Immigrant Story Writing Guidelines

This project is a snapshot of your German immigrant family who settled in St. Louis (or surrounding counties in MO and IL). It should be a small part of your family history story which can and should be more detailed. What we are looking for is 1-5 pages, which can include a few pictures of immigrant family, homestead and/or business. We are interested in profiling where your immigrant ancestor settled and what their life was like here. Of course we want the place they were born but the emphasis should be on their immigrant experience here.

GET YOUR FACTS TOGETHER

Some ideas of what to include:

1. Immigrants full name (if woman include maiden name)
2. Place of birth in Germany (village, county, state if known)
3. Date of birth and/or baptism
4. When they immigrated – how they got to STL if known. (ship name, port of arrival and departure if known)
5. Marriage date (church if known)
6. Children’s names & baptisms (where)*
8. Military Records (if you want to include)
9. Death date (cemetery)
10. Any family story handed down about them.
11.*Sources: Include short mention of Film # or Church book where you found the birth, baptism, marriage or death record.

Style Requests:

1. Please make your Heading the Immigrant Ancestor Name – This should be in Times New Roman font size 14
2. Story should be font size 12
3. Please caption photos (if you need help we have helpers who will show you) Plus include source of photo, we have to be careful of copyright laws, if this is a family photo handed down, say “from the personal collection of ???” If you have questions about using a photo contact us @germansinstlouis@gmail.com
4. We will include in the introduction that town/village names mentioned will be referred to in their present day German state. If your town was in Westfalen but mentioned in your research as Prussia you can say (Westfalen formerly called Kingdom of Prussia at time period)
5. For your sources we prefer you use End notes (unless the foot note is short). End notes of course list the sources by # at the end of the story.
6. Please add a page at the end with your names from the story in the following format so we can index easier.

Schmidt, Johann
Altenheim, Kreis Ortenau, Baden
Mueller, Anna Maria (see also Schmidt) this is how to index women by their maiden name but referring to married name.

7. Last but not least include your name (contact info if you want) your relationship to the immigrant and date submitted. Please send electronically to germansinstlouis@gmail.com.

Your story may be edited for grammatical and spelling errors.

**Story Starter Ideas**

How you found them
What German ancestor would you like to meet & why (write their story first)
Write from immigrant’s perspective. Make a story of his journey, his new life etc.
Write about the neighborhood they lived in here, businesses, churches etc.
Did they live in STL during a major event, cholera epidemic, 1896 tornado, and 1904 World’s fair. Add these to your story.

(THOSE ARE JUST A FEW BRAINSTORMING IDEAS BUT WE WILL REFINE THIS)

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

How to Insert Pictures. How to Caption Pictures. How to insert Footnotes/Endnotes or Sources.

If you need help with any of these issues please contact us.

Please submit your story to:

germansinstlouis@gmail.com