



WHIDBEY ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SEARCHERS

OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON

Presents

Linda Duffield



Typical German Russian home in Laub, Samara, Russia

TRIP TO RURAL RUSSIA



Take a trip to rural Russia along the Volga River and learn about two German-Russian families who became Americans. This journey took place in August 2016, starting in New York with a brief airport change in Moscow bound for Volgograd, and a long arduous drive through ancestral villages. Linda Duffield's aim was to visit the birthplaces of her grandparents. Find out why the families left Germany in the 1760's to immigrate to Russia, and 150 years later why descendants of these families fled Russia for North and South America, and other places of the world.

Linda's interest in her German-Russian family began by listening to the tales from her Grandmother, Mollie. In the early 1970's, there were only family tales and few documents. Her biggest source of information came from joining the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia which is just one of several specific organizations dedicated to the history of the German-Russians. During the mid-1970s, Linda lived in Germany where she found books and Russian Recruitment articles in newspapers in German libraries and archives; she learned to read an antiquated script called "fratur", and collected names of 18th century individuals who became immigrants leaving for Russia. Linda wrote an article about these findings which was published in the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia Journal. For 20 years she researched her family as merely a hobby, as she was a registered nurse in the US Air Force. By the 1990's other Americans could access materials from Russian Archives, hire Russian researchers to find documents about their families, and travel to the actual villages. When Linda retired, she devoted more time to fleshing out her family's history and ventured on this personal journey to Russia.

All are invited to join us for this free educational program.

Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 Time: 1:00 pm - sign on 10 mins. early

Meeting will be via ZOOM. You will receive an email invitation. If you would like to invite a friend to attend, contact Nedra Weber (tuzigoot999@gmail.com) with their name and e-mail address by Jan 16th. They must receive an e-mail invitation in order to attend.

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