

San Joaquin County Historical Museum

11793 North Micke Grove Road

Lodi, California 95240

Phone: (209) 331-2055 or 953-3460

Museum Docent Council publicity contact:
Robin Wood at 331-2055

Jan. 8, 2008

News Release

Museum Docents to learn about Germans from Russia

The intriguing story of the Germans who left their homeland for Russia in the 1700s and ended up in the Lodi area will be told at the monthly Docent Council meeting on Monday (1/14) at the San Joaquin County Historical Museum in Micke Grove Park south of Lodi.

The program featuring a film from the Prairie Public Heritage Collection begins at 9 a.m. in the museum's multi-purpose meeting room. A business meeting will follow the program. The public is encouraged to attend.

The German resettlement began after 1762 when Catherine the Great of Russia offered free land for western Europeans if they would farm the land. Also promised freedom from military service, the Germans moved to Russia but kept their culture and language alive.

Beginning in 1872, these Germans again resettled, this time to America where the Dakota Territory was opened up to homesteading. Later, around the turn of the century, these Germans began moving to the Lodi area.

For more information, call the museum at 331-2055 or 953-3460.

###