CompGen and Beyond - Discover the Online Records of German Genealogy Societies
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Class objectives:
- *Genealogical Societies in Germany*
- *What research opportunities do the German societes offer online*
- *Learn how to search in the different databases*
- *More hints and tricks for the search*
- *Get in touch with the societies and benefit from the expertise of the members*

The genealogical societies in Germany!
In addition to the large well-known association "Verein für Computergenealogie e.V." - also known as "CompGen", there are many genealogical societies in the present Germany and for the former German territories.

The societies have many experts with great knowledge of the region, available information and sources, as well as the ability to help researchers ideally.

A growing part of the work of the societies is often the creation of online databases to give back the knowledge gained in the society to the research community and to support experienced and new researchers in their own genealogical research.

Get to know the associations and their online databases!

Email me at ***timo@kracke.org*** if you have any further questions.

Regions in Germany
North

Arbeitskreis Volkszahl-Register
Personal data North Germany
                    http://www.akvz.de/e107_plugins/akvzdb_menu/akvzdb_ohnelogin-1.php
Handwritten censuses and other registers of persons from the period 1671 to 1864 are
transferred into machine-readable form with maximum document fidelity, without
alteration or interpretation of the original (transcription).
The AKVZ currently focuses on the former duchies of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg,
the principality of Lübeck and the grand duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.
It currently contains 2,431,545 person records from 4,469 registers.

DIE MAUS Gesellschaft für Familienforschung e.V.
Data collections   https://die-maus-bremen.info/index.php?id=29&L=500
In order to improve the research possibilities, many family history sources from the city of
Bremen, but also from the surrounding area, have been evaluated over the years by MAUS
members. The resulting data collections are available here in digital form. Containing data:
Emigration, Bremen residents' directories, civil rights registers, family notices 1796 - 1811,
genealogical collections, gravestones, Jewish families in the Bremen area, King's German
Legion, life data registers, MAUS families, Meierbriefe, local family books, pastors in
Bremen, Sea passports 1592 - 1621, St. Petri Cathedral Bremen, genealogical rolls - city
military, genealogical tables 1824 - 1933, registry office registers, deaths in Bremen 1811 -
1975, taxpayers 1638 - 1668, wills 1500 - 1899, marriage collections from 1658, Verden
data.

Niedersächsischer Landesverein für Familienkunde e.V.
Genealogical collection
                              https://www.familienkunde-niedersachsen.de/?Sammlungen
Here documents from the collections of the NLF are made available. This is mainly prepared
material from estates and donations, which is offered for the following categories: Families,
groups of persons, church records, local family records, Hannover

Oldenburgische Gesellschaft für Familienkunde e.V.
Family database Oldenburger Land   https://ofb.familienkunde-oldenburg.de/
In this database, the local family books of the Duchy of Oldenburg are to be combined into a
common family database.

Emigrants from the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg

http://www.auswanderer-oldenburg.de/

This database contains emigrants from the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg as well as, in part, their parents and siblings who did not emigrate with them, as far as they are known. The information comes from various sources such as citizenship discharges, from notes in church records, registers of souls and family registers, from correspondence with family researchers and emigrant families as well as from association members.

Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft für historische Personenforschung und Bevölkerungsgeschichte in Ostfriesland e.V.
Tombstones East Frisia   https://www.grabsteine-ostfriesland.de/
Photos of gravestones on cemeteries in East Frisia as a tool for genealogical research

Brick Walls East Frisia   https://www.tote-punkte-ostfriesland.de/
A database of brick walls in East Frisia as a tool for genealogical research.

East
Brandenburgische Genealogische Gesellschaft (BGG) "Roter Adler" e. V.

https://www.bggroteradler.de/?page_id=5271

The BGG has launched various projects and started to create numerous databases - from a gazetteer to the parish database, created jointly with the AGOFF, to church, address, civic and civil registers. In the meantime, more than 6.6 million data records have been collected. Included data are: gazetteer, churches, cemeteries, partly with gravestones, monuments (of the fallen), castles and palaces , mills, street directory Alt-Berlin, occupational lists or the Brandenburg pastor database.

South
Bayerischer Landesverein für Familienkunde e.V.

https://www.blf-online.de/digitale-bibliothek-blf/

The BLF's "Digital Library" provides uniform access to various digital copies provided by the BLF. These digitisations are partly accessible to the general public and partly only to BLF members.
Data included are: Death Image Project, Cemetery Project, and in the future, obituaries, researcher profiles, school year reports, funeral sermons, BLF DVDs, and Gelbe Blätter online.

Gesellschaft für Familienforschung in Franken e.V.

https://www.gf-franken.de/de/datenbankzugriff.html

GFF operates a number of databases that contain valuable information for personal history and family researchers. They are provided in a variety of ways.

Data included are: Mortality database, RAA - Repertorium Alborum Amicorum, the world's largest database for researching family books and genealogical records, AAA - Album Academicum Altorphinum, a personal database that includes all members (professors, students, employees ...) of the Academy and

University of Altdorf from 1578 to 1809 and the GFF-Bilddatenbank, a portal for making portraits, topographical photographs, coats of arms and many other motifs useful for family history accessible.

West

Bergischer Verein für Familienkunde e.V.

Bergischer Datenpool   https://datenpool.bvff.de

The data pool contains over 115 genealogical files (pedigrees), several project files, and approximately 30 mapping files with a total of approximately 510,000 personal and 190,000 family records.

Westdeutschen Gesellschaft für Familienkunde e.V.

Death Cards database   https://www.wgff-tz.de/

The database currently contains 508,367 death cards from various collections. The death data contained in the database goes back as far as 1451.

MigraBase - Emigration database   http://www.wgff-migrabase.de/

The database currently contains 105,001 person records of emigrants and their relatives from 157 sources, mostly from West Germany.

Digitale Bibliothek - Name directories   http://www.wgff-digibib.de/

Through this portal, the WGfF would like to make available to its members edits of primary sources such as church records, civil status registers, tax and tribute lists.

Database Cologne citizens until 1800   http://koelnerbuerger.de/

Within the project TimeMachine Cologne the database with the inhabitants of the city of Cologne at the time of the Old Empire is created. It is based on the church registers and other sources on the history of the city of Cologne. The project is still at an early stage and already contains more than 300,000 entries.

Former German territories

Arbeitsgemeinschaft ostdeutscher Familienforscher e. V.
Metasearch   https://agoff.de/?p=3749
The metasearch searches all unlocked databases on the websites of the
Arbeitsgemeinschaft ostdeutscher Familienforscher.

Projects/Databases   https://agoff.de/?p=168
The AGoFF maintains numerous databases on persons and families for its field of research,
which have different levels of processing. Some of these databases are publicly accessible to
everyone, others are only accessible to registered users, if special requirements have to be
observed or specifications of data suppliers and editors have to be respected.
Included databases such as AGoFF short index, family announcements, gravestone
inscriptions, migration, official persons in East Prussia, Silesia index, West Prussia index
and many more.

Pommerscher Greif e.V.
Location database source search
                              https://www.pommerscher-greif.de/militaerpflichtige.html
From Hinterpommerschen Kreisblättern, which have been put online by the Polish Digital
Library and the Berlin State Library, a group of Stolper family researchers in the Stolper
Heimatkreis e.V. and a working group of the Greif have recorded the annual lists of
Aushebungslisten, also called recruit lists, contained in many of these newspapers.

Personendatenbank GreifX   https://www.pommerscher-greif.de/greif-index.html
The Greif-Index is a central personal database into which index works of Pomeranian
church books and civil registers are to flow, which were made by society members,
members of friendly societies or other active persons and made available to the society for
the publication. The stock of the personal database can be searched freely for certain search
names or name combinations and with additional criteria.

Verein für Familienforschung in Ost- und Westpreußen e.V.
Gdansk Genealogical Tables
             https://www.vffow.org/content/datenbanken/danziger-genealogische-tafeln/
Patricians, citizens, inhabitants of the Free and Hanseatic City of Gdansk in genealogical and
name tables from the 14th - 18th centuries (compiled by Dorothea Weichbrodt, née v.
Tiedemann).

East and West Prussia - researcher file   http://gendb-mg.vffow.org/
The genealogical database of the Verein für Familienforschung in Ost- und Westpreußen e.V.
(VFFOW).

Supraregional
Verein für Computergenealogie e.V.

GEDBAS, User-Contributed Family Trees   *http://gedbas.genealogy.net/*
Family historians can submit their research as a GEDCOM file to the GEDBAS database. The purpose of GEDBAS is both to facilitate contact between researchers and to provide backup and storage for research findings. Currently, more than 17.5 million records can be searched in GEDBAS.

Local Heritage Books   *http://ofb.genealogy.net/*
More than 1.000 fully searchable village lineage books are already available in the society's online database. Free server space is available to authors of village lineage books. Because the Internet database can be queried (but not downloaded), the author's life's work is available to a wider audience and receives more recognition.

Historical City Directories   *http://adressbuecher.genealogy.net/*
Historical city address books, directories, and citizen lists are important sources for historians pursuing many fields of research, as well as for family historians. That's why the Verein für Computergenealogie aims to collect as many address books as possible and make them searchable for genealogists. The extracted information is compiled and can be queried in the Address Book Database within GenWiki.

Genealogical Wiki (GenWiki)   *http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/*
The genealogical Wiki is an encyclopedia by genealogists, for genealogists. GenWiki now has more than 230,000 pages of genealogical knowledge and is based on the principle of give-and-take.
Over time, genealogists develop highly specialized and specific knowledge about their field of research. GenWiki depends on the willingness of its authors to share their knowledge with others in the genealogy community in a simple manner. By collaborating and sharing knowledge, everyone benefits.

Regional Portals   *http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Portal:Regionale_Forschung*
This overview guides you to the area where you can search for additional information or find external links in a particular area in Germany.

Overview of German Societies   *http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Portal:Vereine*
There are many genealogy societies all over Germany. As not all of them are member of the DAGV you'll find and overview of societies and groups on the mentioned GenWiki page.

Tombstone Project   *http://grabsteine.genealogy.net/*
From a cultural and historical point of view, the collection of tombstone images is quite significant; documentation makes it possible to view and compare changes in the style of grave stone monuments over time. Today's tombstones are much simpler in design than in the past, often bearing only the deceased's surname and no additional personal data.

This project archives and preserves part of today's funeral culture for future generations. The tombstone project is a recognized resource not only among genealogists, local historians, and lineage book authors - but is also often used by surviving family members from far and wide.

Historical Geo Information   *http://gov.genealogy.net*

Unique place identification is an essential tool for genealogists. The GOV project was created to make managing location data easier and to provide high quality place information for everyone. Especially important for family historians is the GOV's data about the geographical location of a place, key properties such as the postal code, previous or other names, and past administrative, legal, and religious affiliations. Among other things, the GOV contains information about churches, parishes, towns, counties, and regions.

WWI Casualty Lists   *http://www.verlustlisten.de/*

Indexing the casualty lists from World War I was the first CompGen/DES crowdsourcing project and holds about 8.5 million indexed entries about German casualties during WWI.

Digital Library   *http://digibib.genealogy.net/*

The Digital Library (known as DigiBib) collects and digitizes relevant genealogy and local history books that are out of copyright. This makes these often difficult to find resources available to a large circle of readers free of charge and ad-free. Digital text indexing also enables full-text searching within these books.

DES Crowdsourcing   *http://des.genealogy.net/*

The DES data-entry system strengthens the society's commitment to the principles of providing free access to records and collaboration through crowdsourcing. DES makes it possible to index digital records and make them available to the public in a searchable online database. So far, volunteers have used DES to index more than 12 million records. Participation is very easy and requires no previous knowledge or special software.

Metasearch   *http://meta.genealogy.net/*

The genealogy.net Metasearch feature enables users to search for data in several databases at once. Metasearch is the central starting point for searching both the databases on genealogy.net and several externally connected databases.   Get a free Genealogy.net account at https://db.genealogy.net/anmeldung/ to use the genealogy.net alerts.