

Genealogical Resources for the Low German Mennonite Researcher

Compiled and Edited by

Tim Janzen M.D.

12367 SE Ridgecrest Rd.

Portland, OR 97236

E-mail: tjanzen@comcast.net or mennonites@timjanzen.com

Web site: <http://www.timjanzen.com>

Acknowledgements: I would like to thank Jay Hubert for sharing a list of resources with me that was helpful in developing this outline and also Kevin Enns-Rempel, Glenn Penner, Alf Redekopp, Judii Rempel, John Thiesen, and others who provided valuable suggestions for improvements to earlier versions of this outline.

VIII. General Resources

A. History

1. *The Mennonite Encyclopedia*, The Mennonite Publishing House, Scottsdale, PA. Five volumes. Vol. 1, 1955; Vol. 2, 1956; Vol. 3, 1957; Vol. 4, 1959; Vol. 5, 1990.
2. *Mennonitisches Lexikon*, published by Heinrich Schneider, Karlsruhe, Germany. Four volumes. Vol. 1, 1913; Vol. 2, 1937; Vol. 3, 1958; Vol. 4, 1967.
3. Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online <http://www.gameo.org>; contains 3679 articles as of April 18, 2006. Eventually all articles from the Mennonite Encyclopedia will be incorporated into GAMEO.

B. Published genealogies; multiple genealogies found in many Mennonite archives.

C. LDS Family History Centers and other resources, especially

<http://www.familysearch.org>

D. Mennonite Family History, published quarterly

RR#1, Box 20, Morgantown, PA 19543-9701

<http://www.masthof.com/mfh.html>

E. Maps

1. *Mennonite Historical Atlas*, 2nd Ed., by William Schroeder and Helmut Huebert, Springfield Publishers, Winnipeg, Canada, 1996.
2. *Molotschna Historical Atlas*, by Helmut T. Huebert, Kindred Publications, 2003.
3. *Chortitza Colony Atlas: Altkolonie, Mennonite Old Colony*, edited by Heinrich Bergen, Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan, 2004.
4. *Mennonite Estates in Imperial Russia*, by Helmut T. Huebert, Springfield Publishers, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 2005; contains maps of many Mennonite estates in Russia.
5. American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, maps made by Karl Stumpp.
6. Assorted maps of Ukraine and West Prussia posted on the MHSA and MMHS web sites.

7. Federation of East European Family History Societies, see FEEFHS "Map Room" at: <http://feefhs.org/maps/indexmap.html>.
 8. Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz; address listed under archives above Indexes to this map collection edited by Winfried Bliss are available at the University of California Berkeley and at the University of Washington, Seattle; maps are indexed by village names and surnames.
 9. Schroeder and Fuelling GbR, P. O. Box 100822, 5270 Gummersbach, Germany, sells extremely detailed 1:100000 maps made in 1937 of W. Prussia by the Intitut fuer Angewandte Geodaesie; Maps #13 (Danzig area), #27 (Marienburg area), and #28 (Elbing area) are especially valuable. Maps with 1:25000 detail have also been published.
 10. Large collection of maps of Poland and West Russia available at <http://www.mapy.eksploracja.pl/news.php>, including many highly detailed 1:25,000 maps.
- F. Newspapers and other Periodicals
1. General Conference
 - a. *Der Bote* (1924-present); published indexes for 1924-1976 with additional indexing in progress at MHC; indexes for 1950-2004 at <http://www.mhsbc.com/genealogy/bote/bote.htm>; contains many obituaries for North American Mennonites; extraction project underway by Erica Suderman at the MHSBC.
 - b. *The Canadian Mennonite*; 490Dutton Dr., Unit C5, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 6H7; phone: 800-378-2524; <http://www.canadianmennonite.org>; obituary indexes for 1953-1971 and 1997-2002 at <http://www.mhsbc.com/genealogy/cm/index.html>.
 - c. *The Mennonite* (1885-present); <http://www.themennonite.org>.
 - d. *Christlicher Bundesbote*; published from 1882 to 1947 when it was merged into *Der Bote*; index to obituaries found therein available on line at <http://bethelks.edu/services/mla/holdings/cbb/cbbtitle.html>.
 2. Mennonite Brethren
 - a. *Christian Leader* (1937-present); obituaries have been indexed.
 - b. *Mennonitische Rundschau* (1880-present);); 1310 Taylor Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3Z6; phone: 204-669-6575; <http://www.rundschau.ca>; published obituary indexes for 1880-1909 and 1920-1939; indexes for 1930-2001 at <http://www.mhsbc.com/genealogy/mr/mr.htm>; contains many obituaries for North American and Russian Mennonites as well as correspondence between Russian and North American Mennonites; extraction project underway by Erica Suderman at the MHSBC.
 - c. *Mennonite Brethren Herald* (1962-present); 1310 Taylor Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3Z6; phone: 888-669-6575; <http://www.mbherald.com/45/05/index.en.html>; indexes for 1962-2002 at <http://www.mennonites.ca/canada.html>.
 - d. *Zionsbote* (1884-1964); contains many obituaries for North American Mennonites, all of which have been indexed.
 3. Krimmer Mennonite Brethren
 - a. *Der Wahrheitsfreund* (1915-1947); the obituaries have been indexed.

- b. *The Christian Witness* (1941-1960)
- 4. Church of God in Christ, Mennonite
 - a. *Messenger of Truth*, published bi-weekly; P. O. Box 230, Moundridge, Kansas 67107; contains many obituaries.
 - b. *Botschafter der Wahrheit* (1897-1936); published in Steinbach, Manitoba; contains many obituaries.
- 5. Evangelical Mennonite Church
 - a. *Christlicher Familienfreund* (1935-1984); index to obituaries at <http://www.emconf.ca/archives/Resources/FF-L.htm>.
 - b. *The Messenger* (1963-present); <http://www.emconf.ca/Messenger/index.htm>.
- 6. Inter-Mennonite
 - a. *Mennonite Rundschau* (1880-present); since 1945 this has been an M. B. newspaper.
 - b. *Nebraska Ansiedler* (1878-1879); the obituaries have been indexed.
 - c. *Der Deutsche Westen* (1907-1910)
 - d. *Hillsboro Star-Journal* (1903-present); published as the *Hillsboro Journal* 1903-1908 and 1911-1951; published as the *Hillsboro Journal and Vorwärts* in 1909; published as the *Vorwärts* in 1910; merged with the *Hillsboro Star* to become the *Hillsboro Star-Journal* in 1951.
 - e. *Mennonite Weekly Review* (1903-present); P.O. Box 508, Newton, KS 85051; phone: 316-283-3670; <http://www.mennoweekly.org>; obituary index published in *Index to Obituaries in the Mennonite Review, 1924-1990*, compiled by Ruth Unrau, 1991; indexes for 1923-2001 at <http://raven.bethelks.edu/services/mla/holdings/mwr>.
- 7. Merged obituary indexes
 - a. <http://www.mcusa-archives.org/MennObits/index2.html>; this index contains obituaries from the following papers and projects: Herald of Truth, Gospel Witness, Gospel Herald, The Mennonite, Lazarus Project, and Mennonite Weekly Review.
 - b. http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?db=menno_obituaries; this index contains obituaries from the following papers up through 1987: Canadian Mennonite, Der Bote, Red River Valley Echo from Altona, Manitoba, Mennonite Brethren Herald, and Mennonitische Rundschau.
- G. Newsletters
 - 1. *Giesbrecht Family News*, c/o Al Ratzlaff, 15785 Hwy 22, Dallas, OR 97338
 - 2. *Harder Family Review*, P.O. Box 363, North Newton, KS, phone: 316-283-0186
 - 3. *Klippings*, a newsletter about the Klippenstein family published by Lawrence Klippenstein, 584 Berkley St., Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3R 1J9; Phone: 204-895-4421
 - 4. *Molotschna Villager*, 4254 W. Camino Acequia, Phoenix, AZ 85051
 - 5. *Ratzlaff Report*, P.O. Box 1482, Elgin, IL 60121-1482, published by Patricia Goff, phone: 817-741-7216 <http://expage.com/page/ratzlaffs> (last published in 1999)

6. *Unruh Umbrella*, 55 Pleasant Bay, Winnipeg, MB R2K 0E2, previously published by Peggy Regehr, phone: 204-661-1721; no longer being published
 7. *Wandering Volhynians*, 3942 West 39th Ave, Vancouver BC V6N 3A2
- H. Mennonite book sales
1. Mennonite Books <http://www.mennonitebooks.com>,
U.S address: Box 13544, Grand Forks, ND 58208-3544
Canadian address: 67 Flett Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2K 3N3 Phone: 204-668-7475
E-mail: mennonitebooks@brandtfamily.com Phone: 800-465-6564
 2. MennoLink Books <http://www.mennolink.org/books/genealogy.html>
Address: MennoLink, P. O. Box 525, Mountain Lake, MN 56159-0525
E-mail: books@MennoLink.org Phone: 888-336-9599
 3. Masthof Bookstore, R. R. 1 Box 20, Mill Rd., Morgantown, PA 19543-9701
E-mail: mast@mashof.org Phone: 610-286-0258
 4. Mennonite Historical Society of Alberta
<http://www.mennonitehistory.org/publications/>
E-mail: queries@mennonitehistory.org
2946 - 32 Street NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 6J7 Phone: 403-250-1551
 5. Mennonite Heritage Centre, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P 0M4
Phone: 204-888-6781
<http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/programs/archives/booksale.htm>
 6. CMBC Publications, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P 0M4
E-mail: mfranz@mennonitechurch.ca Phone: 204-888-6781
 7. Verlag Degener & Co., Inh. Manfred Dreiss, Postfach 1360, D-91403 Neustadt/Aisch, Germany, represented in the U. S. by Historical Translations, P. O. Box 871, Winchester, MA 01890
<http://www.waldenfont.com>

Last updated 17 May 2007