



# The Palatine Patter

Palatines to America German Genealogy So-



## OUR MISSION

- To promote interest in the research and study of all German-speaking peoples who migrated to the Americas.
- To exchange and preserve information relating to the history and culture of German-speaking families.
- To provide appropriate methods, tools, and

resources to assist members in achieving their research goals.

- To encourage fellowship among members.

## OUR VISION

- To be recognized as a growing and vibrant family history society that focuses upon researching German-speaking people.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**John Harder**  
[palampresjeh@gmail.com](mailto:palampresjeh@gmail.com)



I shared with you in the last Patter that Christmas and Easter are my favorite times of the year because of my Christian faith. My last article focused on Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus, God's great gift to humanity. Jesus taught us about God as he showed us how to live. In this issue, the focus is on Easter.

Many immigrants who came to America from German-speaking countries in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries were Christians. Whereas their denominations and beliefs differed in some respects, they believed in the Resurrected Jesus. I think this belief might have impacted their decision to immigrate to America. The primary motivation for emigrating was to seek a better life for their families and themselves. But belief in eternal life may have encouraged them to take the risk of a dangerous journey and made their decision to leave Europe (or elsewhere) less daunting.

Easter represents victory over death, and we look forward to Spring as new life emerges. Days are getting longer, temperatures are rising, and rain is providing its life-giving moisture to all living things.

God, through nature, is providing an environment for new life and beauty. Also, PalAm's State Chapters are offering opportunities to learn and grow as genealogy researchers in their Spring Seminars and other educational sessions. As we look ahead to the end of Spring, we anticipate our National Conference in Albany, NY in June. That conference will provide a setting where we can connect with long-time friends again and make new friends in an environment that will be intellectually stimulating and fun.

Although our German-speaking ancestors observed many religious celebrations, Christmas and Easter were two very important times of rejoicing and reflecting on the real meaning of life. No matter your faith background or tradition, I pray that you and your family will be blessed as we celebrate Easter and Spring 2024.



Free image from pixabay.com



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 2024

**March 19—Pennsylvania Third Tuesday Program**

**April 6—Ohio Spring Seminar: Using DNA to Research Your German Heritage**

**April 16—Pennsylvania Third Tuesday Program**

**April 20—Indiana Spring Meeting and Annual Meeting**

**May 4—Colorado Spring Meeting**

**May 21—Pennsylvania Third Tuesday Program**

**June 1—PalAm National Membership Meeting (Virtual via Zoom)**

**June 5—New York Chapter Meeting**

**June 6-9—PalAm National Conference in Albany, New York**

**June 18—Pennsylvania Third Tuesday Program**

**September 8-15—FamilySearch Library Research Trip to Salt Lake City**



## ***THE PALATINE IMMIGRANT***

Katherine Margard, editor of *The Palatine Immigrant*, has been in touch with the president of the printing company that has been printing *The Palatine Immigrant* and *The Palatine Patter*. For several months PalAm has experienced problems getting our two periodicals printed. The president assured Katherine that he will be personally responsible for correcting the problems. We hope the Winter 2023 Issue of *The Palatine Immigrant* will be mailed soon. We expect the spring issue of *The Palatine Immigrant* to be mailed in late April 2024.

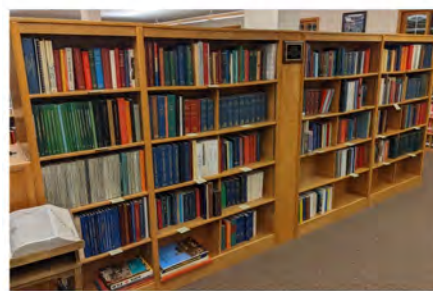
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## Book Exchange at 2024 National Conference

The Member Services Committee is sponsoring a Genealogy Book Donation Table at the 2024 National Conference to enable conference attendees to drop off books they no longer need but think others may find useful. All genealogy books are welcome, those about German and/or New York Genealogy are most appropriate. Conference attendees may take books in return for a free-will donation. The donations will benefit the Germantown Library.



## 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE



The New York Chapter is hosting this year's PalAm National Conference to be held in Albany, New York, from June 6 – 9, 2024. Registration is open for the 2024 Palatines to America National Conference. We hope to see you in Albany for an action-packed conference held over four days. There are a variety of price options making it easy to attend the whole conference or just one day. Enjoy many enlightening German genealogy lectures at our national conference. More information on how to register can be found at the PalAm National Website: [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org).

The outstanding conference speakers are:

Jon Marie Pearson, The Simple Living Genealogist @simplelivinggene

Daniel Horowitz, Genealogy Expert, My Heritage @horowitz\_daniel

James M. Beidler, Executive Director, Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

William P. Tatum III, Dutchess County Historian @dutchesshistory

Philip Otterness, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of History, Warren Wilson College

Thursday, June 6th

9:30 AM to 3 PM - Research day at NYS Library

3:30 PM to 5:45 PM - *Ancestral Narratives in Motion: Creating Reels and TikToks for Genealogy and Cultivating Your Genealogy World: Growing a Personal Community on Social Media* by Jon Marie Pearson

Friday, June 7th

- Will Tatum - *Wurtemberg settlement in Rhinebeck, NY*
- Daniel Horowitz - *Finding New German Records in MyHeritage Search Engine*
- Lunch
- Philip Otterness - *Adventures in the Archives*
- Daniel Horowitz - *Using Advanced DNA Tools to Understand Your Germanic DNA*
- James Beidler - *Palatine Resources in Pennsylvania Repositories*

Saturday, June 8th

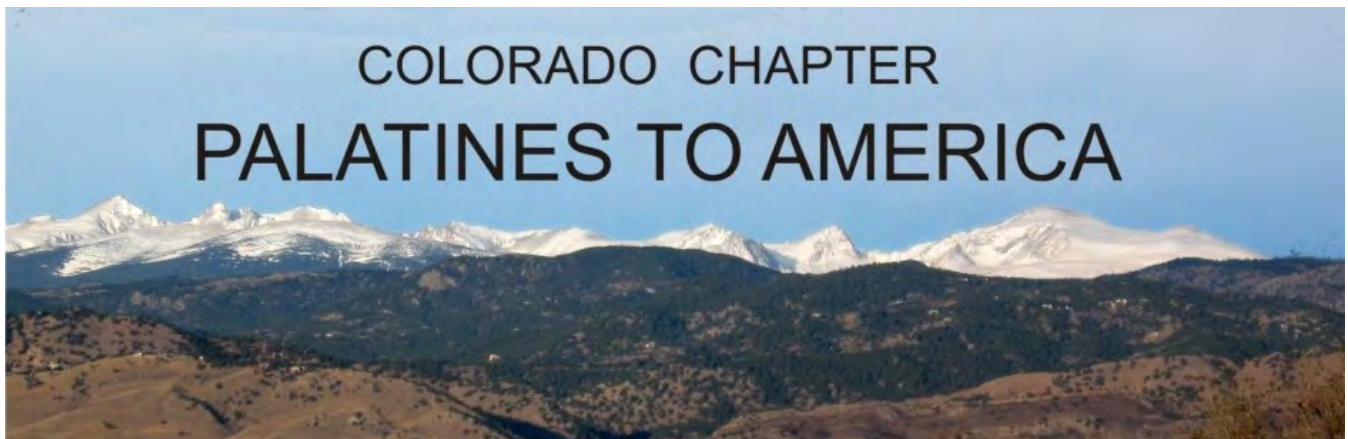
- James Beidler - *Getting Best Use of Ancestry.com's Hank Jones Database*
- Daniel Horowitz - *Finding the Places Your Relatives Arrived*
- Lunch
- Philip Otterness - *Conversational Q and A* led by NY PalAm President Tom Shannon
- Daniel Horowitz - *Creating Beautiful Charts of Your Family Tree on MyHeritage*
- Philip Otterness - *Gone to Carolina: the New Bern Palatines*

Sunday, June 9th

- Research Day at the Henry Z. Jones Jr. Palatine Research Center, Germantown, 11 AM to 6 PM







## SPRING 2024 GERMAN GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR

Featuring Dana Palmer  
4 May 2024 9:30 am - 4 pm

The Colorado Chapter of Palatines to America is pleased to announce that Dana Palmer has accepted our invitation to be the speaker at our Spring seminar, 4 May 2024.

Dana received her BA in Math Education to teach high school mathematics. She began teaching beginning genealogy classes in 1996 before graduating from college. In 1997, she was admitted into the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers lineage society. Married life and school caused her to live in five states in a short period of time and provided ample opportunities to become familiar with how to do research in various locations around the country. She continued to teach and volunteer at her local family history centers throughout all these moves.

After moving to Lebanon, Ohio, in 2001, she volunteered at the Warren County Genealogical Society (WCGS) and created their website. She served as the 1st Vice President of the WCGS from 2005 to 2007, President from 2007 until the end of 2013, and again as the 1st Vice President from 2017-2018. She was the WCGS webmaster from its creation until the end of 2013 and has taught the WCGS summer workshops since 2005. In the spring of 2023, she agreed to serve as Vice-President for her local U.S.D. War of 1812 lineage society chapter. She has lectured on genealogy topics throughout Ohio since 2002 and has been a presenter many times at the OGS annual conference, FGS in 2013 & 2020, NGS in 2018, 2020-2021, 2023, and RootsTech in 2020-2023, 2024 (pending). In 2009, she became a board certified genealogist (CG) and completed her first renewal in 2014 and her second renewal in 2019. She also became a certified genealogy lecturer (CGL) in 2019. She was hired as a genealogy instructor at Sinclair Community College (Dayton, Ohio) in the fall of 2010 and at the Warren County Career Center (Lebanon, Ohio) in the fall of 2012. She taught genealogy and technology classes for Sinclair Community College at their Courseview Campus in Mason, Ohio, until the pandemic hit in 2020, at which time all adult education classes were put on hold by the department chair.

She has been the co-chair for the 2013 and 2016 Ohio Genealogical Society annual conferences and has been the program coordinator for the annual Family History Jamboree held in Centerville, Ohio, from 2016 to 2022. She has extensive knowledge of publishing family history books and editing digital photographs and has published over 50 books for her genealogical society and clients. She specializes in Ohio and Midwestern research but has experience working with U.K., Danish, German, Hungarian, and Czech records. She belongs to the following organizations: NGS, OGS, GSG, WCGS and many genealogical societies all over the country.





# Indiana Chapter Palatines to America

*German Genealogical Society*

## Indiana Chapter Spring Meeting Saturday, April 20, 2024

The 2024 Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America Spring Meeting featuring Vicki Casteel, Director of Patron and Outreach Services at the Indiana State Archives, will be held at the Michigan Road Branch Library, 6201 Michigan Road, Indianapolis, IN, on Saturday, April 20. This hybrid event (in-person & virtual via Zoom) will feature two presentations providing information about the holdings of the Indiana State Archives, how to use their website to find their hold-ings in various collection types, and instructions on accessing digital records in the Archives. Following these presentations, there will be an attendee interactive discussion about various aspects of German genealogy. The day will conclude with the Chapter's Annual Meeting.

Attendees are encouraged to "brown bag" their lunch. A list of nearby fast food options will also be provided to those attending in person. Further details about the agenda and registration are available at <https://inpalam.org/>

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## MEMBERS HELP IS NEEDED

**Consider sharing your skills and gifts. Please volunteer to fill the following positions:**

- **Presidents of Colorado and North Carolina Chapters**
- **Editor of *The Palatine Patter***
- **Scholarly articles for *The Palatine Immigrant***
- **Webmaster of National Website**
- **Membership Registrar**
- **People who recall PalAm's rich history to serve on the 50th Anniversary Book Committee**



## NEW YORK CHAPTER NEWS



At the March 6 New York Chapter Board Meeting, much of the discussion was devoted to the National Conference. Two of the other subjects discussed were (1) a Chapter Meeting to be held in June to elect officers, including treasurer, vice president, and director, and (2) a Fall Seminar including ideas for the location.

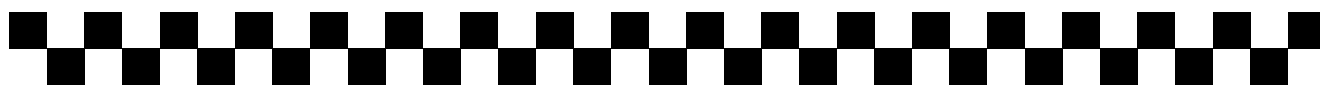
### GERMAN EASTER DECORATIONS



John Harder has two cousins who live in and near Simmern, Hunsruck, Rhineland-Pfalz. Wilfried sent John the photo at left in 2020 to show how he and his wife decorate their home for Easter. Their porch is furnished with a stylish Easter Bunny, elaborately colored eggs, flowers and other objects. John, Wilfried and Heinrich have exchanged Christmas and Easter greetings since John and Mildred met them on a trip to John’s ancestral village near Simmern in 2013.



John and Mildred (center) with John’s cousins Heinrich and Erika Augustine (left) and Wilfried and Irene Theiss (right)



### MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE PLANS WEBINAR ON AI

The Member Services Committee is planning a webinar on “Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Genealogy.” AI has already been used in the realm of genealogy, with major success in indexing records as well as colorizing and animating photographs. Learn from Dr. Margaret M. McMahon, a computer science, engineering and cybersecurity professor, how AI products can assist you in your genealogical endeavors. Find out how to use AI in your research and writing, as well as its limitations. The date has not been finalized yet, but will probably be in May. Watch for an announcement on the PalAm website.







# Palatines to America

## German Genealogy Society



## NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

The North Carolina Chapter is planning two events: an Annual Membership Meeting for the election of officers and a Seminar featuring an excellent speaker. Tom Gerke has accepted an appointment to be Acting President of the North Carolina Chapter. He is working with Bonnie Everhart and Becky Thornton to organize these events.

## EASTER THOUGHTS

The hopping Easter creature at right is believed to have originated from Germany. The first known account of der Osterhaus is found in the 1684 notes of a Heidelberg professor of medicine, where he discusses the ill-effects of overeating Easter eggs. German and Dutch settlers later brought the notion of der Osterhase or Oschter Haws (Dutch) to the U.S. in the 1700s.

Bauer, Ingrid, "German Easter Traditions." ThoughtCo, Apr. 5, 2023, [thoughtco.com/german-easter-traditions-1444511](https://www.thoughtco.com/german-easter-traditions-1444511).



[Germanculture.com.ua](https://www.germanculture.com.ua)



[Graphicsfairy.com](https://www.graphicsfairy.com)





## Using DNA to Research Your German Heritage

The Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America  
German Genealogy Society 2024 Spring Seminar

Available on Zoom

Saturday, April 6, 2024  
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT



**Guest Speaker: Mary Eberle, JD** DNA Expert, Author, Educator

Mary Eberle, JD, founded DNA Hunters in 2015 after careers as a biotech patent attorney and scientist. She is passionate about empowering people to harness DNA's power to solve family mysteries. Mary has used DNA to break through brick walls in her family tree. Her clients include adoptees and others with unknown parents or grandparents. [DNAHunters.com](http://DNAHunters.com)

**Description:** This seminar offers useful information to both those just starting out with DNA testing to those who are experienced genetic genealogists—and everyone in between. With four talks, you're bound to learn several tips and tricks to using DNA evidence to advance your German ancestor research.

- 1. You've Got Your DNA Results—Now What?** Learn the steps to analyze your DNA results. Steps include (1) having a family tree of your known ancestors and attaching your DNA to it, (2) identifying known DNA matches, (3) finding common DNA matches to your knows, and (4) deciphering your unknown DNA matches—possibly some of whom might help break down a brick wall in your genealogy.
- 2. Understanding Ethnicity Estimates** Learn what you can glean from your ethnicity estimates. We'll focus on Ancestry's ethnicity estimates. We'll also cover ethnicity estimates at FamilyTreeDNA, 23andMe, and MyHeritage. Learn why each company's results differ and why sibling results can differ. A better understanding of your ethnicity estimates might help with your German research.
- 3. Finding Relatives and Ancestors in Germany** Learn how to find DNA matches currently living in Germany at each DNA testing company. Those German matches, matches sharing German ethnicities, and unknown matches with links to Germany can lead to unknown German ancestors.
- 4. Case Study** This case study will cover how I found my unknown 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandfather, who was a German immigrant to Toronto. you'll learn the steps of combining DNA evidence with paper evidence that led to him. The most important steps were (1) target testing family members, (2) deciphering our common unknown DNA matches to find their common ancestor, (3) determining how we might fit into the unknown's family tree, and (4) finding clues about his German hometown in the paper evidence.

This seminar includes our annual Ohio Chapter PalAm business meeting. Recordings of these presentations will be available to all registrants for a two week period on the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America private YouTube channel. This gives you the availability to watch again, or if you can't be with us on the 6<sup>th</sup> you can watch at your leisure. A Zoom link and handouts will be emailed to all paid registrants a few days prior to the seminar. The link is for the registrant only. It can not be used by others. Seminar questions? Please email Tom Fishbaugh at [tfish@fishbaugh.com](mailto:tfish@fishbaugh.com)  
Follow us on Facebook at: Ohio Chapter - Palatines to America German Genealogy Society

### Register today!

Online at our website:

<https://oh-palam.org/registernow.php>

or make check payable to  
**Ohio Chapter – Palam**  
and mail with registration  
form to:

c/o Jill Filo  
2999 Kendall Road  
Copley, OH 44321-2544

**\*Must include email for  
Zoom link and handouts**

**EARLY REGISTRATION BY APRIL 4, 2024** PAL-AM MEMBER: \$50.00 NON-MEMBER: \$60.00  
**REGISTRATION AFTER APRIL 4, 2024** PAL-AM MEMBER: \$55.00 NON MEMBER: \$65.00

Deadline to apply online is April 5, 2024

No refunds for cancellation after April 5, 2024

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER# \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL\*: \_\_\_\_\_

**SURNAMES I AM RESEARCHING: PLEASE LIST FOUR SURNAMES:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Copy this form to use for additional registrations. Mail in registration should be postmarked by March 30th.







## *Pennsylvania Chapter Third Tuesday Zoom Programs*

The Pennsylvania Chapter is continuing our series of Third Tuesday Zoom programs, presented at 7:00 PM ET. They are free and open to all. Join us for our March program:

### **Genealogical Sources in the Moravian Archives Tuesday, March 19, 2024**

The Moravian Church, one of the oldest Protestant denominations, is also known for its unique and thorough recordkeeping. The Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, collects and preserves records and historical materials related to the Moravian Church, its members and associates, and makes them available to the public. This program explores the wide variety of records preserved in the Moravian Church Archives and how genealogists and family historians can access and use these records.

Assistant Archivist Tom McCullough will talk about the materials in their collections, from baptismal records to church diaries to memoirs to photographs, among other items. Even if your ancestors weren't members of the Moravian Church, you might find them in these records!

Thomas J. McCullough, MA, MLIS, is assistant archivist of the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where he works with researchers remotely and in the reading room. He is an expert instructor of German script handwriting and has taught paleography courses in the United States and Germany.

Register to join us for this discussion. If you have a question that you want to ask, feel free to email it to us in advance at [info@pennpalam.org](mailto:info@pennpalam.org) or [pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com](mailto:pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com).





## *Pennsylvania Chapter Third Tuesday Zoom Programs*

The Pennsylvania Chapter is continuing our series of Third Tuesday Zoom programs, presented at 7:00 PM ET. They are free and open to all PalAm members. Join us for our April program:

### **What's Old, and New, at the Pennsylvania State Archives Tuesday, April 16, 2024**

The move is complete! The Pennsylvania State Archives is now located in their new, State-of-the-Art building, which houses more than 250 million documents in the Commonwealth's archival collections and replaces the former building, which was built in 1965. Each document has been selected because it has tremendous historical, legal, or financial value to the Commonwealth. Brett Reigh, Archivist II, will give us an overview of the new building, the collections, and how to access them, either on line or in person.



Brett Reigh is a native of Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He received his bachelor's degree in History from Millersville University in 1994, and his master's degree, also in History, from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1997, both with a concentration in Public History.

Mr. Reigh was hired as a project archivist by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in October 1997, working there until February 2002. He then accepted a job as an archivist at the Pennsylvania State Archives. He is currently a reference archivist in the Public Services Section.

Register to join us for this program. If you have a question that you want to ask, feel free to email it to us in advance at [info@pennpalam.org](mailto:info@pennpalam.org) or [pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com](mailto:pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com).





## *Pennsylvania Chapter Third Tuesday Zoom Programs*

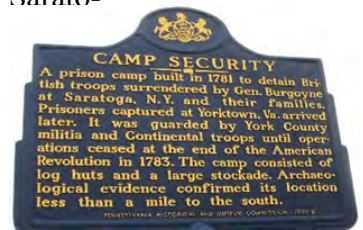
The Pennsylvania Chapter is continuing our series of Third Tuesday Zoom programs, presented at 7:00 PM ET. These are free and open to all PalAm members. Join us for our May program:

### **Camp Security – the History and Documentation of York County’s Revolutionary War Prison Encampment Tuesday, May 21, 2024**

This program will present extensive original documents and photos of archaeological discoveries to illustrate the history and preservation of Camp Security, an encampment established in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1781 to hold British soldiers captured at the battles of Saratoga and Yorktown. It is the only remaining site of a Revolutionary War prison



camp in the United States not obliterated by development. Co-presenters Jonathan Stayer and June Burk Lloyd will give particular attention to documentary sources pertaining to both the guards – including the York County militia – and the prisoners.



Retiring after 35 years as reference archivist at the PA State Archives, Jonathan Stayer is president of the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogy Society in York. He has been documenting and speaking about Camp Security for over forty years.

June Burk Lloyd, Librarian Emerita at York County History Center, pursued her degrees in History and American Studies because of her deep local roots and love of area history, which she shared through her *York Sunday News* column and *Universal York* blog.



Register to join us for this discussion. If you have a question that you want to ask, feel free to email us in advance at [info@pennpalam.org](mailto:info@pennpalam.org) or [pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com](mailto:pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com).







## *Pennsylvania Chapter Third Tuesday Zoom Programs*

The Pennsylvania Chapter is continuing our series of Third Tuesday Zoom programs, presented at 7:00 PM ET. These are free and open to all PalAm members. Join us for our June program:

### **German-American Genealogy Resources at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP) Tuesday, June 18, 2024**



Founded in 1824, HSP is one of the largest history libraries in the nation, showcasing collections on regional and national history, and offering a manuscript collection renowned for its holdings that span from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. HSP also holds one of the largest family history collections on the East Coast, containing genealogical material from every state east of the Mississippi River. With more than 21 million items in their collections, from diaries and letters to deeds and directories, HSP is one of the most complete and professional genealogy centers in the nation, and the largest in the Mid-Atlantic region. Katy Barnes will talk specifically about the German-American resources available at the Library.



Katy Barnes is the Director of Genealogical Services and Programs at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She holds a B.A. in Family History and Genealogy and has over a decade of experience as a professional client researcher and national genealogy lecturer.

Register to join us for this discussion. If you have a question that you want to ask, feel free to email us in advance at [info@pennpalam.org](mailto:info@pennpalam.org) or [pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com](mailto:pennsylvaniapalatines@gmail.com).



## 2025 IGGP CONFERENCE

The 2025 IGGP Conference will be hosted by Palatines to America in Columbus, Ohio, from June 6-9, at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center. The conference coincides with PalAm's 50th Anniversary and IGGP's 10th Anniversary. The theme for the conference will be Celebrate Your Germanic Ancestry.

PalAm has signed the contract with IGGP to host the conference. Also, PalAm has signed the contract with Nationwide to hold the conference at their facilities. PalAm intends to use Whova for the event; however, it is not necessary to sign a contract with them until Fall 2024. Two parts of the PalAm 50th Anniversary Celebration will include a bus trip to the German Village neighborhood on Thursday and a dinner on Friday evening. As they did at Fort Wayne, IGGP will hold a Gala dinner.

PalAm has established the following Committees to plan and execute the conference:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Co-Chairs (PalAm and IGGP)            | <b>John Harder</b> , <u>Garry Finkell</u> , Edie Adam                     |
| 2. Steering Committee                    | <b>John Harder</b> , <u>Roberta Newcomer</u> , + <u>13 Others</u>         |
| 3. Treasurer                             | <b>Jerry Schaefer</b> , <u>Gary Martzolf</u>                              |
| 4. Publicity/Outreach                    | <b>Vern Margard</b> , <u>Bonnie Everhart</u>                              |
| 5. Venue/Hotel                           | <b>Gary Martzolf</b> , <u>Tom Gerke</u> , <u>Roberta Newcomer</u>         |
| 6. Presenters                            | <b>Amy Chidester</b> , <u>Roberta Newcomer</u> , <u>Kent Robinson</u> , + |
| 7. Syllabus                              | ?   |
| 8. Audio-Visual                          | ?   |
| 9. Whova                                 | <b>Edie Adam</b> , <u>Garry Finkell</u> , <u>Lloyd Shenberger</u>         |
| 10. Connections Sessions                 | <b>Garry Finkell</b> , <u>Nancy Myers</u>                                 |
| 11. Translation                          | ?, <u>Susanne Spangler</u>  |
| 12. Registration                         | ?, <u>Lloyd Shenberger</u> ,  |
| 13. Vendor/Sponsor/Exhibitor/Prizes      | <b>Lori Poch</b> , <b>Tom Fishbaugh</b>                                   |
| 14. Food                                 | ?   |
| 15. Celebration/Hospitality/Social Activ | <b>Sally MacGowan</b> , <u>Kay Mariea</u> ; IGGP Gala                     |
| 16. Logo                                 | <b>Dona Ritchie</b>   |
| 17. German Village Bus Tour              | <b>Roberta Newcomer</b> , <b>Tom Gerke</b> ,                              |
| 18. Volunteers                           | ?   |
| 19. Leadership Day/Librarians Day        | <b>IGGP</b>   |

Persons who agreed to Chair a Committee in **Bold**; Persons who agreed to serve Underlined.

PalAm is asking members to sign up to serve on one or more of the above committees.



## 2024 FamilySearch Library Research Trip

The PalAm annual research trip to the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City will be held in from September 8 – 15, 2024. The registration fee provides 7 nights of accommodations at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel which is only a two minute walk to the library. A block of rooms has been reserved and are available on a first-come, first served request. All travel and meal expenses are the responsibility of attendees. The hotel rate is provided at a significant discount from the regular room rates.

The library was closed for a significant period of time during the COVID pandemic and during that time made a number of upgrades to make the research experience more comfortable.

If you have never been to the FamilySearch Library, going with a group can be a beneficial experience. While it is true that a growing number of records are available online on the FamilySearch website and other genealogy websites, making a trip to the library can provide resources that are not available to you from home.

Unless you are a member of the LDS church many of the films for Germany are not viewable at home. Instead you must go to either a FamilySearch Center or Affiliate Library to view these films. Those films that have these restrictions are all viewable at the FamilySearch Library. Also, there are research experts in different specialties (including Germany) that can assist you with your research plan and also translate documents. Perhaps one of the overlooked benefits is the extensive collection of books, periodicals, and maps available. The section of books from Germany covers several hundred linear feet. Another benefit that library visitors can utilize is the ability to scan books. The library has at least three different types of book scanners. You can also convert many forms of analog format (photographs, CDs, VCR, cassette, 8 track and reel-to-reel tapes, etc.) to digital format at no cost.

Salt Lake City has an excellent public transportation system (TRAX) with a stop directly in front of the hotel. The major downtown area is a free zone within this system.

We would like you to join us next year!

For registration information about the trip, see the flyer on the next page.

If you have any questions, contact Kent Robinson, the group leader, at [neker0@aol.com](mailto:neker0@aol.com)



Inside the FamilySearch Library  
Photo courtesy of Sharon Kennedy



Supper at Lamb's Restaurant  
From the personal files of John Harder







**PALATINES TO AMERICA**  
*German Genealogy Society*  
**FAMILYSEARCH LIBRARY RESEARCH**  
**TRIP**  
**SEPTEMBER 8 – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**  
**SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**



Includes 7 nights at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel (Sun. thru Sat.) – adjacent to the FamilySearch Library.  
 Travel to and from Salt Lake City is at each registrant's arrangement and expense.

**LIBRARY HOURS:** Monday, Friday, & Saturday: 9 AM – 6 PM; Tuesday – Thursday: closes @ 8 PM  
 The International Desk has a staff of experts in German genealogy who can assist with reading micro-filmed or digitized German records.

Orientation, FSL classes as scheduled, sharing with group members, and more.

Ability to digitize many kinds of media at no charge

Nearby restaurants, large shopping mall, specialty shops, historic sites, Temple Square, et. al.



**Early bird registration with a \$100 deposit BEFORE June 1:**

Deluxe Double Queen: \$490 per person [includes taxes]

Deluxe Double Queen as a Single: \$925 [includes taxes]

Standard King: \$835 [includes taxes]

**Registration AFTER June 1:**

Deluxe Double Queen: \$515 per person [includes taxes]

Deluxe Double Queen as a Single: \$950 [includes taxes]

Standard King: \$860 [includes taxes]

\*Non-members of PalAm: add \$50 per person to ALL above rates\*

**Hotel block of rooms is limited; first come, first served.**

**Deposits refunded in full until July 1; \$25 service fee afterwards.**

**Balance due July 31.** Fees do not include parking at the hotel, meals, or transportation costs.

Written confirmation, with additional information will be sent to registrants.

Questions? Contact Tour Organizer, Kent Robinson at [neker0@aol.com](mailto:neker0@aol.com)

Make checks payable to **Palatines to America.**

Mail to: Gary Martzolf, Treasurer; 3971 Lindbergh Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44718-2869

-----Enclose form below with deposit or full payment-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Room type (please circle): Deluxe Dbl Queen —or— Standard King

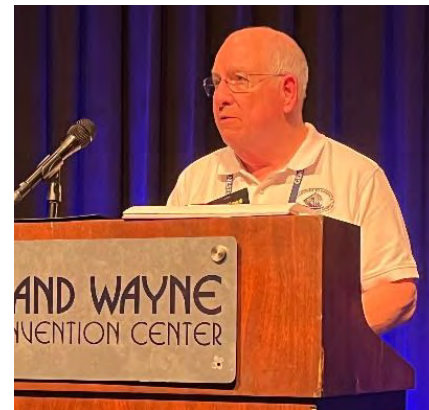


## Annual Membership Meeting

The next Annual Membership Meeting for Palatines to America will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024, starting at 1:00 pm EDT. In past years, the meeting was held in person or as part of a PalAm National Conference or IGGP Conference. In 2023, we tried to make participation in the meeting available to as many members of the Society as possible. However, because the cost of audio/visual transmissions has risen so much in recent years, the Governing Board has decided to reduce cost by holding the Annual Membership Meeting separate from other conferences. To make participation in the meeting available to as many members as possible, the 2024 Annual Membership Meeting will be held virtually. A Zoom link will be provided to the membership so many members can take part in the business and awards sessions during the meeting. As required by PalAm's Bylaws, the membership will be informed of the business (such as election of officers and budget) prior to the meeting.

Three important issues will be acted on at the June 1, 2024, Annual Membership Meeting:

1. Approve Budget for 2024-2025 (proposed budget will be sent to all members after the end of the current fiscal year, March 31)
2. Election of Officers (see bios and photos on the following pages)
3. Honors and Awards (see Guidelines and Form on the following pages)



2023 Membership Meeting in Fort Wayne, IN  
Photo Courtesy of Vern Margard



## Nominations for PalAm Governing Board Positions

The following individuals have been nominated for Governing Board Positions. You will be given the opportunity to vote for them or offer other nominations at the Annual Membership Meeting on June 1,

John and his wife Mildred Harder live in Independence, Missouri. They joined PalAm in 2009 after making contact at the Annual Conference in Ft Wayne, Indiana. Also, they are members of all six State Chapters of PalAm. John is a member of the Kocherthal Circle. He has served as the President of PalAm since 2022; before that, he served on the PalAm National Board of Directors as a Director-At-Large.

John and Mildred traveled to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City with the PalAm group many times. They attended the IGGP Conferences in Minneapolis and Fort Wayne as well as every PalAm Conference since 2010 except one (they were on a Scandinavian cruise to learn about John's Viking ancestors). Further, they have attended some in-person Ohio Chapter Conferences and many chapter conferences via Zoom. They are past members of the National Genealogical Society and have attended several NGS Conferences. In 2013, John and Mildred visited their ancestral villages of Klosterkumbd, Rheinland-Pfalz and Pfaffen-Beerfurth, Hessen in Germany where John met two of his eighth cousins. The Harders live near the Midwest Genealogy Center, where they are frequent researchers and where they belong to the German Genealogy Group that meets there.

John E. Harder  
Nominated for Second  
Term as President



Note—The Bylaws of Palatines to America state that all elected Governing Board officers are limited to two two-year terms except for Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary.

Susanne Spangler  
Nominated for Third  
Term as Corresponding Secretary



Susanne Spangler is the current PalAm Corresponding Secretary. She has attended numerous PalAm and IGGP conferences and has spent 20 plus years exploring and researching her roots in the Rheinland, Upper Silesia, and Alsatian regions as well as in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states. She is a member of numerous genealogical groups throughout those areas particularly those with a German focus. She holds a bachelor's degree in German from UCLA and completed one year of study at the Georg-August-Universitaet in Goettingen, Germany.

Susanne and her husband, Eric, live in Southern California. He enjoys researching his Mormon roots especially when they visit Salt Lake City and the vast genealogy collection there. His family also has several items housed in the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum in the city which he enjoys exploring.





**Lloyd Shenberger  
Nominated for  
Director**



Lloyd Shenberger, a native of York County, Pennsylvania, moved in 1978 to Houston, Texas. After retiring as a Certified Public Accountant, Lloyd moved to the Texas Hill Country with his wife, Nelda, who is a native Texan.

Lloyd's interest in genealogy began in 1992 when he caught the bug from a cousin. A passion for family history soon developed. Most of Lloyd's ancestors were German speaking from the German Empire, Switzerland, Alsace-Lorraine, and The Netherlands; some arriving as early as 1684.

Lloyd is a member of several local and national genealogical societies. He has been a member of Palatines to America since 1992. Currently Lloyd is the Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Chapter of Palatines to America and the Washington Cemetery Historic Trust. Also, he volunteers at his local genealogical library and the local FamilySearch center.

Lloyd's genealogical interests include 18<sup>th</sup> century German immigration to Pennsylvania, 19<sup>th</sup> century German immigration to Texas, German research, Pennsylvania research, and DNA. One of his best accomplishments was the discovery of his Schönberger ancestral hometown in Württemberg, traveling there and visiting the church where his ancestor was baptized in 1690.

Lloyd has discovered that in addition to researching his own family, he really enjoy sharing his knowledge with others. Lloyd has given several presentations at local societies on his topics of interest.

Werner ("Vern") L. Margard III was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio. He graduated from the College of William and Mary (1979), and received his law degree (1982) and MBA (1988) from The Ohio State University. In November 2023, Vern retired after serving more than 20 years as an Assistant Attorney General in the office's Public Utilities Section.

An Eagle Scout, with two Eagle Scout sons, Vern was inspired by his parents' dedication to community service. A regular volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, he served on the Board of Directors for the Greater Columbus Habitat Chapter, including a term as its Vice Chairman.

When his sons joined Scouting, Vern volunteered as an adult leader. He also served as a Council contingent Scoutmaster at BSA's Centennial National Scout Jamboree and later was course director for a Wood Badge course, Scouting's premier training program. He currently serves on Simon Kenton Council's Conservation Committee and as the Council's Distinguished Conservation Service Award Adviser.

Vern is currently serving his second terms as a Trustee on the Palatines to America Ohio Chapter Board as the Publicity Chair. He will be filling a similar role for the upcoming 2025 IGGP Conference, and is also serving as part of the Steering Committee.

Vern lives in Upper Arlington with his wife, Katherine, who recently accepted the position of editor for *The Palatine Immigrant* journal and chair of the Publications Standing Committee. They have two adult sons, Christian and James.

**Vern Margard  
Nominated for  
Director**



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## PALAM HONORS AND AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Nominations are open for the annual PalAm Honors and Awards. Each PalAm Chapter and PalAm Board members are asked to send nomination forms to Susanne Spangler, Honors/Awards Committee Chair, by April 14, 2024. PalAm hopes to have a nominee for the Meritorious Service Award from each Chapter. Please note that nominations can only be made by using the nomination form. Criteria for each of the various honors/awards and the nomination form are provided below or upon request to Susanne Spangler at [slspangler1@verizon.net](mailto:slspangler1@verizon.net) or (626) 357-7110.

### HONORS AND AWARDS GUIDELINES

#### I. Introduction

An organization such as Palatines to America runs on the good will of its member volunteers, many of whom devote many hours each year to help that organization operate smoothly. Such volunteer service should be recognized by all members. It was for this purpose that Pal-Am began the granting of awards in 1982. Each year since then a committee has solicited nominations and recommended to the Governing Board of Pal-Am the people to whom awards should be given at the annual conference in June. These guidelines are an effort to standardize procedures and acquaint the committee members with the duties expected of them.

#### II. Criteria for Awards

Pal-Am grants three different awards. Each recipient of the awards will receive an appropriate certificate which will be presented during the annual National Conference.

##### Harvey Harsh Award

Presented for dedication to the high standards set by the late Harvey Harsh, third National President of Pal-Am, 1979 to 1981, who through his many years of devotion, loyalty, and service to our organization set an example of dedication which remains our ideal. This is the highest award Pal-Am grants. Any member of Pal-Am is eligible for this award, including an elected or appointed officer of the National Society who has been a member of the Society for at least five years. A married couple may share in this award in a case where both are active participants in the national organization, and both have made, or are making, substantial contributions. It is limited to one award per year, but it is not necessarily awarded every year.

##### Meritorious Service Award

Presented to a member in recognition of outstanding and continuing service either to the national organization or to any of the chapters during the course of the preceding year or two. More than one award may be presented each year.

##### Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to either a member of Pal-Am or a nonmember in recognition of that person's contribution to Pal-Am within the preceding year or two. It may also be presented for a significant contribution such as a large monetary sum or as an expression of thanks for services performed in an exemplary and outstanding manner. Several of these awards may be presented each year.



**PALATINES TO AMERICA**  
**HONORS AND AWARDS NOMINATION FORM**

**Nominee:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Honor/Award:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Justification:**

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**Nominator:**

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Please forward the nomination form to Susanne Spangler, Honors and Awards Committee Chairperson at [sfspangler1@verizon.net](mailto:sfspangler1@verizon.net). Questions? Please contact the Susanne via email or at (626) 357-7110.





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## PalAm Membership and Webmaster Apprenticeships

I intend to retire as Membership Registrar and Webmaster in July 2025. This sounds like a long time from now, but it gives us plenty of time to find replacement people for those positions. It is up to you, the members of Palatines to America, to help find these volunteers.

The Membership Registrar is vital for maintaining the member data including updated contact information, new member applications, and renewals for both national and the chapters. If you are a person who thrives on accuracy and are willing to learn how the database technology works, you can work with me as an apprentice and try it out.

The best candidates will already understand how databases function. This is more than Excel spreadsheets. If you have worked with library catalogs or other data management systems, you would be a good candidate. You will also need to learn PalAm policies and why the database includes particular data fields.

We can start with an introductory Zoom session where I will show you some of the bits and pieces and you can decide if this is something you are interested in learning. You will have more than a membership year, including the Renewal Season, to become proficient and ready to take over in July 2025. There can be more than one apprentice, so if you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact me and we'll talk more about what this entails.

The Webmaster keeps the website updated, currently using the WildApricot system. WildApricot provides extensive "how to" documentation. Because it is a system developed with an internal membership module, it is convenient for us to use. It is possible that over time, PalAm would decide to find a different system that might fit our needs even better.

A webmaster apprentice could focus on only one of several modules. There could be one person as Events Manager, another for Store Manager, and one overall administrator. These are positions for those of you with a "techie" background. Have you maintained a web site? Have you edited web documents? Do you know HTML or other web-oriented codes? There are a multitude of possibilities for improving the website that can be explored.

Let me know if you have any interest in exploring the possibility of working on our website and I will set up a Zoom with you and give you more details.

Palatines to America is a volunteer-based organization, and I am grateful for volunteers who have already been helpful. Come July 2025, we don't want Membership or the Website to suddenly quit working.

--Karen Zimmerman, [membership@palam.org](mailto:membership@palam.org)



**PALATINES TO AMERICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**



**Membership Year: 1 October to 30 September**

Your member number can be found on the mailing label of any mailed publication.  
New members will be assigned their member number.

<b>Name (Mem1)</b>	<b>Member #</b>
<b>Name (Mem2)</b>	<b>Member #</b>
<b>Street Address</b>	
<b>City/State/Postal Code</b>	<b>Country if not USA</b>
<b>Preferred Phone #</b>	
<b>Email (Mem1)</b>	<b>Email (Mem2)</b>

<p><b>RESIDENTS OF THE U.S.</b> Choose one category:  <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Individual \$40.00  <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Family \$45.00  <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Life \$875.00                  Includes <b>One</b> Chapter:  <input type="checkbox"/> CO <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> NC  <input type="checkbox"/> NY <input type="checkbox"/> OH <input type="checkbox"/> PA                  ***</p> <p><b>ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS</b> Choose one or more chapters:  <input type="checkbox"/> CO \$8.00 <input type="checkbox"/> IN \$8.00  <input type="checkbox"/> NC \$8.00 <input type="checkbox"/> NY \$8.00  <input type="checkbox"/> OH \$8.00 <input type="checkbox"/> PA \$8.00  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____                  ***</p> <p><b>PALATINE PATER NEWLETTER</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Online No Charge  <input type="checkbox"/> Printed/Mailed: \$10.00  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____                  ***</p> <p><b>DONATIONS</b>                  National \$ _____                  CO Chapter \$ _____                  IN Chapter \$ _____                  NC Chapter \$ _____                  NY Chapter \$ _____                  OH Chapter \$ _____                  PA Chapter \$ _____  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____</p>	<p><b>RESIDENTS OF CANADA/MEXICO</b> Choose one category:  <input type="checkbox"/> Can/Mex Individual \$53.00  <input type="checkbox"/> Can/Mex Family \$58.00  <input type="checkbox"/> Can/Mex Life \$875.00                  Includes <b>One</b> Chapter:  <input type="checkbox"/> CO <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> NC  <input type="checkbox"/> NY <input type="checkbox"/> OH <input type="checkbox"/> PA                  ***</p> <p><b>ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS</b> Choose one or more chapters:  <input type="checkbox"/> CO \$9.00 <input type="checkbox"/> IN \$9.00  <input type="checkbox"/> NC \$9.00 <input type="checkbox"/> NY \$9.00  <input type="checkbox"/> OH \$9.00 <input type="checkbox"/> PA \$9.00  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____                  ***</p> <p><b>PALATINE PATER NEWLETTER</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Online No Charge  <input type="checkbox"/> Printed/Mailed: \$10.00  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____                  ***</p> <p><b>DONATIONS</b>                  National \$ _____                  CO Chapter \$ _____                  IN Chapter \$ _____                  NC Chapter \$ _____                  NY Chapter \$ _____                  OH Chapter \$ _____                  PA Chapter \$ _____  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____</p>	<p><b>RESIDENTS OTHER COUNTRIES</b> Choose one category:  <input type="checkbox"/> Other Individual \$60.00  <input type="checkbox"/> Other Family \$65.00  <input type="checkbox"/> Other Life \$875.00                  Includes <b>One</b> Chapter:  <input type="checkbox"/> CO <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> NC  <input type="checkbox"/> NY <input type="checkbox"/> OH <input type="checkbox"/> PA                  ***</p> <p><b>ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS</b> Choose one or more chapters:  <input type="checkbox"/> CO \$13.00 <input type="checkbox"/> IN \$13.00  <input type="checkbox"/> NC \$13.00 <input type="checkbox"/> NY \$13.00  <input type="checkbox"/> OH \$13.00 <input type="checkbox"/> PA \$13.00  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____                  ***</p> <p><b>PALATINE PATER NEWLETTER</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Online No Charge  <input type="checkbox"/> Printed/Mailed: \$10.00  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____                  ***</p> <p><b>DONATIONS</b>                  National \$ _____                  CO Chapter \$ _____                  IN Chapter \$ _____                  NC Chapter \$ _____                  NY Chapter \$ _____                  OH Chapter \$ _____                  PA Chapter \$ _____  <b>TOTAL \$</b> _____</p>
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**TOTAL DUE FOR MEMBERSHIP, CHAPTERS, PATER & DONATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Send check or money order payable to Palatines to America in US dollars to: Palatines to America Membership  
PO Box 531096, Indianapolis, IN 46253, Membership questions: membership@palam.org



The Palatine Patter  
Spring 2024 Issue #186  
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## DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

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P.O.Box 531096  
Indianapolis, IN 46253  
[membership@palam.org](mailto:membership@palam.org)

**Website/Home Page**  
Palam.org

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**Palatine Immigrant**  
Katherine Margard, editor  
Submissions [kbmargard@hotmail.com](mailto:kbmargard@hotmail.com)

## Chapters

Colorado	Sandy Carter-Duff, President
Indiana	Kent Robinson, President
New York	Tom Shannon, President
North Carolina	Tom Gerke, Acting President
Ohio	Lori Poch, President
Pennsylvania	Janet Rupert, President



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**Vice President**  
**Directors-At-Large**

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Tom Gerke  
Sally MacGowan  
Lloyd Shenberger  
Roberta Newcomer  
Gary Martzolf  
Karen Zimmerman  
Carol Edmond  
Susanne Spangler  
Carol Swinehart  
Roberta Newcomer  
Lloyd Shenberger  
Karen Zimmerman  
Susanne Spangler  
Vern Margard  
Vern Erickson  
Katherine Margard  
Katherine Margard  
John Harder  
Kent Robinson  
Garry Finkell

**Past President**  
**Treasurer**  
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**Corresponding Secretary**  
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**Nominations**  
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**Honors & Awards**  
**Bylaws**  
**Long Range Planning**  
**Publications**  
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Palatine Patter Editor  
**Transition Team**  
**IGGP/Social Media**  
**Kocherthal Circle/**  
**DeGraffenreid Circle**  
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**Parliamentarian**  
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**FamilySearch Library Trip**

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Kent Robinson  
Janet Rupert  
Kay Mariea  
Dot Martin  
Garry Martzolf  
Kent Robinson