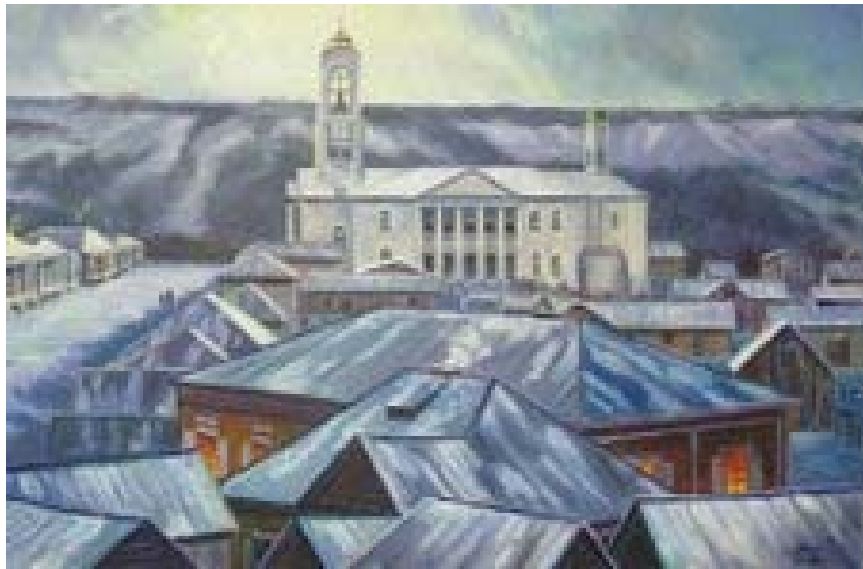


MARIENTAL CHASSELOIS LOUIS DAYS OF YORE

MARCH 2008

ISSUE EIGHTEEN



Mariental, Russia by Michael Boss

Oil on Linen – 20” x 30”

From the Collection of Signature Associates

Topics:

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Volga Church's

So we will know them

Our Argentina people

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GR Proverb:

**When the table is
round, where is the
man's place?**

Hello to all:

This issue features the last of the Volga churches from the calendar I purchased many years ago. These have been favorites of mine that I wished to share with my readers. I'm sure some of you have seen them, but aren't they fantastic? I am sorry to have to send the postal issues in black and white – they are so much better in color – but the cost of a color newsletter is prohibitive for me. If by chance, those of you who are receiving them postal and DO have an e-mail address, please let me know. It costs me absolutely to send them via e-mail.

I will be working on what I wish to enter in the convention, and if you have any items of interest concerning Mariental, Louis, or Chasselois, that you would like to feature (copies only), please let me know. I especially would like “old photo's” of Mariental or Louis (people or the villages). I hope many are planning on going, as it will be the first one of it's kind with both organizations together in the same Convention, It should be very different.

OCTOBER: Ev-Lutheran Kirche of Gnadentau (Jeruslan).

Gnadentau, one of the peripheral colonies, was founded about 1860. It is located in the steppe, fairly far from the Volga and even farther from the cities of Saratov and Kamyshin. Through these reaches, passing next to Russian, German, Tatar, and Ukrainian villages, flows the Yeruslan River. Incidentally, in the past few decades, this is what the former German colony is named.

Gnadentau was not heavily populated (2150 inhabitants in 1912), but was a lively center of the German settlers in the district. In the 1880's there was an active Lutheran prayer house, serving more than 9,000 parishioners of the surrounding area.

In a wave of construction of “stylish” temples, which arose at the end of the 20th century, a new stone church was raised in the colony (1898), having room for 1000 persons. The composition, correspondence of the size, proportions, the play of details, the structure recalls the main, most well-known Lutheran temple on the Volga, in Saratov. But it is not a copy, not a collection of quotations, but a mature work “on the given theme.” It is a narrow arrangement of its own, living and original, variations. It is possible to suppose that for the colonists there were no main or secondary, no central or regional, no prestigious or insignificant



Ev-luth. Kirche in Gnadentau (Jeruslan) - Лютеранская церковь в с. Еруслан (Гнадентау)

villages and parishes. All were equal, all tried to be beautiful, well built, attractive. Architectural practice obviously supports this. Therefore, it is evident that in far-away Gnadental there is such a church, joyful, flying, one of the best on the German Volga.

Gnadental was not very crowded – 2,150 people in 1912, but very lively and one of the central among German colonies of this region. For example, in the 1880's there was the Lutheran Prayer House which united almost 9,000 members in its congregation.

In 1898, the Church with 1,000 seats was built. The composition and proportions and the details of this building remind you of the most well-known Lutheran Cathedral of the Volga River Bank – Saratov Cathedral. However, it is not a copy. It is a very special piece of art with its own delightful and original variations, you can assume that for the colonists there were no differences between communities, villages and congregations. Everybody was equal and tried to become beautiful and convenient. The Church in Gnadental is one of the best in the olga German Region.



ix.-Iah. Kirche in Schäfer (Lipovka) - Лютеранская церковь в с. Липовка (Шофер)

NOVEMBER: Lutheran Church in Lipovka (Shaefer)

The Volga River colony Lipovka (Shaefer) was not very large or well-known. Even the Bolshoi Karaman River on the bank of which it was located can't be compared to the Volga. The farmers of the village mostly grew wheat. But the main subject of pride was the Lutheran Church, probably one of the best and largest of the Volga River German colonies. The capacity of the Church was 4,000 people, but the population of the village was only 1,770 in

1912. This paradox is easily explained by some historical facts. Lipovka, during many years was a competitor with the neighboring colony of Osinovka for the right to be the center of the congregations. At first, in 1865, Osinovka had been lucky in 1865 and with the project of Ferninando Lagur they built a wooden church which was rather large. However, after 40 years, in 1906, Lipovka won and the new cathedral was outstanding. Today this building can scare you with its emptiness and disrepair. It does not even have a roof. Only the see-through skeleton with the empty eyes of the windows remain. But regardless, it will stay in your memory.

DECEMBER: Catholic Church in Kamenka (Baehr)



Cath. Kirche in Biber (Kamenka) - Католическая церковь в с. Кamenka (Бер)

In 1765, on the bank of the Ilovlya River, the Catholic colony Kamenka (Baehr) was founded. This village was founded not far from the major Saratov-Ashtrakon road. The population of this big colony could do both the farming and the trading. By the end of the 19th century they had 4,400 people, a hospital, two schools, nine brick houses, and 203 wooden houses. The rest were sod or dirt buildings. They even had a special square for fairs and flea markets/bazaars.

The local pride was this Church which the colonists built in the 1820's. In the historical books and documents we can read that in 1890 there is no church in

Kamenka. The building of the church had been destroyed by fire we assume. After that, during almost 20 years, members of the congregation were gathering at a regular house arranged as a prayer house. At last, in 1907, the building of the new cathedral was done and it was the gorgeous red brick building with an open choir area and organ in the new gothic style. During the last 50 years, it was used as a garage, warehouse, etc. Now it is empty but still beautiful. The Church had a bell tower, roof and brick decorations and is still very beautiful even in its dramatic and tragic beauty.



So we will know them:

I have received a couple of photo's along with their stories that I wanted to feature in my newsletters. I am so pleased – and how interesting are these!!!



Bio for Gerald F. "Jerry" Schmidt

Jerry is retired after 34 years of service with the U. S. Government Accountability Office in Dallas, Denver, Kansas City and Frankfurt, Germany. He lives in Lenexa, Kansas with his wife, Carol. They have two children and four grandchildren. Over the past 30 years, one of his hobbies has been researching his family origins.

While realizing it is a lifetime pursuit, Jerry continues to research his Schmidt and Walter ancestry, primarily with documents available through AHSGR and a network of contacts with like interests. The most relevant Volga German colonies include Beauregard, Chasselois, Frank, Goebel, Graf, Herzog, Katharinenstadt, Louis, Mariental, Nieder Monjou, Ober Monjou, Paulskaya, Volmer, and Wittman. And, the surnames are Asselborn, Beilman, Beuss, Blasius, Chebert/Kelbert, Fossel, Gerber, Gross, Guenther, Hardt, Hartman, Jacoby, Karlin, Koerner, Kramin, Liebert, Lios, Matz, Meier, Nuerenberger, Ohlhart, Ottmer, Petri, Rausch, Ringelmann, Saltzmann, Schaefer, Schmidt, Schueler, Siehr, Sommer, Thierry, Ubert, Von Momol, Walter, Weilert and Windholz.

Using relevant research findings, Jerry has offered several items to the Mariental webpage. He has also contributed several articles for the AHSGR Journal, including "If Awakened From Her Dream For My Ancestors, What Would Catherine Think Now?" (Winter 2003); a correction to the Winter 2003 article (Summer 2005); and "These Records Can Talk!" (Summer 2005). Having made contact with his distant relatives in the Gross family from Siberia, Jerry also wrote two articles: "Against the Odds: A Family Reunited" (Spring 2000) and "Survivors: Once Lost, but Never Forgotten" (Summer 2007). And in July 2006, he was the banquet speaker for the Kansas State Roundup of Chapters in Hays, Kansas. He spoke on finding and building a relationship with the Gross family survivors after the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union.

In past story telling contests during the annual AHSGR conventions, he has been awarded 2nd place for his story, "The Grass Is Always Greener...." (Winter 2000); 3rd place for "Maybe This is the Final Word on 'Buxtehui'" (Winter 2005); and honorable mentions for "The Americanization of Katie" (Winter 1999), "The Right Stuff" (Winter 2001) and "The Courage to Decide Their Fates" (2007 in Hays, Kansas, which will be published soon in the Journal).

He has also begun compiling his research and ancestral photos into videos. His hope is that the materials will be more interesting and consumable by his family if properly edited.

My name is Anna Dalhaimer Bartkowski. As a second generation German from Russia, I was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, the daughter of Joseph Dalhaimer and

Doris Herzog. My maternal grandparents, Sophie Reimer and Fred Herzog came from Reinwald, Russia. My paternal grandparents Clementine and Johannes Dalhaimer came to the United States from Mariental, Russia in 1913. Clementine trained my mother to cook in the German Russian style. To insure that the family recipes would not be lost, I wrote the book “Value Meals on the Volga: Sharing our heritage with new generations” in 2006. More than a cookbook and more than a family history, Value Meals provides step by step instructions and full color photographs to assist the gourmet chef or novice cook to make authentic German Russian meals.



In addition to cooking and writing, I am:

- **President of the local Arizona Sun Chapter of Germans from Russia**
- **Member of the Serious Scribes Writer’s Critique Group**
- **Member of the Arizona Author’s Association**
- **Member of National Association of Women Writers and the local Scottsdale Chapter.**

After graduation from Marquette University with a B.A. in Journalism, I worked for The Milwaukee Journal and Sentinel, The Tennessean and currently work for Johnson Controls in Arizona.

My genealogy search continues. I have been able to trace the Dahlhaimer generations from my grandparents to the original settlers of Mariental. I have their origins in Germany and have to devote some time to developing it further. I was thrilled to make contact with Maxine Fiman who shares the Dahlhaimer ancestry.

On the Herzog and Reimer side of the family, I have tracked back to my great grandfather and great grandmother, Phillip and Anna Maria Kerber Reimer. In their ancestral village census records, I found families with the Herzog and Reimer name among the original settler, but have a considerable gap between the generations. I hope more census record for Reinwald will be available soon.

My goal is to leave a genealogical legacy for all of our children. I am working on two ancestry projects. My first project is a serial article entitled, “31 Days...31 Ways to make your family history live forever.” One of the 31 ways debuted on my blog each day in October to celebrate Family History Month. My blog is devoted to family history. To see the blog in action, visit <http://valuemeals.blogspot.com/>

Once this article is finished, I will continue to highlight of my family history searches and discoveries. My second project is a coloring book entitled, “Maggie Visits Grandpa.” I am writing and illustrating the book as a means to share family history fun with children. The book will be published before the end of 2007.

Anna Bartkowski

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Author of Value Meals on the Volga

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blogs; <http://valuemeals.blogspot.com/>

<http://infinitechoices.blogspot.com>

VILLA MARIA BAND

This is a 1918 Photo of Valle Maria Band – Villages were made up of Weisenseiters which included Herzog, OberMonjou, Mariental, Graf, Rholeder, etc. (picture received from Frank Jacobs)



1. Enrique Kranewitter 2: José Leiker (Nellisch), José Gerstner, Nicolas Kranewitter, Ignacio Schunk, Juan Shannel, Postmair Garrain;
 2. Raimundo Laikam, Silvestré, Padre Ederle, Padre Vorsen, José Wassinger, Pedro Beker y Jose Faria;
 3. Alyandro Unrein, Pedro Berus, Raimundo Knapp, Fransisco Riedel, Juan Kranewitter, y Juan Dobler;
 4. Juan Kranewitter, Pedro Schunk, Padre Zielinsky y Mathias Gassmann;
 5. Antonio Hertel, Fellpe Unrein, Sebastian Kranewitter, Pedro Knapp, Juan Pedro Gassmann y Juan Ederle;

This list of founders of the following villages in Argentina was sent to me by Darrell Brungardt

The following information was extracted from the "Familienbuch" of the family Gassmann (Book of the Family Gassmann) containing the founders of the Mary Valley Village. Se han agrupado por aldea de origen en Rusia: They have been grouped by home village in Russia:

- **Mariental**
 - **Nicolás Gassmann Nicholas Gassmann**
 - **Juan Schunk John Schunk**

- **Juan Hermann John Hermann**
- **Matías Ortmann Matias Ortmann**
- **Nicolás Becker Nicolas Becker**
- **Juan Becker John Becker**
- **Juan Denning John Denning**
- **Juan Gerstner John Gerstner**
- **Matías Gerstner Matias Gerstner**
- **Jacobo Gerstner James Gerstner**
- **Miguel Salzmann Miguel Salzmann**
- **Jacobo Asselborn Jacobo Asselborn**
- **Pedro Kappes Pedro Kappes**
- **Francisco Kappes Francis Kappes**
- **Jacobo Pterger Jacobo Pterger**
- **Pedro Obholz Pedro Obholz**
- **Franciso Schunk Franciso Schunk**
- **Guillermo Hermann William Hermann**
- **Juan Schuller John Schuller**
- **Bartolo Bernhardt Bartolo Bernhardt**
- **Louis**
 - **Jacobo Neiff Jacobo Neiff**
 - **Enrique Abt Enrique Abt**
 - **Juan Abt John Abt**
 - **Jacobo Abt Jacobo Abt**
 - **Andrés Kösler Andres Kösler**
 - **Nicolás Kösler Nicholas Kösler**
 - **Enrique Berns Henry Berns**
 - **Matías Berns Matias Berns**
 - **José Berns Jose Berns**
 - **José Rerich Jose Rerich**
 - **Pedro Ernst Peter Ernst**
 - **Juan Sucksdorf John Sucksdorf**
 - **Juan Frank John Frank**
- **Graf**
 - **Pedro Hofstetter Peter Hofstetter**
 - **Cristobal Schamne Cristobal Schamne**
 - **Pedro Schäffer Pedro Schäffer**
 - **Jacobo Wassinger James Wassinger**
 - **José Wassiger Jose Wassiger**
 - **Pedro Wassinger Pedro Wassinger**
- **Herzog**
 - **Miguel Schön Michael Schön**
 - **Miguel Brundhart Miguel Brundhart**
 - **Nicolás Rome Nicholas Rome**
 - **Francisco Riedel Francisco Riedel**
 - **Miguel Beire Miguel Beire**
 - **Jacobo Wittmann Jacob Wittmann**
 - **Miguel Göz Miguel Göz**
- **Roleter**
 - **José Klocker Jose Klocker**
 - **Franciso Klocker Franciso Klocker**
 - **Pedro Klocker Pedro Klocker**
 - **Juan Dobler John Dobler**
 - **Constantino Frank Frank Constantino**
 - **Antonio Glassmann Antonio Glassmann**
 - **José Reim Jose Reim**

- **Obermunschu**
 - José Windler Jose Windler
 - José Kranewitter Jose Kranewitter
 - Miguel Kranewitter Miguel Kranewitter
 - Adam Kranewitter Adam Kranewitter
 - Conrado Seib Conrad Seib
 - Ignacio Seib Ignacio Seib
 - Conrado Krap Conrad Krap

WHISPER:

Grandma's Apron

The principle use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears

From the chicken-coop the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron. From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled it carried out the hulls. In the fall the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace

that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

Send this to those who would know, and love the story about Grandma's aprons..

REMEMBER THIS

"Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughter's set theirs on the window sill to thaw."