



16TH
INTERNATIONAL
GERLAND FAMILY
REUNION

BUFFALO, NY.

AUGUST
06 - 10, 2025



Origin of the „Buffalo 2025“ Attendees

Countries:

- **Germany**
- **Ireland**
- **Poland**
- **U.S. (18 States)**

Gerland Branches:

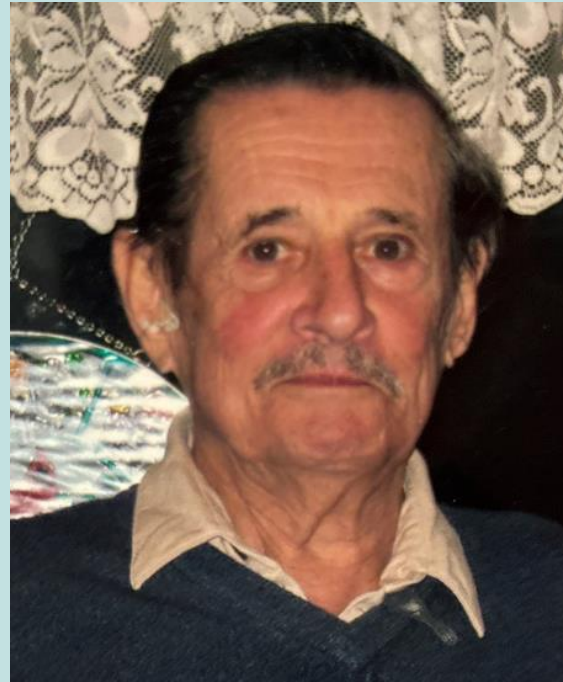
- **OHIO II** **44**
- **WISCONSIN** **18**
- **TEXAS** **15**
- **MISSOURI** **4**
- **IOWA** **1**
- **KASSEL CO.** **11**
- **SCHAUMBURG CO.** **15**
- **ADOPTED, WANNABES, FRIENDS** **7**
- **TOTAL Buffalo 2025** **115**
- **Total Rice Lake 1992** **106**
- **Total Hülshagen, Germany 1994** **160**
- **Total St. Louis 1996** **104**
- **ATTENDEES OF ALL 16 REUNIONS** **2**



Commemoration of the Deceased



Vonnie Gerland-Bennett
Gaithersburg, MD.



Ken Gerland
West Seneca, NY.



Gary Garland
San Antonio, TX.

Presentation focused on

“The  erlands

**from Germany to the
United States of America“**



13 Gerland Branches found in the USA

Green: Origin Kassel County, Pink: Origin Schaumburg County

Henry Gerland 23Sep1884 California	Henry Gerland 17Sep1850 Colorado	Henry C. Gerland 04Jun1871 Illinois	Conrad Gerland 27Jan1847 Iowa	Louis Carl Gerland 15Sep1858 Maryland	Henry Gerland 04Jun1880 Minnesota	Philipp Gerland 09Aug1828 Missouri
Origin Gottsbüren	Origin Riepen	Origin Gottsbüren	Origin Lüdersfeld	Origin Gottsbüren	Origin Hülshagen	Origin Helmarshausen
Boilermaker S. Francisco, CA.	Steelworker Flagler, CO.	Tailor Pontiac, IL.	Carpenter Sumner, IA.	Merchant Elk Ridge, MD.	Buttermaker New Ulm, MN.	Cigar Maker St. Louis, MO.

William Gerland 01Aug1837 New York	Frederick Gerland 08Jul1824 Ohio I	Henry John Gerland 07May1845 Ohio II	Henry Gerland 04Feb1824 Ohio III	Edward Gerland 29Feb1832 Texas	Conrad Gerland 09Feb1873 Wisconsin
Origin Oedelsheim	Origin Gieselwerder	Origin Gottsbüren	Origin Heisebeck	Origin Gieselwerder	Origin Hülshagen
Cooper Brooklyn, NY.	Day Laborer Cincinnati, OH.	Shoemaker Cleveland, OH.	Farmer Colerain, OH.	Farmer Dime Box, TX.	Buttermaker Rice Lake, WI.

**1st Gerland found in Documents:
Councilman Gerland in Hameln on River Weser
- City of the “Pied Piper of Hamelin” (1284) -**



Hameln today

**Location: 30 mi.
southwest of
Hannover**

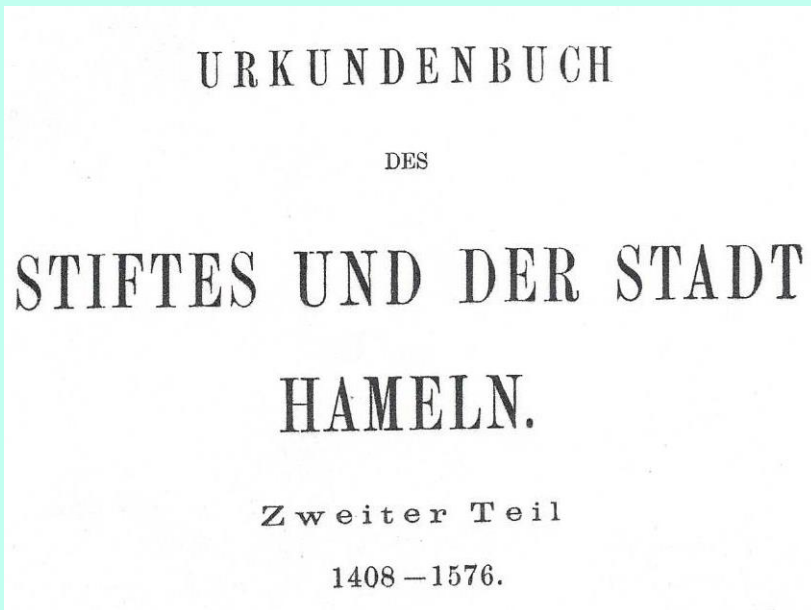
**Gerlands
since 1420**
(Source: City Archives)

**Population in 1420:
3,000
Population today:
58,000**

**No Gerlands found
in Hameln after 1560**

All 13 U.S. Branches originate from Councilman Gerland

Source of 1st Gerland found in Hameln:



**Document Register of
the Foundation and City of
Hameln
Part Two
1408 – 1576
(City Archives)**

**Visit at
City
Archives
1985**

**Pied Piper
at
Gerland
Reunion
1994**



1st Gerlands in the USA

Three Gerland Mercenaries among the 16,000 Hessian Troops in the Revolutionary War (1776-1783):



Conrad Gerland, Private, Rgmt. v. Lengerke

*** 1744 Oedelsheim, missing, wounded, died pres. 1779**

Conrad Gerland, Private, Rgmt. v. Bose

*** 1748 Gottsbüren, missing, POW, ransomed, returned home 1781**

**His three grandsons emigrated to the U.S.
("Maryland Gerlands")**

Gerhard Gerland, Private, Rgmt. v. Lengerke

*** 1748 Gieselwerder, wounded, returned home**

Source: HETRINA – Hessian Troops in North America

Overview of the 13 Gerland Branches in the USA in chronological order according to arrival date in USA

- 1. OHIO I (since 1839)**
- 2. OHIO III (since 1847)**
- 3. NEW YORK (since 1856)**
- 4. MISSOURI (since 1857)**
- 5. OHIO II (since 1866)**
- 6. COLORADO (since 1868)**
- 7. IOWA, since 1871)**
- 8. TEXAS (since 1871)**
- 9. MARYLAND (since 1882)**
- 10. ILLINOIS (since 1885)**
- 11. WISCONSIN (since 1887)**
- 12. MINNESOTA (since 1900)**
- 13. CALIFORNIA (since 1905)**

1st Gerland Branch in the USA: OHIO I (since 1839)

- **Heinrich Christian Gerland, *1789 in Gieselwerder, was farm hand who moved to the rural village Venne, Lower Saxony for a better life**
- **He married in Venne and had 5 children**
- **Venne was such a poor village that, between 1830 and 1880, **1,722** inhabitants emigrated to the USA. Slogan:**

*“Here we are only slaves of the farmers
There we drive in golden coaches”*

- **Among them were all 5 Gerland children: **4 Gerland brothers** Frederick, Henry, William & Hermann emigrated to Cincinnati, OH. in **1839** & 1852, and sister Wilhelmine & husband went to Indiana**
- **They worked as foundryman, moulder & cigarmaker**
- **They owned homes on Front Street & Emming Street**
- **Frederick & Henry were Civil War Veterans (Privates betw. 1861 & 1865 in the Union Army, 70th Regiment, Ohio Infantry, Company I). Fred was POW of Confederates**

Frederick
Gerland
08Jul1824
Ohio I
Branch

Origin
Gieselwerder

Day Laborer
Cincinnati, OH.

2nd Gerland Branch in the USA: OHIO III (since 1847)

Henry Gerland 04Feb1824 Ohio III Branch
Origin Heisebeck
Farmer Colerain, OH.

- **Henry Gerland,*1824**, was a farmer in Heisebeck, Kassel County
- **7th of 8 children**
- **Year of immigration unknown, before 1847**
- **According to US Census 1870, he married Katherine, 16 years his senior, 1847 in Colerain Township, OH. (Cincinnati area)**
- **1 son John Henry found in the Document Center of Colerain Township (www.colerain.org)**
- **Henry's sister Charlotte Gerland-Wenzel lived in Linwood, Cincinnati, OH.**

No information found so far about living descendants

3rd Gerland Branch in the USA: NEW YORK (since 1856)

- **William Gerland** *1837 came to America in **1856**
- **1st wife: Therese Auer, 1 child**
- **2nd wife: Mary Bossert, 3 children**
- **Therese died 09Jan1883 (age 43) and William married Mary (age 22) only six weeks later**
- **In US Census 1880, William & Therese are listed as next door neighbors of Mary's family**
- **William's younger sisters Charlotte & Wilhelmine also emigrated to the US**

William Gerland 01Aug1837 New York Branch
Origin Oedelsheim
Cooper Brooklyn, NY.

**William Gerland is 1st cousin of
Edward Gerland,
founder of the TEXAS Gerlands
(their fathers were brothers)**

3rd Gerland Branch in the USA: NEW YORK (since 1856)

William
Gerland
01Aug1837
New York
Branch

Origin
Oedelsheim

Cooper
Brooklyn, NY.



Gieselwerder

Oedelsheim

William Gerland's birthplace Oedelsheim, Kassel County



4th Gerland Branch in the USA: MISSOURI (since 1857)

- **Philipp Gerland *1828, & wife Caroline came to America in 1857**
- **They went to St. Louis where Caroline's brothers lived**
- **7 children**
- **2 sons, born in Germany 1853 and 1856, were not listed on the ship's passenger list and may have been smuggled on board!**

Philipp
Gerland
09Aug1828
Missouri
Branch

Origin
Helmarshausen

Cigar Maker
St. Louis, MO.

Philipp & Caroline



**Grandsons
Louis & Oliver**

Episode at Gerland Boot Company

HOLDUP MAN ROBS SHOE STORE IN LEISURELY MANNER

Forces Owner and Brother to Lie on Floor While He Rifles Cash Register.

Oliver W. **Gerland** of 3956 Labadie avenue, who operates a shoe store at 4414 Natural Bridge avenue, was counting the day's receipts preparatory to closing the store at 8:50 o'clock last night when a young highwayman entered and marched him to a rear room, where his brother, Louis **Gerland**, was at work on the books. The two men were forced to lie on the floor while the robber searched their pockets, taking \$12.

"Now, I am going to look things over in front," he told them, "and if you two birds don't lie still I'm coming back here and kill you." The **Gerland** brothers lay still. Meanwhile the robber went into the store, leisurely put aside his cap and searched the cash register, from which he took \$89 and the keys to the building. The keys were found in the front door, where he had simulated locking the door as he ran out.

5th Gerland Branch in the USA: OHIO II (since 1866)

❖ **Johann Heinrich (John Henry) Gerland**, boot maker
born 07 May 1845 Gottsbüren No. 126, Hesse Cassel

❖ **Katharina (Catherine) Edam**
born 27 Mar 1841, Hemsbach,
Bergstrasse, Baden-Württemberg

John Henry Gerland arrived in New Orleans on 22Oct1866
Catherine Edam arrived in the U.S. in 1860

6th Gerland Branch in the USA: COLORADO (since 1868)

Heinrich (Henry) Hans Gerland

***17Sep1850 Riepen No. 31, Schaumburg County**

- **Came to America in 1868**
- **Married 09Jul1877 Helen Behnke**
- **Was roadworker, railmaker, steelworker**
- **2 sons, 3 daughters**
- **Henry J.L. Gerland, *1878, Reverend in Pueblo, CO.**
- **Anna & Lydia Gerland, twins, *1880**
- **Clara Gerland, *1881**
- **Adolph C. Gerland, *1885**

Offspring in Louisiana

Henry
Gerland
17Sep1850
Colorado
Branch

Origin
Riepen

Steelworker
Flagler, CO.

**Reverend
Henry J.L.
Gerland**



7th Gerland Branch in the USA: IOWA, since 1871)

Heinrich Conrad Gerland, Carpenter,
***27Jan1847 Lüdersfeld No. 27**
Schaumburg County

- **3rd cousin of WI. & MN. Gerlands**
- **5th of 6 siblings**
- **arrived in America 16Sep1871 on steamship „Herman“ from Bremen to New York**
- **with wife Sophie and infant Sophie, 9 months old**
- **with elder cousin Engel & her 2 non-marital born children Hanna *1867 & Wilhelm *1869**
- **6 sons, 2 daughters**
- **changed name to Garland**
- **Great-grandfather of Gary (†), Jean & Larry Garland**
- **2 nephews & 1 niece arrived in America in the 1880s**

Conrad
Gerland
27Jan1847
Iowa
Branch

Origin
Lüdersfeld

Carpenter
Sumner, IA.

UNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1945.

Iowa

Henry Garland of Sumner Dies

Rites for 98-Year-Old Man
Will Be Monday.

(Courier Special Service)

Sumner, Ia. — Henry Conrad Garland, '98, Sumner's oldest citizen, died Friday at his home here of a complication of age. He had been a carpenter and cabinet maker.

Mr. Garland was born Jan. 27, 1847, at Ludersfeld, Shamburg Lippe, Germany, was baptized in infancy and was confirmed Apr. 7, 1861.

He married Anna Meier in May, 1869, in Germany. They came to the United States in 1871, and lived first at Crane Creek, now Readlyn, Ia., until the summer of 1874, when they came to Sumner.

Mr. Garland was the last charter member of St. John's Lutheran church.

Surviving are six children, Mrs. Anna Wilharm, Mrs. Sophia Wolff, Herman and George, Sumner; Will and Emil, Sacramento, Cal.; 20 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and four great grandchildren; wife and two sons, Henry and Otto, preceded him.

Edward
Gerland
29Feb1832
Texas
Branch

Origin
Gieselwerder

Farmer
Dime Box, TX.

8th Gerland Branch in the USA: TEXAS (since 1871)

- **Edward Gerland** was a farmer, 2nd of 5 children
- **1st cousin of New York Gerlands**
- arrived in Galveston 18Dec**1871** together with wife Elizabeth
- **11 children**, 8 born in Germany, 3 died as infants before 1871
- **Sister Christine Charlotte Gerland-Strohmeier** and brother **Carl Wilhelm Gerland** also emigrated to Texas

For more info see presentation at Gerland Reunion Dallas, 2023



Edward Gerland's birthplace Gieselwerder, Kassel County

Edward
Gerland
29Feb1832
Texas
Branch

Origin
Gieselwerder

Farmer
Dime Box, TX.

Gerland Family Reunion Buffalo 2025



**Tom, Cindy, Kelly – 3 nice-looking TX. Gerlands
in front of Edward Gerland's Birth Place**

Gerland Reunion 2018

Edward
Gerland
29Feb1832
Texas
Branch

Origin
Gieselwerder

Farmer
Dime Box, TX.

**Photo included upon request from Cindy:
„TEXAS KIDS GANG“ (abt. Easter 1961)**



**From left: Cindy, Sheryl, Dennis, Jimmy, Jody Gerland
Reason: „It will crack my brother Jimmy when he sees this photo.“**

9th Gerland Branch in the USA: MARYLAND (since 1882)

Ludwig Karl (Louis Carl) Gerland, *15Sep1858 Gottsbüren

- **Great-grandson of Conrad Gerland, Hessian Mercenary in the Revolutionary War**
- **Came to Maryland in 1882 on steamship „Hermann“**
- **Owned a grocery store in Shipley, MD., 7 children**
- **3 Siblings also emigrated to Maryland**
- **„Gerland Street“ in Baltimore“**
- **Grandson Bill Gerland was policeman, security officer at the White House**

Louis Carl
Gerland
15Sep1858
Maryland
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Merchant
Elk Ridge, MD.

Great-grandchildren in Maryland



**Gerland's
Store
in
Shipley, MD.**



9th Gerland Branch in the USA: MARYLAND (since 1882)

Conrad Gerland, Hessian Mercenary in the Revolutionary War

Louis Carl
Gerland
15Sep1858
Maryland
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Merchant
Elk Ridge, MD.

**Gottsbüren No. 40
Conrad Gerland's House,
built with pay
earned as mercenary
in America**

**„Conrad Gerland und seine Ehefrau Maria Elisabeth Dettmar
haben unter Gottes Beistand dieses Haus erbaut am
29. Juni 1804“**

**“Conrad Gerland and his wife Maria Elisabeth
Dettmar built this house with God's aid on
29th June 1804“**



10th Gerland Branch in the USA: ILLINOIS (since 1885)

Heinrich (Henry) C. Gerland, *04Jun1871 Gottsbüren
4th cousin to Ohio II Gerlands

- **Came to America in 1885 with mother Barbara & sister Anna, 2 years after his father was killed in a coal mine accident**
- **Was tailor with own shop in Pontiac, IL.**
- **Two sons**
- **1. Henry Eugene Gerland, *1897. Henry Jr., single, was B-7 Bomber co-pilot in World War II, shot down 30Nov1944 over Zeitz, Saxony-Anhalt, buried at Lorraine American Cemetery, France**
- **2. Howard F. Gerland *1898, clothing salesman**

Henry C.
Gerland
04Jun1871
Illinois
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Tailor
Pontiac, IL.

Trying to get in touch with
Howard's grandchildren in
Illinois & Georgia

Gottsbüren No. 85
where Henry C. Gerland was born



Source: Gottsbürener Blätter

11th & 12th Gerland Branches in the USA: MINNESOTA & WISCONSIN (since 1887/1900)

Conrad & Heinrich (Henry) Friedrich Gerland, born in Hülshagen, were brothers

- **3rd cousins of IOWA Gerlands**
- **Conrad Gerland** came to America **1887** when he was only 14. He started a creamery in Rice Lake, WI., 9 children
- **Conrad's** grandchildren started the Gerland Reunions 1992 in Rice Lake, WI.
- **Henry Gerland** came to America in **1900**. He married Rosa Schäfer whose father was eye-witness of the Sioux raid on New Ulm, MN. in 1862
- **Henry Gerland** owned a creamery in Sleepy Eye, MN., 4 children

Henry
Gerland
04Jun1880
Minnesota
Branch

Origin
Hülshagen

Buttermaker
New Ulm, MN.

Conrad
Gerland
09Feb1873
Wisconsin
Branch

Origin
Hülshagen

Buttermaker
Rice Lake, WI.



Henry & Conrad Gerland

13th Gerland Branch in the USA: CALIFORNIA (since 1905)

Heinrich (Henry) Adolph Wilhelm Gerland, *23Sep1884 Hannover

Henry
Gerland
23Sep1884
California
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Boilermaker
S. Francisco, CA.

- “was born in the midst of a raging gale in the North Sea off Helgoland, aboard his father’s fishing schooner”. (Obituary in “The San Francisco Examiner”, 13Dec1973) ... The story is a fake!
- His father was shoemaker with shop in Hannover-Linden
- Henry was born 23Sep1884 in Hannover-Linden
- came to America in **1905**, pres. escaping military service
- In the U.S. he called himself „Captain Henry“
- Pres. of General Stevedore & Ballast Co., San Francisco
- was married three times:
 - 1. Ida, ∞ **1905**, divorced for „cruelty“
 - 2. Ernestine, ∞ **1914**, divorced for „improper conduct“ („drank to excess“, „alienated by a wealthy and comely widow who came into a large heritage“)
 - 3. Julia, ∞ in **1950s**, 30 years younger, his housekeeper
- Two sons with Ida:
 - Henry W. Gerland, *1906, grandfather of **Judi & Bonnie**
 - John Gerland, *1912, † 1939 at car accident

13th Gerland Branch in the USA: CALIFORNIA (since 1897)

Henry
Gerland
23Sep1884
California
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Boilermaker
S. Francisco, CA.



Gottsbüren ca. 1920

**Henry Gerland's
father was born in
No. 57**

Source: Gottsbürener Blätter



Gottsbüren today



„century flood“ 01Aug2024

The Ohio Gerlands

- **Gerland Branch OHIO I**
- **Gerland Branch OHIO II**
- **Gerland Branch OHIO III**

Cincinnati
Cleveland
Colerain

Gerland Branch OHIO II

Origin: Gottsbüren

Electorat of Hesse-Cassel, now Kassel County

Henry John
Gerland
07May1845
Ohio II
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Shoemaker
Cleveland, OH.



Post Card ca. 1919



Gottsbüren today

Information about Gottsbüren

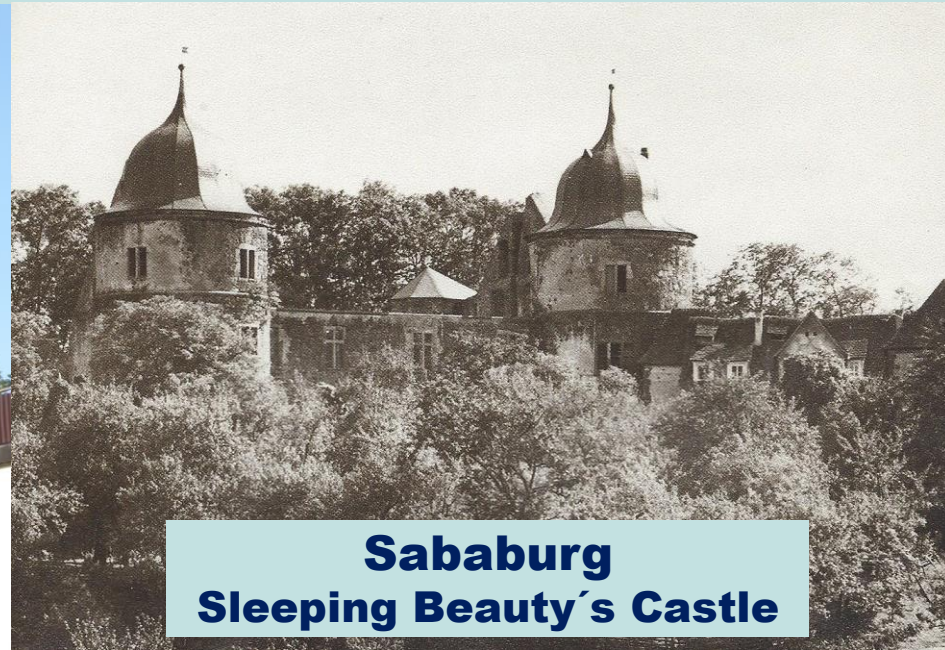
- ❖ First mentioned in the year 822
- ❖ Nearby was a monastery, in desperate need of money
- ❖ In 1330, they launched the “Miracle of Gottsbüren”: The body of Jesus Christ was found in the forest surrounding the village
- ❖ For abt. 70 years, the village became a place of pilgrimage with huge proceeds from pilgrims from all over Europe
- ❖ In 1330/1331, the church of pilgrimage was built
- ❖ In 1334, Sababurg Castle was built for protection (later chosen by the Grimm Brothers as “Sleeping Beauty’s Castle”)
- ❖ Population today: 700+



Information about Gottsbüren



Pilgrim Church



**Sababurg
Sleeping Beauty's Castle**

**Coin used between
1330 and the 1450s
as Proof of Pilgrimage**



Gottsbüren

Reunion Attendees in ...



... Sababurg Castle 1994



... Gottsbüren Church 2018

Gottsbüren Today

Henry John
Gerland
07May1845
Ohio II
Branch

Origin
Gottsbüren

Shoemaker
Cleveland, OH.



John Henry Gerland's home town Gottsbüren, today



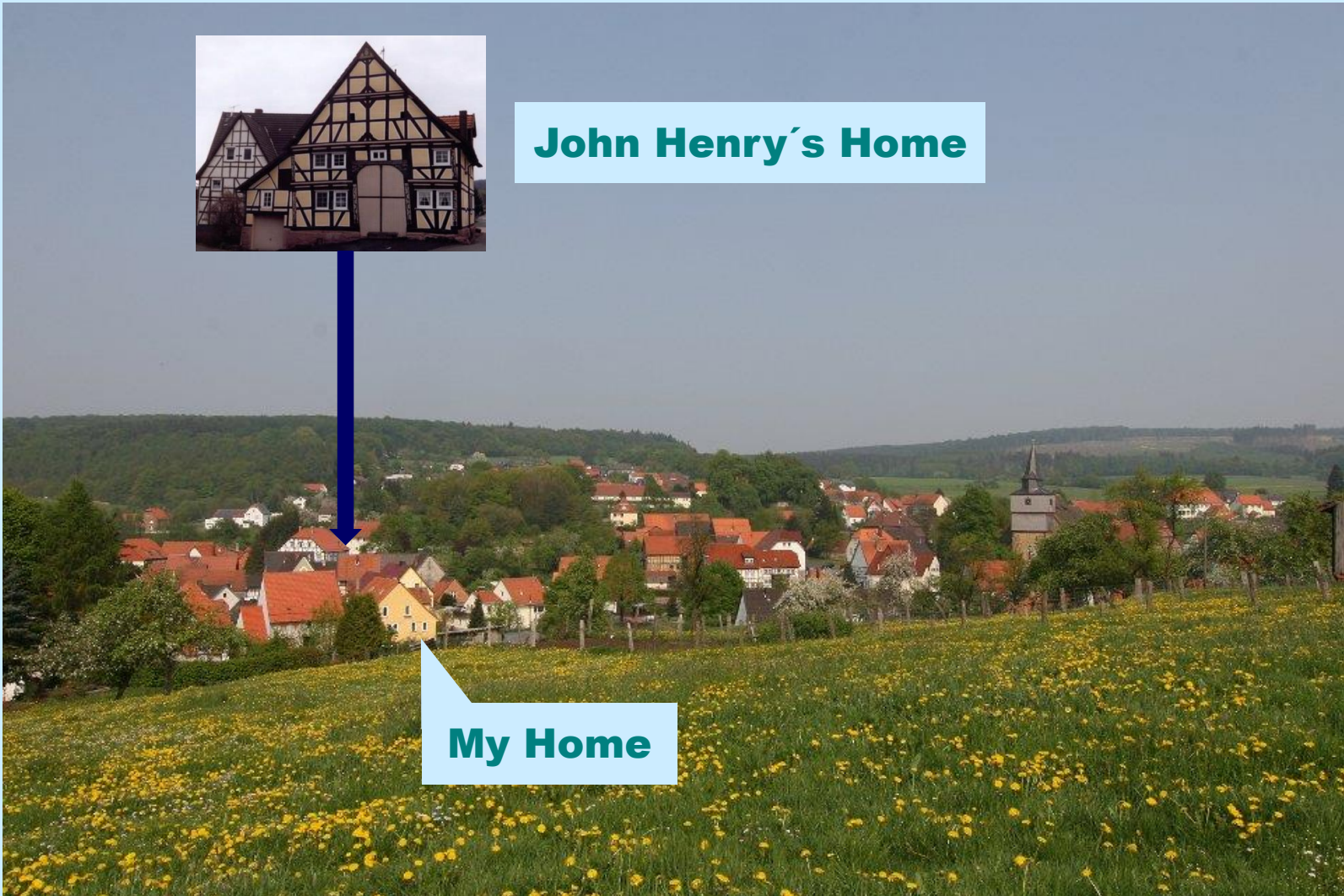
Gottsbüren Today



John Henry's Home



My Home



Gottsbüren/Hessen, John Henry's Birth Place - Today

Gottsbüren Today



My Home

John Henry's Home



Gottsbüren/Hessen, John Henry's Birth Place - Today

Grimm Brothers' "Sleeping Beauty's Castle"



First Gerland in Gottsbüren: Frantz Gerland

- ❖ Born abt 1620 in **Schaumburg County**
- ❖ Settled in Gottsbüren betw. 1635-1640
- ❖ In the middle of the 30 Years' War 1618 – 1648
- ❖ Catholic troops devastated and plundered Gottsbüren in 1623

Frantz Gerland, Blacksmith

- ❖ Came to Gottsbüren as a blacksmith
- ❖ Had a blacksmith shop at the outskirts of the village
- ❖ 3 children: Sabrina, Georg & **Ricus**
- ❖ Frantz Gerland is the ancestor of **322** "Gerland" births in Gottsbüren until 1925, incl. all US-Gerlands who immigrated from Gottsbüren
- ❖ He is also my ancestor

Location of Blacksmith shop



From Gottsbüren to Ohio

Frantz Gerland

*** abt 1620 Schaumburg County**

3rd of 3 Ricus Gerland

*** 1661 Gottsbüren**

1st of 7 Johann David Gerland

*** 1688 Gottsbüren**

**→ Illinois Gerlands
California Gerlands**

My Line ← 1st of 5 Johann Georg Gerland

*** 1713 Gottsbüren**

→ Maryland Gerlands

11th of 12 Johann Justus Gerland

*** 1762 Gottsbüren**

**→ Manfred Gerland,
Host of „Kassel 2018“**

9th of 11 Carl Ludwig Gerland

*** 1807 Gottsbüren**

6th of 6 John Henry Gerland

*** 1845 Gottsbüren**

→ Ohio II Gerlands

Frantz Gerland * abt 1620, Blacksmith

married Catharina NN, 3 children

- 1. Sabrina *1652, married Gante, 4 children**
- 2. Georg *1655, married Brandt, 2 children**
- 3. Ricus *1661, (Ancestor of Ohio II Gerlands), 7 children**

Ricus Gerland *abt 1661

married Anna Margaretha Thebes, 7 children

- 1. Johann David *1688, (Ancestor of Ohio II Gerlands), 5 children**
- 2. Hans Conrad *1690, married, 2 children**
- 3. Anna Catharina *1692**
- 4. Anna Dorothea *1695, married Paul**
- 5. Georg *1698**
- 6. Margarethe *1700, married Schröder**
- 7. Anna Maria *1692, died as infant**

Johann David Gerland *02Feb1688, Wagonmaker

married Anna Catharina Wissemann, 5 children

- 1. Johann Georg *1713 (Ancestor of Ohio II Gerlands), 12 children**
- 2. Anna Margarethe *1715 died as infant**
- 3. Hans Conrad *1717, married Düssel, 3 children**
- 4. Christoph *1720, married Blankenberg**
- 5. Catharina Elisabeth *1722, married Hampe, married Schmidt**

Johann Georg Gerland *24Sep1713, Farmer

- **Great-grandfather of John Henry > Ohio II Gerlands**
- **Great-grandfather of Frederick > Maryland Gerlands**
- **He was married twice, 12 children, 8 sons, 4 daughters**

**Johann Georg Gerland
built
House No. 124
in 1765**



1. **David *1738 blacksmith, ancestor of Susanne Koch, my ancestor**
2. **Henricus *1741 master brewer**
3. **Johannes *1744 died 1783, single**
4. **Anna Catharina *1746 died 1751**
5. **Conrad *1748 (Hessian mercenary in the Revolutionary War, 1 of 40 from Gottsbüren)**
All of Conrad's grandchildren emigrated to the U.S. > Maryland Gerlands
6. **Maria Elisabeth *1750**
7. **Anna Elisabeth *1751, married Niemeyer**
8. **Georg *1753 died as infant**
9. **Johann Philipp *1756, master potter**
10. **Jost Henrich *1758, married Fiege whose brother was also Hessian mercenary)**
11. **Johann Justus *1762, married Adolph, grandparents of John Henry > Ohio II Gerlands**
12. **Anna Catharina *1782**

Johann Justus Gerland *30Jul1762 Gottsbüren, Farmer

➤ **Grandfather of John Henry > Ohio II Gerlands**

➤ **1st marriage 1785 Margarethe Elisabeth Adolph † 02Sep1793**

➤ **2nd marriage 30Nov1794 Charlotte Justine Kurtz**

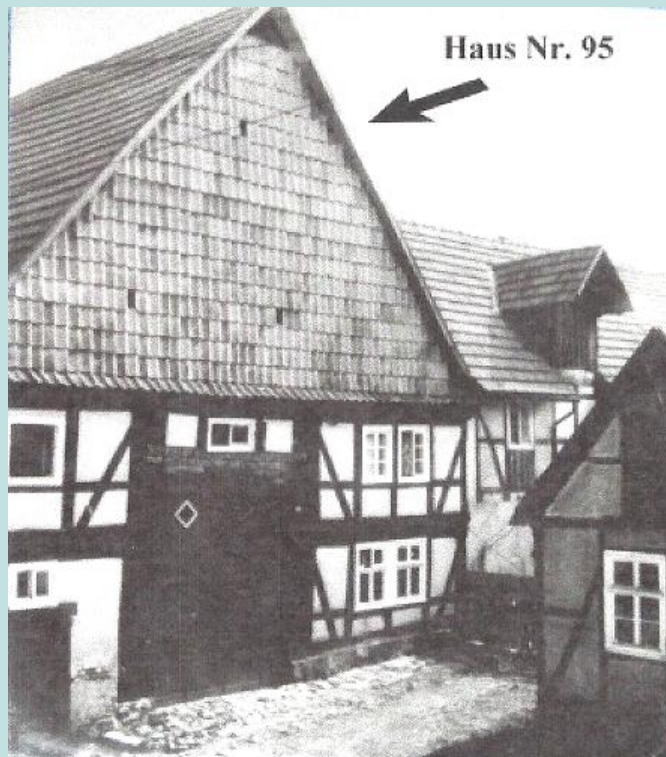
➤ **They had 11 children, 8 died as infants**

- 1. Justus Henrich *1786 pres. died as infant**
- 2. Johann Frantz Ludwig *1788 pres. died as infant**
- 3. Maria Wilhelmine *1791 married Johann Wilhelm Nolte
one premarital daughter**
- 4. Anna Maria *14Dec1794 married 1824 Conrad Niemeyer
four children, 1st son Burghard Friedrich *1819 outside marriage,
descendants Manfred, Norbert & Lutz Gerland, Helga Davin**
- 5. Henrich Justus *1797 died 1801**
- 6. Louise *1799 died 1800**
- 7. Maria *1801 died 1805**
- 8. Catharina Elisabeth *1804 pres. died as infant**
- 9. Carl Ludwig *1807 > Ohio II Gerlands**
- 10. Friedrich *1810 died 1814**
- 11. Johann Conrad *1813 pres. died as infant**

**In the 18th and early 19th century, the infant mortality rate was
abt. 50%. Major reasons: Diarrhea (the squirts) and smallpox**

Carl Ludwig Gerland * 05Aug1807 Gottsbüren Nr. 95

- **Father of John Henry > Ohio II Gerlands**
- **Was day laborer**
- **Married to Marie Wilhelmine Morgenstern *18Dec1807**
- **They had 6 children, 3 sons, 3 daughters, first 3 died as infants**



Source: Gottsbürener Blätter, Sonderheft 2

1. **Georg H. *1831 died age 5 days**
2. **Marie Elise *1832 died 1841**
3. **Johannes *1835 died 1839**
4. **Amalie *1838 married Christoph Bommer, basketmaker, 9 children in Bochum**
5. **Marie Louise *1841 married Johann Eskuche, secretary in post office four children in Kassel**
6. **John Henry *1845 > Ohio II Gerlands**

When John Henry left Germany in 1866, his parents and three of his siblings were already dead. His direct male line in Germany died out.

Carl Ludwig, * in House No. 95, married into House No. 126



**Example for rural village life in late 1800s / early 1900s:
Albert Gerland, *03Mar1856, **John Henry Gerland's 1st cousin**
Hussar, Farmer, Lumberjack, 8 children**



Founders of the „OHIO GERLANDS“



❖ **Johann H. (John Henry) Gerland**
born 07 May 1845
Gottsbüren No. 126, Hesse Cassel



❖ **Katharina (Catherine) Edam**
born 27 Mar 1841, **Hemsbach**,
Bergstrasse, Baden-Württemberg

Gottsbüren

Kassel County, Hessen

Henry John's Birthplace

Population 1866: 1,100

Population today: 750



Hemsbach

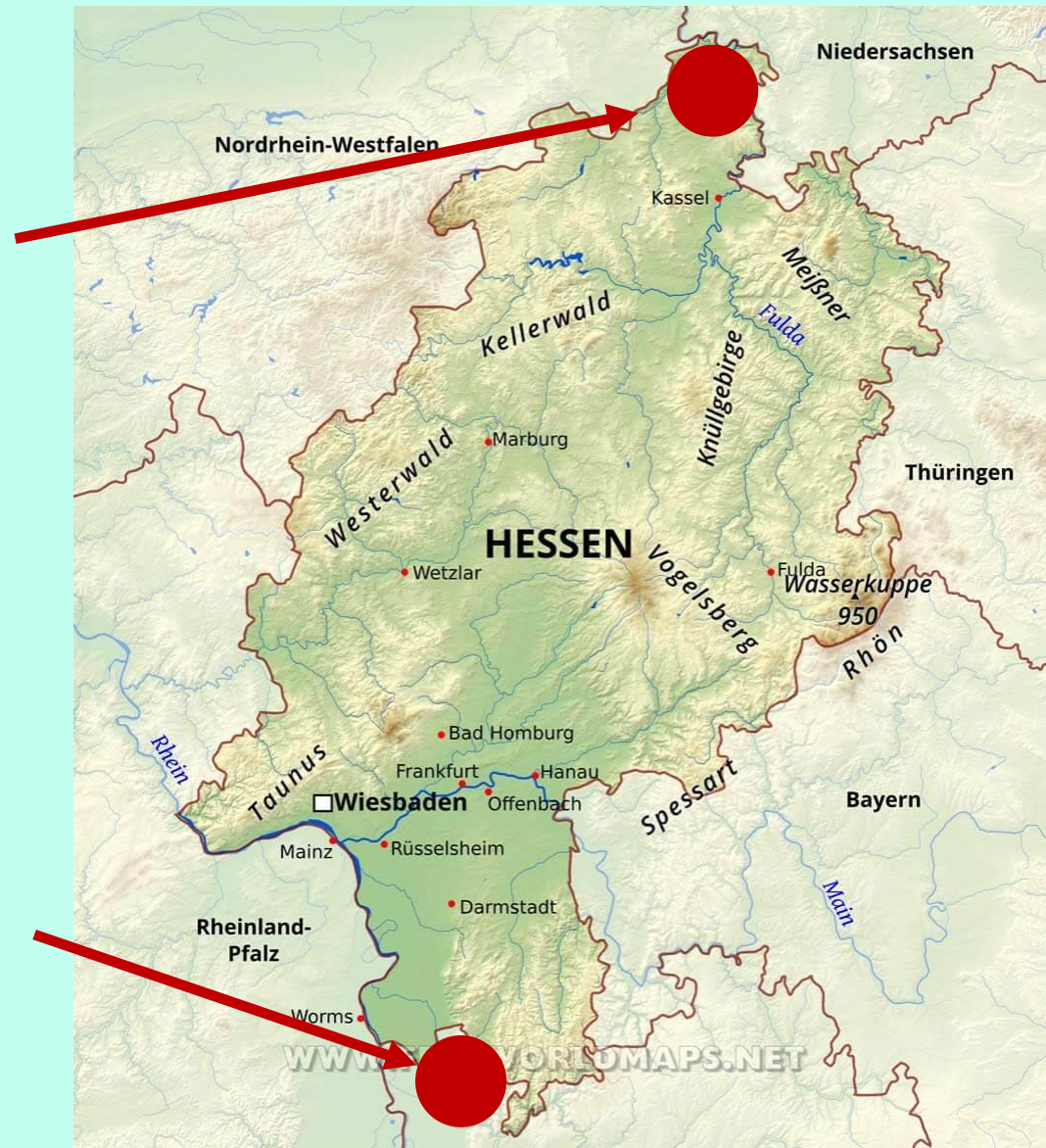
Rhein-Neckar County
(north of Heidelberg)

Baden-Württemberg

Catherine's Birthplace

Population 1866: ??

Population today: 12,000



Source: www.freeworldmaps.net

Founders of the „OHIO GERLANDS“

❖ **Johann Heinrich (John Henry) Gerland**, boot maker

Born 07 May 1845 Gottsbüren No. 126, Hesse Cassel

Arrived in New Orleans 22Oct**1866**

No information why he left Germany

No information why he settled in Cleveland

His naturalization record is dated 29Aug1867

He married on 02Sep1867 – 10 months after arrival in U.S.

He worked making brewery boots



❖ **Katharina (Catherine) Edam**

Born 27 Mar 1841 Hemsbach, Bergstrasse, Baden-Württemberg

Came with her parents Johannes Edam & Anna Maria Krauss in **1860**

According to the marriage record, parents were Catholic

No information why they left Germany



❖ **Name Spellings**

Gerlind (in application for naturalization)

Garland & Eidam (in marriage record)

Garlent (in US Census 1880)

John Henry) Gerland emigrated on Vessel „Carl“



**Naturalization
Record
of 29Aug1867:
Entry Ship
“Find“
is wrong
(no such ship)**

Vessel „Carl“ (Source: Peter-Michael Pawlik: Von der Weser in die Welt, Schriften des Deutschen Schiffahrtsmuseums, Band 33, p. 234, Verlag Hamburg Kabel)

The “Carl” left Bremerhaven on August 25, 1866 and arrived in New Orleans on October 22 with 461 passengers. It took about 8 weeks to make the voyage, which is about 2 weeks longer than the average time for the mid 1800s.

Source: New Orleans, Passenger List Quarterly Abstracts, 1820-1875



**Gravestone: Acacia Masonic Park Cemetery
Mayfield Heights, OH., Section C, Lot 779**



**John Henry &
Catherine B.
Gerland**

**Source:
www.findagrave.com**



Siblings of John Henry Gerland

born in Gottsbüren, House No. 126

- 1. Georg Heinrich Gerland, born 20Apr1831,
died 25Apr1831**
- 2. Marie Elise Gerland, born 15Nov1832,
died 18Jun1841**
- 3. Johannes Gerland, born 04Jun1835,
died 06Jan1839**
- 4. Amalie Gerland, born 06Jul1838,
married Christoph Bommer, basket maker
in Hersfeld County**
- 5. Marie Louise Wilhelmine Gerland, born 30Aug1841,
married Johann Eskuche, post secretary in Kassel**
- 6. Johann Heinrich (John Henry) Gerland, born 07 May 1845,
boot maker**



The male line died out in Gottsbüren.

Siblings of Catherine Edam

**Parents: Johannes Edam (*1821) & Anna Maria Kraus (*1816)
married 30Sep1846 Hemsbach**

Children born in Hemsbach & Cleveland

Source: Don Albee / www.ancestry.com / www.familysearch.com

- 1. Johannes Kraus, *1838 premarital**
 - 2. John C. Edam, *1840 premarital, blacksmith, †1862**
 - 2. Katharina (Catherine) B. Edam, *27Mar1841 premarital**
 - 3. Franz Edam, *†May1846 (14 weeks old) premarital**
 - 4. John Adam Edam, *11Jul1847, married Catherine Groh, 3 children**
 - 5. George L. Edam, *21Apr1849, †05Aug1913 Cleveland, OH.,
married Mary NN**
 - 6. Barbara Edam, *28Aug1850, married Frank Abel**
 - 7. Jacob Edam, *16Sep1856, married Harriett E. Humphrey**
 - 8. Catherine Edam, *17Sep1859, married William Krüger, 8 children**
- ❖ Acc. to myheritage.com, the family came to the U.S. in 1860**
 - ❖ Acc. to US Census 1860, Jacob & Catherine were born in Ohio**
 - ❖ The U.S. Whitepages show one “Edam” in Cleveland, OH.**
 - ❖ The Hemsbach phone book show two “Edams” in Hemsbach**

Children of John Henry & Catherine Gerland

- 1. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Katherine *1867,
married John Yuengling**
- 2. Henry John Jr. *25Jul1869, book binder,
married Lilian Hanes**
- 3. Louisa Barbara *1871,
married Walter Traton Woodman**
- 4. Mollie Gerland *1873,
married Isa E. Hartman**
- 5. Anna (Ann) K. *27Mar1877,
married Louis Yahrhaus**
- 6. Catherine (Katie) *22Aug1880,
married Fred Henry Hemming**
- 7. Charles David *??Dec1881,
married Anna C. Horn**

John Henry's Family



From left:

Anna Yahrhaus

Charles David Gerland

Mollie Hartman

Catherine Edam

Elizabeth Yuengling

John Henry Gerland

Catherine Hemming

Henry Gerland

Louisa Barbara Woodman

Sender:

Kenneth Gerland †

West Seneca, NY.

Where Henry & Catherine were baptized



Church of Gottsbüren



Church of Hemsbach

Source: Wikipedia

Gottsbüren No. 126
birthplace of Henry John Gerland



built 1733

Photos of 1940
Source: Gottsbürener Blätter, Sonderheft 2



Questions:

- ❖ Why did John Henry Gerland leave his home country? He was the only son!
- ❖ Why did he emigrate in October 1866?
- ❖ Why did he settle in Cleveland, OH.?

Johann Heinrich (John Henry) Gerland's Granduncle **Conrad Gerland**, * 1748 was among the Hessian Troops in the Revolutionary War. Conrad Gerland had three grandsons who altogether emigrated to the U.S. They lived in Maryland.

- ❖ Did John Henry know about this? They were his 2nd cousins.

Are there any documents/photos about John Henry and his family, e.g.,

- ❖ Letters from/to his two sisters or other relatives in Germany
- ❖ Naturalization record
- ❖ His home in Cleveland
- ❖ His workplace as a cobbler/bootmaker
- ❖ Death record

included from

Gerland Reunion Philadelphia 2016

John Henry's Birth Place



**Gottsbüren/Hessen – House No. 126
Photo of 1940**



Ludwig Gerland & Family



Minna Gerland

included from

Gerland Reunion Philadelphia 2016

**More info on „Ohio II Gerlands“
See Reunion Philadelphia 2016**



**Gottsbüren/Hessen, House No. 126 today
Owner: Dr. Lutz Gerland**



John Henry's Birth Place

included from

Gerland Reunion Philadelphia 2016



**John Henry's Birth Place in
Gottsbüren/Hessen, House No. 126 today
Owner: Dr. Lutz Gerland**

**Visit of Gottsbüren No. 126
Birthplace of Henry John Gerland
at Reunion Kassel 2018**



Gerland Family Reunion Buffalo 2025



Gruß aus ***Gottsbüren*** im Reinhardswald



Gottsbüren in the early 2000s

Gerland Family Reunion Buffalo 2025



Source:
Wikipedia

Gottsbüren today, first documented in the year 822

Thank you



Wannabe Gerland



Gerland

Application Form

I,

*in full possession of my physical and mental strength, suffering from a publicly unnoticed name,
living a mirthless & prosy life without Gemütlichkeit,*

want to change my life!

Therefore, since I consider this the only way to future joy and happiness,

I hereby apply suppliantly for membership in the glorious Gerland Tribe as a Wannabe Gerland. This my application is bonded with the promise to act as a Gerland as soon as my eagerly awaited membership has been granted. I acknowledge that the Gerlands are people of fun, Glück, Durst, and Gemütlichkeit and I pledge to cope with all requirements and obligations resulting from this application.

I am fully aware that TWO YEARS of tests, disquisition and verification of my abilities and qualifications to act as a Gerland lie ahead of me until admission is granted or rejected at the

17th Int'l Gerland Tribe Reunion 2027

In the event that, by the gracious attendees of the next Reunion, this my application is

- *ACCEPTED, I will, from that time on, proudly present the Wannabe Gerland Passport to Police or Customs when caught drunk or smuggling*
- *REJECTED, I will hang my head in shame, try my very best to adopt the ways of the Gerlands in the future, and apply for membership again at the Gerland Reunion 2027.*

Wannabe Gerland Application

Wannabe Gerland Adoption

Wannabe Gerland

Gerland

Application Form

I, Bruce Byers

in full possession of my physical and mental strength, suffering from an publicly unnoticed name, living a mirthless & prosy life without Gemütlichkeit,

want to change my life!

Therefore, since I consider this the only way to future joy and happiness,

I hereby apply suppliantly for membership in the glorious Gerland Tribe as a Wannabe Gerland. This my application is bonded with the promise to act as a Gerland as soon as my eagerly awaited membership has been granted. I acknowledge that the Gerlands are people of fun, Glück, Durst, and Gemütlichkeit and I pledge to cope with all requirements and obligations resulting from this application.

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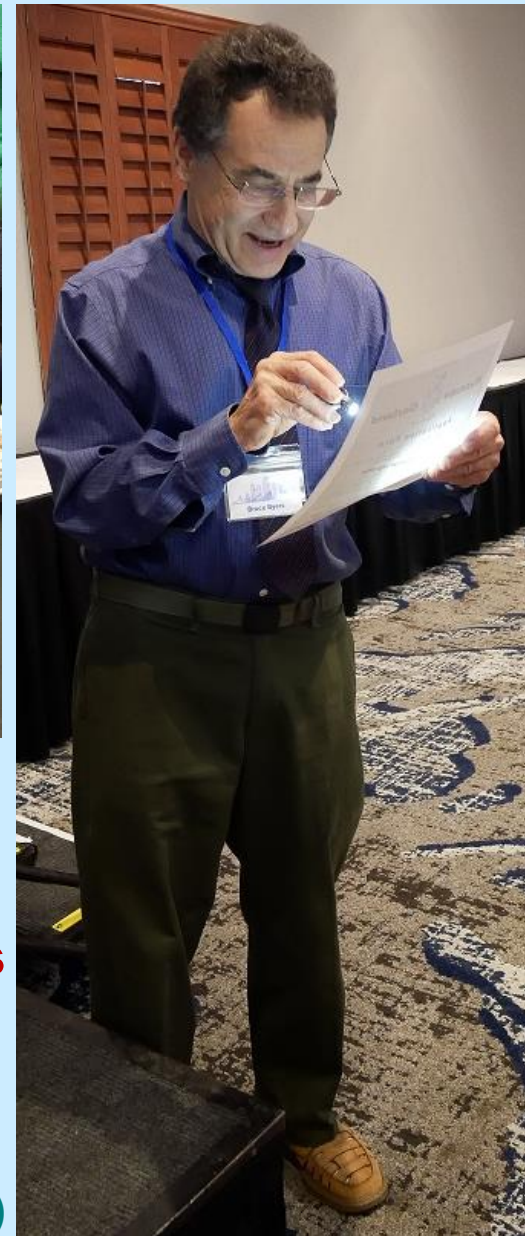
16th Int'l Gerland Tribe Reunion 2025

In the event that, by the gracious attendees of the next Reunion, this my application is

- *ACCEPTED, I will, from that time on, proudly present the Wannabe Gerland Passport to Police or Customs when caught drunk or smuggling*
- *REJECTED, I will hang my head in shame, try my very best to adopt the ways of the Gerlands in the future, and apply for membership again at the Gerland Reunion 2025.*



**Application
of
Mr. Bruce Byers
Oakland, CA.
into the
Gerland Tribe
(Dallas, TX. 2023)**





In the Tribe Court Salem, Germany

Gerland

ADOPTION DECREE

In re Adoption of

**Bruce
BYERS**



*Today, August 09, 2025, being satisfied that the above named desires to be a **Gerland**, and that the welfare of the above will be promoted by his adoption, and that the requirements of acting like a **Gerland** having been complied with:*

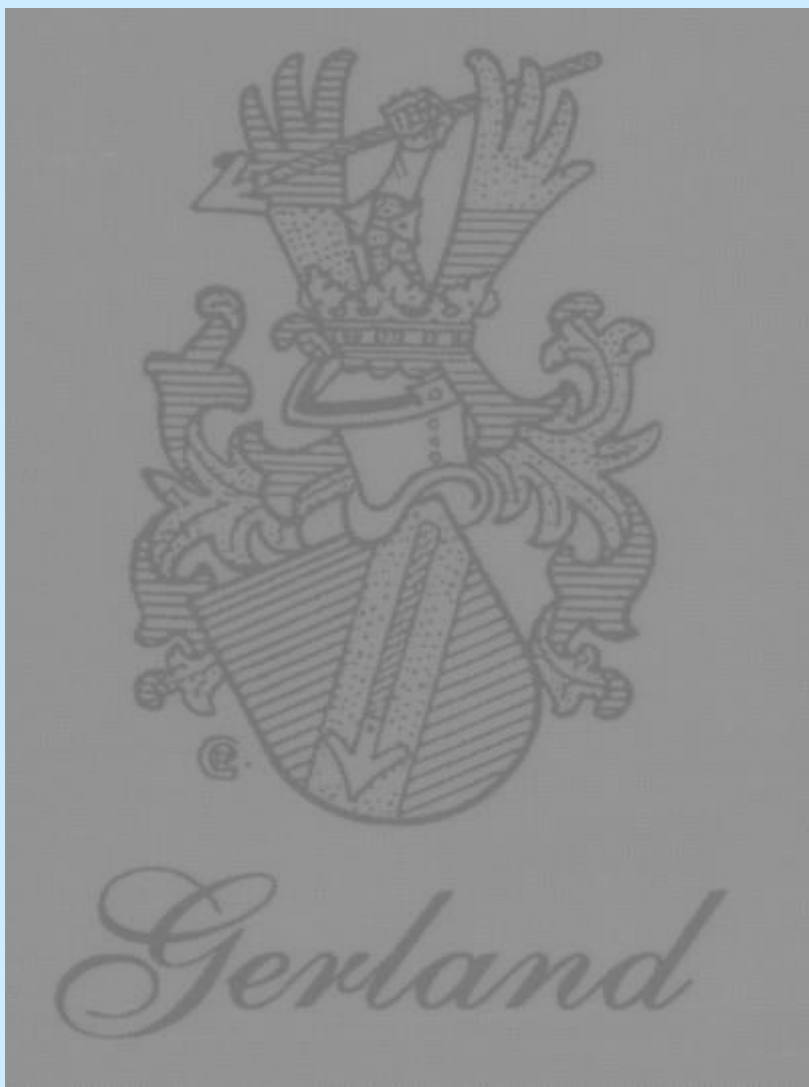
*that the Gerlands are people of fun, Glück, Durst and enjoyment,
fully willing and able to educate rear said person in the
ways of the Gerlands*

**Wannabe
Gerland
Adoption
Decree**



Adoption of **Mr. Bruce Byers**, Oakland, CA.

**Wannabe
Gerland
Passport**



Wannabe Gerland **Passport**

**Issued by: Gerland Tribal Council
Dep. of Gerlandology**

Graciously Granted to

Bruce Byers



This Passport Qualifies:

- To knock at a Gerland door at any time and see what happens
- To feed a Gerland at any time he/she knocks at passholder's door

*This Passport
expires one (1) day prior to the next Gerland Reunion
unless passholder promises registration*

Buffalo, August 09, 2025

A big
“THANK YOU”
to our Hosts

Bob & Doreen
Don & Ann

Stage free for Arline

