

2013 SGGEE Convention Report

On Friday morning, President Rose Ingram provided the welcoming for the 2013 SGGEE convention and annual general meeting that was held in Seattle, Washington at the Hilton DoubleTree Suites Hotel on August 9, 10 and 11. This was our 15th convention and proved to be another successful and enjoyable experience for all those who were able to attend. It was the second time that our convention has been held in the greater Seattle/Tacoma area. Special thanks and words of appreciation go out all SGGEE members who volunteered their time and talents to make this event possible.

The convention theme “Ties that Bind” was chosen to represent the wide array of workshop topics that sought to explain the unique and common histories of our German ancestors as they migrated and settled in Eastern Europe. Presentations also included a variety of methods, tools and strategies for conducting research using the internet and other resources such as the SGGEE Databases and DNA testing. Once again the variety and quality of workshops, interactions with other SGGEE members, the availability of the research room and an excellent banquet featuring a German buffet were all cited as highlights on the exit surveys we received.

The following is a list of the workshop topics:

- Beginning Genealogy: Climbing your Family Tree on the Internet—Cyndi Ingle Howells
- SGGEE Online Databases plus Data Submission Preparation---Gary Warner
- AHSGR Connections---Jean A. Roth
- Center for Volga German Studies---Jean A. Roth
- Writing Childhood Memories and Family Stories---Emily D. Aulicino
- DNA : Your Paper Trail---Emily D. Aulicino
- Germans in the Eye of the Beholder---Dick Benert
- German Migration to the East I & II---Jerry Frank
- Tracking the Tribe---Sigrid Pohl-Perry
- Open Forum: Questions, Help & Success Stories---Sigrid Pohl-Perry and Rose Ingram

Banquet Presentation: “Road Trip through Ukraine and Poland –Doing it Without a Tour Guide
— by Jerry Frank

During the Annual General meeting it was announced that the 2014 Convention and Annual General meeting will be held in Calgary, Alberta. The specific venue location and dates are yet to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Tucholke, Convention Chair