

Schilling-Courier



Descendants of Heinrich Schilling from Lahnstein Castle, who died in 1221

News of the Association of the Schilling family with annual report of 2008

The Schillings Became Chilean Citizens

159 years ago the first member of the family emigrated to South America

The members of the Schilling Association live in 17 countries all over the world. Let me introduce the Chilean line, though their relation to our family is not proven as yet. Their family crest resembles the Schillings' who have lived in Thuringia since the middle of the 15th century, in appearance. Thuringia is not very far from Hesse, the original home of the Chilean Schillings.

Their crest features the initials of the family in black on a gold shield with an anchor with the letter S and rafters on top. The top of the closed helmet over the shield is depicted in black and gold with open golden wings (see page 2).

The descendants of five immigrants of the Schilling family, two of them cousins, live in Chile now. Their relation to the other two immigrants is not proven as yet.

Let me explain that in the Hispano-American countries the identity of a person is documented by adding the father's and the mother's last name to the first name.

This article is about the first immigrant, **Carl Philipp Schilling Rohde**. Like all his ancestors he



Watercolour by Willy Vogel, 1945: The immigrant's old home

belonged to the Hessian line that was first mentioned in a document in July 1459, when Henne Schilling became the tenant of one of the manors of the Duke of Görtz in Rympach. The record is kept in the archive of the Duke of Görtz in Schlitz. His descendants' names were often mentioned in deeds of donation and in church and Land court registers in the district of Schlitz. The ancestry can be traced back quite easily.

Unfortunately the personal data of many descendants were lost in the

Thirty-Years'-War. By the turn of the 17th century there was only Johannes Schilling left, born 18 Sept. 1685. He is the ancestor of this branch of the family.

Georg Philipp Schilling Schuppis was born on 5.2.1797 not in Schlitz but in Hausen. He was **Johann Philipp's** (Schlitz) son. He studied forestry and fought in the Napoleonic Wars (1813-1814), living in Neuenstein Castle near Raboldshausen zu Oedelsheim on the river Weser and finally near the glass foundry of Altmünden.

He had eight children of three marriages.

The second son of his first marriage with Johanna Auguste Rohde, **Carl Philipp Schilling Rohde**, was born on 20 July 1831 and christened in the Lutheran church on 14 Aug. 1831. When he was older he lived with his uncle Vilmar in Melsungen near Kassel. He started to work as a business trainee, but did not like the job. When in 1848 Germany, a collection of states loosely bound together at the time, was suffering from a social, economic and political depression, a wave of emigration followed. Eventually **Carl Philipp** contacted Bernhard Philippi, the official Chilean migration agent in Germany. By the end of August 1850 Carl Philipp said goodbye to his family and boarded the sailing ship 'Susanne' in Hamburg.

He was a young, nearly nineteen-year-old bachelor leaving his native country for good. It took him and many Hessian and Thuringian families three months to cross the South Atlantic and pass by Cape Horn until they reached the Pacific Ocean, a long and dangerous trip. Full of hope they sailed through calm, storm, rain, hail or torrid

heat to this new, unknown country, which only quite recently in 1811 had declared Independence, as it did not want to be a Spanish crown colony any longer.

Through advertisements in the German newspapers the young Republic of Chile tried to recruit immigrants by offering jobs guaranteeing economic promotion and promising tolerance, political and religious freedom. Every immigrant was promised immediate naturalization on the day of his or her arrival.

On 2 December 1850 Carl Philipp arrived at the small port of Corral near Valdivia. In 1851 he moved to Osorno, where he had his first job as an estate manager. Later he worked on the estate of "**Misión Cuinco**" (see p.1) belonging to the German immigrant Eduardo Buschmann. Here he eventually met Buschmann's daughter **Johanna Auguste Helene Buschmann Chée**, who had originally come from Friedrichsroda in Thuringia. Her mother's ancestors had been Huguenots.

In 1856 Carl Philipp bought his future father-in-law's small estate and on 18 September he got married. Being a reliable,



Carl Philipp Schilling Rohde

hardworking and efficient businessman he succeeded in enlarging the estate, which originally had the size of 5 hectare (12.4 acres), considerably by buying more and more land.

He was no "colonist", but a naturalized immigrant. Today the estate of "Misión Cuinco", an ultra-modern agricultural property, is being managed by one of his great grandchildren, **Eduardo Schilling Saint-Jean**, in the fourth generation.

Carl Schilling Rohde distinguished himself by his altruism, his solidarity and his social engagement. In 1854 he was one of the founders of the German school of Osorno, the second eldest German school worldwide and the pride of the inhabitants of Osorno and of all the German immigrants in Chile. He was a member of the German Society and of the protestant church of Osorno and very much engaged in supporting poor people in need of help.

On the occasion of his 90th anniversary, which he celebrated with his family in the German-Chilean Club and which was highly acknowledged in the newspapers of Osorno, he donated a remarkable amount of money to the German school of Osorno adding the following letter:



coat of arms in Chile



coat of arms in Thuringia

“I hope this donation encourages my fellow citizens so that we will be able to realise our plan to extend and renovate this school. This institution helps maintain our reputation and our sense of duty more than any institution we have founded so far. This is the place to educate the citizens in the way our country needs them. Our school is a stronghold of national feeling in the German sense of the meaning: For so many years it has been heading in the right direction and I hope it will be able to pursue this way for much longer in honour to our former and for the benefit of our recent homeland.”



Water colour of the Schilling house in Osorno, 2005

When he came to Osorno the town had less than 4000 inhabitants and no Chilean middle class. Since the first settlers and immigrants lived apart from the other inhabitants, they consequently had their own schools, clubs and churches, and the first two generations mostly married their own kind. They lived a rather primitive life: no pavement, no electricity nor running water. Since there was no railway in Osorno people had to use ox-carts for transportation.

Carl Schilling Rohde, however, lived to see the first train, electricity, running water, sewerage, pavement and telegraphy come to Osorno. By cultivating the wonderful Chilean south the pioneers brought prosperity and modernisation. The generation of his children had the first radios, planes, harvesters etc. When his son **Eduardo** took over the estate of Misión Carl Philipp moved to Osorno. He lived on the corner of one of the central squares of the town, where his sons and many of his grandchildren had their apartments, too. Without ever visiting his native country again or having his name entered into the register of the Prussian Consulate in Osorno he died on 29 September 1923 in

Osorno, aged 93, after 73 years of living as a naturalized Chilean. He was a highly esteemed and striking personality and the community paid tribute to his commitment.

The second generation

Carl Philipp had seven children, all of them born on the estate of Misión Cuinc.

1) **Bertha Emilie Schilling Buschmann**, born 7 Jan. 1858, married the head of the German school in Valdivia, Hermann Karl Balde, born in Wollstein, Posen (now Poland); 9 children.

2) **Emilie Auguste Philippine Schilling Buschmann**, born 22 March 1860, married Julius Matthei, businessman in Osorno; 4 children.

3) **Anna Auguste Alwine Schilling Buschmann**, born 3 April 1862, married Eduard Matthei, born in Kassel, pharmacist in Osorno; 5 children.

4) **Eduard Georg Schilling Buschmann**, born 16 Jan. 1865, married Amélei Buschmann.

5) **Heinrich Emil Hugo Schilling Buschmann**, born 24 Dec. 1867 in Cucino; after finishing the commercial school in Leipzig he settled in Osorno working as a merchant and

farmer, married Catharina Matthei Schwarzenberg from Osorno.

6) **Karl Friedrich August Schilling Buschmann**, born 22 July 1869, settler on the estate of Chuyaca near Osorno, married his cousin Amalie Israel Schilling, born in Hommershausen near Hofgeismar.

7) **Heinrich Wilhelm Schilling Buschmann**, born 1 Oct. 1874, dentist graduated from Germany, practiced in Osorno and worked as a farmer, married Catalina Schencke Keim, born in Osorno.

The four sons had 29 children, 64 grandchildren, 154 great-grandchildren, 154 great-great grandchildren and 3 great-great-great grandchildren altogether. They are the 3rd to 7th generation descending from the immigrants.

Today 51 male descendants bearing the name of the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th generation seem to guarantee the continued existence of the Hessian Schillings in Chile. Apart from working in their respective professions as dentists and merchants his sons **Eduard**, **Heinrich** and **Hugo** bought various estates and founded “Gebrüder Schilling” (Schilling Brothers’ Enterprises). They managed a remarkable number of farms themselves,

importing the breeding cattle from Germany. Their commitment to the farm workers and to the employees of their town office was remarkable.

By providing people with solid houses, building bridges, opening shops in the villages and installing their own telephone network they were far ahead of their time. They never ceased to work for the German speaking community: Eduard and Heinrich were engaged in the German school and the German fire brigade; Hugo was engaged in the German Society and in the Protestant Church. They donated land to the public fire brigade and the German retirement home, and in 1936 they built a new German school in Osorno, as the old building was too small.

The third generation

Quite a number of their sons were medical doctors, vets or agronomists. Others managed farms owned by the “Schilling Brothers’ Enterprise” until the company was closed and the heirs managed their respective farms themselves. Everything worked out well until



Carl Philipp’s seven children: rear: Hugo and Eduard, front: Heinrich, Anna, Berta and Karl.

between 1970 and 1973 the communist regime ruthlessly confiscated large land holdings. Most of the pioneer work of the first three generations was lost forever, but they never stopped working for the benefit of the community.

The fourth generation

Only few of them still manage estates, which were either saved

from confiscation or bought later. Meanwhile most of them live somewhere between the capital city and the area 2000 km further down south and hardly any of their partners are of German origin. Consequently most of them do not speak German. Surprising enough that the fifth generation still spoke the German language, but the process of assimilation was much slower than in the USA for instance.

The fifth generation

Most of them are graduated specialists, who very often have completed post graduate courses in Europe or America. Their children either attend a school or a college or have jobs somewhere in the country. The 6th and 7th generation are still students.

They are Chilean citizens with a strong affinity for the German culture. Together with the descendants of the Spanish immigrants and people from various other countries they grew up in a multicultural society, a vast melting pot of nationalities, religions and mentalities. They live together peacefully feeling like Chilean citizens who try to preserve their respective tra-



Our members Oskar and Helge Schilling on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary last year

ditions. Their multilingualism and their cultural adaptation are their strong point.

, We, the descendants of **Carl Philipp Schilling Rohde**, who arrived three weeks after the first German immigrants at Corral, can confirm that each generation of Carl Philipp's descendants has implemented Carl Anwander's promise given in November 1850, which we still hold true:

'We promise to become good and honest Chilean citizens, just like the best of you. Joining our new fellow countrymen we will protect our adopted fatherland from any attack with the determination and energy of any man protecting his fatherland, family and his ideas.'

Another Schilling immigrant from Hesse

Two years after Carl Philipp's arrival his cousin **Carl Emil Schilling Viëtor** arrived at Osorno. Born on 13 Aug. 1835 in Spangenberg near Kassel, he was the son of MD Friedrich Wilhelm and Cornelia Lisette Viëtor (Huguenot). He and his numerous descendants by his marriage with Maria Josefa Burgos Angulo definitely belong to the Hessian branch. We do not mention the descendants of three immigrants by the name of Schilling from Hamburg and Westphalia, as they are not related to the Hessian line. Very often people think their descendants were related to our line.

Oskar Schilling Fuchslocher

[In 2001 Oskar has contacted the Schilling Association and was accepted as a supporting member (his relation to the family is not proven yet). We met him on the occasion of our family reunion in Mittweida and Prague (3 - 8 June 2005)].

From the various branches



Western Branch

Waltraud and Christine Traced

Successful search: Mother and daughter live in the USA

Sometimes miracles seem to occur: In our 2005 issue of the Schilling Courier we were wondering about the whereabouts of Waltraud Martinoff née von Schilling and her daughter Gesa Christine.

This year one of Waltraud's relatives, Frank Martinoff, found them in the USA. While 89-year-old Waltraud is living in New York and is very ill, her daughter Gesa Christine lives in Connecticut. She and her husband Owen Smith have three children, all of them married (two sons, one daughter), and three grandchildren.

Waltraud comes from the Klecke-

witz line (western branch), prospering in Saxony-Anhalt from the beginning of the 15th to the mid-18th century.

In the mid-19th century one of her ancestors moved to one of the Baltic provinces, at that time ruled by the Russians, where he was raised to the peerage by the tsar. Waltraud's father, married to Ebba Cederström, worked as a teacher in Estonia. The couple had three children, all of them born in Dorpat/Tartu, now Estonia. Waltraud (born 7 June 1920) has a sister Susanne (born 13 Dec. 1914) and a brother Karl (born 1915), the last



Christine Smith's family: rear left: Owen Smith, granddaughter Sarah in her eldest son Philip's arms, grandson Oliver in the arms of Wilhelm Betz, the husband of Christine's daughter Sarah. Front: Sarah, Christine, Chloë (Philip's wife), Shannon (her second son Andrew's wife), Adeline in Andrew's arms

male descendant of this line, who was killed in World War II.

In 1940 Waltraud married Ralph Martinoff in Reval/Tallinn (Estonia). When the Soviets occupied Estonia, the Martinoffs, like most of the Baltic Germans, were resettled in Poland, which was occupied by the Germans.

On May 6, 1941 their only child Gesa Christine was born in Myszkow. In 1942 her father was killed in Russia. After marrying Hans Walter, in 1956 Waltraud emigrated with her family to the USA.

In 1966 Christine, who had kept the name Martinoff, married Owen Smith in Glenside/Pennsylvania.

The first husband of Waltraud's sister Susanne was also killed in the war. With her second husband she lived in Austria somewhere close to Vienna. She has two children Christine was delighted to be able to contact her parents' family at last. She wrote that she had only met her grandfather Walfried Martinoff once in Bad Tölz/Germany in 1947, where he was living at that time.

Our genealogist Gretel Bauermann sent her the Schilling family tree. Christine was very much impressed when she found out that in the Middle Ages some of her ancestors have supposedly taken the Crusader vow and set off for Jerusalem.

It is interesting to know that Christine's ancestors from her mother's side, from the western branch, are related to the eastern branch as well. In 1784 Christine's great great great great grandfather Karl von Schilling-Kleckewitz had married Eleonore Sibylla von Schilling in Riga (now Latvia). She was Casimir von Schilling's daughter coming from the younger line of the Kurland branch. Thus Christine is doubly related to our family. We are happy to have found her.



Southern Branch

Engineer and Winegrower

August Schilling von Canstatt: a remarkable person

Johannes Schilling was not the only member of our large family, who created some remarkable historic monuments. Somewhere near the health resort Dannenfels, close to Kaiserslautern, Rhineland-Palatinate, there is the admirable Eagle Arch on the Rock of Moltke made by August Freiherr Schilling v. Canstatt (1840-1918), southern branch, the youngest brother of Franz, ancestor of the Virginia/USA line.

In 1880 the Palatinate "Verschönerungsverein" (Improvement Society) ordered the Eagle Arch to be erected on the rock, which until

then was called "Dorbisfels". The curved iron structure (triumphal arch) was meant to be in honour of Field Marshal Graf Helmuth von Moltke, who had an important share in the victory of the Franco-Prussian War 1870/71, by which people believed him to have secured the Palatine borders. The monument is crowned by the figure of a cast iron eagle. Originally two cast iron statues of Moltke and the Chancellor of the Reich, Fürst Otto von Bismarck, were standing at the foot of the arch, but they were destroyed by unknown persons after World War II. In 1945



The Eagle Arch on the Rock of Moltke near Kaiserslautern

the approaching American soldiers shot off the head of the eagle. In 1981 the restored eagle was replaced in a spectacular action by a helicopter.

August Schilling was a remarkable person indeed. In 1863 he became an engineer and started working for the Royal Palatine Railroad Company. Being committed to the "Verschönerungsverein" in Kaiserslautern he drew the construction plans for the arch in Dannenfels. In 1880 his older brother Franz, who was already living in America, called August's attention to the railroad constructions in the USA. On August 3, 1881 he took the steam boat "Elbe" from Bremen to New York. In 1882 he was engaged as an "engineer of information" by the Northern Pacific Railroad. On horseback he explored the future way of the rail tracks passing the territory of the Native Americans. When he reached the Pacific Ocean he visited San Francisco. When in 1884 the information office was closed he returned to San Francisco in order to carry out his long-cherished dream to buy part of a winery.

In 1885 he eventually bought a farm in Blue Lake Park north of San Francisco near St. Helena. Since two years later the maintenance proved to be too expensive he sold his share without financial loss and continued working as an environmental engineering technician and winegrower. His wine was of such excellent quality that people in California still love it very much.

In 1886 he founded the "Canstatt Colony" in the Sierra Nevada, where German immigrants trained as farmers, and a grape juice condensing factory, where he worked as a technician. The condensed grape juice, made from the cheap Californian grapes, was sent abroad. August had managed the factory for ten years

when he left for Germany in 1896. Though he still had a farm in Shasta-Country, North California, he did not want to become an American citizen. Later he made the two sons of his brother Franz in Hampton/Virginia swap the farm for their share in the estate of Hohenwettersbach near Karlsruhe.

Back in Germany August settled in Cannstatt near Stuttgart. When in 1900 he took part in the renovation of the Royal Wilhelma Theatre in Stuttgart, he has been honoured with the "Ritterkreuz II. Klasse" (Chivalric Order) and the "Fried-



Eastern Branch

A Painting Coming Home

Cousin Helene on a special mission in Estonia

Last year our cousin Helene Baronesse von Schilling went on a special mission to Estonia. This time it had nothing to do with our family, but with a painting that the congregation of Helene's church in St. Tönis wanted to donate to the congregation of St. Johannis/Järva-Jaani in Estonia, where our ancestral home Orgena had once been. Helene's travel report:

"St. Johannis in Estonia and the Protestant Church of St. Tönis have been twinned for 15 years now. The official delegation consisted of Dr. Hans-Joachim Riechers, one of the presbyters, his wife and me. We were supposed to present the Estonian congregation with an original painting by the famous painter Eduard v. Gebhardt, the Reverend Ferdinand v. Gebhardt's son. Next to the entrance of the parsonage, there is a plate, which was a donation of the Gebhardt family, in memory to the fact that in 1838 he was born in St. Johannis. Our family is so very much interested in Eduard v. Gebhardt's

richsorden" (Friedrich's Order) by the king.

Later he worked as the technical manager in the German Colonial School near Kassel. He has always supported the colonial training. In 1904 for instance he succeeded in having a school for German settlers added to the Agricultural Academy in Höhenheim/Württemberg.

On November 6, 1918 August Freiherr Schilling v. Canstatt died unmarried in the Johanniter Hospital in Plochingen on the river Neckar. He was cremated and buried in the Hohenwettersbach family vault.

work because the Gebhardts and the Schillings of Orgena and Jürgensberg had been close friends. Eduard v. Gebhardt has painted the portraits of several Schillings, and it is well-known that Jesus in the painting of "Sermon on the Mount" has the face of Gotthard v. Schilling of Jürgensberg.

Gotthard was in Germany when Gebhardt was working on this painting. Very often he went to Düsseldorf, where the painter lived for 65 years, teaching at the Academy of Arts and where in 1925 he died. Since for a long time already the pastor of St. Tönis, Renz Schaeffer, had been cherishing the idea of giving one of Gebhardt's original paintings to the congregation of St. Johannis, he established a donation fund.

When in spring 2008 I told this story at a Baltic German ladies' Circle, I was very much surprised when one of the ladies, Sabine Wegst, consented to sell one of her two Gebhardt paintings to the congregation for 2000 €.

'I'll be happy to know that the pain-

ting goes back home', Mrs. Wegst said. The painting was restored, put into a new frame and was paid for with the aid of the fund and other donations. In the first days of October we started our trip to St. Johannis, where we presented the congregation with the painting, after a solemn service held by Katrin Melder, the pastor.

'It symbolizes the ties of friendship between our congregations', Dr. Riechers said in his speech. The emotional reaction of the congregation as well as of the delegates of the local administration proves that this present has given new meaning to the relationship of the two congregations.

We still do not know whom or what Gebhardt had in mind, when he painted this picture: Was it just a sketch in preparation for a big painting? Some people think Gebhardt was influenced by his trip to Italy in 1883. In fact the faces are different from those in his other paintings, where he rather portrayed the 'Estonian farmer'.

In Germany as well as in Estonia this painting has been under discussion for quite a while: Did he mean to paint the Lord's Supper or the Wedding at Cana? At first no one seemed to notice the bottom right-hand corner, where perhaps the answer to the painting is hidden. On closer inspection there seems to be a head on a platter. Is this meant to be the head of St. John the Baptist shown at the Feast of Herod (Matth. 14, 1-11)?

The church of St. Johannis has originally been dedicated to St. John the Baptist. Was that the idea of Gebhardt painting? In comparing a portrait of the artist with the face of the person in the green frock on the left the Reverend Katrin Melder thinks to recognize Gebhardt himself. Anyway: The problem of interpreting the painting will be pursued.



Eduard v. Gebhardt's painting. A head in the bottom right-hand corner?

Plans of Renovating Orgena

There was still time to deal with 'problems' concerning our family. I went to the cemetery of St. Petri/Peetri in order to have a look at the stone, which I had ordered in memory to the ancestors of Seinigal, Alexander Napoleon Baron Schilling (1803-1866), his wife Pauline née v. Rosen and their descendants. After presenting the painting, the head of the local administration of St. Johannis, Rein Köster and I talked about Orgena. He assured me that the plans for the renovation were under way.

At the beginning of January Silva Kärner of St. Johannis told me in a letter that they plan to renovate the south wing with the classrooms while the museum with a separate room in memory to the Schillings will remain on the upper floor. They want a combination of the Old and the New, the old chimney for instance is deem-

ed worthy of preservation. Unfortunately they cannot start working before they have the necessary material.

It was interesting to meet Inge Saar whom I had not met before. She had a picture of the old mill in front of the manor house of Orgena hoping I would get further information. Back home I found the windmill on a map of 1916 (see Helene Bsse. Schilling 'Schilling', 1999, p. 210). Mrs. Saar told me that just a couple of stones indicate the place of the former mill. Mrs. Kärner wrote in her letter that she has a picture which was taken in the 1930ies, when on the occasion of an agricultural show a model of the windmill was standing in front of the manor house of Orgena. I stayed overnight in the parsonage of St. Johannis which I can highly recommend (double bedroom, common bathroom, 14 €).“
Reservation: phone Mrs. Melder (pastor): 00372-38-63114 or email: katrinmelder@hotmail.com

More News

“Intelligent and Humorous”

Portrait of Carl Christoph von Schilling in Latvia

Thanks to our website we receive many emails and letters. Last year we had a letter from one of the archivists of the museum of Tuckum/Tukums, Ilze Paparinska, who had discovered the portrait of Carl Christoph von Schilling called Adeling (1755-1821). She eventually asked for further information. We were able to help:

Carl Christoph is the grandson of Otto Nikolaus, Pojulen, of the eastern branch. Otto is the brother of Friedrich Wilhelm von Schilling (Baltic German line, Estonia), who was Karl Gebhard's father and the ancestor of the Baltic German line of our family association. Carl Christoph is our ancestor's nephew. Since we did not have a picture of Carl as yet we were delighted to get this photo. Mrs. Paparinska likes the picture very much:

“By the look of his eyes, his mouth with the ghost of a smile and the position of his hands he presents himself as a man of intelligence and humour. Usually the officers in paintings of this time are rather grim-faced.”

Carl Christoph is the son of Anton Christoph von Schilling and his third wife Sophia von Adeling. He held the rank of lieutenant colonel in the regiment of the Duke of Kurland and had a house in Mitau/Jelgava (Latvia). His grandfather Friedrich von Adeling appointed him as heir to the estate of Menckenhof under the condition that he added „Adeling“ to his name. Ilze Paparinska was happy to get this information. She also found an official announcement of Carl Christoph's death in the “Mitauischen Intelligenz-Blatt“ dating from 19 April 1821.

„During the night between 14 to 15 April we have lost our devoted and beloved father, lieutenant colonel in the Russian army (since 1795 Kurland belonged to the Russian Empire and the military was in the service of the tsar), Carl Christoph Schilling called Adeling. He died before he was even 67 years of age. Please refrain from offering your condolences. Mitau, 19 April 1821. His children, son-in-law and daughter-in-law.”

Carl Christoph was married to Juliane Friederike v. Lindenowski who had died earlier. They had eight children. Their son Wilhelm, born 1793, resigned from the army holding the rank of Imperial Russian captain lieute-

nant and studied law and political science in Berlin. He was a well-known poet and writer in Kurland. We suppose it was Wilhelm whom Heinrich Heine mentioned in his “Letters from Berlin” (Elizabeth A. Sharp, London, p. 112):

!Do you see that elegant with easy manner who lisps like a Courlander, and at this moment has turned towards the tall serious-looking man in a green overcoat? He is the Baron von Schilling, who in the Minden Sunday newspaper so disturbed the ‘dear little grandsons of Teut’.”

It is interesting to know that Carl Christoph's sister Julie (1763-1826) was married to the Imperial Russian Major Johann Reinhold Schilling of the western branch (Thomsdorff). In this way the three lines have finally mixed up again (see p. 6).



Carl Christoph von Schilling



The building of the Historical Archive of Cologne collapsed like a house of cards

In the Ruins of the Archive Building

Our family documents destroyed?

We suppose that in 1310 Friedrich, the ancestor of the Baltic line, participated in the conspiracy and murder of King Albrecht von Habsburg and was imprisoned in Lahnstein Castle and executed in Cologne. Unfortunately this story is not proven and we have been looking for further information for years.

Doro Dumoulin, alias Antonia Pauly, authoress of the book “Der Büttel von Köln” (the constable of Cologne), the story of which is set in that time, promised to look for further information on Friedrich Schilling in the Historical Archive of Cologne.

But eventually something incredible happened. On Tuesday, 3 March 2009 the world-famous archive building collapsed

like a house of cards due to the construction of a new subway. On the following day, 4 March, Doro Dumoulin wrote a letter:

“Yesterday something incredible happened in Cologne! I cannot believe that the Historical Archive of Cologne does not exist any more. A catastrophe that will shake the world. Apart from the fact that two young men were killed and a substantial part of the written records are destroyed or irretrievably lost it hit me that I have missed to do my research by one day. I had actually planned to visit the archive today, Wednesday.

Unfortunately I cannot give you much information. We can certainly take Friedrich Schilling’s participation in the conspiracy against

King Albrecht for granted; but I am not sure if your ancestor was executed right after storming the castle or later in Cologne. I am sure the chronicles of 1309/1310 would have helped a lot; in a city like Cologne the execution of the murderer of a king would certainly not go unnoticed. I am sorry that I am unable to tell you more, but without the help of the Historical Archive of the City of Cologne...”

In 1989 Michail Gorbatschow said: “He who comes too late will be punished by life.” We must say: “He who comes too late will be punished by the Transport Services of Cologne (KVB)”, who are responsible for a certain sloppiness at the construction works of the subway. We ought to have done our research ages ago! We can only hope that as many documents as possible will be retrieved from the ruins.

Three Schillings on TV in Paris

Talk show on ARTE

They made a great appearance: On 24 February 2009 three Schillings appeared in a TV talk show on ARTE in Paris. The new talk show “Zur Sache” (to the point) had two main topics: the financial crisis and the crisis in the Roman Catholic Church after Pope Benedict XVI had lifted the excommunication of four bishops, among them Williamson, who was accused of Holocaust denial.

Together with 27 guests from eleven EU countries our chairman Helmuth, our manager and treasurer Hans and our youth representative Yasmine Foy have been invited to the studio of the French-German TV Channel in Paris. The talk show as hosted by the famous French journalist Patrick Poivre d’Avor, whose idea it is



from left: Hans, Yasmine, Patrick Poivre (ARTE) and Helmuth

to outline and explain the most characteristic features and phenomena of society. Except the guests several experts were present in the two-hour talk show. Jean-Lous Borri, the father of Yasmine’s boyfriend, had invited

the Schillings, since his agency was commissioned to recruit the guests.

After the show Patrick Poivre said:

“The Schillings have been a valuable addition to this show.”

Coffin in Burial Vault Repaired

A visit to the family grave in Meißen-Zscheila

Our new member Eric Beyer, Bautzen, Saxony, has visited the burial vault of the Proschwitz line, western branch, in the Trinitatis Church in Meißen-Zscheila, where the famous sculptor Johannes Schilling is buried. Eventually he noticed that one of the smaller coffins is slightly damaged. Johannes’s great granddaughter Ina Schilling-Nickel immediately went to Meißen, since she and her husband Walter Nickel both want to be buried in the vault.

Their report: The coffin-lid has not been smashed, but the glue had come off over the years. Meanwhile Ina had it repaired by a carpenter, she paid 268,02 € out of her own pocket. In 1715 Jacob Schilling (1660-1742), lord of the nearby Proschwitz Castle, had the family

vault built. No Schilling was buried in the family vault after his grandson Johann Friedrich Schilling (1714-1794) had sold the castle.

In September 1943 Johannes’s son Heinar Schilling had the mortal remains of some of his ancestors, his father’s among them, transferred to the family vault and had the family crest fixed to the wall, a spectacular achievement indeed. Now there are six generations of the Proschwitz line buried in the crypt.

After his visit in Meißen-Zscheila Eric wrote:

“The crypt is unique there is no other family vault like this in our family, just a couple of epitaphs. I think the damage should be re-

paired to preserve the crypt for the following generations.”

This is what Ina did.

The Association says

Thank you!



This is what the coffin looked like



Jürgen v.Schilling was escorted by members of his Student Corporations

Farewell to the Gardener of Peace

Cousin Jürgen died /an obituary written by the chairman

Last year, on 17 August, one week short of his 99th birthday, our cousin Dr. Jürgen von Schilling died on his beloved North Sea island of Langeoog. For almost 50 years Jürgen has made the greatest efforts and received credit for turning the almost abandoned cemetery in the dunes into a wonderful park.

The inhabitants of Langeoog fondly called him “the Baron of the island”. He was born in Riga (now Latvia) on August 9, 1909. In 1920 his family moved to Berlin, where the eleven-year-old boy grew up in a foster family.

In 1935 he passed his medical exam at the University of Berlin. In the same year he joined the Marines in Wilhelmshaven as a medical officer. Being chief medical officer and head physician on the hospital ship “Rügen” he had good connections with the International Red Cross.

Eventually they were a great help when in 1947 he wanted to place 200 children from the considerably destroyed city of Wilhelmshaven in Swiss host families.

In 1946 he started working as a practitioner and obstetrician in

Wilhelmshaven. In 1960 he planted the first trees on Langeoog Island. In 1980 he became honorary citizen of the island and in 2003 he was granted the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. He donated houses to SOS Children’s Villages in Mexico and Latvia.

Jürgen wanted peace and reconciliation. This is why he gave all his

time and effort to the care of the graves of 113 Russian prisoners of war, who had miserably died on the island.

The “gardener of peace” has lived to witness the realisation of his great plan, the first opening of the beautiful new gate to the cemetery in March last year; and on August 9, 2008 he has enjoyed the celebration of his 99th anniversary with his relatives, some members of his Student Corporations and people from the island in front of his “planter’s cabin” on the cemetery, where he had held so many celebrations before.

On the occasion of his 100th anniversary this year a water lily pond was dedicated to his memory. He had prepared the speech that I held:

“This landscaping part of the cemetery is the climax of the horticultural design.” It was Jürgen’s wish to have a boulder installed in front of a bench with the inscription of one of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe’s poems: “Über allen Gipfeln ist Ruh” (up there all the summits are still). The main path of the cemetery is now called



His 99th anniversary. From left: Helmuth, Hans Jansen, the mayor of Langeoog, Dr. Heli Leiß, the former mayoress, Jürgen and his daughter Elisabeth Reinicke.



The house "Ring 4" (left) after the restoration of the gable. Supposedly Daniel Schilling's (1506-1563) home.

Looking for Traces in Breslau

The Schillings in a Polish documentation

Breslau (Wrocław), now the Capital City of Poland, and until 1945 the Capital City of the German Province of Silesia, plays an important role in the history of our family. After being expelled from Lahneck Castle, Friedrich Schilling (1305-1373), ancestor of the western line, attained great honour in Prague. King Johann of Bohemia granted him Heinrichau Manor near Breslau as a fiefdom. He eventually settled in Breslau where he was elected alderman. Since then this branch of the family was quite numerous.

Obviously the Poles are aware of this, too. The art historian Weronika Pindras who is planning to reconstruct the way of life of an upper class family in Breslau during the 15th/16th centuries decided to use the Schillings as examples. It is not supposed to be an academic study in written form only, but an artistic performance is being plan-

ned, too. Weronika Pindras and the Family Association are working closely together. This is why we consider having a family reunion in Wrocław in 2014 though there are no Schillings living in the city anymore.

The "Red House" has always been of great importance to the Schillings. According to our genealogist Heinar Schilling (1894-1955) Friedrich had the house built in 1333 in 'Herrengasse' (Herren St.). Supposedly this is where Alderman Daniel Schilling in 1556 gathered members of the various branches in order to have them sign a contract of inheritance.

Our new member Eric Beyer followed the Schillings' tracks in Wrocław. His report:

"Up to now we were not able to locate precisely the 'Red House'. I tried to bring light into the darkness. According to the book 'Wie Breslau wurde' (what became of



Epitaph for Daniel Schilling in the Elisabeth Church. The Schillings' coat of arms at the bottom.

Breslau), by F.G. Weiss, Cousin Daniel (1506-1563) was the owner of the house 'Ring' (No. 4 and Herren St. right behind Ring). The building remained in the possession of the family until 1711. It was altered and renovated in the Baroque style and in 1820 the gable was removed and replaced by a saddle roof. When in 1945 the city was destroyed the house 'Ring 4' was the worst affected.

When rebuilding the city the Polish Department of Urban Planning took advantage of this fact by reconstructing the old gable according to the original drawings so that now the house 'Ring 4' looks like it did in 1800. The houses connecting Ring and Herren St. are much older showing Gothic elements.

With reference to an old directory Walter Schilling (1884-1969), who did a lot of research, was convinced that 45 Reusche St. and 14 Oder St. were the 'Red Houses'. Gerhard Scheuermann confirms this in his 'Breslauer Lexikon' (dictionary). In my opinion this rather big house is the legendary 'Red House'.

In 1388 the minutes of the lay judges of Breslau record a property between Reuscher (now ul. Ruska) and Antonien (now ul. Sw. Antibiego) Streets. The proprietor was Hannos (Hans, Johann or Johannes) Schilling.

Hannos may well have been a son of Friedrich Schilling (about 1388-1420), who was nicknamed 'Friedrich der Rothe'. It is interesting to know that the Alderman and Patrician of Breslau, Hannos (Johannes) Rothe, supposedly related to the Schillings, lived in the neighbourhood of Hannos Schilling. Perhaps he had adopted his relative's name after his father had expelled him from the family, because he had refused to secede from the Roman Catholic Church. After the Schillings had sold the 'Red House' it was converted into a famous hotel, where in 1790 Goethe and the Duke of Sachsen-Weimar stayed the night. Right now the building is in a rather tolerable condition. The roof is being renovated and the apartments are for sale.

There are more things reminding of the Schillings in Wroclaw, however. In the Municipal Museum you can see an Epitaph, two metres high and completed in 1515, an oil on wood painting, showing Andreas Pulcher, citizen of Breslau, who had died in the same year, and his



Presumably the Schillings' 'Red House' in Wroclaw

widow Ottilia (Ortia) Schilling. They are shown together with their children and their family crest praying the rosary.

The Schilling coat of arms has been granted to the family by Kaiser Maximilian in 1507. In the Elisabeth Church there is the Epitaph (1559) of Simon v. Ashelm and his wife Elisabeth Schilling. The Epitaph of Daniel Schilling on the opposite wall is a sculptured representation of him and his family.

Gottfried I (1547-1603) was an interesting member of the Breslau Schilling family. He was the nephew and confidant of the famous scholar Thomas Rhediger (Redinger) of Breslau. He probably helped him establish his famous library, the basis of the library as it is now. In gratitude to Gottfried Schilling, who had cared for Redinger until he died, he left him 4000 Thaler in his will, a considerable sum at the time.

For several years Gottfried was alderman. A brass plate in memory of the donation of a new roof for the Elisabeth Church in the Municipal Museum bears the names of all aldermen of the time, Godfried Schilling's name as second lay judge among them." Eric Beyer

Eric Beyer has actually discovered the remains of the Schilling estates near Wroclaw: Hartlieb, Kerkow and Heinrichau. There is nothing left of Hartlieb Manor, "An der Parkmauer 1", from the times of the Schilling family. In the 19th century a villa in the Neo-Renaissance style of the Schottländer family was built in the park, which during the Siege of Breslau at the end of World War II, however, was completely burnt.

An important member of our family used to live in Hartlieb Manor: Friedrich Schilling, nicknamed "Slow" (1584-1637). He was the grandson of Daniel, who had the



Ottilia née Schilling painted in 1515 by an unknown artist.

contract of inheritance signed. He was Steward of the Household of the Prince of Anhalt-Köthen, Ludwig II, editor of a German grammar book and founder of the "Fruchtbringende Gesellschaft" (Productive Society), a German Language Society that considerably influencing the German literature of the Early Baroque. With regard to his nickname, "Slow", his motto was taken from Jac. I, 19: "Understand this, my dear brothers. Let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger."



Friedrich Schilling's coat of arms, signature and motto.

To the Castle by Boat

6th reunion of the Baltic branch at Höhnscheid



members of the family reunion at Höhnscheid Castle

Eventually this “minor family reunion” turned out to be a major reunion. From 4 to 6 September 77 members of the Baltic branch held their 6th reunion of Karl Gebhard’s (1719-1779) descendants at Höhnscheid Castle near Kassel. As usual our chairman Helmuth had the pleasure of welcoming members of all generations. The youngest was nearly three, the eldest 94 years old. And as usual they came from all over the world, Sweden, England, Canada and one of our cousins had even made the long trip from Australia.

Every three years the family association organises such a “minor reunion” apart from the ordinary

family reunions of the three branches.

After saying hello and some long talks on Friday night two busses took them all to the Lake Eder the next morning. For two hours they sailed on the “Eder Star” on the large reservoir admiring the huge dam, 47 metres in height and 270 metres in length.

One of our English members mentioned the fact that in May 1943 British bombers destroyed the dam causing a flood wave of 160 million cubic metres doing a whole lot of damage and killing 68 people.

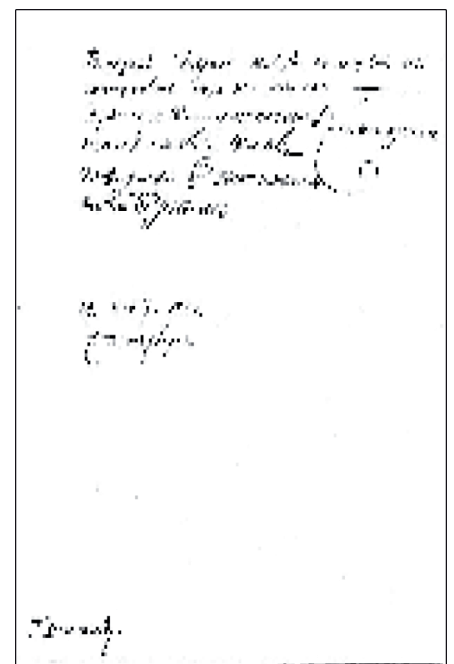
Back on firm ground we visited Waldeck Castle, 200 metres above the lake that is 27 kilometres in

length.

The castle was the home of the Grafen von Waldeck, closely related to our southern branch and in a more distant way to the house of Kook of our eastern branch.

For quite a long time the building was used as a prison and torture chamber. On their tour of the museum “Under Lock and Key” the sight of all the awful instruments of torture being used in the Middle Ages gave the visitors the shivers. Back in Höhnscheid they were shown an impressive documentation of the first Russian circumnavigation of the world under the command of Adam von Krusenstern, a distant relation of the eastern branch.

On the occasion of the festive dinner at night Helmuth mentioned the importance of Karl Gebhard von Schilling, who had succeeded in rising from a common soldier to the rank of major-general. Being very well acquainted with Catherine the Great he turned to the Empress asking for his dismissal from the military service when in 1764 he had some problems with his Russian superior when constructing Baltischport/Paldiski harbour.



The Empress sent him a personal letter, which is still in our family archive. After such a long time, however, it was especially torn on the folded edges and in danger of being completely destroyed. We eventually had it repaired at the expense of the family association. The letter reads as follows:

“Major-General – on receiving this come hither at once, your accommodation will be as you were told on Our visit to Reval (now Tallinn, editor’s note).” Ekaterina St. Petersburg, 19 November 1764.

Soon after receiving the letter Karl Gebhard went to Petersburg, where the tsarina obliged his wishes and dismissed him from military service.

After dinner people happily sat together talking, some of them until the small hours of Sunday morning.

The next day started with a service held by our member Detlef Rüter and accompanied by the flute player Baronin Anna Korff. Before we had our final lunch we were shown pictures of our reunion 2006 in Estonia.

Extremely pleased the members said thank you to Helmuth for his perfect organisation.

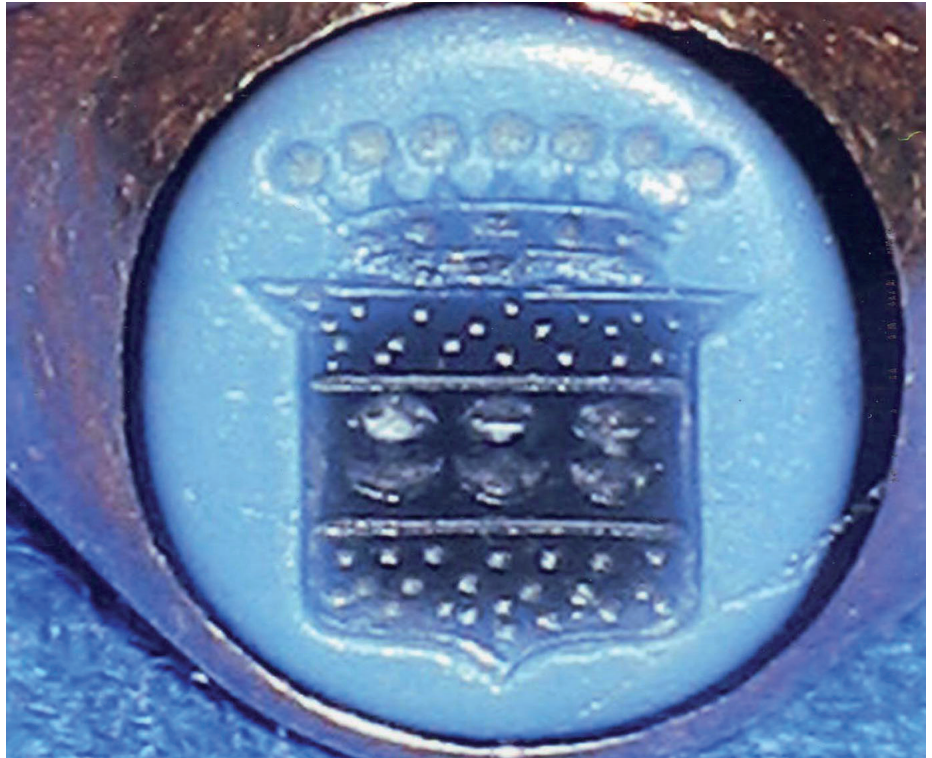
Perhaps our next reunion will be in Sweden in 2012.



One of the youngsters standing guard.

Speculation about a Signet Ring

Discovery in the coat of a soldier, killed in 1945



The Schilling ring: definitely the coat of arms of the Eastern Branch.

Another exciting email: A family by the name of Grünwold wrote: “For over fifty years our family has owned a signet ring, which seemed to bring nothing but happiness. Eventually the family is interested in the ring. After inquiring at the Herold Society in Berlin we found out that it is a signet ring bearing the coat of arms of the eastern Baltic branch of your family.”

And indeed it is, but who was the bearer of this ring?

We, too, started to investigate. We talked to Marlis Grünwold from Malchin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, daughter of the late owner and finder of the ring.

She told us her story: “By the beginning of May 1945, when the war was almost over, the Russians occupied the village shooting four German soldiers. The villagers buried the bodies taking away their dog tags and their garments. When ironing one of the soldiers’ coats my mother discovered a ring sewn into a pocket.”

We made enquiries at the German War Graves Commission, because the graves in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern are well-known to them, and asked at the cemetery office in Malchin, but there are no documents about anyone by the name of “von Schilling”.

Karsten Richter, manager of the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern section, promised to make a personal enquiry in Malchin some time, in order to find out more.

We asked if any member of the family knew anything about the ring. But no one remembered anyone, who was either reported missing or got killed in the area of Mecklenburg in May 1945.

But we will definitely try to crack the secret of this signet ring.

Six of the Baltic Schillings were killed in Russia or died in POW camps, one in Norway, one in Italy, one Berlin at the end of the war and one on the flight from Poland. Was he the owner of the signet ring?

Two Golden Wedding Anniversaries



In May the twins Georg (Jürgen) and Nicolai Baron von Schilling and their respective wives Margot and Ruth celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

In 1953 the twins went separate ways. While Georg emigrated to Vancouver/Canada Nicolai stayed in Germany.

Surprisingly enough the two brothers, though living in two different parts of the world, not only got married in the same year, but

they both have the same number of children (two each) and grandchildren (seven).

On the occasion of the celebration in Germany, however, only the children of Nicolai and Ruth have been present.

Our picture in front of the Evangelical Lutheran St. Peter's Church in Salzgitter (from left): Margot and Georg, Ruth and Nicolai, in the middle Pastor Hagen Rautmann after blessing the couples.

Cousin Reinhard Turned 80

By the end of June our Board member Reinhard Schilling of the western branch celebrated his 80th birthday in Appenzell, Switzerland.

His wife Agnes Maria and his three children living in France, Holland and the USA had arranged a surprise party for their father. Six grandchildren, friends and relatives came to congratulate him. Before having a festive dinner the guests made a boat trip on the beautiful Lake Constance in wonderful weather. Our chairman Helmuth praised Reinhard's commitment for the family association presenting him with his birth notice in a newspa-



per from Krefeld.

Our picture shows Reinhard with his son Mathias from San Francisco.

Cousin Mady Says Thank You for Good Wishes

Most of you know Mady Freifrau Schilling v. Canstatt, who deserves to be praised for her long-standing commitment to our association and for the integration of our US-American relatives.

In spite of a long stay in hospital and physical therapy after a heavy fall in September 2008, she is not able to leave her flat any more. She says she is provided with the best home care possible, however.

She was delighted and deeply moved to get so many letters and greeting cards recently, but she is unable to answer them all. Eventually she asked the chairman of the association to say thank you to all of you, who remembered her.

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Photos: p. 1 to 4: the Schillings in Chile; p. 5: Christine Smith; p. 6: Donnerberg Touristik-Verband; p. 8: Järwa Teataja; p. 9: Ilze Paparinska; p. 10: Der Spiegel; p. 11 top: ARTE; p. 11 bottom: Eric Beyer; p. 12: Langeoog News; p. 13 to 14: Eric Beyer; p. 15 top: Monika Weber, bottom: Schilling Archive; p. 16 top: Marlis Grünwoldt, bottom: Ebba v. Schilling; p. 17 top: H. Haas; bottom: Nicola Schilling.

No. 8, 2008 was mistakenly issued as No. 9, sorry.