had constructed a large work shop in their homeland so were able to build some of their implements, but they bought two plows and wagons and one team of horses, one team of oxen and three cows. While bringing the oxen and cows from Bowdle, Gottfried became lost so when he finally saw a farm he stopped to inquire where he was, and found he had taken the wrong fork in the road and had wandered too far north.

Their first crop was no bumper crop but was fair and the proceeds were sufficient to buy a few more necessities. Wheat sold for about 60 to 80 cents a bushel.

In the spring of 1895 Johann Wagner started to make adobe brick for a house to be built on his quarter, the southeast of 21-124-76. The bricks were made by mixing clay and straw to a consistency that it stuck. The mud was pressed into forms and stacked in the sun for drying and aging before building. The family was fortunate in their brick making and put out enough to also build a barn. Lumber for the roof was bought in Bowdle. The roof of the barn was made from timbers from the Missouri river, and covered with sod until finances were sufficient to put a wooden roof on in 1897.

Mr. Wagner also built a house on his NW 1/4 of 28-124-76 and moved his family over and set up farming, also to build up a very nice farm.

Gottfried, George, Hanna and Julius lived with their parents several years. The sod house that was hurriedly built served as a small shanty for Gottfried, and when he built an adobe brick house and barn in 1897 on his NE 1/4 of 28-124-76, the sod house served as a temporary residence for many immigrants. The Kubier family were the first to use the sod house as a temporary home and were followed by the Wells family and Gottfried Heier family, brothers of Mrs. Johann Wagner, and several others. The Gottfried Heier family and the Kubier family located homesteads in the Akaska area.

In 1898 the crops were good but an early winter set in which made choring a very difficult problem at times. Haystacks were completely covered and had to be shoveled out of the snow. The supplies had to be hauled from Bowdle which was a big day's journey. Snow along sleigh roads was 4 to 5 feet high, and only

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room for one sled. You could not pass another only in certain places. Gottfried tells of one instance when he was bringing home some coal. He met a sleigh loaded with grain sacks. The two men did not know what to do for a minute but it was agreed to unload the wheat sacks and tip the sled off the road and let the load of coal pass, and then reload the wheat. Both went their way again not to meet for many years, neither having inquired as to the others name, but in 1916 they met on the street in Selby and recognized each other and took time to get acquainted.

In 1899 when the railroad was being extended west, the Wagner boys got work on the grading gangs with their horses which enabled them to earn a little extra money. When Selby started in 1900 the Wagner's would walk two miles to work in Selby, helping folks who had moved homes from Bangor to get settled.

Gottfried was married to Elizabeth Himrich on October 31, 1901. To this union two children were born, Emil and Olga Wagner.

George Wagner started to work out as a hired hand before he became of age, and started to work as helper in a lumber yard in Bowdle and Eureka and Selby. He was also employed by Gross of Bowdle for a time. He was married to Elizabeth Ketterling of Bowdle, to which union three sons were born. George is now living in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Julius Wagner, who came to America as a lad, enjoyed attending the neighboring country school a mile and a half east of his father's farm. He in turn would teach Gottfried, who took care of the farm. When Julius became of age he wanted a homestead and found land southwest of Akaska as did his sister Hanna, Julius locating half a mile east of the Kubier farm. They homesteaded in about 1903. In 1908 Julius was married to Lydia Himrich, and to this union four children were born: Esther, Reinhold, Clara and Susie who all attended the Selby schools at one time. Julius moved a house in to Selby and carried mail on a rural route for a number of years, often going out in quite stormy weather to get the mail through. He took quite sick in the flu epidemic which caused the collapse of a lung and therefore could not do hard work any more. He took on a Ward company medical route in Edmunds county. He was instantly killed while crossing the railroad tracks in Selby when his car was hit by a fast train. Mrs. Lydia Wagner lives in Selby.

Johann Wagner died in 1906 and was laid to rest in a community cemetery two miles east of his home. Mrs. Wagner and her daughter carried on farming a year, renting out some land. Hanna was married in 1907 to Matt Ellwein of Roscoe, South Dakota, after which Mrs. Johann Wagner sold the personal property and went to live with her sons. She spent most of the time with Gottfried across the road from her home. She stayed with Gottfried until his health forced him to discontinue farming. Gottfried purchased a small home in Selby but agreed to again take his mother when his new home was finished which would have modern conveniences and living quarters for her. She died on January 2, 1912, and was laid to rest beside her husband.

In settling the Johann Wagner estate, Gottfried purchased his father's homestead to go with his farm across the road, which he still owns. Although living a retired life in Selby, he still likes to spend many days on the farm.

John I. Wagner continued to live on his farm until 1926 when he decided to retire, and moved a house into Java where he and his wife died and were buried in the Java cemetery, leaving four children: Emma (Mrs. Alex Huber) of Selby; Christine (Mrs. John Schauer) of Selby; Mary (Mrs. Ed Schock) of Aberdeen, and Richard of Selby.

Of the Wagner boys who came to this country with their father in 1894. Only Michael of Ellendale, North Dakota, Gottfried of Selby; and George of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and one daughter, Hanna (Mrs. Ellwein) are still living. They have all endured pioneer hardships but have also enjoyed the blessings of good crops and prosperity, and good clean living. The Wagners' have often expressed gratitude to their father and mother for bringing them to this country, and letting them enjoy the freedom of a good government.

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Let us now take from the same book the story of Christine Wagner born 1890 in Borodino to "Johan Wagner" . . . at this time we cannot tell if this is daughter of Johann born 1839 or grand daughter . . . we will see if we can figure that out as we go . . .

MR. AND MRS. JOHN K. SCHAUER

Schauer spent his first summer at his brother's farm and then went to Ashley, North Dakota, to live with his uncle, Jacob Schauer. He remained there until the summer of 1910 and then again returned to Hettinger where he farmed with his brother until the winter of 1912. During this time he made several trips to the Java vicinity to visit his uncles, Fred Helm, Ludwig Helm and Christ Helm. During these visits he became acquainted with Christine Wagner, the daughter of Johan Wagner, another Selby pioneer, and they were married at Selby on February 12, 1912. Mrs. Schauer was born at Borodino, Bessarabia, in South Russia, on July 31, 1890, and came to the United States in 1894 with her parents. The family first lived near Bowdle and later acquired a farm two miles north of Selby.

Mr. and Mrs. Schauer spent the first year of their married life farming near Hettinger, and then sold their holdings and moved to the Selby vicinity and continued farming. They lived on the Gottfried Wagner farm, now occupied by Emil Wagner, for six years and then lived on the Johann Dupper farm for two years, before purchasing their present farm home from Emanuel Baer in 1920. In 1946, the Schauers purchased the two quarter sections formerly owned by Johann Dupper and in 1948 they purchased the old Johan Wagner farm, consisting of two quarter sections, from Adolf Stangl. The Schauers now own five quarters of land as one farming unit.

The Schauers have three children: Gerhardt Schauer, born in September, 1914, who now lives at Aberdeen, South Dakota, and is prominent in Boy Scout work, and is employed by the Nelson Auto Electric Company; Milton Schauer, born in March, 1919, who lives at home and farms with his parents; and Irma Steder, born in January, 1922, who lives with her husband on the old Johann Wagner farm purchased by the Schauers in 1948.

The life itinerary of the Schauer family is typical of other families who settled in the Selby vicinity during 1912, or that approximate date. Some years, crops and prices were good and some years crops were good and prices were low. Some years crops were poor and prices were low. Those were the worst years. Schauer recalls 1921, 1933 and 1934 as being the worst years of his farming operations. The years during and immediately after World War I and World War II were the best years.

John Schauer's parents both died in Russia during the early thirties. One brother, Fred Schauer, came to the United States in 1914. He was killed in France during World War I and the American Legion Post at Selby is named in his honor. Two sisters also came to the United States but four sisters remained in Russia.

John Schauer and his family are happy in their farm life. They continue to be active on the farm and enjoy their children and grandchildren. Selby is proud of this typical farm family.

In the same book we find notes about early settlers in the Selby area, let us make note of them too as we go through this data.

Township 124, Range 76

Section 21: W. J. Franks NE 1/4, homestead; **Johan Wagner SE 1/4**, homestead; Herman Smith NW 1/4, pre-emption; Daniel T. Tyson SW 1/4, homestead.

Section 28: **Gottfried Wagner NE 1/4**, homestead; Elizabeth Smith SE 1/4, pre-emption; **Johan J. Wagner, NW 1/4**, homestead; Henry H. Hunt SW 1/4, homestead.

Now let us take a trip back to the pixel and see if we can find something in the Bessarabian H-o-H (Head of Household) index that may send us to the right Johann Wagner - with such a common name, this may be a problem, *but* we have his date of birth so that will help!

(Continued on page 34)



(Continued from page 33)

Let us first look at the latest Family Book for Borodino (the 1881-1900 Family Book is on two films, part 2 of film 1768281 and part 1 of film 1768282).

When we go to the H-o-H index, we do not find a Johann reflected as born in 1839, but on film 1768281, we see that on frame 203 (house 20 and register page 38), that there is a Johann reflected as born in 1838 *could it be, with such a fine and detailed write up in the Selby book, that there could have been a different date of birth for old Johann than what the church records reflect?*

Let us go take a look and see what we see uummmm . . . This is Johann Wagner, born 19 December 1838! AND yes his wife is Katharina Heier, born 4 August 1839 (and, it says she was born in Alt Posttal)!

Those of you who are familiar with the Julian calander conversions from the old Russian calander that was being used will readily nod your heads that Johann's birth date was converted from 19 December to 1 January . . . BUT, what in the world happened to Katharina's birth date from 4 August to 20 October! A Julian calander cannot explain that away . . . that is much more than 11 or 12 days difference . . .

So again the brows furrow - could we have the wrong Johann Wagner and Katharina Heier? Let us look closely at what we think we know and see if we can discern what is going on here.

We look at the children and see the following:

Katharina * 8 Feb 1861, Johann * 4 Sep 1862, Peter * 22 Jul 1864, Jakob * 13 Apr 1865, Elisabeth * 9 Dec 1867, Michael * 14 Jun 1869, Christina * 11 Dec 1871, Gottfried * 9 Feb 1873, Goerg Adam * 14 Jun 1878, Hanna * 4 Mar 1880 and Julius * 16 Feb 1883.

We can see that this is the same sequence of listing that is in the Selby story, and that it would appear that (1) Jakob * 1865 was the son who died young, and (2) that there is not a Christine born in 1890. *(This page in the old church family book is somewhat damaged, but we can see in the far right column that there is an entry for this young Jakob's death - but cannot tell when, and we can also note with the information provided on this page that he was confirmed in 1880 - so he did not die as an infant, as indicated in the Selby book — another data point to note)* . . . Hold it - just a minute, we can look back up the page from the death date of young Jakob and we can see "**1894 to Amerika**"! That should lock it in for most of us right there!

So now let us go forth with the idea that odds are in our favor that we do have the right family — while keeping one eye on the alert that might tell us other wise . . .

Let us stick with the Wagner line and see if we can discern who Johann's parents were and the rest of his family.

Let us go back to the H-o-H index again for film 1766543 which holds the earlier Borodino Family Books.

Here we find those who would be old enough to be father to Johann as:

WAGNER	Kasper	1803	86	45	2431766543	4	Borodino
WAGNER	Casper	1803	86	107	3821766543	5	Borodino
WAGNER	Peter	1807	20	12	2101766543	4	Borodino
WAGNER	Peter	1807	20	27	3021766543	5	Borodino
WAGNER	Conrad	1809	2	2	2771766543	5	Borodino
WAGNER	Conrad	1810	2	3	2011766543	4	Borodino

Well, look here, when we look at Peter we find that he was born in Jan of 1807 "**Ilevisheim** bei **Warschau in Polen**". His wife is Elisabetha Müller born 28 Aug 1806 in **Sulzfeld** bei **Warschau in Polen** . . . He was confirmed in Borodino in 1821 and she in Bersina in 1820 - and they were married in Alt Arzis in 1839 (25 Jul). She died 12 Apr 1872 in Borodino.

We should also note here that this church register also reflects that both of them were **Separtists**.

(Continued on page 35)



(Continued from page 34)

Their children were: Korael * 22 Nov 1830, Catharine * 22 Jan 1832, Michael * 23 Mar 1834, Christina Margaretha * 15 Oct 1836, **Johann Friedrich * 19 Dec 1838**, Elisabetha * 24 Jul 1841, Christianna 2 Aug 1845, Hanna 23 Feb? 1849.

On this same page we can see that Johann * 1838 married Catharina Heier (no birth information) on 6 May 1860 . . . AND there is a note that she is from **Klöstitz!**

Before we go searching for Catharina Heier, let us go see if we can see anything in the Stumpp book of interest regarding the early Wagners.

On page 514 in Borodino, we see a Peter Wagner born in 1801 from Ilvesheim/Mannheim-BA. Boy, is this different from what we see in the real church record huh!

There is also a Konrad Wagner listed born in 1809, with a frau of the name of Magdalena Müller, and he is from Brenkenheim . . . could be that this Magdalena and Peter's wife were sisters . . . we need to remember these little twists and the different places they are listed as coming from — the info may come into play before we get done sorting things out.

So now let us give chase to see if we can figure out where to find Katharina Heier's family in this data . . . we have conflicting data; we have a reference that she was born in Alt Posttal, and also that she was from Klöstitz . . . wait a minute — is that really conflicting or could both be true?

Now let us go look at the Alt Posttal family books for that period. That would be film 1767873, parts 1 and 2.

If we go back to our H-o-H index again in Alt Posttal, we see a Friedrich Heier * 1789 and a Georg Heier * 1793 that could possibly be the father of Katharina * 1839. So off we go to look at film 1767873 — and lo and behold, she is not listed with either fellow

Since this is an 1839 birth, let us go take a look at the St Petersburg report for Alt Posttal for that year

Here we go; it is film 1882649, Item 3, starting on page 77. Let us assume that the church record date of birth that we have already seen in August was a good date . . . so we go to the births section, and here on page 122, at register number 19, we find Katharina Heier born 4 August 1839 to parents Jakob and Friedrika geb. Hoffman - both Lutheran. We can note that she was baptized 21 Aug and that the witnesses were Gottfried Hoffman, Johann Flaig and Christina Schweigert.

So this birth report tends to underscore that the birth of 4 August was the correct date. AND it also confirms that she was born in Alt Posttal and not Klostitz

What now? Remember that "from Klostitz" statement? Let us go to the head of the household list for Klostitz for a Jakob . . . let's use film 1767908 (one of the early family books for Klostitz)

Here we have a Jacob born in 1815 on frame 52 . . . let us check him out

Paydirt! Jacob Heier born 21 Sep 1815 in Wittenberg married 25 Jan 1838 to Katharina Friederika Hoffmann born 2 Nov 1820 in Borodino.

Their children; **Katharina * 4 Aug 1839 in Alt Posttal**, Christina * 27 Dec 1843 in Klostitz, Gottfried * 27 Nov 1847 (he and all the rest of the following children all born in Klostitz), Jacob * 13 Jan 1849, Margaretha * 23 Dec 1850, twins Justina and Friederika * 13 Mar 1852, Johann Georg * 11 Nov 1854, Christian * 4 Dec 1855, Johannes * 7 Sep 1857, and Karolina * 1 Jul 1858.

So let us return to the Alt Posttal family book and see if this Jakob will show up for either Friedrich Heier * 1789 or Georg Heier * 1793. Uummmm — sure doesn't show up here.

In the Stumpp book listings for Klostitz and Wittenberg, we cannot see any earlier Heiers listed that makes any sense. . . . We can see that in Wittenberg there appears to have been some Heer and Hehr families. In Klostitz we see a Christoph Heier (Heyer) * 1799 that is worth noting.

(Continued on page 36)



(Continued from page 35)

Then when we go to page 298 of the Stumpp book, we find a Jakob Heier born 21 Sep 1815 who appears to have went to Glückstal in 1805 (huh!) with a wife of Friedericke Maria Hoffman born 15 Jun 1818 in Borodino . . . the census roll number in Glückstal is RL 68.

When we look at this Glückstal data, this makes no sense — it is 1816 data. This is information that should be noted by a family researcher as interesting, but with no ready explanation as to why it was listed this way in the Stumpp book!

When we look at Wittenberg Bessarabien - Die Geschichte eines Dorfe in der Steppe by Klara Bollinger, we find that the Hehr (Haer) data as presented is of no help — but there may be possibilities here that are not readily apparent, as the two brothers listed were married in 1814 and 1815. Again this is something to note.

For now, let us give up on this part of the chase and go look at some other resources.

First we find in the CF (Christian Fiess) index, put together for us by Elli Wise, that there is some HEIER data we have to check out:

Heier, Jacob (and wife Hoffmann, Friederika) born 21-Apr 1815 in Malorjaraslowetz I (Wittenberg) married 25-Jan 1838 - reference (page) 4161 (of film) 1476494 reflects the data in the personalbuch.

Then to the Wagner name in this same index:

Wagner, Peter (and wife Mueller, Elisabeth) born Jan 1807 in Ihwisheim/Warshau married 25-Jun 1830 - reference (page) 4651 (of film) 1476494 with an ahnentafel.

Next, let us go to the "Exodus" index and see what we can see . . .

Well, suspicions confirmed - this data shows mostly birth data for 1860s and later for these families . . . without a doubt, if a family historian was working these family trees, they would find much here that would help in that search; but for the very earliest people, these forms are not always that useful — but always worth checking to make sure.

Now let us see what we can see in the 1938 Stumpp book on Bessarabia;

Heier	Christine	Burgenfeld/Poland	Alt Posttal
Heier	Georg	Oberwaldbach/Cresbach/Freudenstadt W	Alt Posttal
Heier	Johann	Oberwaldbach/Cresbach/Freudenstadt W	Alt Posttal
Heier	Karoline	Poland	Alt Posttal
Wagner	Kaspar 1803	Ilwisheim/Poland	Borodino
Wagner	Konrad	Poland	Borodino
Wagner	Peter 1801	Ilwisheim/Poland	Borodino

We have run out of space to continue chase here, so let us review a little about where we have been and what we have used to gain help from.

To begin with, the following finding aids are already on the pixel, or in the cue to be posted to the pixel (this latter group is marked with a *). Those projects in process that will result in data being posted to the pixel (marked with **).

- Books - Folks List/Index
- Community books
- Bessarabian H-o-H Indices
- St. Petersburg - Bessarabian Indexes **
- Christian Fiess Files Index*
- Exodus Forms Index*
- 1938 Stumpp Book

There are two messages here for the Bessarabian Family Researcher: if you are going to be in the middle of the game and get the most for your energy and efforts -- you have to (1) have a computer and (2) have it plugged into the Internet! It is here - it is now, and the future just gets brighter and bigger with the passing of time.

Remember to check the pixel from time to time — the pixel URL is;

<http://pixel.cs.vt.edu/library/odessa.html>



FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Elaine Becker Morrison

There is no doubt that religion was a major factor in the lives of our ancestors. One of their reasons for leaving Wuerttemberg and Swabia was the desire for religious freedom. The introduction of a new song book and a new liturgy was not acceptable to these people who believed that there should be no changes to what they felt had always been the only way to salvation. The promise of freedom to practice their religion as they wished enticed our ancestors to immigrate to South Russia, many to Bessarabia in an area known today as Romania. There they were settled in villages that were either Catholic or Evangelical (1). Schools and civic activities were controlled by the churches resulting in a uniquely cohesive community.

In the new settlements, religious services were first held in the homes, later in a prayer house or school. Although my ancestral village of Teplitz was founded in 1817 as a Lutheran colony, the first chapel there was not erected until sometime in the 1830's. In 1841, a church was built to seat 350 people but by 1863 the congregation had built a larger sanctuary to seat 850. The new church with its 96 ft high steeple was visible from afar. The architecture was that of many of the village churches: a balcony on three sides provided additional seating; a raised lectern a large pipe organ, and beautiful chandeliers added interest. Comfort was not deemed essential, and it was not until 1885 that two stoves were installed to provide heating.



Teplitz Church

For many years, available pastors were those who had been trained in other countries, usually Germany or Switzerland. Those pastors who could be persuaded to join the movement to South Russia found that they were in charge of so many congregations that they might visit each village only a few times per year. Thus services were conducted by the colonists or sometimes the lesson was read by the school teacher who also could preside at baptisms and funerals. Religious instruction was minimal and much of the religious tradition was carried down via hymns. Singing hymns has also been the means of keeping their faith alive during the more recent years when all religious activity was suppressed. In 1996, I toured the Alt Postal cemetery with a lady from Tarutino. On our walk to the car, she and I sang several stanzas of an old hymn, she leading and I following as best I could remember from my childhood.

Beginning with the founding of the colony, increase in church membership showed a steady increase but not all was harmonious. Any change in liturgy or religious thought was met with instant disapproval by the congregation. This attitude caused one pastor to write in his annual report that the unrest was due to "the characteristic racial trait of the residents of Teplitz whose outstanding vices are vanity and sensitiveness, arrogance, and obstinacy and genuine German peasant pride which every pastor who had to deal with this congregation can verify. But, on the other hand, everyone will cheerfully acknowledge the genuine Swabian frankness and honesty and the self sacrificing devotion of the Teplitzers."

There was frequent dissatisfaction with the pastors' performance and on one occasion, the congregation was threatened with not being served communion unless they agreed to his directions and philosophies. A desire for deeper spiritual experiences caused a few of the people to look outside of the established church. While several movements were very disruptive, the congregation did survive these threats to its existence.

From 1821 to the 1860's some of these Lutherans joined a "Separatist" movement. Repentance and conversion were the cornerstones of their faith. The leaders of this group promised that the Lord would lead them to the New Jerusalem in 1847. When the date passed without the return of the Lord, the people returned to the theology of the established church. It is interesting to note that even though these

(Continued on page 38)



(Continued from page 37)

Separatists were still on the Lutheran membership roll, they were allotted their own cemetery, adjacent but apart from the village cemetery.

Another disruption occurred in the 1870's when a group of Baptist men from Cherson came to Teplitz in order to gain converts to their faith. When the mayor was made aware of their presence he had them arrested and expelled. The mayor tried to dissuade five local men from being baptized, but they told him that he was only another man and that they had to obey God, rather than man. For this, they were each sentenced to confinement for two days. Another was imprisoned because he did not observe a certain Apostle holiday, choosing instead to thresh his crops. These Baptists refused to have their infants baptized, and thus the children are not shown in the church rosters that became part of the St. Petersburg Records. This lack of recording was of great concern because the government relied on such records for determining those males that would be subject to military duty. This group of resisters held meetings in their homes which earned them the name of "Stundisten" (Devotional Hour Brethren). They believed that: they alone were on the path to salvation and that all others were followers of the devil; baptism was only for those old enough to repent of their sins; the Sacrament of the Altar and the Confession had no meaning since only God can forgive sins; and they refused to recognize the Lutheran Church Council. The authorities were able to keep this movement from spreading, and due to harassment by the church, the Stundisten left the village, mainly for parts of Cherson.

When the GER-RUS people immigrated to the United States and Canada, our ancestors found not just Lutheran, and Catholic congregations, but many other denominations from which to choose. It was not unusual for an individual to switch from one church to another and perhaps later, to even another. In spite of this moving, they maintained the religious customs that they brought from Bessarabia. Until after WWII, services were most often conducted in the German language; women sat on the left side of the sanctuary facing the altar and men on the right (3). As in the old country, pastors frequently served many congregations, such that it might take a month or more to make the rounds. In his absence, services would be conducted by one of the brothers.

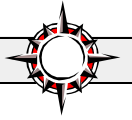
Sunday was a day of rest, and caring for the farm animals was the only work that was done. The following anecdote illustrates the degree to which this was practiced. My Baptist grandfather purchased a tractor in partnership with his nephew who had joined the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The agreement was that neither man would use the tractor on either Saturday or Sunday. When this agreement was violated, Grandfather sold his share because he felt that he could not keep the Sabbath if his tractor was at work. In preparation for the Sabbath, all cooking was done on Saturday, the house was cleaned from top to bottom, and everyone took their weekly bath in the round washtub which was brought to the kitchen.

Children were taught in early years which activities were permitted on Sunday. Playing with paper dolls was all right provided the paper dresses had already been cut out. Many descendants of immigrants remember that scissors were never to be used on Sundays.

In the communities that are still predominately of German-Russian descendants services nowadays are held in the English language; the many small congregations have been consolidated, with the benefit that the pastor is present for all services; men and women share the same pew; but the people continue to hold to many of the religious customs that have been passed down from the ancestors. Even though they were born in this country, some of the elderly prefer reading the German Bible, saying that "it just means more to me," and others continue to recite the German blessings at meal time. Just as in Teplitz, more than a hundred years ago, there is still resistance to change. Woe unto the pastor who wishes to introduce a different hymnal or a newer version of the Bible. He will still hear the faithful say, "So hen mir's immer g'hat (That is the way it has always been).

Bibliography

- (1) Stumpp, Karl. The Emigration from German to Russia in the Years 1763 TO 1862. Rev. ed. 1973. Lincoln, NE: American Historical Society of Germans from Russia.
- (2) Weiss, Herbert. 1981. Colony Teplitz. Bismarck, ND: Germans from Russia Heritage Society.
- (3) Arends, Shirley Fischer. 1989. Georgetown University Press, Washington, D.C. The Central Dakota Germans - Their History, Language and Culture.



Dividing Bessarabia into 2 Parishes — 1819 —

A copy of Fond 6, Inventory 1, File 1245 was obtained by Dale Wahl this past year from the Odessa State Archives. Copies of this file was provided to both the GRHS in Bismarck and the AHSGR in Lincoln. Rick Rye of AHSGR has translated the Russian portion of the file and we will be providing that translation as follows.

[TRANSLATOR NOTE: The pagination of this file is more scrambled than in previous ones, so I have placed them in the order which I think they should follow. Spelling is often quite inconsistent, which is reflected in the transliterations.]

Cover sheet, Dale's 1

Welfare Committee of Foreign Settlers of South Russia

Departmental No. 15
FILE

Archive No. 1245

about pastors dividing the Bessarabian colonies into two parishes

Odessa State Historical Archive
Fond 6
Inventory 1
file 1245

1818
Begun 1 August 1819
closed 6 November 1819

24 sheets

1, Dale's 2

Received 1 August 1819

Report No. 552, July 20, 1819, Colony of Tarutino, from the Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers.

To the Lord Lieutenant-General,
Chief Trustee of Foreign Settlers of South Russia, Cavalier Nikita Inzov

Pastor Schnabel _____ appearing with Pastor Williams, gave a report to this Office, with signatures of the community, in which they inform that in love and agreement they propose to divide the Lutheran colonies into two parishes. During the appearance, this Office issued to Pastor Williams a resolution ____ 2 parishes _____ to Pastor _____ and the 1st command/department [Remainder of writing on page has been washed away.]

1 ob., Dale's 3

..... of the pastors must have business with colonies of both departments, which makes it difficult for them for accounting purposes, inquiries about births, deaths, and marriages and other major matters in which they will need the assistance of the Oberschultzes, because these are more effectively dealt with by several people.

The Office, finding the demands of the pastors without merit, inconvenient and unnecessary, did not fulfill the request and presents this circumstance to Your Excellency for review.

Junior Member [illegible]
Junior Member [illegible]

(Continued on page 40)



(Continued from page 39)

No. 841

2, Dale's 4
5 August 1819

To the Bessarabia Office

For resolution of report No. 552 to this office, there is no information about which colonies will comprise the 1st and 2nd departments, for the changing of names of the colonies, so copies of the above mentioned letters from pastors Schnabel and Williams were not presented to me regarding the amicable dividing between them of all the Lutheran colonies into two parishes. I requested that the Office quickly send me a listing of the names the colonies had at the beginning of settlement _____ and what names they now have, with copies of the letters of the pastors and their voluntary and amicable agreement to divide between them the colonies into two parishes.

3, Dale's 6

Received 25 September 1819

Report with attached list of the names of Bessarabian colonies and to which department they are subordinate.

No. 676

26 August 1819
Colony of Tarutino, Bessarabian Office of Foreign Settlers

To Lord Lieutenant-General, Chief Trustee of Colonists of South Russia and Cavalier, Ivan Nikitich Inzov

In response to Your Excellency's No. 841, the Office has the honor to report that Lord Authorized Deputy of the Bessarabia Oblast and Cavalier Alexei Nikolaevich Bakhmetiev, while present on 17 July 1817 for an inspection of the Bessarabian colonies, orally and in the presence of the Office, ordered [remainder illegible because of water damage]

3 ob., Dale's 7

.....are in the colonies of New Russia as determined by the Oberschultzes, Beisitzers, and secretaries because: 1. The office issued decrees appointing the disposition of the colonies, and 2. on the left side of the river Kogilnik, as indicated on the attached list. Your Excellency will permit the inspection of order No. 321, wherein Your Excellency demanded that the Office take measures to end the disagreements between the colonists of Arcis and Brienne colonies, so the Office ordered that both colonies would be under one Oberschultz, that of the colony of Brienne, adding it to the Second Department. But this can continue only until No. 13 is settled. The Office proposes that the colonies of Arcis and Brienne be transferred to the First Department for direction of both, as presented in the pastors' reports [illegible line]

4, 5, Dale's 9

Your Excellency will examine and allow that the reason presented to bring the colonies closer to their pastors is not valid, because Pastor Williams will give up only one of the distant colonies, that of Leipzig, which will make almost no difference in travel to Klöstitz or Tarutino. The other distant colonies, such as Arcis and Brienne are proposed to divide into two parishes, as in the past. Pastor Schnabel will concede the Leipzig colony for Teplitz. In this concession, it is not evident that the proposal to bring the colonies closer under his spiritual command was achieved, because the colony of Teplitz is farther from Klöstitz than it is from Tarutino. When the water rises in the Kugilnik, the colony of Teplitz will be even farther separated from the Second Department [remainder of the page, 2 or 3 lines, is illegible.]

(Continued on page 41)



(Continued from page 40)

4 ob., Dale's 10

.....a stable bridge. The Berezina colony is assigned to the First Department, but if it would be divided into two parishes, that one located on the left side of the Kogilnik river and separated from the colony of Tarutino, it would be no closer that from Klöstitz by travel on the river.

[Signature of Junior Member]

5a, Dale's 11

LIST

of which colonies are subordinate to which Department, how they were previously named, and what they are now called.

5 ob. and 4, 6, Dale's 12 and 8

Names of Bessarabian Colonies

No.	Name before Settlement	Name proposed by the Office	Imperial Name	Notations
	(The First Department — headquartered in the colony of Maloyaroslavets)			
5.	Mardar	Pavlovskii	Kulm	The Oberschultz of the First Department resides in Maloyaroslavets
6.	Wittemberg	Mariinskii	Maloyaroslavets	
1.	Elisavetskii	Elisavetskii	Tarutino	Pastor of the First Department resides in Tarutino
7.	Catholic	Konstantinovskii	Krasna	
11.	No. 11	Mikhailovskii	Fere Champenoise	
12.	No. 12	No. 12	Teplitz	
	(The Second Department — headquartered in the colony of Klöstitz)			
4.	Skinoskii [?]	Ekaterinovskii	Leipzig	
3.	Kogilnitskii	Anninskii	Berezina	
2.	Alexandrovskii	Alexandrovskii	Borodino	
8.	Chagskii [?]	Nikolaevskii	Klöstitz	Pastor and Oberschultz of 2nd Department reside in Klöstitz
10.	No. 10	Alexeevskii	Tarutino	
14.	No. 14	Ivanovskii	Arcis	
15.	No. 15	Petrovskii	Brienne	
	No. 9			Not yet settled
	No. 13			Not yet settled

[Signatures of officials are illegible]

6, 7, Dale's 13, 14, 15, 16

[This document appears to be a set of instructions for compiling the preceding table of colony names. It also includes a sample table — but it is very difficult to read, with terrible handwriting and many parts stricken out. - Translator]

No. 1005

30 September 1819

To the Bessarabian Office of Foreign Settlers

Report No. 676 of 16 August, sent to me, requests notice of which colonies are subordinate to which commands/departments and what are their previous and current names. I have compared them with the plans that I have of those colonies and find that those indicated in the register of the Second Department _____ colonies _____ name of Borodino _____ under the First Department, but Elisavetskaya by the new name of Tarutino. On the plan _____ Second Department, but in the register

(Continued on page 42)



(Continued from page 41)

is noted under the First _____

7 ob., Dale's 18

....encountering difficulties, acknowledge whatever of those _____. I requested that the Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers send me a new register according to the attached form, from which I could compile this information for the departments in which it is proposed to establish the parishes, as indicated by the pastors.

Copies of the reports of the pastors _____ the example _____ which are mentioned in the instructions. I did not receive _____

8, Dale's 15

.... send such to the Office, together with the required register.

8 ob., Dale's 16

[This is the form to be used for listing the names, past and present, of the colonies in each command.]

8, 9, Dale's 17

No. 118

Received 3 November 1819

Report No. 818, with attached list of names of colonies and a copy of the memorandum of the pastors, October 18, 1819, Colony of Tarutino, Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers.

To Lord Lieutenant-General,
Chief Trustee of Colonists of South Russia and Cavalier Ivan Nikitich Inzov.

In fulfillment of Instruction No. 1005, of 30 September from Your Excellency, this office compiled a list in accordance with the proposed form, together with a copy of the report of both pastors, which Your Excellency will please inspect [22 lines illegible, water damage]

9 ob., Dale's 18

. . . colonies where the Department established the river Kogilnik as a boundary between them, and they were divided into parishes in order to avoid the difficulties expressed by the Office to Your Excellency this past August 26, in report No. 676. This list was not then included because it had been included in the pastor's report.

All this awaits the decision of Your Excellency, whether or not the parishes will be established by the pastor's indication or by those established by the departments [two lines illegible, water damage.]

10, Dale's 19

.... both for the good of the departments, and to avoid the greatest possible difficulties.

Senior Member [illegible]
Junior Member [illegible]
Assistant to the Secretary Mishchenkov [?]

10, 11, 11 ob., Dale's 20, 21

Register, which colonies are in which district Department and what are their current names.
Compiled in the Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers

(Continued on page 43)



(Continued from page 42)

No.	Name before settlement	As named by Chancellery	As named by His Highness
First Department			
2.	Elisavetskaya	Elisavetskaya	Tarutino
5.	Mardarskaya	Pavlovskaya	Kulm
7.	Katolicheskaya	Konstantinovskaya	Krasna
6.	Wirtembergskaya	Mariinskaya	Maloyaroslavets
11.	No. 11	Mikhailovskaya	Fere Champenoise
12.	No. 12	No. 12	Teplitz
Second Department			
1.	Alexandrovskaya	Alexandrovskaya	Borodino
3.	Kugilnitskaya [?]	Anninskaya	Berezina
4.	Skinoskaya	Ekaterinovskaya	Leipzig
8.	Chagskaya [?]	Nikolaevskaya	Klöstitz
?	No. 10	Alexeevskaya	[Illegible]
14.	No. 14	Ivanovskaya	Arcis
15.	No. 15	Petrovskaya	Brienne
9.	No. 9		Not yet settled
13.	No. 13		Not yet settled

The Office proposes that the first parish be appointed to the first Department, in which is Pastor Schnabel, and the second parish to the second Department, in which is Pastor Williams.

12, 11, Dale's 22

[Resolution in German]

12, 13, Dale's 23

RESOLUTION: Because the closer the colony is located to its command, the better it is, for both the colonists and the pastors who meet the church's needs, especially those _____ whatever illness, therefore _____ so that the parish certainly consists of colonies under the jurisdiction of one command, even if _____ are located _____ which _____ basis of each command, so the **First Department** will consist of the following colonies:

1. Tarutino
2. Maloyaroslavets
3. Kulm
4. Leipzig
5. Berezina
6. Borodino
7. Klöstitz

13 ob., Dale's 24

In the **Second Department** will be:

1. Paris.
2. Fere Champenoise
3. Teplitz
4. Brienne
5. Arcis
- No. 13.

(Continued on page 44)



(Continued from page 43)

The arrival of pastor Williams, until the establishment _____ arranged by the colony ____ church, by which _____ his choice in one of the colonies indicated.

5 November 1819

16, 13, 14, Dale's 25; 14, 17, 15, Dale's 26

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6 November 1819

First Department

Regarding naming the Bessarabian colonies

To the Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers

Having inspected report No. 818 of 18 October, from this office to the Lord Chief Trustee _____ regarding his indications of which colonies must be entered into the composition of the First or Second Department, and their division into parishes as proposed by the pastors. The Welfare Committee of Colonists in South Russia proposes that the closer the colonies are to their parishes, the more convenient it will be for both the colonists and the pastors to meet the needs of the church, particularly in case of severe illness. Therefore there is no necessity that the parish consist only of those colonies under the authority of one command as long as their local disposition does not prevent it. In order to serve the good of each parish, the Committee determines that the first parish will consist of the colonies of Tarutino, Maloyaroslavets, Kulm, Leipzig, Berezina, Borodino, and Klöstitz. The second parish will consist of the colonies of Paris, Fere Champenoise, Teplitz, Brienne, Arcis, and No. 13.

The Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers is instructed to carry out this instruction _____ together with pastor Williams, who will chose in which of the indicated colonies he will reside.....

20, 15, 16, Dale's 27; [?] ob., 23, 10, 16, Dale's 28
[German]

21, 17, Dale's 29; 17 ob., Dale's 30

Translation:

To Evangelical Pastor Schnabel of the Bessarabian Colonies

As a result of reports from the Bessarabia Office of Foreign Settlers to the Welfare Committee, the following resolution is concluded: The Bessarabia colonies will be divided into two parishes, so that the colonists can be close to their parishes, can more easily conduct religious rites, as follows. The first parish will consist of the colonies under your jurisdiction: Tarutino, Maloyaroslavets, Kulm, Leipzig, Berezina, Borodino, and Klöstitz. The second parish, under pastor Williams, will consist of Parish, Fere Champenoise, Teplitz, Brienne, Arcis, and No. 13. While the second parish consists of fewer colonies than the first, it has the possibility to grow when colonists expected begin to arrive for settlement. It is established at this time that pastor Williams has the right, at the appointed time, to choose in which colony his parish church will be constructed. This notice respectfully informs you.

6 November 1819

Again, we must give great thanks to the AHSGR and Rick Rye for this translation from Russian to English. And when we gain copy of the German portions, we will also share that with the readers of this newsletter.

If a volunteer translator of the German portion is interested, please contact Dale to gain a copy of the pages with the German.



Benkendorf Bessarabia

Our friend Elli Wise has been making several notes concerning the various villages and the people in the Bessarabian area. Much of what she notes from various sources is worthy of sharing. Here is an installment on Benkendorf from her notes. /Thanks much Elli!

"HE WHO WANTS TO TEACH THE PEOPLE TO LOVE THEIR HOMELAND - SHOULD EDUCATE THEM ABOUT THEIR HOMELAND"

by Josef Sigmund - author of the Chronicle Benkendorf

Benkendorf, founded on September 1, 1863, was one of the first daughter colonies in the southeast steppe region of Bessarabia and formed the first Evangelical - Lutheran Parish in the lower land.

The settlers/founders mainly were Swabians and Prussians and came from the following mother colonies:

Alt-Posttal: Gottfried Seefried, David Wagner, Ferdinand Weiss, Ludwig Weiss.

Arzis: Jakob Franz, Michael Loeffelbein, Gottfried Maas, August Stach.

Borodino: Jakob Rothfuss.

Paris: Ferdinand Knecht, Samuel Knecht, Wilhelm Gottlieb Radies.

Plotzk: Christian Jeske, Karl Jeske, Michael Jeske.

Sarata: Mathias Oberlaender.

Teplitz: Israel Bahnmueller, Johannes Bahnmueller, Friedrich Bensingler, Jakob Buchfink, Christian Eisele, Daniel Handel, Georg Handel, Johann Handel, Johannes Hermann, Jakob Georg Kehrer, Andreas Knoell, Gustav Nagel, Ludwig Nagel, Jakob Schaal, Johannes Schaal, Ludwig Staeub, Georg Weber.

As of 1896 there were the following home/land/business owners:

from **Alt Posttal:** Adam Dittus, Jakob Mogck

from **Arzis:** Jakob Franz, Jakob Heth, Gottlieb Loeffelbein, Gottfried Maas, August Stach

from **Dennewitz:** Andreas Bohnet, Christoph Joerke (via Neu-Posttal)

from **Hoffnungsfeld:** Friedrich Gwenger, Ludwig Keller, Christoph Sackmann, Johannes Stickel, Jakob Vossler

from **Paris:** Ferdinand Knecht, Samuel Knecht, Wilhelm Radies (via Neu-Posttal), Samuel Salo

from **Plotzk:** August Beierle (via Mariewka), Karl Beierle (via Mannsburg), Peter Bohnet, (via Eigenfeld), Christian Jeske (via Albota), Josef Sigmund, Wilhelm Stutz, Friedrich Treiber

from **Teplitz:** Johannes Bahnmueller, Johannes Hase (via Neu Posttal)

from **Wittenberg:** Johannes Bohnet, Karl Glass, Gottlieb Hauf, Andreas Necker (via Strassburg), Andreas Schlenker (via Katzbach/Neu Posttal), Jakob Necker, Jakob Schneider, Erhard Stickel,

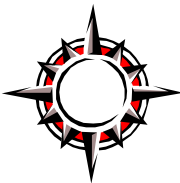
Friedrich Stumm, Friedrich Widmer, Johannes Widmer, and four tradesmen: Simon Haas, Johann Haas, Friedrich Hamann, Jakob Rothfuss

Because of the distance to the old Evangelical - Lutheran parishes Sarata (35 km) and Arzis (60 km), Benkendorf, Neu-Posttal, Mannsburg, Sofiental and Schabolat were united as their own parish (Benkendorf) in 1867.

Neufall joined the parish in 1869. Eigenheim and Seimeny joined in 1879. Pawlowka and Basyrjamka and others joined in 1891. In 1896, Eigenheim became a sub-parish and in 1897 the seat of the main parish was moved to Neu-Posttal.

From 1897 -1906 Neu-Posttal was the representing parish. The seat was vacant from 1906 - 1911 and the parish Kloestiz attended to the needs. From 1911 - 1922 Neu-Posttal was the active parish and from 1922 - 1924 Kloestiz. From 1924 - 1940 Neu Posttal served 6 main communities: Basyrjamka, Benkendorf, Mannsburg, Neu-Posttal, Pawlowka and Sofiental; and 10 smaller communities: Kamtschatka, Katlebug, Luxemburg, Neufall, Popasdru, Sangerowka, Schabo-Possad, Schabolat, Strassburg I and Strassburg II.

Bessarabian ~ Newsletter



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stamp
