

“Based on careful and loving research, Robert Bublitz offers us a portrait not only of his own family but also of a vanished world. Using well organized charts, tables, maps, vintage photographs and helpful timelines, he takes us back to a land – the province of Pomerania in 19th century Prussia – now lost to history. It is a trip well worth taking, for what we can learn about a history-rich region of Europe that was the ancestral homeland of many Americans. Mr. Bublitz tells his family’s story with great dedication and feeling.” **Richard Virden, Retired Senior Foreign Service Officer whose assignments included two tours in Poland**

“An enjoyable and informative read. This book belongs in your German genealogical research library as it applies to all of your Prussian and Pomeranian ancestors; their lives and why they undertook such a risky emigration venture knowing that they would probably never again see family and friends left behind. Our ancestors were highly motivated for this undertaking and this book will help you understand why?”

Dave Marks, Editor, *Die Pommerschen Leute (The Pomeranian People)*, Quarterly Periodical For Descendants of the Baltic Duchy of Pomerania

“For the genealogist who wishes to study Prussia and Pomerania, this is a good place to start.. Each chapter contains something to challenge one’s own imagination: What must it have been like for MY people?” **Gordon Seyffert, Editor, The Immigrant Genealogical Society (IGS) Monthly Newsletter**

About The Author and Book



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Bob is also the author of, “Alzheimer—What My Mother’s Care giving Taught Me” and popular speaker who gained extensive knowledge from his research on Alzheimer’s disease and experience caring for his mother which Bob shares with others to lighten the burden they face with this disease. The cost of sixty-eight months of Alzheimer’s care exceeded one million dollars.

Robert Joseph Bublitz, earned a Master’s degree from the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona; a Bachelor’s degree from Northland College, Ashland, Wisconsin and the equivalent of an electrical engineering degree from numerous classes during his thirty year career in integrated circuit design. Bob is available for speaking engagements, workshops or consulting. Please see the author’s internet sites for more information:

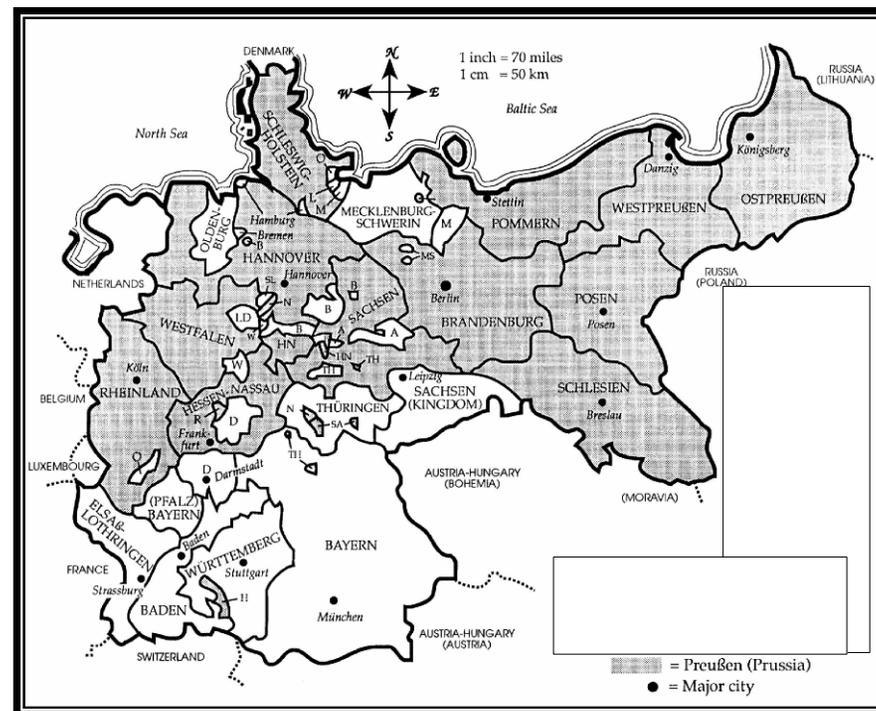
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PRUSSIAN PEASANTS SEEK THE AMERICAN DREAM

Understanding The Migration of Millions of Peasants From Eastern Prussia During The Last Half of The Nineteenth Century



Robert Joseph Bublitz

This book will satisfy the curiosity of readers interested in the history of northeast Europe, late 1800 German emigration and early 1900 rural USA life. The book is the result of more than thirty years of research about the author's grandparent's homeland, life in the Providence of Pomerania (German: Pommern) of the Kingdom of Prussia (German: Preußen) in the German Empire, 1893 emigration to the United States of America (USA) and life in Wisconsin. The book preserves for all to enjoy the thousands of hours researched by the author's mother Olive Mae Bublitz (1920-2007) conducted from 1973 to 2001.

The book chronicles the history of the Frederick Albert Ludwig "Fred" Dorn and future son-in-law August Carl Ferdinand "August" Bublitz family's lives. The families originally lived in Kreis (Counties). Regenwalde and Schivelbein. Most of the Dorn family and August Bublitz immigrated to the United States in 1893. The book documents the history of the areas where they lived in Pomerania, compares and contrasts Pomeranian peasant and Prussian noble lifestyles, explains their travel adventure to the United States and describes their new USA life with vastly improved freedom and independence.

The Dorn Family and August Bublitz departed Prussia in search of a better, less oppressive life path where they did not have to worry about fighting in constant wars, long days of demanding labor, limited food supply, poor living conditions, lack of ability to own property, accumulate wealth or have any influence on government. Augusta, the oldest daughter, was the first family member to emigrate. In 1891 when she was eighteen years old, she arrived in the United States to scout-out an eventual trip for the remaining family members. She was followed the next year by the oldest son, Herman at age fifteen in 1892. Herman worked for one year on a farm and then received a one year salary advance to help finance the families travel to America. It was with the hope and dream for a better life that the family moved from Pomerania to the vicinity of the City of Elkhorn in Southeast Wisconsin in the USA.

Olive Mae (Skotzke) Bublitz (b. 5 Aug 1920 - d. 15 Aug 2007) spent thousands of hours performing most of the genealogy research from shortly after 1973, when her husband died, until two-thousand-and-one. She spent these hours scanning numerous microfilms, microfiche and newspaper articles, maintaining family group sheets, filing newspaper clippings, obtaining information from family members from frequent genealogy conversations and recording notes. Olive's last entry in her genealogy research was in 2001 just after she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease at The Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. Olive passed away on Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at age 87. Olive's research culminated with the writing of this book by her son, Robert Joseph Bublitz at age seventy-two. Despite Olive's experience and success researching her husband's family, she found little reward in finding information about her own father Joseph John Skotzke who was born in Danzig. Rumor has it, Joseph while serving with the Prussian Merchant Marines, went AWOL while docked in the USA and later became a US Citizen. Joseph was apparently educated as a clothing designer.

After working for the Burlington Woolen Mills and briefly owning a business that manufactured leather jackets, establish his own tailor business in the prominent Milwaukee suburb of Shorewood.

Prussian Peasants Seek The American Dream is based on genealogy records researched by Olive Bublitz which include immigration documents, naturalization records, census documents, marriage registrations, death certificates, obituaries, Pomeranian & Wisconsin maps, photos and notes.

During the years the author was growing up, he spent a lot of time, as did most of his cousins, with Albertine Wilhelmina Huntamina "Tina" (Dorn) Bublitz. She was known to most as either Grandma Tina, Tina or simply Ma. Tina was a short woman with waist length light brown hair that she rolled up and pinned to the back of her head. Tina cooked and heated her home primarily with an enamel wood cook stove. Grandma Tina usually spoke in Plattdeutsch, a dialect of German, even though others spoke to her in English. It is from conversations with grandma that a significant amount of this book is based which include: families values, beliefs, behaviors, struggles, how they adapted to change and the successes in life that brought them happiness. August and Tina were a very religious couple. August was one of the founders and life long board members of the First Evangelical German Lutheran Church in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. Tina read her bible for thirty minutes upon rising in the morning and before going to sleep at night. The last thirty years of Grandma Tina's life revolved around keeping her home comfortable heating with holtz (firewood), feeding & gathering eggs from her chickens, working in her garden & orchard, participating in church activities, spending time with her caring family and in general, enjoying life. Tina was a quiet person who had a special rapport and relationship with children and whose family loved her dearly.

The book includes an extensive number of maps and general information describing the villages in Pomerania where the Dorn family members and August were born and lived. Also included are photographs showing the destruction that happen during world war II by the "Red Army" as they moved through Pomerania nearly destroying everything in the area. Early 1900s prices are listed for essential farm equipment and basic food items. The reader is able to see the cost of living, the way people traveled, dressed and lived during different times and improvements in living conditions over the century. A chart summarizes agriculture and lifestyles on peasant plots, noble agriculture estates, traditional USA family farmsteads and corporate USA agriculture trend of early 2000.

Great-grandfather, Karl Bublitz was a violinist with The Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. Gewandhausorchester Leipzig; sometimes simply referred to as Gewandhausorchester, one of the oldest symphony orchestras in the world). It is named after the concert hall in which it is based, the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Germany.

The author, Robert Joseph Bublitz is the grandson of August and Tina Bublitz, the great grandson of Albert and Caroline Dorn and the great-great grandson of Karl and Karoline "Lina" (Poppe) Bublitz and Jacob and Frieda (Serge) Dorn.