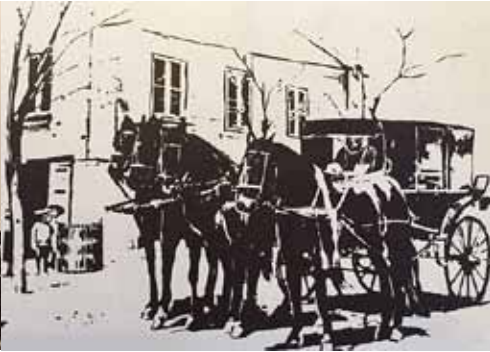


47th International Convention of the
American Historical Society of Germans from Russia

Before the Storm



July 13-16, 2016

Hilton Concord Hotel

1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord, California

- To reserve a room, call (925) 827-2000 or toll-free at 1-800-826-2644. You can also reserve a room online at <http://www.hilton.com>. The AHSGR group rate is \$119.
- To register for the convention, fill out the attached form and mail it to AHSGR, 631 D Street, Lincoln, NE 68502-1199. You can also register online at www.ahsgr.org.

Join us in a celebration of our German-Russian heritage as we explore the evolution and life of the colonies from 1763 to 1916 in the Volga, Black Sea and Ukraine areas of the Russian Empire. Learn about your history and culture from national and international speakers.



American Historical Society of Germans from Russia

2016 AHSGR Convention Overview

Dates and times of speakers' presentations are tentative. Check the AHSGR website for the latest updates.

Tuesday, July 12

- 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Wine Country Tour
- 7 p.m., board and volunteer dinner

Wednesday, July 13

- 9 a.m.-4 p.m., San Francisco City Tour
- 3-5 p.m., Chapter Leaders meeting
- 3:30-4 p.m., Diane Wilson, AHSGR librarian, Research Room Tour and Tutorial
- 7:30 p.m., Welcome Night hosted by the California District Council, featuring Jim Stevens, guitar

Thursday July 14

- 9-10 a.m., opening ceremony
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., village coordinators meeting
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., youth group orientation
- 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., foundation luncheon, featuring John Kautz, president and CEO, Ironstone Winery
- 1-5 p.m., village area discussions
- 1:15-2:15 p.m., panel discussion, "Flegel Library: What it Means to AHSGR Members' Research"
- 2:30-3:30 p.m., Eric Schmaltz, "Reform, 'Rebirth,' and Regret: A Brief History of the Former USSR's Ethnic Germans since 1988"
- 3:30-4 p.m., kuchen break
- 4-5 p.m., Ulrich Merten, "The fate of the German Russian Farming Communities Resulting from Stalin's Collectivization of Agriculture"
- 7:30 p.m., Film night

Friday, July 15

- 8-9 a.m., Don Soeken, "Planning a Family Reunion and Interviewing Family members for Oral History"
- 8-9 a.m., Maggie Hein, "Volga German Genealogy: Finding Records in Russia"
- 8-9 a.m., 8-9 a.m., Lee Macklin, "A Great DNA Story - How an Adopted Child Finds Her Biological Family"
- 9:15-10:15 a.m., Norman Bitter, "German Town: West Fresno"
- 9:15-10:15 a.m., Ulrich Merten, "The Fate of the German Russian Farming Communities Resulting from Stalin's Collectivization of Agriculture"
- 9:15-10:15 a.m., Victor Gess, "Ancestral Trek through Poland and Volhynia"
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., storytelling panel and audience participation
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., Mike Meisinger, "Online Tools for German-Russian Research available on AHSGR.org"
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., Jorge Bohn, "Germans from Russia: Streccerau, Volga, to Streccerau (presently Tavares Bastos), Paraná, Brazil"
- 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., awards luncheon
- 1:15-2:15 p.m., storytelling contest winners, Diana Bell
- 1:15-2:15 p.m., Eugen Hartmann, "Volga DNA Project"

- 1:15-2:15 p.m., David Schmidt, "Tips for Using Russian and German Records to Successfully Research Your Family Back to Germany"
- 2:30-3:30 p.m., Shari Stone and Dee Hert, "Camels in the Villages"
- 2:30-3:30 p.m., Wayne Bonner and Herb Femling, "Balthasar Barthuly, the first Vorsteher of Balzer"
- 2:30-3:30 p.m., Reinhard Nachtigal, "The Germans of the Don Cossack Host: An Unusual Pattern of German Colonist Settlement in Tsarist Russia, 1830-1914"
- 3:30-4 p.m., kuchen break
- 4-5 p.m., panel discussion, "Flegel Library: What it Means to AHSGR Members' Research"
- 4-5 p.m., Jerry Siebert, "GRs and the Art of Making Raisins"
- 4-5 p.m., Alexander Spack, "Trip to Some Former German Colonies on the Volga Bergseite, May 2009"
- 5-6 p.m., IFAHSGR cocktail party and reception
- 6-7:30 p.m., dinner on your own
- 7:30-9 p.m., entertainment, Bill Lepp, storyteller

Saturday, July 16

- 8-9 a.m., Pam Atherson, "Wilhelm 'Columbus' Hieb and His Role in the Third Migration of German-Russians"
- 8-9 a.m., Eric Schmaltz, "The Ethnic German Dissident and Emigration Movement's Impact on Soviet Domestic and Foreign Policy (1972-1987)"
- 8-9 a.m., Reinhard Nachtigal, "The Germans of the Don Cossack Host: An Unusual Pattern of German Colonist Settlement in Tsarist Russia, 1830-1914"
- 9:15-10:15 a.m., Bob Givens, "Using FamilySearch to Help You Research Your Ancestors"
- 9:15-10:15 a.m., Peter Goldade, "Exploration of Repression Records"
- 9:15-10:15 a.m., Alexander Spack, "German Historical and Cultural Center in Zorkino (former German colony Zurich), Marxovsky Rayon, Saratovskaya Oblast"
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., Bob Givens, "Using FamilySearch to Help You Research Your Ancestors"
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., Katherine Borges, "Using DNA for Family Tree Research and Interpretation of Results"
- 10:30-11:30 a.m., David Schmidt, "Tips for Using Russian and German Records to Successfully Research Your Family Back to Germany"
- Noon-1 p.m., lunch on your own
- 1:15-2:15 p.m., Diane Wilson, AHSGR librarian, on accessing the AHSGR Research Library
- 1:15-2:15 p.m., Wayne Bonner & Maggie Hein
- 1:15-2:15 p.m., South American GRs panel discussion
- 2:30-3:30 p.m., Speaker Forum, open discussion with convention speakers
- 5:30-7 p.m., cocktail hour
- 7-10 p.m., Closing Banquet, Entertainment by Grand Island Fire Brigade



American Historical Society of Germans from Russia 47th Annual International Convention

“Before the Storm”

July 13-16, 2016 at Hilton Concord Hotel, Concord, California

Pre-registration for members is \$145 through May 31 and \$165 after May 31.

Each person registering must complete a separate form. Send to: AHSGR, 631 D St., Lincoln, NE 68502. Payment must accompany this form and must be made in U.S. funds. Your canceled check or credit card statement is your receipt. Registration for the convention includes the Saturday banquet.

MEALS ONLY	Circle Choices
Tuesday, July 12 Dinner w/ Board & Trustees (menu to be determined)	\$25
Thursday, July 14 Foundation Luncheon (open to all) (menu to be determined)	\$25
Friday, July 15 Recognition Luncheon (open to all) (menu to be determined)	\$25
TOTAL	\$_____

TOURS ONLY	Circle Choices
Tuesday, July 12 Wine Country Tour (lunch included)	\$75
Wednesday, July 13 San Francisco City Tour (lunch on your own)	\$40
TOTAL	\$_____

NAME _____

Registration \$ _____

Meals \$ _____

Tours \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

REGISTRATION	Members	Non-Members
Monday-Saturday (banquet included)	\$145	\$165
Monday-Saturday (after May 31) (banquet included)	\$165	\$185
TOTAL	\$_____	\$_____
Single Day	Members	Non-members
Wednesday	\$25	\$30
Thursday	\$40	\$45
Friday	\$40	\$45
Saturday (banquet included) (menu TBD)	\$70	\$75
TOTAL	\$_____	\$_____

**You can also register online at
www.ahsgr.org.**

A special thanks to everyone who registers early for the 47th Annual AHSGR International Convention! We will take credit cards, debit cards and checks, both now and at convention.

No cash, please.

Method of Payment

Check # _____ MasterCard ___ Visa ___ PayPal ___

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CCV: _____

Signature: _____

Your Information

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____
(Street, City, State, Zip code, Country)

Ancestral Village(s) in Russia _____

Ancestral Name(s) _____

E-mail address _____

Do you wish to have your name, city and state listed in the attendee roster? YES NO (please circle)
(Not available to walk-ins. Only those who pre-register will be included in roster)

AHSGR Member _____ Non-Member _____ Life Member _____ Charter Member _____

Village Coordinator _____ Volunteer _____ Speaker _____ Board Member _____ Trustee _____

Volunteers

Volunteers are needed in all venues. Consider helping the host committee for at least two hours or for an entire morning or afternoon. Indicate below where you would like to work and the day and time you can work. **See Volunteer Coordinator for time schedule and job assignment when you register for the convention. Thank you for your help.**

_____ Registration _____ Bookstore _____ Information _____ Hospitality _____ Computer workshop
 _____ Workshop Host _____ Library _____ Quilt Raffle _____ Wherever I'm needed
 _____ Village Area Gathering and/or Village Discussion Groups (see schedule.)

Hours available to work: Work assignments will be made in 2-hour shifts. Please specify day and/or time.

Day	Preferred Time	Day	Preferred Time	Day	Preferred Time
Monday a.m.		Wednesday a.m.		Friday a.m.	
Monday p.m.		Wednesday p.m.		Friday p.m.	
Tuesday a.m.		Thursday a.m.		Saturday a.m.	
Tuesday p.m.		Thursday p.m.		Saturday p.m.	

Silent Auction

The silent auction helps to support the work of the Society. Help to make it a success. If you donate food items, be sure they are non-perishable. Fill out this form and return it with your registration or bring it to the convention. If you do not plan to attend the convention, send the form and items to: AHSGR, 631 D Street, Lincoln, NE 68502-1199. **Items must arrive by July 1, 2016.** Do not send items to the convention hotel.

Donor's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address including zip code: _____

Description of Item(s): _____

Does this item require a minimum bid? No _____ Yes _____ If so, what is the dollar amount? _____