

OSTFRIESEN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA



AMERICAN-OSTFRIESEN ZEITUNG

*Eala Frya Fresena! Lever Dod Als Slav!*

JULY, AUG., SEPT. 2015 VOL. 18 ISSUE 3



*Striek's Historische Schmiede  
in Großefehn*

OSTFRIESEN-AMERICAN ZEITUNG  
*Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America*  
**Eala Freya Fresena! Lever Dod Als Slav!**  
Volume 18 Issue 3 / 2015

The newsletter of the Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America is published four times a year. Please write: Lin Strong, Editor, OGSA Newsletter, 168 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, MN 55025 or email - lstrong@frontiernet.net with comments or suggestions.

We are happy to consider any contributions of genealogical information. Whether we can use your material is based on such factors as general interest to our members, our need to cover certain subjects, balance through the year and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all submitted materials for presentation and grammar. The editor will correct errors and may need to determine length of copy.

Contributors are responsible for accuracy, omissions and factual errors. Cite documentation for facts or statistical information and give complete source for all abstracted or transcribed records.

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Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America & Lin Cornelius Strong

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***OGSA is a 501C3 non-profit organization.***

***Your donations are tax-deductible.***

- Foster and increase interest in the culture, history and customs of Ostfriesland.
- Provide and exchange historical and genealogical information for people of Ostfriesen heritage.
- Preserve and celebrate our Ostfriesen heritage.

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***Wednesdays: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm***

***Thursdays: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm & 6:00 to 9:00 pm***

***Saturdays: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm***

***3rd Sunday in Month: 1—4 p.m.***

***Closed holiday weekends.***

***The OGSA office is open by appointment and OGSA members may be available to help. Coming from a distance—please call to verify hours.***

***Call Gene Janssen 952-939-0617 for additional information.***

### **OGSA MEMBERSHIP**

**MEMBER PRIVILEGES** include four issues of the *American-Ostfriesen Zeitung* (January, April, July, October), four program meetings each year and one special event, special member order discounts, and access to the OGSA library.

***OGSA 2015 MEMBERSHIP***—Send your check for \$18 (download from our website or sent by pdf file) or \$28 for paper copies payable to ***OGSA, 1670 South Robert Street, #333, West St. Paul, MN 55118***

***Foreign membership is \$18 if downloaded or sent by pdf file—\$30 for paper copies.*** You can deposit your membership at *Spar-kasse Emden* if you prefer.

- ◆ **The membership year is from November 1 through October 31. Please renew early so you do not miss an issue! This helps us keep costs down!**
- ◆ If you join midway during the year, you will receive the code to download all back issues for that year or paper copies if you join at the \$28 level.
- ◆ **Back Issues: membership for 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 newsletters—\$12 per year; 2014 newsletters \$15 / back issues of print copies of newsletter \$3 each.**
- ◆ **Each year has a separate code for the members only site on [www.ogsa.us](http://www.ogsa.us).**
- ◆ **Please include your name, address, email address, phone number and up to eight names you are researching in Ostfriesland along with their village names.**
- ◆ Questions about your membership, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@ogsa.us](mailto:info@ogsa.us).

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***Please send all newsletter correspondence to this address.***

**MOIN, ALLE!**

I trust you have all enjoyed the nicer weather of spring! Several of the board members and other OGSA members have been in Ostfriesland catching up on life over there. Always plan for some unexpected and unusual experiences—also known as surprises! It may also include fishing in a street drain for car keys—after a heavy rain! If you have the opportunity to travel there, please don't wait.



Karen Williams (Menomonie, WI) and Teijo Doornkamp (Groningen, NL) have been translating some *Ortssippenbücher* prefaces. Neither are native German speakers—but great translators! *Landschaftspolder* is about 100 pages and includes a thesis on land reclamation, dikes and diking. Like history? Check out the prefaces that have been translated. They may be one of the lesser known sources of Ostfriesen history—and one of the best.

OGSA will host a picnic at noon on **Saturday, August 1st**, at the Frisian Historical Society's museum south of the Bunde Christian Reformed Church in Clara City, MN. We'll be bringing door prizes, tents and extra tables, bring your lawn chairs and a dish to share. OGSA will provide the dishes, drinks and silverware. Bring your family and plan on having some fun! This was the first home in that area of Chippewa County and saved from destruction by members and supporters of this society. If you are planning on coming a distance check out surrounding areas for hotel rooms.

**It's family reunion time!** If you are doing the planning, don't assume that parents will invite their children and grandchildren. This often happens and it is the children and grandchildren who should get acquainted with their relatives. Start planning the reunion well in advance of the day. Get addresses for each family member and send out a postcard with "Save the Date!" so family members can plan ahead.

Make the events fun for everyone—and for all ages. Have everyone bring a door prize item. One year we brought a dozen small water pistols and it was the adults who enjoyed them most. How about a scavenger hunt? Which group can find a nail clipper, safety pin, blue ink pen, tire gauge, ice scraper, pencil, CD ROM, paper clip, rubber binder, telephone book, Kleenex and hair spray? Your imagination should have no limits! Mix up the age groups and families so everyone has a chance to meet. *There is no one best way to have a reunion!*

Maybe you need to ask everyone to bring a dish to share—and the recipe, too. Don't forget the name tags, plenty of food and remember to have fun. Maybe your family could put on an ethnic dinner or even consider having the meal catered. Make sure all the families know you'd love to see their photographs. Make sure you bring your portable scanner and get permission before you copy a photograph. Portable scanners are getting better all the time!

*We hope you can enjoy your summer!*

[www.ogsa.us](http://www.ogsa.us)

You can **renew your membership** at any time during the year. **DUES for 2016 are as follows:**

**Paper copy \$32 (4/Year)**  
**Online/PDF \$22 (4/Year)**

**Due to rising printing and postal costs, we've raised the membership by \$4 per year.**

**If for some reason you cannot afford to renew, please contact the editor.**

**PLEASE consider renewing early to save OGSA money**—there is a cost when we send reminders!

**2016 OGSA CONFERENCE**  
**July 30-August 3**  
**CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL**  
**BLOOMINGTON, MN**  
Special Speakers  
Mini-Sessions  
Door Prizes  
Raffles  
Research Library  
Silent Auction  
& FUN!  
*Mark your calendar!*

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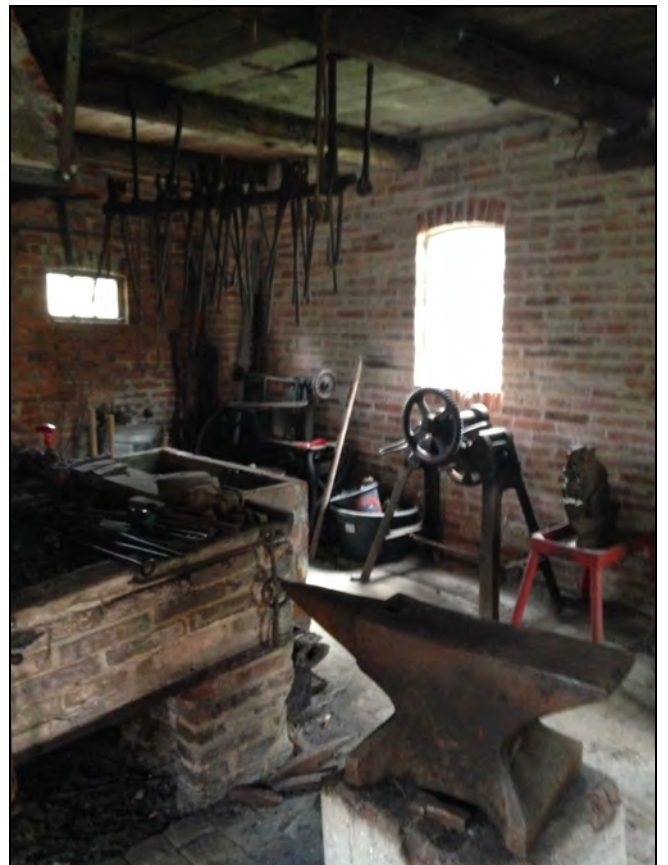
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**INTERIOR BRICK WALL WITH NAMES OF DONORS**



Pictures -  
 Above: historic village sign  
 Right: Schmiedemeister Gerhard Heiko Striek (master black smith)  
 Two bottom pictures: black-smith shop interior



# 66 Kanalstraße, Großefehn

Großefehn resident (and OGSA member), Lisa Buß, puts the key into the door of the blacksmith shop and you step back in time—to 1898. The entrance door (top right previous page) is covered with names, dates and other graffiti inscribed through the years, a historical patchwork. The blacksmith shop remains original with all the tools in place. The last blacksmith (pictured on page four) would never have believed when he left the building for the last time that it would someday become part of a museum.

Local residents realized its historical significance and formed an organization to preserve the site. Over the past several years they have received grants to help renovate the adjacent dwelling. Bricks with the names of donors adorn the wall in one room.

Over only a few years the property has become a landmark—inviting residents to walk through the gardens planted not only with flowers, but potatoes, beans and other vegetables.

The small adjacent home has undergone an interior renovation and the huge support beams alone show the age of the dwelling (1904). The exterior was renovated to more closely reflect the period.

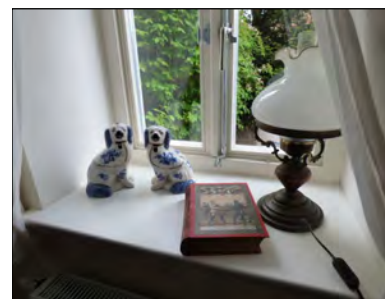
Not only is the site a museum, it also hosts weddings, meetings and receptions. Exterior doors open and the receptions can spill out into the driveway area. A blacksmith helps the bride and groom each make a horseshoe, which are then joined and dated to symbolize their union (picture below). One room with period furnishings is used for civil marriage ceremonies. Or maybe you'll be fortunate enough to be invited for tea.

The summer kitchen or “*Back Huus*” is almost finished and includes the oven from the older village bakery (donated by Lisa's brother).

If you are traveling through Großefehn, make sure you stop at this new museum!

[www.schmiede-striek.de](http://www.schmiede-striek.de)

Pictures: Lin Strong



Lisa Buß



Bridal Couple  
Making Horse Shoes



# Using Historic Maps

Historic maps are an important tool for the genealogist. The sea was part of our ancestors lives and the loss of a village to the sea was devastating.

Coastlines change over the centuries and areas where our ancestors once lived are now further inland. Knowing the location of a village several hundred years ago can help a researcher better understand the life of their, ancestors.

Manslagt and Nesserlandt were once islands. Marienhaf (Hafen = harbor) was the base of the sea pirate Klaas Stortebecker. Grimersumer Altendeich (old dike) was on the south side of that harbor. Leybuchtpolder, the newest village in Germany, is located on the reclaimed land from this harbor area, as is the current village of Schoonorth. Reclamation of land that formed that harbor area started as early as 1498. Most of the land to the north of Schoonorth has been reclaimed from the sea.

The coastline changed due to storm surges and on maps, you will note the names of villages in red that are now located in the North Sea along with the year in which they ceased to exist.

Some of the villages lost to the sea include: Torum, Peterswolde, Westereide, Uiterbeert, Klein-Polmar, Fletum, Nesse, Logum (1599), Winemeer, Osterwinsum (Ems River), Klein-Langen, Gerdswehr, Rocherwerk, Bettewehr (two villages, one lost in 1594, the second destroyed in 1720), Rouerwerk (1500), Brevert (1500) and Knock. These former villages were once located west and south of Emden, many in the area now known as *The Dollart*. Etum and Hamswehr were once villages located west of Pilsum—now in the North Sea.

Today Knock is an area along the coastline west of Emden, but it doesn't have a church. The church of Blaukirchen was destroyed in the 1717 Christmas Flood, as was the village north of Norden in the North Sea, named Itzendorf.

The islands of Bant and Buisee disappeared in 1730. The island of Garne no longer exists. Note on the 1595 map that there is an area along Pilsum known as Neue Landt—new land.

For years after these villages were lost to the sea, the church towers could be seen during low tides. The Windmill Museum in Esens has artifacts found in the sea from the village of Otzum, including the skeleton of a mother holding her child. Many other artifacts have been found in these areas including urns.

Note also that the spelling of the village names has changed throughout the years. For instance Pleewert on the 1595 map is the Low German spelling of Upleward. Leer is spelled Lehr, Driever is Dryuer. Collinghorst is spelled as Kalmhorst. In addition, check the fonts—the “s” may look like an “f” which adds to the confusion.

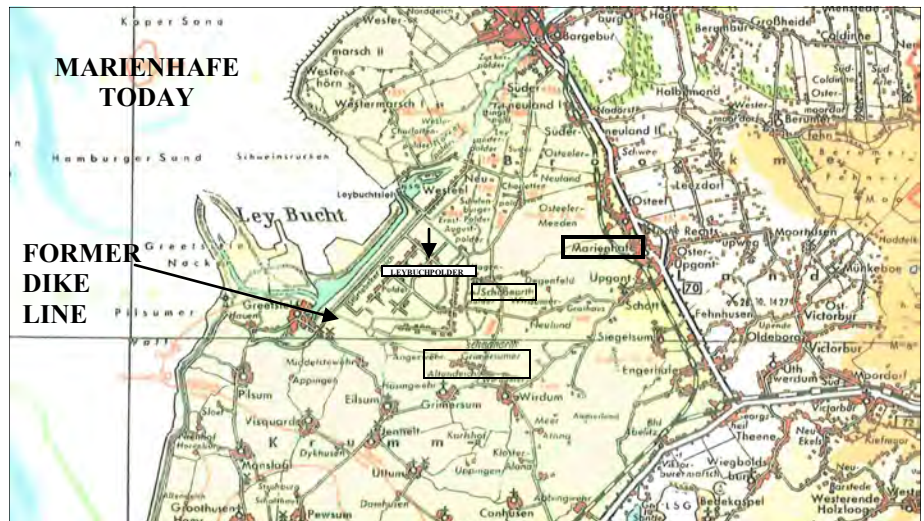
There are many villages shown on old maps that no longer exist. How has the area where your ancestor lived changed in the past 100-200 years?

OGSA has the *Heimatkarte von Ostfriesland* and the *Freizeit Atlas for Ostfriesland* in stock at all times.

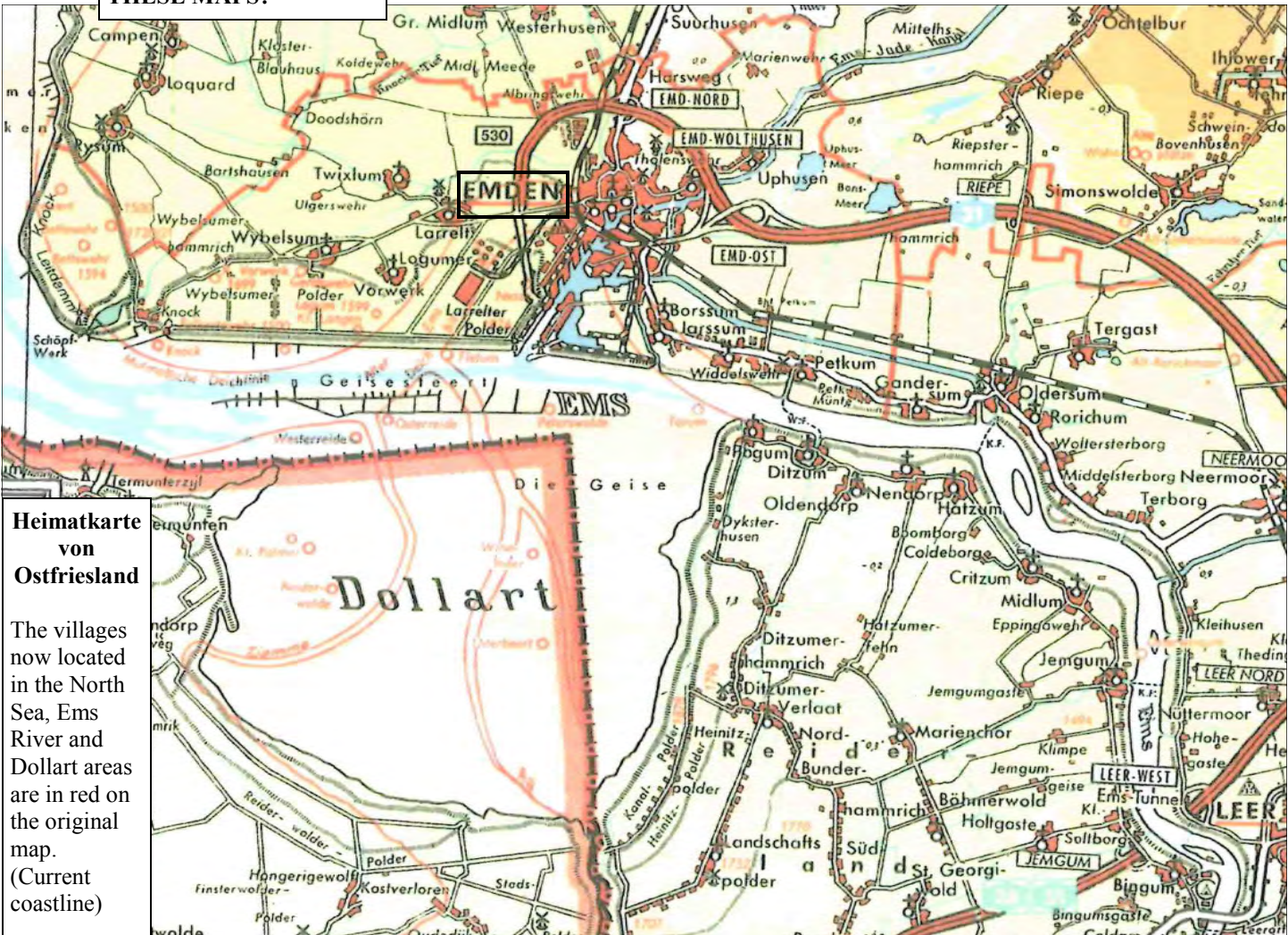
They include names of many former areas—a valuable tool when using the OSB or other records. Check out your maps to see what you have overlooked!

The maps of the *Campishe Karte 1806* were published during Napoleon's reign. A pristine copy was found in an archive several years ago and republished. They are now out-of-print, but OGSA has a copy.

There are also many maps online that previously were only available in archives. Make sure you check them all out!

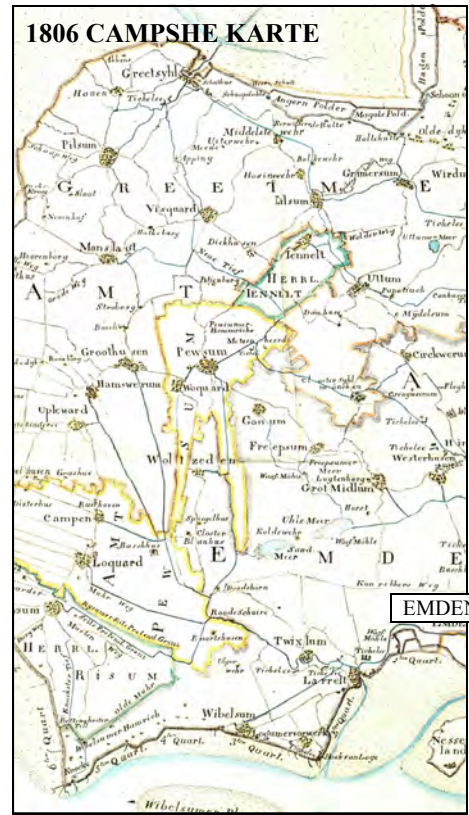
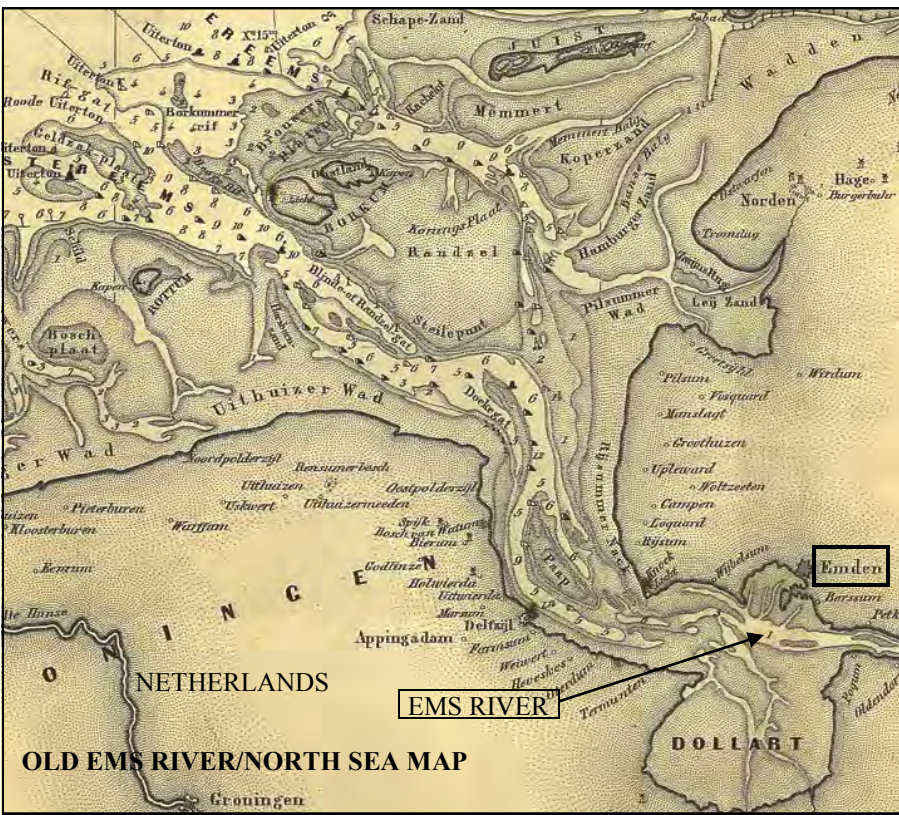


**WHERE IS EMDEN ON THESE MAPS?**



**Heimatkarte von Ostfriesland**

The villages now located in the North Sea, Ems River and Dollart areas are in red on the original map. (Current coastline)





**Johann Florianus Map**

**MAPS AVAILABLE ONLINE:**

<http://www.sanderusmaps.com/en/our-catalogue/detail/166613/old-antique-map-of-ostfriesland-by-a-ortelius/shoppingcartadded/>

<https://www.bergbook.com/htdocs/Niedersachsen.htm>

<http://www.sp-berum.de/ostfriesland/ostfrieslandkarten/guessefeld1790.jpg>

<http://www.mrjumbo.com/contents/ostfriesland/maps/>

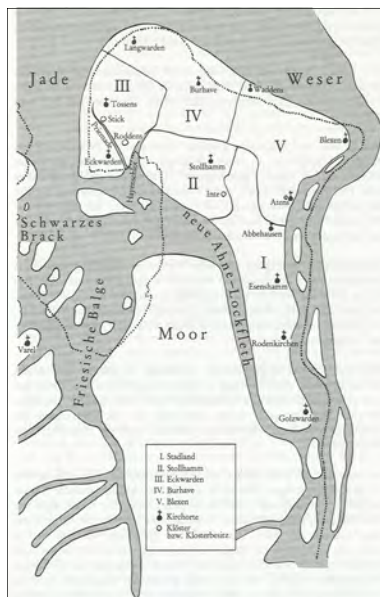
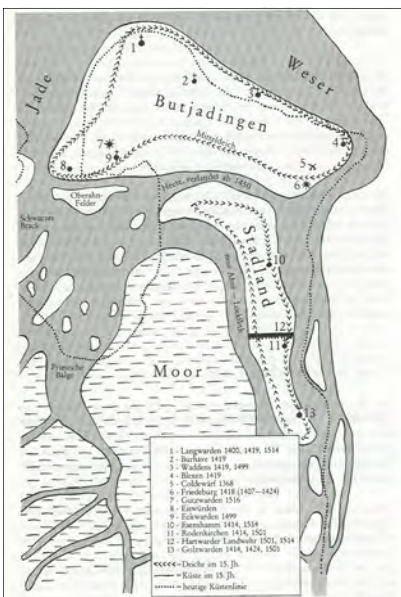
- Includes the following maps of Harlingerland:  
 David Fabricius of Esens: 1589  
 Ubbo Emmius: 1595  
 Gerhard Mercator (Jan Jansson): 1636  
 Nicholas Visscher: 1655  
 Wilhelm and Johan Blaeu: 1659 and

1664

Mathurin Guitet  
 Wasser- Flutt in Nieder-  
 Teutschland, 25 Dec. 1717  
 Harlingerland Maps: A Historic  
 Survey

- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)  
 Search: Ostfriesland + maps + old

These three maps show the area of Butjadingen and the changes in the coastline. On the bottom map you see the striped areas reclaimed during the 1500's.





## HISTORIAN UBBO EMMIUS

One of Ostfriesland's most educated scholars was born in Greetsiel in 1547 to Pastor Emme Dyken and his wife Lise Egberts Tjaarda, daughter of the Bürgermeister of Norden.

He attended the Latin School in Emden and the *Gymnasium illustre* in Bremen, after which he spent two more years at the *Lateinschule* Norden. In 1570 Emmius studied at the Universität Rostock with the historian David Chyträus who greatly influenced his work.

In his travels he visited Geneva, Switzerland, where he witnessed the theological unrest which led to the definitive rift between the Lutheran and Reformed denominations

Emmius returned to Greetsiel after the death of his father in 1574 and became Pastor and Rector of the Latin School in Emden—now the Ulrich Gymnasium. In 1587 he moved to Leer where he became Rector of the high school which now bears his name—Ubbo-Emmius Gymnasium.

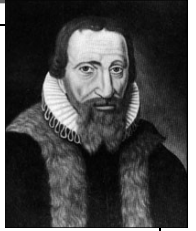
He is best known for his work at the Groningen University where he moved in 1596.

In 1595 his Frisia Orientalis map (shown below) was published as part of his most famous work, the *Rerum Frisicarum historiae libri 60*, "the sixty books of Frisian history".

His political writings and correspondence with the leading men of his time, in which he represented the right of resistance of the people against the authorities, characterize him as a precursor of parliamentarism and the right to revolt. Much of his scientific activity is related to the religious and political disputes of his time.

From the Netherlands he led a dispute with the Cirksena family rulers in East Frisia. His enlightened books and writings were publicly burned in Ostfriesland. Emmius died in The Netherlands in 1625.

Check this map for accuracy—you will be amazed at how closely it resembles later maps. *How did he do this with the limited resources he had in 1595?* (Wikipedia & Online Sources)



1595 EMMIUS MAP

# Timmel & The Fehn Culture

Lying on the south side of the district of Aurich, it touches on the west end of the sandier soils of the *Geest* ridge, which reaches from the southwest to the northeast of Ostfriesland. The towns of Bielefeld and Wildfang located further down on this ridge, both widely known to geologists and other researchers for their association with old stream flows from the last Ice Age.

Timmel was first known as Timberlae in the annals of Monastery Werden (on the Ruhr) in the 9th and 10th centuries. The pertinent Latin sentence reads as follows: “*In Mundingasi et in Hasla et in Timberlae, et in Seluuida et in Holanlae et in Ambriki et in Fillisni II libre et IIII Unicie.*”

The land in this parish belonged to the Cloister of Werden and was rented out on a yearly basis. The originator of this system was the Friesian missionary Luidiger, possibly during one of his first visits to this land about the year 800. Later the domain was conveyed to the Cloister of Werden or was transferred after Luidiger’s death.

The name Timberlae has another interpretation - meaning *Wald* or wood because of its once-thickly wooded surroundings. Until the end of the 16th century, Timmel was hemmed in on three sides, north, east, and south by trackless high moor, which reached to the west from Riepe-Oldersum as a swampy wasteland. This was the isolated location of this small village - never totaling more than 300 souls.

A journey to Aurich from Timmel was made only with difficulty over a barely passable route to the still smaller village of Ulbargen by means of the so-called *Mittelweg*, now the present *Landstrasse* Timmel - Ulbargen. This route followed the main road to Emden - Oldersum and the water route over the *Fehntjer Deep*, created by the joining of two slow streams running south and west of Timmel.

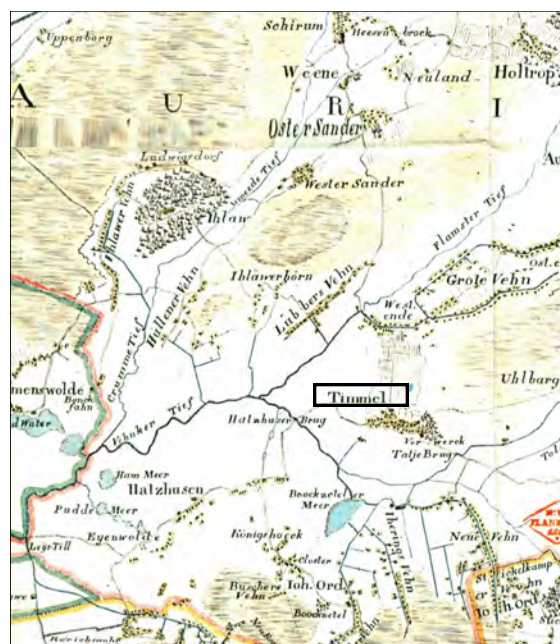
The isolated location of Timmel had one advantage in that it did not suffer from the depredations of warfare in the Middle Ages nor from the rough handling during the reign of the intemperate chieftains from

the towns of Neeremoor, Strackholt and Oldersum. There was little to seize in Timmel, and the local inhabitants certainly had no inclination to choose a tyrannical ruler from their own midst. Aside from brief mention in church and monastery records, there is little of historical importance to be found about Timmel.

In the fall of 1622, with the storming of Ostfriesland by the soldiers of Mansfeld, all of Timmel’s idyllic existence came to an end. In the spring of 1623 a few skippers and sailors from Timmel, somewhat emboldened by ardor for their homeland, came to grief against an officer stationed in the town. It seems that the skippers were supposed to bring his wife to Emden, but on the way they decided to throw her overboard. She was soon rescued from the water despite having a cold bath, but her officer husband was so enraged that he ordered his soldiers to set every house in Timmel afire.

Half of the houses burned completely down. All of this destruction took place in the twinkling of an eye. The inhabitants were robbed of all their possessions, their livestock driven off, and all that the soldiers could not carry off they destroyed. Later an epidemic of *Pest* (Bubonic Plague) raged in Timmel carrying off many victims.

When the Mansfelders left in 1624 and the few remaining people of Timmel celebrated Easter under the direction of Pastor Quirinus Gerhardus from Woquard there were only six cows and one calf to be found in the village. The pastoral message can be read in *Ostfriesen Prediger Denkmäl*, a book of information about the pastors. The inhabitants needed a long time to recover from this blow. Those who had a wish to rebuild their destroyed houses were compelled to sell their lots for little or nothing. This is the reason that some lots and tracts within the boundaries of Timmel do not belong to the village proper.



The conversion of the swampy *fehn* north of Timmel into tillable land began in 1633-34 by four capitalists from Emden. Their plan was patterned after the *fehn* culture of Holland. Wooded areas had been cut down by the residents of Emden and they now needed peat for fuel and heating. The market for peat from the land of Oldenburg had come to a standstill.

*Fehn* culture consisted of three distinct elements: first, digging and drying the peat; secondly, construction of canals as means of drainage and transportation; and thirdly, cultivation of the ground from which peat had been removed which attracted *Colonists* willing to settle on the barren ground. Overseeing the enterprise was the *Fehn* Company which held the entire district in a long-time rental agreement.

After many starts and stops the “*Timmeler Fehn*” gradually proceeded and was soon being copied by other *fehn* communities. In 1637 Lubbert Cornelius began with the initial stages of Lübberfsahn. Pott and consorts followed soon thereafter with Hüllenerfehn. About 1660 the Hollander brothers Jobus started work on Neufehn south of



Timme, and the Harsebroek family began work on the Hoeksterfehn. This latter *fehn* was taken over by the Ihering family and named Iheringsfehn.

From 1660 on the General Rent Master from Emden and owner of Stiekelkamp, Leonard Fewen, began work to convert Stiekelkamperfehn. Ostfriesland was annexed by Prussia in 1744, and two years later the state began to parcel out tracts of land in Spetzerfehn on the east border of Timmel, and rent them to private parties under the control of Commissioner Jan van Louvermann. Thus within the time of one hundred years a number of *fehns* sprung up on the periphery of Timmel, altogether giving the surroundings a new aspect which improved the social and business climate for Timmel.

According to Ufke Kremer, native born in Timmel, who until the second World War was the assistant Principal at the *Ulricianum* of Norden, and at the same time a zealous researcher of homeland history, concluded that soon after 1630 four half-sized hearths were separated from the larger land complex at the eastern convent entrance of the

Cisterian Sisters which were then rented to interested parties.

In this manner the so-called Timmeler East Commune was established; it joined the already existing West Commune which was unable to expand further due to about 250 acres of wasteland, also known as the Timmelerfeld. It lay north of the *Mittelweges* and east of Feldmark, while the south commons on the same road belonged to the convent property.

At the behest of the propriety owners and renters of Timmel, a request was made to Count Georg Albrecht, dated April 17, 1717, to grant the Miller Harm Peters a permit to build a grain mill. This mill was to be constructed on the outer southwest part of the town at a rental of 25 *Reich's taler* yearly (wind rent).

The mill, built in the same year, suffered much damage in the Christmas Eve flood of 1717 along with a large number of houses. Miller Peters sought to obtain a permit to rebuild, and this was granted on June 19, 1722, with an increase of wind rent to 28 *Reich's taler* yearly.

Meanwhile, the crafty Peters and his son, Reimer Peters, used the opportunity to install two pair of millstones. Even before 1771 the nearby millers from the nearby villages of Strackholt, Esensbrok and Aurich complained about the unfair competition from Peters because of the extra set of millstones, which they were not permitted to add. Miller Peters then began a long protracted legal battle with his competitors and their followers.

Soon the Großefehntjers were also involved, directed by Frerich Jurgens and G. L. Saathoff, both interested in operating a grain mill in West Großefehn. Jurgens appealed to the Aurich Civil Commission for redress and at his own cost journeyed to Berlin to request from King Friedrich II a concession for a the construc-

tion of a grain mill and an oil mill. But the King did not want to intercede on his behalf.

Furthermore, the Prussian General director on the King's order, commissioned the Civil Commission in Aurich to put an end to the petty bickering between the millers. Soon afterward, bids were let for the concession for grain and oil in mills in Großefehn with the closing date of bids set for December 6, 1770. The highest bid was 151 *Reich's taler* yearly from Hinrich Otten Egberts as the authorized representative of the Timmel miller, Reiner Harmens.

Thus ended a 20 year typically Ostfriesen bone-headed struggle between rival mill operators. The land owner and innkeeper Frerich Jurgens was defeated and Reiner Harmens, using sly tactics, prevailed over all his competition. After receiving his concession (02 January 1771) Harmens immediately began construction on a mill in Großefehn. This was located on the site of the present Onken's mill. While the new mill in Großefehn was still in the initial stages of construction, the mill in Timmel was struck by lightning and the resulting fire reduced it to ashes.

Harmens contacted the local administrative authority in the same year and told them that his loss amounted to 12,000 *Reich's taler* and asked permission to order materials for the new mill in Großefehn and for the rebuilding of the mill in Timmel. He reminded them that the village of Timmel retained their old right to operate a mill of their own. Harmens obtained this permit from the Civil Commission. Six months later, May 9, 1772, soon after the new mill in Timmel began operating, lightning again struck, this time burning it to the ground. The nearby house with livestock quarters and grain storage structure was also consumed.

The younger Harmens rescued his 80 year old father, singed and with his clothing afire, from the flames. In consideration of his losses, the yearly

rent for 1772 and 1773 was suspended by the Civil Commission. The reconstruction of the Timmel mill soon began as did continued work on the mill at Großefehn. Notice of its completion was made to Aurich on September 18, 1773. On July 7, 1773 the official in Aurich, von Halem, gave word that Reiner Harmens had paid his rent in full (181 *Reich's talers*) for the two mills.

After the death of Reiner Harmens on August 28, 1773, the mill at Timmel was inherited by his eldest son, Harm Reiners Müller. The mill at Großefehn was willed to his youngest son, Hinricus Reiners. This son thereupon took the maiden name of his mother, Wubke Hinrichs van Hoeveling, a native of Oldersum, as his own surname and called himself van Hoeveling.

After two generations of mill owners in Timmel and Westgroßefehn, the male descendants died out and the mills went into the possession of others. Both of the mills experienced difficult times due to miscalculations and imprudent marriages on the part of the owners and through inattention to business and bad luck. A period of rentals with many changes of ownership ensued until the end of the 20th century both mills were taken over by more careful mill operators.

After the second World War, the mill at Timmel succumbed to the rash of abandoned mills throughout Ostfriesland. It burned for a third time and was again rebuilt. However, there came forward no hereditary owner to carry on the miller tradition. When the last miller, Janssen, died, the entire upper structure was removed and the remainder converted into a restaurant catering to the tourist trade.

The Christmas Eve flood of 1717 brought Timmel and the outlying areas not only grievous damage to homes but livestock deaths and serious erosion to the commons. The Head Tax Register of July 4, 1719 gives ample evidence of the loss. The flood sterilized the land and the salt-laden land produced meager harvests for the next several years. *Warf* houses were uninhabitable, and families from the *fehns* had to live on their boats and small ships.

Child mortality rose significantly, and the village mayor and the pastor asked for in-

dulgences of the taxes. Tenacious and persistent inhabitants wrestled to make a living during these hard times until a decade later a noticeable change took place. More and more shipping came from the *fehns*, and with it increased trading of goods to and from the market towns. In the villages more craftsmen with a variety of trades set up shop.

Under Prussian rule farmers began the culture of potatoes. To face up to the constant threat of flooding, measures to overcome this threat were organized, first on an individual basis and finally as community projects. Thus the later Spetzerfehn canal was dug and with it the first bridge over the canal was built which still exists as the *Tatjebruch*.

The canal crossed the main road in the direction of Bagband and Neufehn and was later lengthened, first in a northerly and then in an easterly direction. The work, reaching to Buurkamp on the east, was completed by the construction specialist Behrend Salomons Ringering.

From this point, the canal, which was meant solely for drainage, served as the beginning of the settlement of Spetzerfehn. The entrenchment over the Ehe to the Neufehncanal developed into a village sponsored project. Later the chief tenant of Neufehn-Stiekelkamp, the family of von Hume, came to an agreement about the terms of rental.

About 1790 the interested parties of the West Timmel community entertained, for the first time, the subject of joining the parish grazing lands; division of grazing lands into parcels, renting parcels to private parties. The Aurich Civil Commission gave this project the green light under the condition that interested persons be given a chance to make their views and needs known. A few years elapsed before all villagers were fully notified, but it



took still more time until all were made aware of the cost of the filling up of old waterways and the enclosure of fields. Some residents wanted nothing to do with the project, especially Menne Heyen from Aurich-Oldendorf.

It became a tiresome process, which in the end lost. Then began negotiations with the state chamber which was reluctant to give up the tax on all livestock and grazing stock. Finally a levy on land and tax was assessed. The land was measured by a high-ranking chamber official. It was not until 1806 that it could be said that "*The Timmeler West Commons grazing ground is subdivided and closed.*"

While the West Commons ground was being measured and parceled, the people who lived in the East Commons decided to follow their example. There were more problems to resolve, however, since much of the land was rented. Plus the presence of French troops put thoughts of change out of mind. Under the government of Hannover the prospect of parceling the tracts again resurfaced. It appeared that the difficulties were no barrier to going ahead with the plan.

The first step was to enumerate the livestock in the area. A statistic from August 1, 1817 revealed the following:

1. From East Timmel:
  - nine horses, one foal, 40 cows, 55 young stock and 86 geese
2. From the Timmel Entrance:
  - six horses, two foals, 15 cows and bulls, 15 young stock, 20 geese
3. From the Timmel West Commune:

45 young stock

In addition, there was from the High Moor complex about 80 Diemat (40 acres) with 23 qualified persons, among which were a few residents of Großefehn having voting rights.

The first result of the partitioning ended with taxation of both the land and the grazing livestock by the Civil Commissioners. Upon correction, the tax was still too high. Finally the Commissioners ordered a new classification of all property in *The Feldmark of Timmel*. For this undertaking the Mayor Egge Weers was sworn in as Assistant, and for the classification work were named the two land owners of Timmel, Gerd Thomssen Mansholt and Andreas Dirks Eilers. The latter two men were first instructed in their task and sworn in at Aurich.

From these business visits and classifications a huge cache of notes and documents can be found in the archives of the Weers family. In it are all the commons names of the Feldmark and the order of the individual tracts of land.

In time the commons of East Timmel were measured and parceled out between the years 1820 and 1850. It is interesting to note that the man who did the measurement of the entire complex was the field surveyor from Bagband, Peter Trauernicht, who was also the shipper. He was paid 1 *Ruten* per boundary. For the small border waterways he was paid according to the width and depth of the excavation. Many land owners had their land surveyed.

Among the bidders for this work were poor moor colonists from Firrel and Schwerinsdorf. Of interest to the Numismatist is the currency in use in the Hannoverian times. The money ranged from *Reichstaler*, *Pistolen* and *Gulden*, *Schilling*, *Stuver* and *Witten*. The payees preferred gold coins; but in trading, an advance or tariff of 10 % was levied.

Uneasy times made themselves known in Ostfriesland with the outbreak of the French Revolution of 1789. Besides French fugitives and refugees, troops from Hannover and England criss-crossed our land. From about 1800, Napoleon's troops, vain and deluded by dreams of a "Greater Nation," spread fear and night-

mares through all of Europe. Only by the strength of his armies was Napoleon able to conquer west and middle Europe and this he did within the space of half a year.

After the defeat of Prussia at Jena and Auerstadt in 1806 and at Eylau in 1807, Napoleon by the Treaty of Tilsit annexed nearly half of Prussia's territory, including Ostfriesland. He then garrisoned French troops in the tiny province and sought, by barricading the continental harbors, to cripple or disable English commerce to protect his west flank while he made preparations for his march against Russia. He made effort upon effort to gain new alliances and initiated unlikely provincial reforms in his quest to prepare his troops for the Russian enterprise.

A part of Ostfriesland was renamed the Department of Ostems, the rest of the province was named Westems. Ostems was subdivided into three Arrondissements, Emden, Aurich and Jever. The Arrondissement of Aurich consisted of four Cantons; Aurich, Berum, Norden and Timmel with 24 mayors in all. The Canton of Timmel had eight mayors: Aurich-Oldendorf, Bagband, Hatshausen, Holtrop, Riepe, Strackholt, Timmel and Weene. Belonging to Timmel was the core parish of Timmel with 351 inhabitants, Ulbargen with 36, Großefehn with 1244, Neufehn 399, and Iheringsfehn with 296.

The people of Timmel, with strong feelings of patriotism, sought to gain specially favored treatment for their tiny village. In any event the short-lived reforms instituted by the French regime did not greatly influence everyday life. It was the later decline of medical care and the designation of Timmel as a school for sea-going young men that made a greater difference in the life of the village.

When the sailors of Timmel and the nearby *fehns* found themselves freed of compulsory military service in the French armies (1811) they turned rebel-



lious to a point where they engaged French troops in a skirmish by the Tatje Bridge. Those who took part were severely punished. Some were executed by a firing squad, others sentenced to long years of imprisonment and service on farms in France. Still others were sentenced to execution in absentia.

A total of 300 men from the area around Timmel were seized in a night time raid and deported to Lille and Toulon, France. Some were released after one year; five died in captivity.

Timmel and other towns had to supply tree fellers and transport carriers to cut wood from the forest belonging to the convent. When this area of ten acres was cleared, the men were ordered to the forest of Ihlow. Here they dug peat at the *fehn*, which proved to be a very rigorous assignment.





Timmel acquired a well-known name in sea-going circles during the Hannoverian period, ca.

1846, when a navigation school was organized in the town. Timmel's central location in the middle of the *fehns* convinced the authorities to select a site. In 1852 Board of Trustees issued a permit to

build a large structure, one that was further enlarged in 1874 with the addition of a second floor.

The first instructor of the institute was Johann Carl Funk, son of a city recorder and Privy Counselor from Neubrandenburg in the Duchy of Mecklenburg-Streilitz. He offered elementary courses, knowing that the education received at elementary schools could not prepare students for the navigation school.

From old notes compiled by the Navigation instructor Vehrenholz, one of the last instructors (1910) at the school, one can see that the other institutes in Emden, Leer, and Papenburg were envious of the large enrollment at the school. In time, however, the school reform acts of the Prussian government, with the consequent introduction of a school examination for captains, following the standard helmsman course of instruction and years of shipboard training, resulted in students attending to the school at Leer.

The patent for a captain in command of high seas vessels in Ostfriesland only could be gained at the Leer school. The *Seefahrt Schule* in Leer was organized by the Timmel-born Carl Ewald Kruse, a son of the civil bailiff of Timmel, Friederich Kruse. Carl Ewald Kruse was also was the first Navigation instructor. Timmel retained the educational rights (after 1870) to provide instruc-

tion for Helmsman on the High Seas and the skipper's course for coastal waters. The new regulations did not sit well with the instructor Funk and he took another position at Stralsund.

Before these changes came to pass, the number of students at Timmel continued to increase, and congestion of the classes was noticeable. In 1878 there were 239 students seeking admission. Without question Timmel and the neighboring vicinity greatly profited from the Navigation school. Marriageable young women from Timmel went forth with cakes and other goodies to enjoy the company of the young sailors. Naturally, this led to strife between the boys of the village and the students of the school. Meanwhile, tailors, bakers, shoemakers, merchants, innkeepers, and beer brewers enjoyed a land office business. Quarters providing meals and lunches were in great demand and many families prospered by providing lodging for the students.

Unfortunately, the good times ended with the outbreak of the World War I. Reform passed in 1918 which closed schools in Timmel, Emden, Papenburg and Westrhauderfehn, leaving only the school in Leer intact. At present the old school building serves as apartments. Of its former gloried past only the eldest residents have memories. Of the more than ten instructors in the Navigation School of Timmel, we can find notes in the present church books.

By the year 1840 the settlement of Timmelerfeld began. Until that time there were only two houses, the so-called Shepherds' House and the 1775-built house belonging to the Spetzerfehn Club. This



With delight and joy the men of Timmel drove out the last French soldiers from the land after Napoleon's defeat at Leipzig (September 19, 1813) and enlisted a regiment of Ostfriesen troops. They fought on June 16 and 18 by Ligny and Waterloo and took part in the triumphal entry into Paris. The French dream ended.

By the terms of the Congress of Vienna Ostfriesland was separated from Prussia and became a part of the Kingdom of Hannover. During the reign of Hannover, Timmel was required to provide shelter and parade ground with an area of 12 Die-mat (6-7 acres) for a squadron of mounted troops. After 1820 these soldiers were stationed here year-round. At this time a receiver from Hannover set up a tax or duty office in Timmel and in 1855 there was a temporary civil office. A series of civil bailiffs having their offices in Timmel followed one another.

In 1831 the a druggist from Aurich set up a branch office in the village. It is still open today although the ownership has changed hands frequently over the years.

Likewise, in 1831 the M.D. Anton Carl Topfer, from Aurich, began his practice in Timmel. A daughter of the Topfers, Antonie, born May 17, 1850, writing under the pseudonym Toni Wubbers, became widely known for her lyrical stories and poems about her childhood in Timmel.

Timmel has been served by a medical doctor and since the arrival of the first doctor at least ten have practiced here. A veterinarian, though arriving on the scene much later (1920), also has a practice in town.

house, number 69, was located on grounds of the nearby water mill and slip-way. Originally the Shepherd's House served as a shelter. Later the East Commune built a small shelter in which the summertime herders lived.

One of the first to live in the house by the slip-way was the son of the cattle herder Rolfs. Over time many others occupied the same house. In the period 1839 to 1878, 13 new flat-bottomed ship boats were built on this slip-way by the ship's carpenter, Harm Duken Cassens and his son Jacob. They also repaired various types of boats. The Shepherd's House was torn down after the commons was added to the East Timmel parish land.

The opening up of Timmelerfeld began when the family of Cornelius Franken built a small house (No. 70) on the west edge of the area. Ancestors of this family were land users and brewers in East Timmel. M. D. Topfer began his practice in 1831 in a house that belonged to this family. Since there was no path or roadway to make travel easier, the first houses were all built on the edges of the area. Not until parallel paths were laid though the barren land did more houses begin to appear. Today there are a total of 51 houses and one large homestead

and several farms of considerable size, as well as numerous privately owned homes located on paved streets. All of the latter have been built since the end of World War II.

Since 1872 Timmel has gained access to the network of highways by means of the connection with the Schirum-Neermoor road. The bridge over the *Fehntjer Deep*, that became necessary for the new highway was a contribution made by the village of Timmel. It is a high bridge, from the top of which can be had a superb view of the surrounding countryside.

In the 1870's Timmel acquired a sub-post office, which was located in the home of the merchant-auctioneer H. Schapp. A few years later, every day postal service and weekly bus service to Aurich was begun. About 1900 Timmel received a gift of an oak seedling from Bismarck's Saxon forest. This was planted near the old Linden tree that grew in the central market plaza.

From 1900 to the beginning of Hitler's rule in 1933 Timmel held a monthly court of justice to disentangle disputes of boundary rights, inheritance, and guardianship arguments. After 1926 the *Mittelweg* was raised to the status of a district highway.

## Enjoying Ostfriesland!

Not only did this group enjoy Greetsiel, it also visited Bremen, Emden, Bremerhaven's Emigrant Museum, a Timmel canal ride, Ihlow's Cloister, Rahe, many churches, the 1742 Bourtange Fort and the sights of Amsterdam.

The Marienhafte Sea Shanty Chor was a huge hit and each choir member was given a button "*In Ostfriesland is 't am Besten!*" (*In Ostfriesland it is the best!*)

Ron Cirksena (MN), his daughters and a son-in-law also joined the group at the Aurich Mausoleum.

Visiting the Campen Landwirtschaft Museum on Monday, May 25th:  
 Front: Peter Collman (Prague, CZ) Row 1: Sarah Reeves (VA), Judy Winters (MI), Deb Potter (IA), Carol Fennema (CA), Cheryl Buranen (MN), Catherine Allen (CO), Lin Strong (MN), Gisela Schmidt (Emden, Germany) Row 2: Kay Caylor (CA), Vonda Fulfs (NY), Boni Wendling (CA), Fred Johnson (IA), Dee Johnson (IA), Donna Mennen (MN), Mary Kay Schmidt (VA).



Picture: Barbara Hoppe, Emdener Zeitung

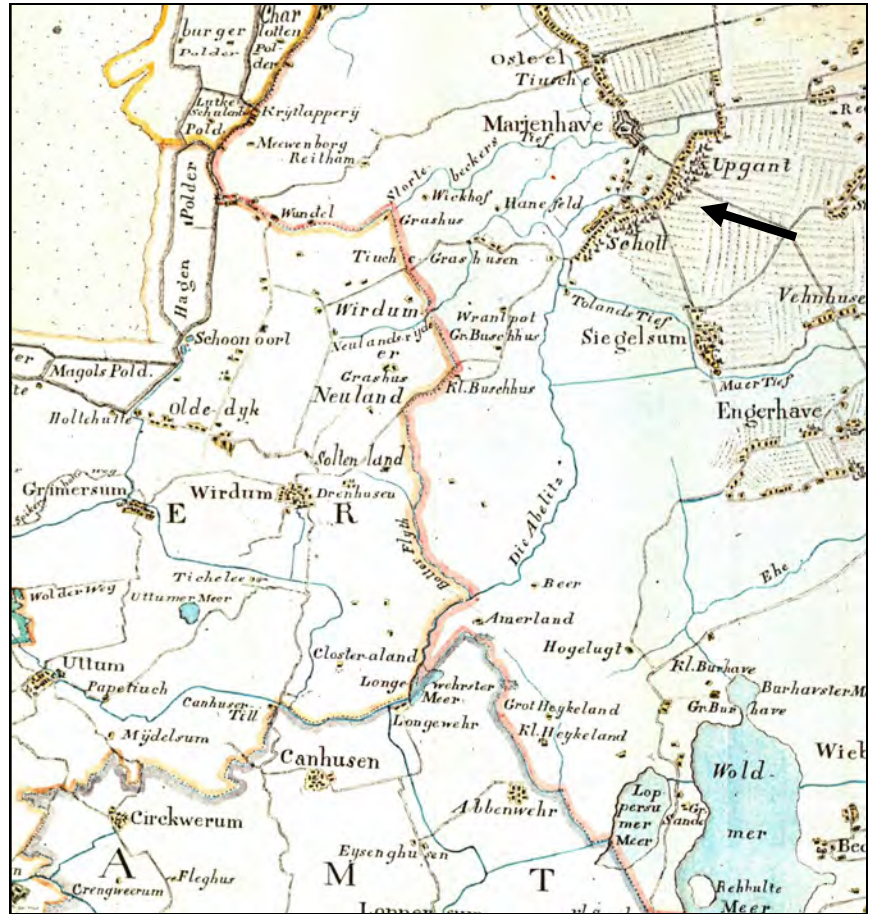
# Upgant-Schott's Transportation Links

Early in its history the community Upgant-Schott was already well connected with much of Ostfriesland by land and by river. The Old Post Road to Aurich by way of Fehnhusen, Oldeborg and Victorbur; to Norden by way of Marienhafte, Tjüche, Osteel and Bargebur; also the "Eetsweg" south to Siegelsum, presumably an old pilgrimage path across the Meeden to Lake Großes Meer; as well as the "Leezweg" to Hage and Berum through Halbe-mond and along the edge of the moor; ditto the "Heerweg" or "Lordships' Road" from the "Schottjer Piepe" into Krummhörn and to Emden surely must have been useable land routes.

By water one could get per freight and passenger ferry via the Abelitz River anywhere where there were navigable waterways, and there were no few of them. Documents from 1610 and 1664 reflect the regulated river boat service from Emden to the Rypen *Faensterbrugge* unde Marienhafte (Riepe, Fahne near Aurich and Marienhafte).

The routes to Riepe and Marienhafte ran twice daily, and there were tariffs governing the transportation of freight and passengers. The route into Broekmerland proceeded down the *Fahnster Tief*, Lake Großes Meer, Lake Longewehrst, the Abelitz to *Schottjer Piepe*, and up the *Störtebeker Tief* to Marienhafte.

As one could not depend on the wind for moving the ships, horses were used to pull them from tow paths along the waterways. Of great importance later was the local canal shipping entrepreneurship which developed from the ferry service. It stretched from Upgant-Schott's "Schottjer Piepe" to Emden and into the Krummhörn. Here, where the *Heerweg* to Wirdum crossed the Abelitz, was an important storage facility for all kinds of merchandise.



Quarrels still broke out here at the end of the 20th century between Upgant-Schott and Marienhafte involving storage privileges, which could be quickly settled, however. Not before the middle of the 20th century did the local shipping business begin to fade. The freight service changed over completely to the highways.

For years the Heerweg has been called the "Herrschaftlicher Weg" (Lordships' Road) because the ruling house, not the town of Upgant-Schott, paid for its maintenance. At "Schottjer Piepe" this Heerweg was interrupted by the Abelitz. Whoever wanted to cross it, had to use a ferry which, like the



1/2 Stüber Coin / 90 Stüber = 1 Taler

## THE BRIDGE TOLL IN 1832:

One head old horned cattle.....	3/4 Stüber
One head young horned cattle as yearling, two year old, or calf.....	1/2 Stüber
One foal.....	1/2 Stüber
One horse, with or without a rider.....	1 Stüber
Every wagon hitched to two horses.....	2 Stüber
For every horse, if more are hitched.....	1 Stüber
One pig or sheep.....	1/2 Stüber
Finally, every pedestrian from St. Martin until May.....	1 Stüber
No pedestrian toll during other months.	



# Überbrücken

road, was maintained by the ruling house. The ferry house stood where today the Gastwirtschaft "Schottjer Piepe" is located.

The ferry landing was a busy scene, for here the traffic to and from Krummhörn and Emden had to be accommodated, and along here ran the most important land route from Krummhörn and Emden to Norden and Aurich. Traffic was especially heavy at those times when the once very important cattle markets and the *Jahrmarkt* (Annual Fair) in Marienhafte took place, or when the flax from Krummhörn was shipped to Marienhafte for spinning, weaving and dyeing.

For the maintenance of the ferry, the authorities charged the so called "Schottjer Fahrhaber" and a "Stüberfeld". A full size Heerd (hearth) had to pay one "Vierdup" of oats (about 50 pounds), every house a Stüber. All inhabitants of Broekmerland had to pay, and the North Broekmerland *Vogtei* collected both, took the oats to the "Highness's grain floors" and deliver the money to the *Rentei* in Aurich.

It took time to decide to replace the ferry with a bridge. Many quarrels about it first broke out, not unusual in such cases. However, at the beginning of the year 1777 the letting for its construction could finally be published in the "Intelligenz Blatt" and announced from the pulpits. It was built in that same year, and the approaches on both sides of the Abelitz were raised for sufficient clearance for the ships to pass underneath.

For 200 years a wooden bridge stood—always maintained and often reconstructed, until in the course of rebuilding the *Heerweg*, which meanwhile had been elevated to "Highway 26", it was replaced with a modern concrete bridge commensurate with the needs of today's traffic demands. It has greater clearance than its predecessor.

SOURCE: Text from *Das Land um den Störtebekerturm* by Rudolf Folkerts. Illustrations and tabulation from *Alte Wege und Straßen in Ostfriesland* by H. Wiemann/J Engelman.

*All aboard! We're casting off!*



Those who want to feel the wind and wave crests whipping around their ears are urged to hurry and sign up for this retreat under sail. They are about to explore the Netherlands' Wadden Sea (Tidal Mud Flats) aboard a traditional flat-bottom *tjalk* ship, also called Dutch barge, the "Vertrouwen" (Confidence), and get to know the essence of the elements water, wind and sun first hand, as can only be experienced on a sailing adventure. After a great day of tacking and running before the wind, they may wish to enjoy the quaint little harbor towns and the beautiful dune islands with their mile-long beaches.

The friendly atmosphere on the "Vertrouwen" below the bulging canvas guarantees an enjoyable stay on board. The *tjalk's* low draught (ca. 2.8 ft.) makes it suitable for navigating the flats and visiting hard to reach points of interest.

The "Vertrouwen's" home port is Harlingen (Westfriesian: *Harns*) in the



HARLINGEN HARBOR, NL

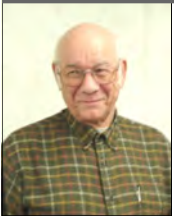
province of Friesland in the northern Netherlands, an interesting town with a long history of fishing and shipping. Its central location on the Wadden Sea makes it an ideal starting point for sailing the coastal waters and the IJsselmeer Bay. (Date: Aug. 22 to 28. Price 340 euros. Check [www.ejel.de/Freizeiten](http://www.ejel.de/Freizeiten))"



"Emden's congregations are once more endorsing a Maundy Thursday pilgrimage from the old Ihlow Monastery (see Issue Oct. 2007, pg. 27) (picture above) back to Emden. They see it as a way for pilgrims to reevaluate life's priorities from a perspective gained while walking on Ostfriesland's own Jacob's Trail.

Up to 12 interested pilgrims will travel by bus to Ihlow and begin their 15 mile walk home. They will say prayers in the churches on the way and stop for lunch at Ochtelbur's community house. They expect to arrive at Emden's Reformed *Neue Kirche* around 7 pm and take part in a round-table Communion. The pilgrimage will be guided by Deacon Noormann, ret."

**Überbrücken** (lit. "Building Bridges Across.") The Lutheran Magazine for Emden), **March to May, 2015**



# NEWS FROM OSTFRIESLAND

## Anzeiger für Harlingerland, 1/16/2014

Ostfriesland - The East Friesian detective stories by Norden's Klaus-Peter Wolf have long achieved cult status. His eighth book, entitled "Ostfriesenfeuer" (*East Friesian Fire*), jumped to first place on the pocket book bestseller list right from its publication and ranked among the top ten for weeks thereafter.

Now his ninth book, called "Ostfriesenwut" (*East Friesian Fury*), is about to be released. It deals with the body of a young woman found floating in Leer's harbor, and police Chief Inspector Ann Kathrin Klaasen's furious and dangerous search for the solution to this case during which, as it turns out, she exposes a web of shenanigans with life-threatening implications. The background of Wolf's who-dun-its is Ostfriesland, its villages and towns, its countryside and its people. Any place described by the author in a new publication is certain to be visited for quite a while thereafter by many of his avid readers eager to walk in the footsteps of Chief Inspector Ann Kathrin - very much to the benefit of nearby cafés and restaurants.

There is even an Internet page - [www.ostfriesenkrimiguide.de](http://www.ostfriesenkrimiguide.de) - which directs the computer-savvy would-be sleuth to those various locations. Wolf has issued his own audio books, and a German TV channel has started work on a television series based on his work.

## Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 1/20/2015

Esens - About 250 folks gathered Monday night on Esens' *Marktplatz* to protest the Pediga movement which has been vocifer-



ous in its criticism of admitting large numbers of refugees and job seekers to Germany, particularly from the crisis-torn Middle East. The protesters used whistles and signs to underscore their demand for an Ostfriesland tolerant and open to the world. They applauded the main speakers, District Wittmund's chief administrator Matthias Köring and state representative Holger Heymann, who appealed for a fair-minded attitude toward those unfortunates seeking security in a peaceful land.

## General Anzeiger, 1/20/2015

Ihren - The agenda of the fire department's first meeting of the new year included a look back on its 2014 deployments. These were not exclusively devoted to fire fighting and emergency rescue operations - those showed a negative trend.



The hours devoted to education and training, on the other hand, rose to 1,300, some of them designed to awaken an interest among the young folks, in the hope of thereby acquiring new members. Two among them did, indeed, join last year, so that the department now has 21 active members. Fireman Berend Pastoor was the recipient of a medal in honor of his 40-year membership, which began as an 18-year-old in 1974 with the fire department of Breineremoor.

## Anzeiger Für Harlingerland, 1/20/2015

Wangerooge - The National Park House Wangerooge announced its revised annual program which stresses educational projects for adult vacationers and learning activities for children. There are tidal flats hikes starting in February and guided bike

rides to explore the island's fauna and flora all the way



to its eastern tip. Starting in March, there is the "North Sea Children's Fun" for the young visitors in which an assortment of island features is studied, such as lighthouses (the island has three), seals, and starfish. October is the prime time for watching migratory birds. Throughout the year, the National Park House invites the public to attend its numerous special exhibits and activities, among them the Rose House Fest, an Easter Egg Hunt, and woodworking demonstrations.

## Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 1/24/2015

Papenburg - Germany's Labor Secretary, Andrea Nahles, has high praise for Meyer Werft's treatment of its labor force, saying that "this company with its social charter, wage scales and independent consulting offices for employees under contract has done pioneering work in labor relations. That which is standard procedure here will serve as an example for the improvement of working conditions for company employees throughout the country."

## Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 1/24/2015

Rhauderfehn - Ostfriesland's Reformed and Lutheran churches are sending out invitations for their seventh combined quadrennial Faith Festival to be cele-



brated in Rhaudefehn from July 10 to 12, 2016. The last Festival, the largest regional meeting of Christians, took place in 2012 in Aurich and drew 15,000 visitors. They were offered three days of programs designed for children, young people and adults, highlighted by performances of the well-known singer and songwriter Heinz Kunze. The organizers of the coming Festival are still working on a similar variety of programs, expecting them to go far in assuring another fine turnout.

#### **Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 2/5/2015**

**Großefehn** - During last weekend's annual breakfast meeting of the Großefehn Tourism Association, with 60 operators of overnight accommodations present, Mayor Olaf Meinen touched on a sore spot: a bed tax as a way to finance investments in the tourism industry. He received scant applause, but reiterated the community's need to make sizable investments if it wants this industry to prosper, and that those citizens who do not profit by it will be sure to ask why they should pay the lion's share. In any case, so His Honor, a means to raise money must be found which will not put more strain the community's precarious pecuniary situation.

A spokesman for Großefehn's hoteliers asked for additional discussions, stressing that the introduction of a bed tax would give rise to additional administrative expenses, thus making this approach uneconomical. Besides, said the spokesperson, inland tourism does not constitute a major source of income when compared with the coast and the islands, where many more breadwinners are finding employment in this industry. Most tourists choosing accommodations here are spending a good part of their travel budget during trips throughout the region, rather than in Großefehn itself. Aurich's overnight guests, for instance, spend an average of 65 euros per calendar day, and day guest 27 euros. totaling about 33m euros annually, though much of it during trips throughout Ostfriesland.

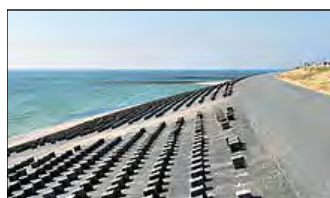
#### **Anzeiger für Harlingerland, 2/4/2015**

**Wiesmoor** - Mayor Friedrich Völler sees a need to boost of the town's economic situation; this to be achieved primarily

through the creation of better job opportunities, an increase in communal income by way of a revised business tax levy, and the introduction of measures designed to attract private investment. In this context he has given his Department of Municipal Development, Real Property and Construction Administration, under the leadership of Hinrich Beekmann, the additional responsibility for real property in Wiesmoor's industrial parks, the management of municipal buildings, and retail trade concerns. As a first step, the mayor has scheduled an economic policy forum for Thursday, March 5, in which his administration hopes to establish a dialogue with spokespersons for local businesses. The subject of the creation of a booster circle for the promotion of the economy may also be broached.

#### **Jeverschers Wochenblatt, 2/7/2015**

**Wilhelmshaven** - The Harbor and Inland Navigation Authority (*WSA = Wasser- und Schifffahrtsamt*) Wilhelmshaven expects expenditures totaling 112m euros in 2015, as a number of large projects have passed the planning stage, among



them repair work on the revetment at the west end of Wangerooge to more effectively protect the island during storm surges and secure dependable navigation with the mainland. The Authority already invested around 700,000 euros there last year, after the October 2013 storm surge "Xaver" caused massive damage. Other projects needing tackling are work on naval facilities and the harbor traffic office as well as maintenance of the Jade Bay navigation channel.

#### **AOL News, 2/18/2015**

The German research ship "Sonne," which was built by the Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg and entered service in November of last year, was several hundred miles east of Barbados when a net, lowered to capture marine life, brought up nodules of manganese ore bigger than softballs in diameter. A remote camera later revealed a seafloor littered with

these growths, some the size of bowling balls, which could be as old as 10 million years. It is the largest patch of manganese lumps ever found in the Atlantic.

In the 1970s, manganese nodules discovered in other areas of the ocean bottom captured the interest of mining companies, but that soon faded in view of the difficulty of retrieving them from such depths and the technological advances in extracting the ore on land. The newly found nodules occur at depths between 16,400 and 18,000 feet. The "Sonne" set out with the goal of discovery. Scientists



on board intend to find out more about life at great depths in the tropical ocean between South America and Africa, and whether the volcanic mountain range winding between the continents acts as a barrier to abyssal creatures. During the trip, biologists did bring up creatures from those depth, while geologists investigated the seafloor topography and plate tectonics along the route.

#### **Rheiderland Zeitung, 2/23/2015**

**Bunderhee** - The local fire chief Tobias Stirler recounted last year's deployments during a Friday meeting at the fire station. Six technical aid calls, a burning transformer in July and a manure pile on fire in November set off alarms at the fire station Bunderhee, one of four fire stations in the community Bunde. Also reexamined were a practice run in community-wide wireless coordination, 32 demonstration exercises, and eight training courses.



### Uplengen Blattje, 3/1/2015

Remels - The community is presently coping with increasing numbers of refugees. Since last October, 36 persons have been received and found quarters. Fifty more civil war refugees and asylum applicants are still expected to arrive in Uplengen during the current year. These people are assigned living quarters by the community and provided with life's basic necessities. They do need help with everyday concerns, however, such as acquiring rudimentary language proficiency and interacting with officialdom, especially during the first weeks after arriving.

For this, the community in turn depends on help by the citizenry, and a meeting of volunteers was arranged last month at city hall. It was well attended and featured representatives of District Leer's social services department, especially its office for integration affairs and women and family support. In the discussion that followed, the idea of sponsorship for refugee families and those living in shared housing, as already introduced by the Lutheran congregation, stood out as an example to be continued and expanded. Questionnaires were handed out to volunteers with which they might propose additional ideas on this topic.

### Ostfriesische Nachrichten, 3/2/2015

Aurich - Folks here make no bones about their determination to keep the Ubbo-Emmius-Klinik's branches at their downtown Aurich and Norden locations and have them undergo modernization in situ if needed rather than agreeing with the construction of a new Central Klinik in Georgsheil, as currently under consideration.

A drive to collect signatures among Aurich's citizens opposed to the move has already been started on the sidewalks by four of the seven political parties and groups represented in the town council. It will be broadened to include to Aurich's suburbs and reach all the way to Wiesmoor, Großefehn, Dornum, Holtrop and Ihlow. The lists, which are also available for signing in numerous retail businesses, so far have been filling up fast. Upon the drive's conclusion, they will be handed to District Aurich's administrator Harm-Uwe



Weber. Says one of the initiators, "We will show that the citizenry wants to keep the Ubbo-Emmius-Klinik's two locations near the centers of high population density and will reject the planned Central Klinik in Georgsheil, which, by the way, would cost several hundred million euros to build and equip."

### Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 3/5/2015

Norderney - Applications for the third island swim by the German Sea Rescue Corp. Norderney were accepted last Saturday. Within 10 minutes after issuance of the Internet page [www.inselschwimmen-norderney.de](http://www.inselschwimmen-norderney.de), all 300 starting places were taken.

The rest of the applicants will be placed on a waiting list. The swim will be held on August 30, when the 300 will jump into the North Sea at Hilgenriedersiel and swim the roughly five miles to the island. Among the swimmers will again be last year's winner Rob

Fokkinga and 13 times winner and former mermaid tail swim world

champion Sandra Hässler, whose time of 1:15:52 has yet to be topped.



### Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 3/11/2015

Papenburg's Meyer Werft shipyard has successfully launched its newest supsize cruise liner, the "Anthem of the Seas," gross tonnage 168,888, half a year behind her sister ship, the "Quantum of the Seas," after whom the "Quantum Class" is named. She left Papenburg's Shipyard Harbor at 2 pm on Tuesday, attracting the usual large crowd of onlookers along the Ems shores, and, moved by tugboats, floated past the Leda River's mouth at Leer to reach the Ems barrier at Ganderum with its 200 ft. main channel opening

at 3 am on Wednesday. Moving further down the widening river and seaward down the Western Ems estuary, she safely reached Eemshaven in the Netherlands, where she will remain for a couple of days, undertake a shakedown cruise and move on to Bremerhaven, where she will remain until the middle of April to undergo final preparations and training of the crew before being handed over to Royal Caribbean International at her christening in Southampton.

## GREETSIEL'S WINDMILL

A major storm on the afternoon of Monday, October 28, 2013 tore the top off Greetsiel's green windmill. Greetsiel's landscape was not the same without that windmill's Galerie and sails. (Watch it on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNwoTH7NthA>)

The windmill is once more operational thanks to donations from many sources. The Galerie of the mill was replaced in December 2014 and the sails were finally in place on June 1st.

OGSA & OGSA members donated 500 euro toward this project. Today, the mill is once more functional thanks to everyone who contributed. Thanks to everyone who donated money for this project. The Greetsiel Green Mill is once again ready to greet visitors.

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# The Ems River & The Controversy



The District Council of Leer voted in favor of the Master Plan Ems with 26 yeas as against 23 nays. The pros and cons aired during the open discussions dealt for the most part with the 1,750 acres, later reduced to about 600 to 1,000 acres, to be set aside for conservation, and the fear that the District Leer, in particular its farmers, would bear the brunt of the coming conservation restrictions. The District Emsland, however, affirmed that it stood ready to help and search for suitable areas along its river shores to be added to the Master Plan.

The Ems River and its shores are of great importance to the local population and its economy which is partly sustained by it, and for its unique fauna and flora which the European Union is determined to preserve.

The steering committee appointed to work out an acceptable solution included representatives of the city of Emden and the districts of Leer and Emsland, the Meyer Werft shipyard of Papenburg, the German branch of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Federation for the Environment of Lower Saxony, the Federal Directorate for Inland Waterways and Navigation, as well as the Federal Environment and Economy Departments. **Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung (Emsland) 3/24/2015**

200 farmers came to Leer, some on their tractors, to attend a session of the Nature Conservation Committee of the District Council as it dealt with the Master Plan Ems. This Plan has caused a great deal of uncertainty among folks from Rysum in Krummhörn down to Herbrum southwest of Papenburg in Emsland, especially among farmers whose land and future are affected by it.

The state of Lower Saxony will be required by the EU in Brussels to designate 1,750 acres of land bordering the river for conservation by 2050, but many folks are skeptical about that number as being final, as the creation of riparian "polders" is called for, and nature conservation societies demand the complete restoration of the river system's original biosphere, blaming Meyer Werft shipyard's need for straightening and dredging - to facilitate the upriver launchings of its new class of huge cruise liners - for excessive current speed, clouding, oxygen depletion, fish fauna destruction and bird sanctuary flooding. (See Issue April 2009, Pg. 14.)

They cite the federal government's contract with the EU for an improvement in its water quality and the hefty fines

Brussels will levy if it does not follow through with its agreed-to action. Other voices, however, advise a modification of those demands in view of the importance of a healthy regional economy in which Meyer Werft with its 3,100 jobs in the ship building industry plays a major role, not counting the many jobs created by ancillary service and supply companies.

During the past year, Papenburg's shipyard delivered five river excursion ships, the research vessel "Sonne," and two cruise liners, one of which, the "Quantum of the Seas," being the largest it has built up to that time. Presently on the books for Papenburg and Meyer Werft's subsidiary "Neptun" at the Baltic Sea port of Rostock are eight cruise ships and 17 river excursion ships.

Meyer Werft's subsidiary in Turku, Finland, of which it became majority owner in 2014, will deliver a cruise ship and has two more plus a ferry on the books.

**Ostfriesen-Zeitung, 3/5/2015**  
*In later news...*





SOURCE: By Rev. J. F. Bertrams, *Geographic Description of the Principality Ostfriesland, 1735*, revised by C. H. Normann in 1785; O. G. Houtrouw, *Ostfriesland gegen Ende der Fürstentzeit\**, 1889. (\*The last Fürst, or Duke, Carl Edzard, died in 1744). Includes internet sources.

## The City of Wittmund, Pt. II

Wittmund's sports club MTV 1865 appeals to the phy-ed enthusiasts. It offers facilities for gymnastics and track and field competition, organizes bike trips, competes with other sports clubs in volleyball and handball, and conducts its widely known long distance run, called the Wittmund *Klinkerlauf* (i.e., Brick Run) named after the "Klinkerwerke Wittmund," which makes paving bricks but is best known for its peat fired "Torfbrandklinkers," colorful facade bricks which are highly regarded by architects.

Another sports club, SV Wittmund, founded in 1948, centers its activities around soccer, table tennis, badminton, and chess. Then there are the *Bossel Club*, KBV Wittmund; the Tennis Club, TC Wittmund; the Sports Club for the Handicapped, BSG Wittmund; and more.

Wittmund's rural roots are very much in evidence, and a good many of its breadwinners need to commute to a work place in more industrialized Wilhelmshaven. The town's two windmills, the Peldemühle

([barley] husking mill) and the Siuts-Mühle, have been well preserved.

The former, later expanded for the additional production of rye and wheat flour, is Ostfriesland's oldest fully functional Dutch-style windmill, built in 1741 by Popke Embken. It is now the home of the local historical society, a volunteer organization which also operates a museum on these premises, organizes bake days, day trips, kale dinners, and more. It also puts on Low German (*Platt*) stage plays in the downtown Stadt Theater and elsewhere in the *Kreis*, predominantly in the Siel Harbor Museum of Carolinensiel.

The mill shares these stages with the mostly high German performances of the resident theater of Lower Saxony. The Siuts-Mühle, also a Dutch-style windmill, was sold in 1845 by its previous owners, the Meenken Brothers, to Weert Siuts, a farmer's son from Dohusen. It was recently remodeled, and houses a well-regarded Italian restaurant.

When the *Kreis* Wittmund was formed in 1885 from the former *Ämter* Wittmund and Esens, it needed a new administrative building. This was finished



around 1900 and resulted in the representative *Kreishaus* on the *Marktplatz*. Of particular attraction inside is the former office of the assistant *Kreis* commissioner, which is furnished in the style of an old farm house living room, decorated with hand-painted tiles.

Visitors with shopping on their minds need only look toward the aforementioned stately Nicolai Church, as it is bordered by four business streets laid out in a square around it. They may sooner or later meet up with a bronze figure, called "*Jan Schüpp up Padd*" (*Jan Shovel on the path*), cherished as the town's eccentric. Jan, in work clothes and with a bemused expression on his face, stands on his own shovel, thereby implying that he is only fooling himself, as taking someone on the shovel is a German expression for leading someone on. He stands for the Ostfriesen's attitude not to take everything too seriously. He is the "godfather" of a series of racing events, such as a half-marathon, which are named after him. There is also an LG (*Lauf Gesellschaft*, or Running Club) Wittmund, which organizes marathon races in Harlingerland and competes in country-wide marathon events.

Wittmund is surrounded by settlements which in the days of the old *Amt* were part of its St. Nicolai parish. (See *Bertram*)

**Willen** is located about a mile southwest of downtown and first found mentioned in 1473 when the area was made up of heathland and peat bogs which contained clay deposits. The bogs were drained per edict of the Prussian king, the peat used for fuel, and the clay for making bricks. Beginning in the 1860's so many locals emigrated to America that Willen's population stayed nearly constant until 1940.

In 1899 the new narrow gauge railroad Leer-Aurich-Wittmund set up a station here. In 1992 its historical society which in 2004 published the book "The History of our Village in Harlingerland including Updorf and Angelsburg.

Willen is the administrative and economic center of a number of hamlets surrounding it:

- **Lehmkuhlen**, the name means clay pits. They were dug at the time when the planting of the Wittmund Forest was started.
- **Updorf** (Utdorp) was settled in the 15th century and is first found mentioned in 1690, reason enough to celebrate its 300th anniversary in 1990. It joined Willen in 1862.
- **Neuenhaus** (Neuhaus) has been known since around 1700 when a family by that name lived there. It was recognized as a hamlet near Willen and joined that community in 1804.
- **Hoehahn** was a royal sheep station until its dissolution in 1865. Its heathland was thereupon forested and added to the Wittmund Forest, where lumberjacks were already making a living since the 18th century. It was incorporated into Willen in 1842. Only 10 people live there now. Part of it has been a nature preserve since 1978. An observation tower and a walk around a peat bog attract friends of nature.

From Ostfriesische Landschaft (K-H DeWall): **Hattersum, Algersh(a)usen, Grash(a)usen, Uttel, Nenndorf, Mosewarfen** constituted a single community north of downtown Wittmund until 1972.

- **Algerhausen** and **Grashausen** consist of individual farmsteads in the coastal plain, an area overlain with fertile alluvial deposits, whereas **Uttel** and **Hattersum**, further south, are clustered hamlets on *Geest* soil. **Nenndorf** is located on a *Geest* island in the coastal plain.

Here the first *Siel* (*levee sluice gate*) of the Harle River was once located. Building construction in **Hattersum** and **Nenndorf** today give evidence of Wittmund's urban growth. The road north to **Carolinensiel** was first covered with paving brick in 1859. An important archaeological find was made in **Hattersum** in 1991 with the discovery of a 1,000 year old harrow, probably the oldest one found in



northern Europe. It is kept in downtown Wittmund's Peldemühle Museum.

Around **Uttel** a large amount of fine clay suitable for making tobacco pipes was found, most of which, annually around 1,000 tons, was shipped to the Netherlands. The number of households according to an 1871 census was as follows: Hattersum - 31; Algershausen - 3; Grashausen - 3; Uttel - 27; Nenndorf - 14; Mosewarfen - 6.



of the name Ihne, is a single farmstead near Funnix

The East Friesian villages did not really emerge from their status as lower governmental administrative units into political communities until the Hanoverian Rural Community Statute of 1859. It gave voting rights to property owning villagers with no previous convictions in proportion to the size of their possessions, which were divided into four categories, the wealthiest receiving four votes each.

- **Dohusen**, (1497 Dodehusen, 1565 Dohuisen, 1684 Dohusen, i.e. Dode's house) east of downtown Wittmund, lies on a *Geest* protrusion into the coastal plain and is mentioned in the chronicles of Werdum as having been the location of a *Burg* belonging to the Kankenass. Together with several small neighboring settlements it formed a *Bauernschaft*, i.e., an early form of a self-governing farming community. At the present time, three farmers intend to build a 750 kilowatt biogas installation with which to supply Wittmund's hospital with electricity.
- **Barum(s), Itzhausen** (Jatzhusen) are hamlets within the political periphery of Eggelingen. Barums is first found mentioned in 1564. It consisted of 8 hearths and 49 people in 1823. Itzhausen is a single farmstead first found mentioned in 1684. In 1823 it had two hearths and eight people.
- Settlement indications for **Leerhufe** go back in time, Bronze Age burial mounds existing in its surrounds. Initially called Lee, it is mentioned as a "Vorwerk," a farm, in records of the Commandery Burmönken. "Leerhave" is cast in a bell of 1400.
- **Schmackens** (Smackens) is a single farmstead south of Toquard.
- **Ihnkeburg** (Inkeborg), meaning Ihnke's Burg, Ihnke being a diminutive

which at one time belonged to the Kankenass.

- **Hornum** (Horn) is a single farmstead near Asel formerly granted the privileges of a noble estate, although nothing is known about the origin of those privileges. The name likely goes back to the tip of land reaching into the enlarged Jade Bay. In 1823 it had about 120 acres of land and was home to 19 people.
- **Klinge** is single farmstead northwest of Asel and has been found mentioned in 1124 as "*villa Anaclingum*." Its name means "hill," although there is no elevated ground around here. It was once a "*Grashaus*" with 90 acres of land, which was sold, bestowed with noble privileges, in 1676 by the Duchess Christine Charlotte, widow of Duke George Christian, to the *Drost* of Esens and Wittmund, whose son resold it in 1713. It is said to have been a moat-surrounded stronghold, a companion fort to the *Burg* in Dohusen. 11 persons lived on the estate in 1823.



Pursuant to the community reform act of 1972 in Lower Saxony, the town of Wittmund expanded in area up to the North Sea. It now includes the former independent rural villages of Ardorf, Asel, Blersum, Burhufe, Buttforde, Eggelingen, Hovel, Leerhufe, Uttel, Willen, and Harlesiel, the latter resulting from a merger of Berdum, Carolinensiel, and Funnix.

The *Kreis* Wittmund was created in 1885 by merging the old *Ämter* Wittmund and Esens plus the town of Esens. In 1977 the *Kreis* Wittmund was dissolved and merged with the communities Jever, Sande, Schortens, Wangerland, Wangeooge to form the *Kreis* Friesland with Wittmund as the *Kreis* seat.



Following to a constitutional complaint, the *Kreis* reform of 1977 was changed in 1980 and the *Kreise* Wittmund, Friesland, and Ammerland were recreated in their former entities.



# Wittmund in Post Cards



# The Cirksema Mausoleum in Aurich



Translated by Gene Janssen

The Cirksema family mausoleum at Aurich is the final resting place of the Ostfriesian counts and their families. It was set up in 1886 in the Aurich city cemetery. Prior to that the counts were interred in various locations.

The first burials of Cirksema family members were in the Marienthal Cloister near Norden. The cloister burned to the ground in 1531 during the Gelders Feud between Balthasar of Esens and Enno Cirksema.

After that the remains were removed to the *Große Kirche* in Emden. Problems arose with the radicalized citizens in the battle of the Reformed against the Lutherans. On September 10, 1588, when the eldest daughter of reigning countess, Margaretha (1560-1588) was to be buried, the Lutheran court preacher, Heßhusius, was to preach the funeral sermon. As he was about to enter the pulpit of the Reformed church, a near riot broke out among the citizens. Thus, the body was laid to rest in silence and the funeral procession quickly returned to Aurich where the funeral sermon could be delivered.

After this incident Edzard II in 1588 designated the church in Aurich as the sover-

eigns' burial location. It is he who was the first of the Cirksema family to be laid to rest in the vault on May 13, 1599.

This does not mean, however, that there were no more Cirksema family members buried in Emden. The last one of the family buried there was the Reformed brother of the count, Johann (1538-1591). The coffins withstood all the successive wars until the Seven Years' War (1756-1763) also known in the U.S. as the French and Indian Wars) when French troops occupied Ostfriesland (at that time it was a province of Prussia) and plundered the tombs looking for booty.

After 1591 the Cirksemas were buried in Aurich. Nine coffins are documented up to the year 1630 with the last burial there taking place in March, 1630. In 1648 when Ulrich II died a second vault was built in the church. At first the old vault was cleared out and Ulrich was interred there on February 21, 1649.

About the same time a change in burial customs took place. Previously the Cirksema family members were buried in a flat box-shaped coffin within an oak coffin. Ulrich II, however, was buried in



Portions of original caskets framed hanging beside each niche.

VERZEICHNIS DER 14 ERWACHSENEN AUS DEM SAMMELSARG	
1. GRAFIN CATHARINA 1539-1610	PRINZESSIN von SCHWEDEN GEM. v. EDZARD II.
2. IHRE TOCHTER COMTESSA SORHIA 1574-1630	2. SOHN EDZARD II.
3. GUSTAV 1565-1608	JÜNGSTER SOHN EDZARD II.
4. CARL OTTO 1577-1603	SOHN ENNO III.
5. EDZARD ADOLPH 1599-1612	GEM. d. GRAFEN EDZARD FERDINAND
6. GRAFIN ANNA DOROTHEA 1645-1705	
7. GRAF CHRISTIAN EBERHARD 1665-1708	
8. SEIN SOHN CARL EMANUEL 1692-1707	
9. SEIN SOHN AUGUST ENNO 1697-1729	
10. CHRISTINA CHARLOTTA 1699-1733	TOCHTER d. CHRISTIAN EBERH.
11. SEINE TOCHTER SOPHIE ANTOINETTE JULIANNE 1707-1725	
12. FÜRSTIN SOPHIE WILHELMINE 1714-1749	GEM. d. CARL EDZARD
13. UNBEKANNT	
14. UNBEKANNT	

Casket of 14 Children of Countess Catherine of Sweden

an engraved and decorated tin coffin with an inner coffin made of wood. This remained the custom until 1744 when the Cirksena line died out. In 1707 the height of the vault was extended by Prince Christian with a new arched vault.

The next record concerning the vault comes from November 15, 1784. The author, Johann Konrad Freese (1758-after 1805) reports a content of 46 coffins. This report is an important source because in the following years the dampness of the vault had caused serious deterioration.

The first plans to relocate the counts go further back. Already by the time when the Aurich cemetery was planned by Conrad Bernhard Meyer in 1803 the back portion of the cemetery was set aside for the counts. The plans were not carried out in his day, most likely because of the Napoleonic wars. In 1823 the church was closed, having been declared dilapidated and unsafe. The new construction lasted until 1832, and the princely crypt was again installed there.

As a secretary to King George V, historian Onno Klopp from Leer brought the poor conditions of the princely crypt to the king's attention resulting in plans being made for a suitable resting place. The proposal was finished in 1865 and the money designated for it when war broke out in 1866. The second attempt also failed due to the Franco-German War of 1870. The construction of the mausoleum was only begun in 1875.

After the financing was secured, the construction began then in 1875. It was built as a vaulted decagon. On the north side there is a stairway in a tower which allows



CHILDREN'S CASKETS

access to the roof. The structure is about 17 meters high. Inside the vaulting there is a cupola seemingly erected without any support. The exterior of the building measures 17 meters. The keystone was installed on December 7, 1876.

In the interior of the decagon there are ten niches 2.75 meters deep and 2.75 meters wide. The niche cornice is double layered, so that two coffins can be accommodated. Above each niche there is a window. The entrance takes up the space for one niche so that there are 18 niches available. The interior has a diameter of 9.5 meters. In the center there is a ten-sided platform upon which two further, elaborate coffins are found.

In 1876 when the bodies of the princes were to be relocated, it became apparent that the coffins were in such poor condition that they would need to be replaced. Only 11 of the 46 coffins were usable. So, nine new coffins had then to be made for the rest of the remains, and it took until 1880 before the skeletal remains were moved during the nights of September 15-16th and 17th and 18th.

Subsequently the mausoleum was also used as a funeral chapel for the cemetery until 1966 when a separate cemetery chapel was built. [Translators note--funerals in Germany are not only held churches, but may be held in cemetery chapels]

World War II brought about the next big change. After the destruction of the Emden church and its crypt, the bones which could be found were brought to the mausoleum. In the 1970s it became clear that a major restoration was necessary because ground water has destabilized the foundation and the dampness had damaged the coffins.

After 1984 the building was restored--first the flooring (now a natural stone); 1985--the roof; 1988-1991 the wrought iron light fixtures and the gate.

Earlier in 1981 three coffins were restored. Further restoration of the coffins took place between 1989 and 1992 in the Kracht restoration workshop. Items and clothing pieces were then brought to the historical museum of Aurich.

(Wikipedia & internet sources)  
Pictures: Lin Strong

***This is a list of the caskets in the mausoleum:***

- 1.Eberhardine Charlotte
- 2.Ulrich II.
- 3.Juliane von Hessen-Darmstadt
- 4.Enno Ludwig
- 5.Leopold Ignatius husband of Sophia Antonietta Juliana
- 6.Georg Christian
- 7.Edzard Ferdinand
- 8.Justina Sophia
- 9.Juliane Charlotte
- 10.Edzard II.
- 11.Enno II.
- 12.Anna von Holstein-Gottorp
- 13.\*Sammelsarg für 14 Jugendliche (Resting place of 14 children)
- 14.Amalie Juliane von Kleinau
- 15.\*Sammelsarg 14 Erwachsene
- 16.Christine Louise
- 17.Georg Albrecht
- 18.Carl Edzard

In the middle are the beautiful hand made metal caskets of Chistine Charlotte and Eberhardine Sophie.

\*Collective coffins  
Erwachsene—Adults  
Jugendliche—Children

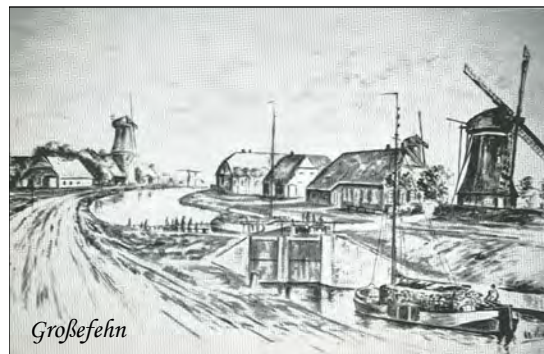
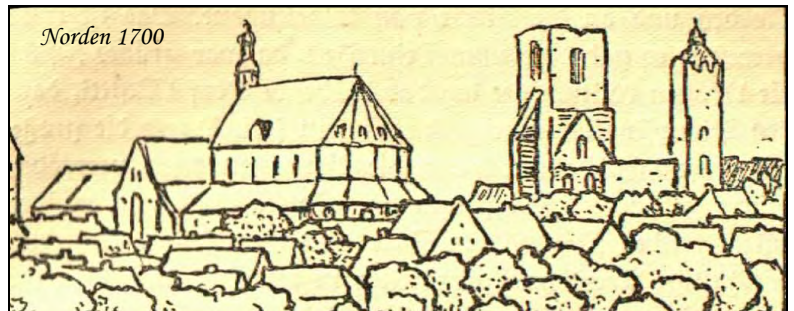


Ostfriesland may not have mountains or scenic vistas, but for centuries, churches and harbors full of boats are found in pictures everywhere. In this issue we will examine some of the drawings and paintings that give a small example of their art. The next issues will feature some of the artists along with sculptures, stained glass, church art and baptismal fountains, and much more.

Among the artists are the late Gerhard Janssen (1914-2005) from Osteel, Alf Depster, Hans Dieken, Andreas Kruse, Lothar Strübbe, Böke, Kampenga and many others. Often, unknown their art ranges from crude to fine pencil drawings, water colors, acrylic and oil paintings. Their art can be found in art galleries, old books, postcards, Kalendars (almanacs), posters and other publications.

Paintings and drawings of castles and old forts are all that remain of those structures, as so few of them survived. These are just a small example of the art in my collection!

# Ostfriesland in Art





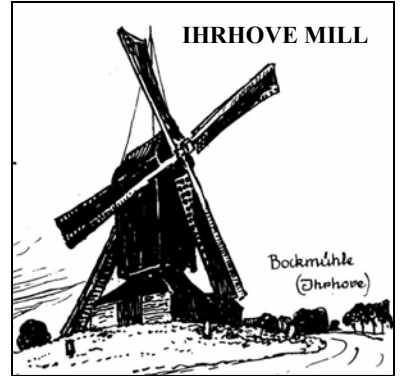
**GRIMERSUM'S BENINGABURG**



**UPLEWARD CASTLE**



**HANS BRAYER DIEKEN**



# Member News

Welcome to OGSAA!

*We appreciate all our members!*

**Brewer, Lucille**, 4789 Lambeth Walk, Carmel, IN 46033-3163 Phone: 317-566-0682 Researching: Frandsen (Weene, Aurich-Oldendorf, Holtrop)

**Cheverud, Janet D.**, 5555 N Sheridan Rd. #503, Chicago, IL 60640 314-517-0842 [jdcheverud@gmail.com](mailto:jdcheverud@gmail.com) Researching: Bergmann (Westerhusen); Ahrend, Harms (Riepe); Stein (Ardorf and Großefehn); Bloomsaat, Hochmann, Harms (Aurich)

**Groberg, Debra L.**, 245 West 700 North 798-2792, Spanish Fork, UT 84660 Phone: 801-472-3400 [debbiel@groberg.org](mailto:debbiel@groberg.org)

**Hamilton, Diana**, 1602 Arizona Ave, Alamogordo, NM 88310 [dtbird46@aol.com](mailto:dtbird46@aol.com)

**Hammon, Lisa**, 3006 NE 133rd Street, Seattle, WA 98125 [maus@llarian.net](mailto:maus@llarian.net)

**Harmel, Bruce**, 2311 Dakota Rdg, Johnsbury, IL 60051 Phone: 815-758-9644 [bruceharmel@hotmail.com](mailto:bruceharmel@hotmail.com)

**Henninger, Tracy**, 2040 W. 22nd Ave., Eugene, OR 97405 [twilley-bird@gmail.com](mailto:twilley-bird@gmail.com) researching Harms who settled in George, Iowa

**McAleney, Janet**, 4500 Dean Drive, Ventura, CA 93003 [jemcale-ney@roadrunner.com](mailto:jemcale-ney@roadrunner.com)

**Reid, Luanne**, 44 Hidden Valley Dr, Clancy, MT 59634 [reid5956@bresnan.net](mailto:reid5956@bresnan.net)

**Robinson, Linley**, 3 Slacks Rd, Palmerston North 4412, New Zealand Phone: +64) 63536356 [nick.linley@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nick.linley@xtra.co.nz)

**Taylor, Sandra**, 1225 Birch St., Valentine NE 69201 [mtaylori@shwisp.com](mailto:mtaylori@shwisp.com)

**Warren, Kitty**, 7857 W. Crocus Drive, Peoria, AZ 85381 [warren.kitty@yahoo.com](mailto:warren.kitty@yahoo.com) Researching: Blei (Wirdum)

**Wenig, Judith**, 20568 Anndyke Way, Germantown, MD 20874

[JJjmaux@gmail.com](mailto:JJjmaux@gmail.com)

**Wesche, Susan**, 1301 S. 23rd St. #4 Lincoln, NE 68502-1776

[swesche@inebraska.com](mailto:swesche@inebraska.com)

**Wiemers, Delwin & Karen**, 112 E Eighth St, Washington, KS 66968 Phone: 785-325-2822 [wie-nersd@bluevalley.net](mailto:wie-nersd@bluevalley.net) Researching: Wiemers

(Bagband, Rahe, Holzhausen)

## Address Changes

**Carol Osburn**, 1632 Mexican Poppy St. Las Vegas NV 89128-7981

**Hagemeyer, Dale** Zip code should be 81423

## DONATIONS, Thank You!

**Cheverud, Janet D.**

**McAleney, Janet**

## DECEASED

**Lois Kraus**, Thief River Falls, MN

## More Art...



DORNUM



LEER

ANDREAS KRUSE

## OGSA ILLINOIS WORKSHOPS SAT., OCTOBER 24, PEKIN, IL

*Tazewell County Genealogical Society*  
719 N. 11th St., Pekin IL 61554 (309) 477-3044  
[www.tcghs.org](http://www.tcghs.org)

## SAT., NOVEMBER 7, WATSEKA, IL

*Iroquois County Genealogical Society*  
103 W. Cherry St., Watseka, IL (815) 432-3730  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilicgs/>  
Presenter: Lin Cornelius Strong, OGSA

### Classes Offered:

- Reading & Understanding Original Germanic & Scandinavian Birth, Marriage and Death Records
- Using Ancestry, FamilySearch.org & other online sites effectively
- Breaking Through Your Genealogy Brick Wall
- Online Overseas Genealogy Websites
- Newspaper research—gossip columns, obituaries & more.

Contact these Genealogical Societies for more information.  
Must pre-register in order to attend.

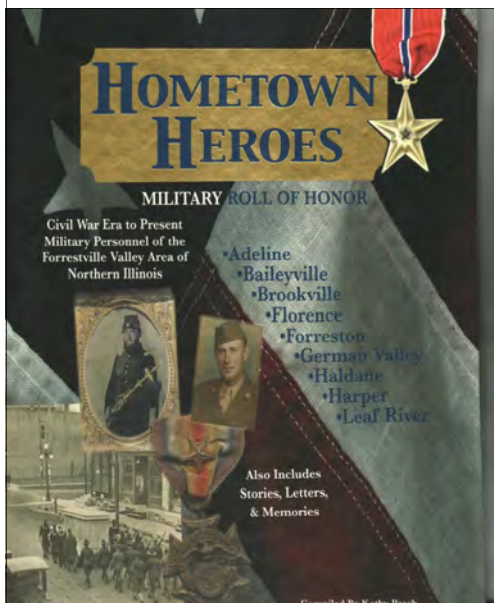
### UPCOMING ISSUES:

- Der Goldene Ring
- Land Reclamation
- Bagband's Ale Brauerei
- Ostfriesland Demographics
  - Shanty Chor's
- Loquard's Church Treasures
- Church Baptismal Fonts
- Church Crypts & Vaults
  - Ostfriesland's Art
  - Amt Wittmund

## BOOKS!

### HOMETOWN HEROES, Military Roll of Honor. Civil War era to Present Military Personnel of the Forestville Valley of Northern Illinois.

Includes Adeline, Baileyville, Brookville, Florence, Forreston, German Valley, Haldane, Harper and Leaf River. By Kathy Pasch in conjunction with American Legion Post 308.



If your ancestors settled in any of these areas you may be interested in this book. Hard cover, 352 pages, full of pictures and photographs. Also includes stories, letters and memoirs.

Limited copies available from OGSA, \$42 includes postage.

### Wo Sind Sie Geblieben, Six Volumes

+ Index on DVD

This series of books compiled by Hans-Georg Boyken has been out-of-print for many years. OGSA has obtained the rights to publish the six volumes with an index on DVD. The author excerpted data found in obituaries published in the *Ostfriesische Nachrichten* originally published in Breda, IA.



This DVD \$85 includes s & H. The original set of books sold for over \$240. Order from OGSA.

## Research Materials!

### Recently published books

- 1) **Westeraccum**, Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft, in transit
- 2) **Upleward & Hamswehrum**, privately published, in stock
- 3) **Jennelt**, Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft
- 4) **Oldersum**, privately published, in stock

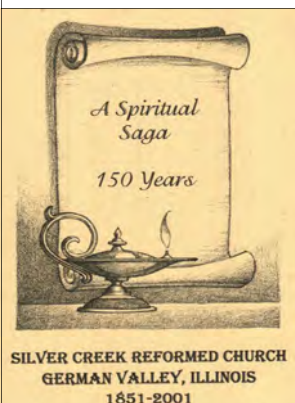
Other books will arrive this year including Aurich Reformed Church.

Are you interested in Ostfriesen history books? OGSA has a good collection of them—and they have been translated into English.

### Tours to Ostfriesland

German/Netherlands Christmas Market Tour—**December 1-10** / Limited Availability!  
**SPRING 2016**—Ostfriesland, Netherlands

Contact Lin Strong for more information 651-269-3580 or email [lcstrong@frontiernet.net](mailto:lcstrong@frontiernet.net) / *Tour sizes are limited to 20 or less. References available!* These tours are not sponsored by the Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America.



A SPIRITUAL SAGA, 150 YEARS, Silver Creek Reformed Church, German Valley, Illinois 1851-2001.  
By Donna Smith & Researcher, Ethel Osterloo

Soft cover, 106 pages, limited copies available from OGSA—\$32 includes postage.

**OSTFRIESEN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

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West St. Paul, MN 55118

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## 2015 Programs

Sunday, November 15, 2015

2 - 4 p.m.

### O.G.S.A.'S ANNUAL TEA PARTY

*German-American Institute*

301 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN

Tour Historic Building!

Ostfriesen Tea, Kluntje & Tea Sets,

Really Great Desserts,

Program, Door Prizes & Surprises, Too!

RSVP's Appreciated

Bring your friends & family!



## OGSA Family Potluck Picnic

Saturday, August 1, 2015 @ Noon

Friesen Historical Society

4075—140th Avenue SE (CR #1)

Clara City, MN

1 1/4 mile north of

Bunde Christian Reformed Church



*Join Us! Everyone Welcome!*

