

2023 Germans from Russia Heritage Society International Convention

Virtual presentations

For In-Person Presentations See Convention Presentations

Four Virtual presentation given on Friday July 21 and 4 Saturday July 22

Virtual Presentations

Friday – July 21, 2023

- 10:05 am My Grandfather's Darkest Days: Anti-German Hysteria in South Dakota in World War I. Find out why Allyn Brosz's grandparent's and 29 other Socialist-leaning Germans from Russia in Hutchinson County, South Dakota were arrested and indicted on federal charges for violating the Espionage Act of 1917.
- 12:50 pm A Beginners Guide to Identifying Old Photos. Virginia Hanson will identify things in a photo that will help you identify how to determine the age of a photo and what clues are in the photo to help you discover their identity
- 2:00 pm 1803 - 1809: From Alsace, Baden, Moselle & Pfalz to the Odessa District. Tim Grad will present the results of more than four years of research to determine where his Black Sea ancestors came from before immigrating to the Odessa Region. The presentation will focus on the families that immigrated to Black Sea area between 1803 and 1809, their origin villages, in a few cases the families' histories in their home region, and their migration routes.
- 4:05 pm Differences between Special Settlers, Prisoners, and Labor Army Conscripts in the USSR Pertaining to its Ethnic German Citizens. Otto Pohl will clarify the legal and material differences between the different institutions of repression as it pertains to the ethnic Germans in the USSR, and will emphasize the distinctions between convicted prisoners and mobilized Germans in the labor army working in GULag camps from 1941-1948.

Saturday - July 22, 2023

- 8:55 am Preserving Documents & Photographs. Matthew Reitzel will present tips on protecting various family treasures from letters to photographs. The presentation will also touch on preservation of digital items.
- 10:05 am Time Travel. Travel back in time with Sandy Schilling Payne's Germans from Russia Settlement Location maps
- 12:50 pm Can't Find Great Grandpa? Unique Sources at the South Dakota State Archives. Virginia Hanson will give you possible ideas that will help overcome "brick walls" and how to put some personality in your family tree using sources from the SD State Archives
- 2:00 pm DNA and Genealogy: A Beginner's Guide. Margie Rosario a retired electron microscopist will guide you through the DNA trail.