

“WILL BE GLAD TO MEET”
The Germans from Russia AHSGR-CIS Archival Project

Eastern Washington Historical Society
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Something happens to all stories. The ones that are not retold are called “forgotten.”
—Tatiana de Rosenay

I. Germans from Russia Origins

II. Family Historians and Genealogists

III. 1870s-1880s Northwest Pathfinders

“Kansas Colony” (1881-1883) Families to Whitman and Spokane Counties, etc:
Appel, Aschenbrenner, Green, Helm, Hergert, Kleweno, Litzenberger, Ochs, Repp, Ruhl,
Scheuerman/Schierman, Schreiber, Voelker, Weitz (*SS Mosel, et. al., October 1876*)

“Nebraska Colony” (1882) Families to Lincoln and Adams County, etc.: Amen(d),
Bastrom, Bauer, Dewald, Heimbinger, Kanzler, Kembel, Kiehn, Michel, Miller, Oestereich,
Rosenoff, Schaefer, Schoessler, Stumpf (*SS Donau, et. al., August 1876*)

IV. The ASHGR-CIS Engels and Saratov, Russia, Archives Project
(Imperial Census “Revisions,” Kontora Guardianship Chancery Records, etc.)

1st Revision – 1719	6 th Revision - 1811
2nd Revision –1743	7th Revision – 1816
3rd Revision – 1767*	8th Revision – 1834
(<i>“First Settlers”</i>)	9th Revision – 1850
4th Revision – 1775	10th Revision –1857
5th Revision – 1798	11 th Revision – 1897

<https://ahsgr.org/>
<https://www.volgagermaninstitute.org/>
<https://www.volgagermans.org/resources/>

V. Research Milestones on the Horizon



Richard Scheuerman was raised on a farm between the rural farming towns of Endicott and St. John, Washington, in the rolling hills of eastern Washington's Palouse Country. The area was heavily populated by Volga and Black Sea Germans and as a teen Richard embarked on a campaign to interview as many first-generation immigrant elders as possible. In 1973 he married his high school sweetheart, Lois Morasch, also of Volga German heritage, and the couple had three children—Mary, Karl, and Leigh, along with seven grandchildren who all reside in Richland, Washington.

Richard graduated in history from Washington State University in 1973 and received advanced degrees from the Defense Language Institute in Monterey (Russian) and Pacific Lutheran University (history), and a doctorate in educational leadership from Gonzaga University. He served as a public school teacher and administrator for twenty-five years and directed the master of arts in teaching program at Seattle Pacific University for ten years.

From 1991 to 1993 Richard chaired the AHSGR-CIS Russian Archives Project and retrieved over 10,000 pages of archival records from Russian archives for society holdings in Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1990 he became one of the first Americans to visit Saratov and the Volga villages since the 1920s and enlisted prominent Russian scholars including Dr. Igor Plehve to the work of AHSGR history and genealogical research. During this same time he facilitated exchanges between fifteen US faith-based colleges and universities with institutions of higher learning in Russia and Ukraine.

Richard is the author of a dozen books including titles on the history and culture of the Germans from Russia (*The Volga Germans: Pioneers of the Pacific Northwest* 1981; *Hardship to Homeland*, 2018), Native Americans, and agriculture. His most recent creative endeavors have included "the Harvest Project," a three-volume study (*Hallowed Harvests, Harvest Hands, Harvest Horizons*, 2025) of agrarian themes in world art, literature, and music. He is the recipient of the Washington State Historical Society's Robert Gray Medal, Rupert Costo Medallion for American Indian Studies, Washington Governor's Author Award, and Northwest Historians Guild Lifetime Achievement Award.