AHSGR

AHSGR has local chapters located in 15 states and three Canadian provinces. Although not a requirement of membership, Society members are encouraged to join and enjoy the fellowship of a chapter whenever possible. If there is no chapter in the area, members are encouraged to work together to petition to charter a new chapter. The following list shows the number of chapters by state and country:

**United States**
- Arizona (1)
- California (5)
- Colorado (3)
- Illinois (1)
- Iowa (1)
- Kansas (3)
- Michigan (2)
- Minnesota (1)
- Montana (1)
- Nebraska (4)
- Oklahoma (2)
- Oregon (1)
- Texas (1)
- Utah (1)
- Washington, DC Area (1)
- Washington (4)
- Wisconsin (2)
- **Canada**
  - Alberta (2)
  - British Columbia (1)
  - Saskatchewan (1)

To locate a chapter nearest you, visit Society’s website at [www.ahsgr.org](http://www.ahsgr.org) and click on **About Us** then **Chapters** or contact AHSGR.

Chapter meetings are a great way to meet other Germans from Russia and to find out more about your heritage. Many chapters have their own libraries of books, maps, and research material. Check out your local chapter today, or contact AHSGR International Headquarters:

**AHSGR International Headquarters**

631 D Street
Lincoln, NE 68502-1149
Phone: (402) 474-3363
Fax: (402) 474-7229
E-mail:
What is AHSGR?

The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR), founded in 1968, is an international, nonprofit educational organization with headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska.

AHSGR’s mission is to discover, collect, preserve, and disseminate information related to the history, cultural heritage, and genealogy of Germanic settlers in the Russian Empire and their descendants.

Who are the Germans from Russia?

The migrations of Germanic-speaking people to the expanding Russian Empire of the 18th and 19th centuries began under Tsarina Catherine the Great in the 1760s, when she invited Western Europeans to settle in the sparsely populated steppes along the great Volga River near the city of Saratov. Germans responded in the greatest numbers. A second wave of German immigration to the southern reaches of Ukraine began in the early 1800s. This was followed by German colonists moving into the Polish and Ukrainian areas known as Volhynia. The migrations lasted into the 1840s. These Germanic colonists flourished in the vast reaches of the Russian Empire, but the changing political climate and social unrest beginning in the last quarter century of the 1800s persuaded many Germans in Russia to seek new vistas elsewhere in the world, particularly in the West. These people have become known as Germans from Russia.

What are the goals of AHSGR?

- To develop programs that meet the interests and needs of Germans from Russia whose heritages can be traced to all parts of the former Russian Empire and later the USSR.

- To discover and collect published materials, archival copies, genealogical information, journals, biographies, maps, photographs, and artifacts representing the lives of German Russians while residing in Russia and after the departure of those who immigrated to the Americas and elsewhere in the world.

- To preserve these materials and to establish a repository where they are accessible to AHSGR members and other researchers.

- To add to the body of information available on Germans from Russia by publishing books, periodicals, pamphlets, maps and other materials and by making these materials available to members and the general public through the Society’s bookstore or interlibrary loan.

- To hold conferences where lectures, papers and discussions increase the knowledge about Germans from Russia among the Society’s members and the general public.

- To support AHSGR chartered Chapters whose responsibility it is to further the goals of the Society at the local level, and meet the needs of persons interested in German- Russian history, folklore, and genealogy.

Why should I become a member?

Join AHSGR today and begin enjoying the many benefits of membership.

- Receive the quarterly AHSGR Journal and Newsletter. This Journal is a peer-reviewed publication providing informative, provocative, and entertaining articles on the cultural heritage of German Russians.

- Expand your genealogical research by taking advantage of more than 6,000 books, manuscripts, journals, family histories, maps, census lists and other publications in AHSGR’s research library through interlibrary loan.

- Find and correspond with others researching your family lines using AHSGR’s genealogical research aide Clues and the Society’s network of Village Coordinators.

- Enjoy discounts on books, pamphlets and other items in the AHSGR bookstore, German and Russian translation services, research services, the cost of copies of items in the AHSGR archives and databases, and registration fees for the AHSGR Annual Convention.

- Meet and enjoy new friends and relatives that share your interests in Germans from Russia. Build these lasting friendships at the international, national and local levels.