The STEINKE Coat of Arms

This is the coat of arms of the Steinke family. This family is from the town of Voltage in the Duchy of Oldenburg, (now Osnabrück), Germany.

The shield is described as: "D’agur a une fleur-de-lis de gu., cant d quatre coquille d’arg."

Translated, this means: "A blue background; a red flower of the lily between four silver shells."

The colors shown here may not be a true representation of original colors.
ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The information included in this document is an attempt to list the family history, genealogy, and relatives of Urban E. and Sylvia A. (Steinke) Schneider. It is far from complete, as families are constantly changing through marriages and births, and new information is collected.

The information has been obtained from many different sources. Most of these sources are published family genealogies of those related to Sylvia and Urban Schneider. Most of these sources have reliable references, however, not all sources listed references. The information used is the most accurate at the time of printing, but by no means is it guaranteed to be accurate. Mistakes will be found, and changes will be made as they are discovered.

THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT INTENDED TO BE A PUBLIC RECORD. Some of the information included may be considered sensitive information, and should not be made available freely to the public. This is especially true of any living relatives. It is an acceptable practice by many genealogy organizations to list only deceased individuals. This document includes much more than that, there for it is not intended for public use.

This document is divided into four different sections, as follows:

A. SCHNEIDER Genealogy
B. VOISARD Genealogy
C. STEINKE Genealogy
D. GREVE Genealogy

Each section begins with it’s own set of page numbers. This allows additions to be more easily made without renumbering every page and reference within every section.

The following abbreviations are used pretty consistently throughout this document:

b. - born       d. - died       bur. - buried  cem. - cemetery
bef. - before   aft. - after    m. - married  m2. - second marriage
Co. - county    twp. - township  OH - Ohio     Wapak - Wapakoneta
FR - France     GER-Germany     Ter. - Territory Bav. - Bavaria

† - indicates a cemetery photo is on file for this person’s tomb stone
hydrangea - indicates a Death Certificate is on file for this person
[ - indicates that this person immigrated to the United States
рос - indicates an Obituary is on file for this person
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CHAPTER ONE

The Family of

Engelke STEINKE
and
Anna TALKE

Engelke STEINKE
m. Anna TALKE
- Johann STEINKE
  m. Adelheid FEY
    - Theodore H. STEINKE
      m. Margaret BRECKSCHMID
        - Johann STEINKE
          m. Margarete Katharina SANDER
            - Hermann STEINKE
              m. Margaretha RUWE
                - Joseph John Lambert STEINKE
                  m. Mary Anna KAISER
                    - Diedrich STEINKE
                      m. Theresia WERLING-SCHNIPPEL
                        - Stephen Bernard STEINKE
                          m. Margaret Gertrude SCHEMMEL
                            - Peter Bernard STEINKE
                              m. Alvina Mary GREVE
                                - Sylvia A. STEINKE
                                  m. Urban E. SCHNEIDER
Engelke STEINKE and Anna TALKE

Engelke STEINKE is the oldest recorded STEINKE in this family. He was born around 1630 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. The church book in Voltlage starts around 1660, and nothing is mentioned of his parents or siblings.

Anna TALKE is the oldest recorded TALKE in this family. She was born in 1634 in Germany. Nothing is known of her parents or siblings.

Engelke STEINKE married Anna TALKE, probably before 1676. They had four known children between 1676 and 1687. It is likely that they had more children, but no information has been found to prove this. Information on their known children is on the following pages.

Engelke STEINKE died on June 16, 1689 in Voltlage. His wife, Anna (TALKE) STEINKE died on March 6, 1698, also in Voltlage.

"STEINKE" is an occupational surname for a stone cutter. It is derived from the Old German word 'stein', meaning stone. It may be a topographical name also, meaning that the original bearer of the name lived near a prominent stone or rock.

Germany Cities of our Ancestors

The following municipalities/towns/cities are located very close to each other. Our STEINKE, GREVE, KAISER, WEMPE, SCHNIPPLE, and other ancestors came from these towns.

Voltlage is a municipality in the district of Osnabrück, in Lower Saxony, Germany. It's elevation is 157 feet above sea level. Today's (2010) population is 1782 residents.

Merzen is a municipality in the district of Osnabrück, in Lower Saxony, Germany. It's elevation is 282 feet above sea level. Today's (2010) population is 4027 residents.

Neuenkirchen, Osnabrück is a municipality in the district of Osnabrück, in Lower Saxony, Germany. It's elevation is 180 feet above sea level. Today's (2010) population is 4546 residents.

Recke is a municipality in the district of Steinfurt, in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. It's elevation is 45-125 meters above sea level. Today's (2010) population is 4546 residents.

Rheine is a city in the district of Steinfurt, in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. It is the largest city in the district. It's elevation is 27-90 meters above sea level. Today's (2010) population is 11,578 residents.

Ibbenbüren is a medium-sized town in the district of Steinfurt, in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. It's elevation is 210 feet above sea level. Today's (2010) population is 51,552 residents.

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<th>Vollage</th>
<th>Merzen</th>
<th>Neuenkirchen</th>
<th>Recke</th>
<th>Rheine</th>
<th>Ibbenbüren</th>
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<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Merzen" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Neuenkirchen" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Recke" /></td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Rheine" /></td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Ibbenbüren" /></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Johann STEINKE was the oldest of four known children of Engelke and Anna (TALKE) STEINKE. He was born in Vollage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany in 1676.

Johann STEINKE married Adelheid FEY on November 4, 1698, probably in Vollage. Adelheid FEY was born in 1678 in Germany.

Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE died on July 7, 1770 in Vollage. Johann STEINKE died in 1743 in Vollage. Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE had seven known children between 1699 and 1720.

More information on this family is in the next Chapter: “Johann STEINKE and Adelheid FEY”.

Children of Engelke STEINKE and Anna TALKE - Johann STEINKE

Johann STEINKE was the oldest of four known children of Engelke and Anna (TALKE) STEINKE. He was born in Vollage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany in 1676.

Johann STEINKE married Adelheid FEY on November 4, 1698, probably in Vollage. Adelheid FEY was born in 1678 in Germany.

Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE died on July 7, 1770 in Vollage. Johann STEINKE died in 1743 in Vollage. Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE had seven known children between 1699 and 1720.

Germany States - Old Names and New

Germany established new borders and names of its ‘states’ in 1945, after World War II. When studying genealogy, it is necessary to know the old and new names. You will find the old names in most of the genealogical records of our ancestors, and use the new names to locate these places on a map today. Below is a partial list of the ‘states’ from which our STEINKE and other German ancestors were from. The new names (after 1945) are in BLUE, and the old names (1871-1945) are in ORANGE.

**Lower Saxony** (Niedersachsen) includes the former duchy of Brunswick, the kingdom/Prussian province of Hannover, the duchy of Oldenburg in Oldenburg, grand duchy of Oldenburg, and the principality of Schaumburg-Lippe.

**Northrhine-Westphalia** (Nordrhein-Westfalen) includes the former Prussian province of Westphalia, the northern portion of the former Prussian Rheinprovinz and the principality of Lippe (Detmold).

**Rhineland-Palatinate** (Rheinland-Pfalz) includes part of the principality Birkenfeld, grand duchy of Oldenburg, the province of Rheinhesse, grand duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt, part of the landgraviate of Hesse-Homburg, the major portion of the former Bavarian Rheinpfalz and most of southern portion of the former Prussian Rheinprovinz.

**Saarland** includes some parts of the former Bavarian Rheinpfalz, the southern portion of the former Prussian Rheinprovinz and the principality of Birkenfeld, grand duchy of Oldenburg.

**Bavaria** (Bayern) includes the former kingdom of Bavaria, excluding Rheinpfalz (today part of Baden-Württemberg) and the duchy of Saxe-Coburg (became part of Bavaria only in 1920).
Engel STEINKE was the second of four known children of Engelke and Anna (TALKE) STEINKE. She was born in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany in 1679. Engel STEINKE married Albert GRIESE on July 13, 1721, probably in Voltlage. No more information is known on Albert and Engel (STEINKE) GRIESE.

Anna STEINKE was the third of four known children of Engelke and Anna (TALKE) STEINKE. She was born in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachen), Germany in 1682. No more information is known on Anna STEINKE.

Heinrich STEINKE was the fourth of four known children of Engelke and Anna (TALKE) STEINKE. He was born in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany in 1682. Heinrich STEINKE died on April 3, 1714 in Hoeckel, Voltlage. No more information is known on Heinrich STEINKE.

Many sources were used to gather information on the STEINKE family. There was, however, some conflicting evidence between sources. When conflicting evidence was found, the dates/names/etc. used in this book were those deemed most likely to be accurate. This was determined by looking at the verification in records, other valid sources, and other mistakes found from a source. Some of the most useful sources used are listed below:

https://www.familysearch.org/
http://index.rhayes.org/hayes/index/
http://familytreemake.genealogy.com/users/w/e/r/Keith-Vincent-Werling/BOOK-0001/0006-0001.html#IND582REF19
http://awt.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=kovermann&id=I0948

The genealogy research completed by Linda K. KNERR, Ray W. WARREN, and Mark E. STEINKE provided an exceptional start to my STEINKE genealogy research:
http://www.r-winter.de/genealogy/steinke/sthistor.htm
CHAPTER TWO

The Family of

Johann STEINKE
and
Adelheid FEY

Engelke STEINKE
m. Anna TALKE
- Johann STEINKE
  m. Adelheid FEY
    - Theodore H. STEINKE
      m. Margaret BRECKSCHMID
        - Johann STEINKE
          m. Margarete Katharina SANDER
            - Hermann STEINKE
              m. Margaretha RUWE
                - Joseph John Lambert STEINKE
                  m. Mary Anna KAISER
                    - Diedrich STEINKE
                      m. Theresia WERLING-SCHNIPPEL
                        - Stephen Bernard STEINKE
                          m. Margaret Gertrude SCHEMMEL
                            - Peter Bernard STEINKE
                              m. Alvina Mary GREVE
                                - Sylvia A. STEINKE
                                  m. Urban E. SCHNEIDER
Johann STEINKE was the oldest of four known children of Engelke and Anna (TALKE) STEINKE. He was born in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany in 1676.

Johann STEINKE married Adelheid FEY on November 4, 1698, probably in Voltlage. Adelheid FEY was born in 1678 in Germany.

Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE had seven known children between 1699 and 1720. Information on these children is listed in the following pages.

Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE died on July 7, 1770 in Voltlage. Johann STEINKE died in 1743 in Voltlage.
Johann STEINKE was born on September 11, 1699 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the first of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Johann STEINKE died on January 8, 1728 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany.

Nothing else is known about Johann STEINKE.

Lambert STEINKE was born on January 3, 1703 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the second of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Lambert STEINKE died on November 13, 1737 in Voltlage when he was four years old. Nothing else is known about Lambert STEINKE.

Lower-Saxony is located in north-western Germany and is the second largest federal state in area. It borders (starting north and clockwise) the North Sea, the federal states of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Brandenburg, Saxony-Anhalt, Thuringia, Hesse and North Rhine-Westphalia, and shares an international border with the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The federal state of Bremen forms two enclaves (Bremen and Bremerhaven) within Lower Saxony.

Just under 20% of the land area of Lower Saxony is designated as nature parks, i.e.: Dümmer, Elbhöhen-Wendland, Elm-Lappwald, Harz, Lüneburger Heide, Münden, Terra.vita, Solling-Vogler, Lake Steinhude, Südeide, Weser Uplands, Wildeshausen Geest, Bourtanger Moor-Bargerveen.

Agriculture has always been a very important economic factor in Lower Saxony. Wheat, potatoes, rye, and oats as well as beef, pork and poultry are some of the state’s present-day agricultural products. The north and northwest of Lower Saxony are mainly made up of coarse sandy soil that makes crop farming difficult and therefore grassland and cattle farming are more prevalent in those areas. Towards the south and southeast, extensive loess layers in the soil left behind by the last ice age allow high-yield crop farming. One of the principal crops there is sugar beet.

Manufacturing is another large part of the regional economy. Despite decades of gradual downsizing and restructuring, the car maker Volkswagen with its five production plants within the state’s borders still remains the single biggest private-sector employer, its world headquarters based in Wolfsburg. Due to a legal act commonly known as the Volkswagen Law that has just recently been ruled illegal by the European Union’s high court, the state of Lower Saxony is still the second largest shareholder, owning 20.3% of the company.
Gerd Hermann STEINKE was born on August 8, 1704 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the third of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Gerd Hermann STEINKE died on June 6, 1736 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany, a few months before his thirty-second birthday.

Nothing else is known about Gerd Hermann STEINKE.

The village of Voltlage (is) in northwestern Germany. Voltlage lies between the city of Osnabruck and the Netherlands. From the time of Charlemagne the district was ruled by the Prince Bishop of Osnabruck. In 1801 Hanover and Osnabruck were overrun by the Prussians. The French under Napoleon invaded the territory in 1803.

The Prussians drove the French out in 1805, but a year later the French army returned. From 1806 until 1813 the district of Osnabruck was a part of the French Empire. The Congress of Vienna established the Kingdom of Hanover in 1814. Osnabruck was incorporated in Hanover from that time on.

In 1713 the Elector of Hanover inherited the British Throne and became George I of England. Thus the King of Hanover was also King of England. From 1713 until 1837 the King resided in London while Hanover was ruled by a Council of Ministers. In 1837 Victoria became Queen in England but the throne of Hanover passed to her uncle Ernest Augustus. The son of Ernest Augustus succeeded to the throne of Hanover in 1851 as George V. Prussia annexed Hanover in 1866 and the district remained a province within Germany until 1946 when it was joined to several other small provinces to form the Land of Lower Saxony. The people were never politically content under Prussian domination and sought status as an independent state. The movement for separation led to a plebiscite in 1924 which failed.

The northwestern sector of Germany is a flat sandy lowland. In the first half of the nineteenth century the land has been described as marshy--too wet and sandy for profitable farming. The area had many bogs where turf (peat) was dug to be used as fuel. Over the years the people have industriously drained and fertilized until the land has become productive. Hanover, it is still only an average income farming district in the country.

The three villages of Weese, Voltlage, and Hoeckel make up the parish of St. Katherine. Weese lies to the south and Hoeckel to the north of Voltlage. Voltlage is the largest of the three villages and seems to be the business center with some shops and farm businesses. Bransche about 22 kilometers to the east is the principal market town for the area.
Children of Johann STEINKE and Adelheid FEY - Heinrich STEINKE

Heinrich STEINKE was born on December 17, 1706 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the fourth of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Heinrich STEINKE died before reaching two months of age, on February 12, 1707 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany.

Nothing else is known about Heinrich STEINKE.

Children of Johann STEINKE and Adelheid FEY - Anna STEINKE

Anna STEINKE was born on March 19, 1708 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. She was the fifth of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Anna STEINKE died one month before her fifth birthday, on February 19, 1713 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany.

Nothing else is known about Anna STEINKE.

Father Bernard Overberg - Master Teacher from Voltlage

In the middle of the village of Voltlage is the imposing statue of Voltlage's most well-known son, the reformer of teaching and educator, Bernard Overberg, who through his landmark school reforms significantly affected the education system in Germany.

For Father Overberg, a true education was one that helped people develop the human gifts that their loving Creator had given, especially the capacity to understand their world and to live responsibly in it.

He believed that instead of merely memorizing and reciting facts, children should be excited about learning and actively involved in their own learning, developing their analytical and appreciative powers. He believed the teachers’ primary responsibility was to develop love in the children as the seed of happiness. In the search for all that is lastingly good and beautiful, love for God, self and others becomes an unending source of freedom, joy and peace.

The impact of his teachings was not fully realized until long after his death in 1826. Eventually though, his philosophy led to many reforms in the educational system in Germany.
Theodore Heinrich STEINKE was born on March 11, 1711 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the sixth of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Theodore Heinrich STEINKE married Margarethe Elisabeth BRECHSCHMID on January 15, 1737 in Voltlage. Margarethe Elisabeth BRECHSCHMID was born in Merzen, Germany, the daughter of Gerhard BRECHSCHMID and Maria Gedring DUSELING. (BRECHSCHMID could also be BROCKSCHMIDT, and DUSELING could be DUFELUICK.)

Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE had seven known children between 1737 and 1753.

Theodore Heinrich STEINKE died on September 26, 1756 in Voltlage. No information has been found concerning the death of Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Anna Adelheid STEINKE was born and died on March 8, 1720 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. She was the last of seven known children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Anna Adelheid STEINKE married at age sixteen, to Henrich SCHWIERLING, on November 12, 1736 at St. Katharina Catholic Church, in Voltlage. Wedding sponsors were Margaret HOVELER, Anna ALBERS, and Mencke BERG. Witnesses to the marriage were Diderich FEY and Lambert MEYER. Nothing else is known about Anna Adelheid (STEINKE) SCHWIERLING.

Foods of our German Ancestors

Until the beginning of the nineteenth century, mass poverty and famine were integral parts of daily life in most of German-speaking Europe. The majority of the population subsisted on grains that were either eaten in the form of thick gruel cooked in milk or water or converted into flat cakes, coarse breads, a variety of small rolls, dumplings, noodles, and thick soups. (Baker's goods, such as Lebkuchen, Gugelhupf, Strudel, and Austrian Nockerln, were rarely made in the home and were eaten only on special occasions.) The grains were rich in carbohydrates and, when consumed in quantity, covered daily energy requirements. Fava beans, lentils, and peas helped to offset the shortage of protein in the grain-based diet. Meat, fish, and butter, as well as eggs, were reserved for special occasions. In general, it was much more common for peasants to sell these food products at market than to eat them themselves.

Until the end of the nineteenth century, a large majority of the rural population in German-speaking Europe was self-sufficient in terms of supplying daily food needs. Most households oriented their menus according to what could be obtained in the nearest market, and these menus did not vary greatly through the course of the year. Regional customs and the season determined the rhythm of consumption, but by today's standards, this cooking would be considered monotonous, nutrient-deficient, hard to digest, even at times disgusting because of the heavy-handed use of lard and other animal fats.

CHAPTER THREE

The Family of

Theodore Heinrich STEINKE
and
Margarethe Elisabeth BRECHSCHMID

Engelke STEINKE
m. Anna TALKE
- Johann STEINKE
  m. Adelheid FEY
  - Theodore H. STEINKE
    m. Margaret BRECKSCHMID
      - Johann STEINKE
        m. Margarete Katharina SANDER
          - Hermann STEINKE
            m. Margaretha RUWE
              - Joseph John Lambert STEINKE
                m. Mary Anna KAISER
                  - Diedrich STEINKE
                    m. Theresia WERLING-SCHNIPPEL
                      - Stephen Bernard STEINKE
                        m. Margaret Gertrude SCHEMMEL
                          - Peter Bernard STEINKE
                            m. Alvina Mary GREVE
                              - Sylvia A. STEINKE
                                m. Urban E. SCHNEIDER
Theodore Heinrich STEINKE and Margarethe Elisabeth BRECKSCHMID

Theodore Heinrich STEINKE was born on March 11, 1711 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the sixth of seven children born to Johann and Adelheid (FEY) STEINKE.

Theodore Heinrich STEINKE married Margarethe Elisabeth BRECKSCHMID on January 15, 1737 in Voltlage. Margarethe Elisabeth BRECKSCHMID was born in Merzen, Germany, the daughter of Gerhard BRECHSCHMID and Maria Gedring DUSELING.

(BRECKSCHMID could also be BROCKSCHMIDT, and DUSELING could be DUFELUICK.)

Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECKSCHMID) STEINKE had seven known children between 1737 and 1753.

Theodore Heinrich STEINKE died on September 26, 1756 in Voltlage. No information has been found concerning the death of Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECKSCHMID) STEINKE.

“BRECKSCHMID” is a combination of two surnames referring to the region the bearer is from. SCHMID is originally from an area of northern Germany, later to become Prussia. BRECK was first found in Austria, where its many branches included the ranks of nobility.

This aerial view of Voltlage shows the strong agricultural influence on the village today.

from: googlemaps.com
Johann STEINKE was born on November 21, 1737 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the first of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECKSCHMID) STEINKE.

Johann STEINKE married Margarete Katharina SANDER, probably in Voltlage. Margarete Katharina SANDER was born on April 5, 1736 in Voltlage, the daughter of Gerhard Robbertsmann SANDERS and Anna (POHLMANN) SANDERS, both from Voltlage.

(ROBBERTSMAN could also be found as ROBBERSMAN in many records.)

Johann STEINKE and Margarete Katharina (SANDER) STEINKE had eight known children between 1765 and 1780.

No information has been found concerning the death of Johann Heinrich STEINKE, or Margarete Katharina (SANDER) STEINKE.

More information on this family is in the next Chapter: "Johann STEINKE and Margerete Katharina SANDER".

The German surname “SANDER” is derived from the given name Alexander, which comes from the Greek name Alexandros, which means “defender of men.” It could also be a German topographic name referring to someone who lived on sandy soil, or near a beach.
Maria Anna STEINKE was born on June 20, 1740 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. She was the second of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Nothing else is known of Marie Anna STEINKE.

Gerhard Heinrich STEINKE was born on August 29, 1742 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the third of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Nothing else is known of Gerhard Heinrich STEINKE.

**Potatoes and German Potato Salad**

Potatoes were not always popular after explorers brought them back from South America. In fact, if Germans a little over 250 years ago were somehow transported into our supermarket today and saw all the potatoes they may think we were in a depression. Potatoes were ONLY for the poor, prisoners or livestock.

The first potatoes were planted in Germany in the mid 1500's but it became something only the peasants grew on their land and ate as cheap sustenance for many years. Frederick the Great, one of the great kings in German history, saw the potential of potatoes as Germany was experiencing many cool wet summers during the 1700's which caused the wheat crops to fail. The potatoes were needed not only for the people but to fuel his army. His voluntary efforts failed to interest people in planting potatoes, so he gave an order in 1754 for all his rural administrators to recommend seriously to all farmers to grow potatoes. Through his efforts the potato was finally accepted and in the mid 1700's potatoes were even seen in the market places in Germany.

Today German Potato Salad is very popular and unique most probably coming from using left over roasted or boiled potatoes. The addition of ham or speck (German bacon) makes it taste different from other cultures. (This recipe originated in southern Germany, though, and is not typical of our ancestors in the north, where one would more likely find a potato salad made with mayonnaise.)

**German Potato Salad with Hot Bacon Dressing**

**Ingredients:**
- 2 1/2 lb. waxy potatoes, about 6 medium
- 3 oz. of "Bauchspeck" or 6 slices of bacon, chopped small
- 3/4 c. chopped onion, chopped
- 2 T. flour, either all purpose or brown rice flour
- 1 T. sugar or 1 T. honey
- 1/2 tsp. salt, adjust according to how salty the bacon is.
- 1 tsp. celery seed
- 1/8 tsp ground black pepper
- 1 c. water
- 1/3 c. white vinegar
- 2 T. chives, chopped (optional)

**Preparation:**
Cook potatoes in their jackets 20 minutes or until barely done, drain, peel and cube. Set aside.
Cook bacon or "Speck" until crisp, remove from pan and set aside. Add onions to bacon drippings and cook until soft and beginning to brown.
Sprinkle the flour over the onions and stir to form a roux (flour/fat paste for thickening sauces). Let it cook for 1 minute, then add the sweetener, salt and celery seed. Add water gradually, stirring constantly so that no lumps form. Add vinegar, and bring sauce to a boil for 1-2 minutes. Add pepper. Taste and adjust seasonings.
Add potatoes and crumbled bacon to pan. Stir and heat until potatoes are heated through. Put potato salad in a bowl and let it marinate until lukewarm. Sprinkle chives on top to serve.
STEINKE-BRECKSCHMIDT

Johann Theodor STEINKE was born on July 28, 1743, in Vollage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the fourth of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECKSCHMID) STEINKE.

Johann Theodor STEINKE married Maria KLEIN on November 27, 1787, in Vollage. Maria KLEIN was born in Thedeik, Merzen, Germany. Nothing else is known of her.

Johann Theodor and Maria (KLEIN) STEINKE had seven known children between 1786 and 1809. No information has been found concerning the deaths of Johann Theodor STEINKE or Maria (KLEIN) STEINKE.

There are many different kinds of German languages. The two most often recognized are High German and Low German. Our Steinke ancestors probably spoke a dialect of Low German, as Vollage is located in the lowlands of northern Germany.

**High German,** Hochdeutsch, is what is taught as standard German in classrooms. It was originally spoken in the high mountainous regions of central and southern Germany, but was adopted as the official standard form by the government after the turn of the 20th century.

**Low German,** Plattdeutsch, is mainly spoken in the lowlands of Northern Germany, (above the red line on the map at right). It did not take part in the second sound shift in 7th and 8th century A.D. The second sound shift affected mainly the German consonants p, t and k which were transformed to pf/f, ts/s and ch.

Low German often shares more characteristics with Dutch and English. Below you can find some examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>to sit</th>
<th>to make</th>
<th>apple</th>
<th>water</th>
<th>ape</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(High) German</td>
<td>sitzen</td>
<td>machen</td>
<td>Apfel</td>
<td>Wasser</td>
<td>Affe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low German</td>
<td>sitten</td>
<td>machen</td>
<td>Appel</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Aap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is also a Middle German, which is not as commonly recognized today. It was spoken mainly in the area between the blue and red lines on the map, and has similarities to Low and High German languages. Each of the German languages are broken down further into many German language dialects, (over 200 according to some linguists).
Hermann Heinrich STEINKE was born on February 23, 1747 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the fifth of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Hermann Heinrich STEINKE married Annetje CARELSE on February 23, 1777 in Holland. The name was spelled STENEKER or STEENEKER in the records in Holland.

Records show that Hermanus Henry STENEKER or STINKE [bapt. 1747, Voltlage] is the uncle of Henry Steneker (1765-1821), from Chapter 4.

Johann Heinrich STEINKE was born on August 4, 1749 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the sixth of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Johann Heinrich STEINKE married Margaretha Anna Katharina THYSSEN on January 8, 1783 in Voltlage. Margaretha Anna Katharina THYSSEN was born in Voltlage.

No further information has been found concerning Johann Heinrich STEINKE or Margaretha Anna Katharina (THYSSEN) STEINKE.

Katharina Margaretha Adelheid STEINKE was born on February 16, 1753 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. She was the last of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Nothing else is known of Katharina Margaretha Adelheid STEINKE.
CHAPTER FOUR

The Family of

Johann STEINKE
and
Margerete Katharina SANDER

Engelke STEINKE
m. Anna TALKE
- Johann STEINKE
  m. Adelheid FEY
    - Theodore H. STEINKE
      m. Margaret BRECKSCHMID
        - Johann STEINKE
          m. Margarete Katharina SANDER
            - Hermann STEINKE
              m. Margaretha RUWE
                - Joseph John Lambert STEINKE
                  m. Mary Anna KAISER
                    - Diedrich STEINKE
                      m. Theresia WERLING-SCHNIPPEL
                        - Stephen Bernard STEINKE
                          m. Margaret Gertrude SCHEMMEL
                            - Peter Bernard STEINKE
                              m. Alvina Mary GREVE
                                - Sylvia A. STEINKE
                                  m. Urban E. SCHNEIDER
Johann STEINKE was born on November 21, 1737 in Voltlage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the first of seven known children born to Theodore Heinrich and Margarethe Elisabeth (BRECHSCHMID) STEINKE.

Johann STEINKE married Margarete Katharina SANDER, probably in Voltlage. Margarete Katharina SANDER was born on April 5, 1736 in Voltlage, the daughter of Gerhard Robbertsmann SANDERS and Anna (POHLMANN) SANDERS, both from Voltlage.

(ROBBERTSMAN could also be found as ROBBERSMAN in some records.)

Johann STEINKE and Margarete Katharina (SANDER) STEINKE had eight known children between 1765 and 1780.

No information has been found concerning the death of Johann Heinrich STEINKE, or Margarete Katharina (SANDER) STEINKE.

The German surname “SANDER” is derived from the given name Alexander, which comes from the Greek name Alexandros, which means “defender of men.” It could also be a German topographic name referring to someone who lived on sandy soil, or near a beach.

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**Baptismal Record**


Here is the baptism certificate of the first child of Johann STEINKE and Margarete Katharina SANDER. The baptism certificate, from Voltlage in 1765, mentions as baptized: Joan Gerardus Henricus.

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The three baptismal names are listed below each other in the second column, under the date “26”.

The first two baptismal names refer to both Joan and Gerardus doopheffers (sponsors?), the last name is the name he would go by, or his ‘first’ name: Henricus (Henry).
Johann Gerhard Heinrich STEINKE was born on August 26, 1765 in Volltage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the first of eight known children born to Johann and Margerete Katharina SANDER (SANDER) STEINKE.

Johann Gerhard Heinrich STEINKE married Jantie Jans NOTENBRIL on November 30, 1792 in Joure, __________. Jantie Jans NOTENBRIL was born on October 30, 1763 in Zuidveen, Nederland.

Johann Gerhard Heinrich STEINKE and Jantie Jans (NOTENBRIL) STEINKE had seven known children, and they lived in Haskerdijken, Holland. The STEINKE surname was changed to STEENEKER (or STENEKER) in Holland. Johann Gerhard Heinrich STENEKER was a seasonal immigrant bog worker, digging peat from the bogs of Holland. Later records list him as a bog owner. His uncle (from Chapter 3), and perhaps other relatives, worked as seasonal migrant bog workers too.

Johann Gerhard Heinrich STENEKER, like his uncle, married someone who was not Catholic. This could also be part of the reason for immigration to Holland.

Jantie Jans (NOTENBRIL) STEINKE died on January 4, 1821 in Haskerdijken, Holland.

Johann Gerhard Heinrich STEINKE died on March 13, 1821 in Haskerdijken, Holland.


The death certificate of Henry Steinke
20/03/1821 return to Haskerland death of Henry John Steeneker, "60 years of age [55 or 56 yr would be], occupation Veenbaas (peat worker), born in Hanover Volttage, residing at Haskerdijken, husband of Jantje Jans, son of John Steeneker and Grietje (Gretel) Harmens, both deceased, alive spouses, holsters people [farmers] to Volttage, on the nineteenth of March in the afternoon at half past three hours, no in the house numbered 2 to Haskerdijken ". The declaration was made by colleagues, including John Henry Euverman, peat boss, whose daughter is married to John Steeneker, b. 1805.

The mention of his mother "Harmens Gretel" is possibly incorrect. The wife of Henry, Jantje Jan Notenbril is the daughter of Jan Harmens, possibly this name incorrectly marked. Henry's mother was named Margaret (Gretel), this can be correct. The stated age is an erroneous estimate of the declarants was.

Source: Death certificate Haskerland, 1821
Filing Date March 20, 1821, Sheet No. 4
Hendrik Johannes Steeneker, deceased March 19, 1821, 60 years, male, married

Memories of Succession, 1821 Heerenveen office
Hendrik Johannes Steneeker deceased on March 19, 1821 to Nijehaske
Man by Jantje Jans, to Haskerhorne, father of John, peat worker there, Harmen, there, Arend, Jan Hendriks Steneker underage soldier.

There was one property of the estate
Source: Memories of succession 1818-1927, extension no 42, 8003 inventory, aktenr 325
A family name (also called surname or last name) is a name that is passed from one generation to the next. In many cultures a woman adopts her husband's family name when they are married.

In Europe, surnames began to be used in the 12th century, but it took several centuries before the majority of Europeans had one. The primary purpose of the surname was to further distinguish people from one another. In the 13th century a third of the male population had a given name of William, Richard or John. To uniquely identify them, people began referring to different Williams as William the son of Andrew (leading to Anderson), William the cook (leading to Cook), William from the brook (leading to Brooks), William the brown-haired (leading to Brown), and so on. Eventually these surnames became inherited, being passed from parents to children.

Broadly, most surnames fall into four categories.

- Surnames derived from given names, or personal names include Johnson, Williams, and Thompson. Most often they are patronymic, referring to a male ancestor, but occasionally they are matronymic.
- Occupational surnames refer to the occupation of the bearer. Examples include Smith, Clark, and Wright.
- Locational or topographic surnames, also called place names, are derived from the place that the bearer lived. Examples include Hill, Woods, and Ford.
- Surnames derived from nicknames include White, Young, and Long.
Johann Heinrich Albert STEINKE was born on November 14, 1771 in Vollage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. He was the fourth of eight known children born to Johann and Margerete Katharina (SANDER) STEINKE.

Johann Heinrich Albert STEINKE married Anna Catharina MERTENS, probably in Vollage. Catharina MERTENS was born on November 7, 1782 in Vollage, Hanover, Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), Germany. She was the daughter of Gerhard Heinrich MERTENS and Anna Angela (WELLEN) MERTENS.

Johann Heinrich Albert STEINKE and Anna Catharina (MERTENS) STEINKE had four known children between 1802 and 1808.

I have no information on the death dates of Johann Heinrich Albert STEINKE or Anna Catharina STEINKE.

There is a lot of information on this family at the following web sites by Raimund Karl WINETR:

- R. Winter's website: [http://www.r-winter.de/genealogy/stammbbm.htm](http://www.r-winter.de/genealogy/stammbbm.htm)
- [http://www.r-winter.de/genealogy/emigration/emigate.htm](http://www.r-winter.de/genealogy/emigration/emigate.htm) #297

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### Sauerkraut for Canning

**Ingredients**

- 50 pounds cabbage
- 1 pound canning salt

**Directions**

1. Remove outer leaves and any undesirable portions from firm mature heads of cabbage; wash and drain. Cut into halves or quarters; remove core. Use a shredder or sharp knife to cut cabbage into thin shreds about the thickness of a dime.

2. In a large bowl, thoroughly mix 3 tablespoons salt with 5 lbs. shredded cabbage. Let salted cabbage stand for several minutes to wilt slightly; this allows packing without excessive breaking or bruising of the shreds.

3. Pack salted cabbage firmly and evenly into a large, clean pickling container. Using a wooden spoon, tapper or hands, press down firmly until the juice comes to the surface. Excessive breaking or bruising of the shreds.

4. Repeat shredding, salting and packing of cabbage until the container is filled to within 3 to 4 inches of the top. If juice does not cover cabbage, add brine: 1 1/2 tablespoons salt to 1 quart water; bring brine to a boil; cool.

5. Cover cabbage with muslin or cheesecloth and tuck edges down against the inside of the container. Weight down cabbage under brine. Formation of gas bubbles indicates fermentation is taking place. Remove and discard scum formation each day. A room temperature of 70 degrees to 75 degrees F is best for fermenting cabbage. Fermentation is usually complete in 3 to 6 weeks.

6. TO CAN: Bring sauerkraut to a simmer (185 to 210 degrees F). Do not boil. Pack hot cabbage into hot jars, leaving 1/2 inch headspace. Remove air bubbles. Adjust caps. Process pints 15 minutes, quarts 20 minutes, in a boiling water canner.
From: Madsteinke@aol.com
Subject: Re: [STEINKE] meaning of steinke
Date: Thu, 09 Jan 2003 11:47:47 -0500

Hello All together,
the ending ke was very common in Northern Germany. It was an abbreviation for the word Kind (or
English child). Stein (or also Steen) is a very old north-european first name (for example Thor-sten)
which means Thors hammer). So, a child of a Stein was called Steinkind which became abbreviated
into Steinke. There are many examples for this, like Wilke (Will or Wilhelm), Hanke (Hans), Janke
(Jan) and so on.

I hope this helps a little bit. By the way: I have been in Voltlage about 5 years ago and I also
checked the microfilms of the catholic church which are available on microfilm at the church-archives
(on German Dioezesanarchiv) in Osnabrueck for Mark Steinke, Cincinnati. There still are relatives of
you in Voltlage (Steinke and Friemerding, who now live on the old Steinke-farm in Voltlage-Hoeckel).

Have a nice day,
Matthias Steinke, Reppenstedt, Germany