Genealogical Resources for the Low German Mennonite Researcher

Compiled and Edited by
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X.   Grandma database
    A. Introduction: The Grandma database is a genealogical database of people with Low German Mennonite ancestry who originally came from West Prussia and/or Russia. Grandma stands for "Genealogical Registry ANd Database of Mennonite Ancestry." The Grandma database is a compilation of the contributions of genealogical information from dozens of Mennonite genealogists. The genealogical data has all been merged together to create one unified database. The Grandma Project is organized by a genealogical project committee under the auspices of the California Mennonite Historical Society in Fresno, California. The price for the Grandma 5 CD is $30 plus shipping. Additional information may be found on the web site for the California Mennonite Historical Society at http://www.calmenno.org/grandma/index.htm
    B. Grandma 1, released in 1996 containing 135, 482 names
    C. Grandma 2, released in 1997 containing 267,864 names
    D. Grandma 3, released in May 2000 containing 401,268 names
    E. Grandma 4, released in December 2002 containing 672,293 names
    F. Grandma 5, released in December 2006 containing 941,465 names
    G. Strengths:
        1. large size
        2. many early church records have already been entered
        3. multiple contributors
    H. Weaknesses:
        1. many contributors entered few or no sources for their data
        2. information on Mennonites in Germany and South America is underrepresented
    I. Contributions of new data. The California Mennonite Historical Society is seeking additional Mennonite genealogical material to add to the Grandma database and is also interested correcting errors researchers discover in the database. Contact the CMHS or Tim Janzen for additional details on how to contribute new information, preferably in gedcom format, to the Grandma database.