

Biography of Reuben Drefs



R. Reuben Drefs was born and raised in southeastern South Dakota to German-Russian parents. He attended seminary, ministering as a chaplain and supervisor for clinical pastor education in a variety of healthcare institutions.

Reuben's work in genealogy centers on his ancestral homeland of Bessarabia, and Poland and Prussia. Reuben obtained and extracted the 1772 land registration records for West Prussia and the Netze District and the 1793-1794 land registration records for South Prussia. His Bessarabian projects include coordinating the indexing of the Bessarabia St. Petersburg records in 1998. More recently, he has led the effort to index the early Bessarabian records from 1815 to 1832. He published a book on his own family history in 2013.