

News release

from the **International German Genealogy Partnership**
(formerly German-American Genealogical Partnership)



March 23, 2017 — For immediate release

Contact: Kent Cutkomp, (612) 920-8118, partnership@ggsmn.org or Mark Ladwig, (952) 440-4882

Minneapolis to host ‘one of the largest German genealogy events’

International speakers, personal connections to highlight July conference

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—An unprecedented three-day German genealogy conference where anyone interested in German family history can make personal connections and learn from prominent international speakers is set for July 28-30 at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest Hotel in Brooklyn Park, Minn.

“This may be one of the largest German genealogy events ever held in the United States,” said Kent Cutkomp, a Minneapolis resident and co-founder of the young and growing International German Genealogy Partnership, which is putting on the conference.

The 2017 International German Genealogical Conference plans more than 70 presentations. Speakers include many internationally prominent genealogy researchers such as Roger Minert, Ernest Thode, Dirk Weissleder of Germany, Baerbel Johnson, Fritz Juengling, Michael Lacopo, James Beidler, Paula Stuart-Warren, Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, Jill Morelli, Stephen Morse, and others from Germany and Australia.

The conference — themed “Connections: International. Cultural. Personal.” — offers a unique opportunity for people researching German roots to make personal connections with people from other countries as well as nationally, Cutkomp said. “These are connections that could be invaluable in helping people take important steps in their family research,” he said.

Daily “Connections” sessions are planned to bring together people with common interests in specific Germanic regions. Also planned are presentations on regional specialties including Ostfriesen, Luxembourg, Palatinate, Bremen, Alsace, Baden, Black Sea Germans, Austria, Czech Republic (Bohemia), Pomerania, West Prussia, East Prussia, Lithuania, eastern Europe, former eastern German provinces, Australia, and others.

The conference registration fee is \$250 until March 31. Beginning April 1, \$299. Register online at the Partnership website www.IGGPartner.org, or download the print form.

The Minnesota-based Germanic Genealogy Society is hosting the Partnership’s July international conference.

The Minnesota society in 2015 was joined by other societies in the United States and Germany to co-found the German-American Genealogical Partnership, later renamed the International German Genealogy Partnership. Today, the Partnership joins Germanic genealogy societies across America, Germany, Canada, Australia, England and other European countries, and continues to draw new members worldwide.

This year’s conference is one of several initiatives by the Partnership to help expand collaboration among German societies internationally, Cutkomp said. “Hosting the conference here in Minnesota fits our Germanic heritage,” he said. “About 40 percent of the people living in the five-state region of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the Dakotas are of German descent.”

— 30 —

NOTE TO EDITORS: The conference logo and Partnership logo are available as hi-res images in case you’d like to use them with the story. [Download here.](#)