## **News release**

## from the German-American Genealogical Partnership



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## International German Genealogy Partnership is new name of young organization, reflects growing global participation

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—International German Genealogy Partnership is the new name adopted by members of a new and rapidly growing global organization known since its founding less than two years ago as the German-American Genealogical Partnership.

"New member societies are coming into the Partnership from around the world. There is a growing international participation in the Partnership, and our members decided on a new name that better describes the organization's international presence," said Kent Cutkomp, a Minneapolis resident and cofounder of the partnership.

The Partnership was founded in 2015 by genealogy society leaders in America and Germany. Today, the Partnership joins Germanic societies across America, Germany, Canada, England and other European countries.

"The purpose of the Partnership is to expand cooperation among societies nationally and internationally. It's a great way individual societies can become more successful in serving their members, and that includes helping their members make personal connections worldwide. We're delighted to see such interest coming from so many parts of the world," Cutkomp said.

He said organizations joining the Partnership range from small to large. For instance, the Germany-based Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Genealogischer Verbände, a founding member of the Partnership, comprises more than 65 societies serving 22,000 individual members.

Several major initiatives are being undertaken by the Partnership, including the 2017 International Germanic Genealogy Conference, scheduled for July 28-30, Minneapolis, Minn., and themed "CONNECTIONS: International. Cultural. Personal."

Other initiatives include sharing of knowledge and resources such as exchanging periodicals, sharing researcher and speaker lists, and creating a list of most valuable references, resources and websites. Communication and connections between Partnership organizations are important parts of the process.

For information about the Partnership, visit the website of the Minnesota-based Germanic Genealogy Society at <a href="www.GGSMN.org">www.GGSMN.org</a>, click "German Partnership." The Partnership's official website is expected to launch soon.