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1. For all our members who have renewed their 2003 membership, the Board of directors wishes to extend their sincere thank you.

Those not yet renewed for the forthcoming year, this notification is to serve as gentle reminder that time is drawing short notwithstanding the fact that SGGEE does have a substantial "grace period" for three months into the new year before your membership is deemed finally expired.

If you are unsure as to the status of your membership, please contact membership@sggee.org

Checks can be mailed to SGGEE, P.O. Box 905 Stn "M", Calgary AB, Canada, T2P 2J3

A Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years to you from the Membership Committee.

2. Another call for volunteers.

It is likely all of you are aware of the Volhynian Lutheran St. Petersburg databases on the Internet. In the very near future the Podolia Lutheran St. Petersburg data will be available in the same manner because of the dedication of one of SGGEE's members.

The major remaining area left to do in western Ukraine will be Kiev parish. It is here where volunteers would be most welcome. There are a surprising number of ancestral connections to found in the three areas of Volhynia, Podolia and Kiev and to have them all extracted and available for searching would be of benefit to many SGGEE members.

The Kiev records are on 46 LDS films covering births, marriages and deaths, and written in old German script but are clear and written with a "good hand".

There are three methods of extracting the information from the films. Some people use lap top computers and enter the data directly from the films at their Family History Center.

The second and third methods are to have photocopies made of the pertinent part of the film and sent to volunteers who could either

1. Translate the German into English in a prescribed format on paper, which will then be entered by someone who has a computer, or
2. If you have a good understanding of German, enter the data directly into your computer in a prescribed format.

If you are able and willing to do either of the three procedures described please contact databases@sggee.org SGGEE reimburses volunteers for all expenses incurred in projects such as this which includes photocopying, film rental, postage and mailing costs etc.