



Lincoln Chapter
The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME V

APRIL 1997

ISSUE 4

Lincoln Chapter American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

General Meeting

Sunday, April 6, 1997 — 2:00 p.m. — 632 C Street Chapel

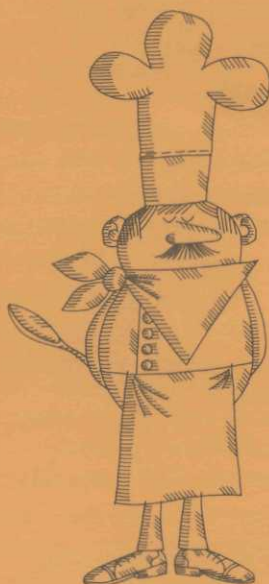
Program: **A Light in the Darkness, A Story That Took a Half Century to be Told.** This video presentation is a moving historical documentary which highlights the spirit and faith of the Volga German people during the years in Russia under Joseph Stalin. Stalin believed that the German-Russians, despite their historical support of the Soviet Union, would not remain loyal as the war against Germany progressed. In 1941, they were banished from their homes and



exiled to forced labor camps. The video weaves the eyewitness reports of survivors, of families torn apart and loved ones sent to different camps. The account of their preservation through this horrendous ordeal will inspire all who learn

about their heroic struggles. As the survivors today continue their struggle for survival, either in the Volga Valley or to relocate to Germany, their unshakable faith continues to be an anchor in their lives. A most informative and highly recommended film—one you will want to see.

Sam Sinner will be our speaker. Please bring cookies to share. Coffee will be served in the lower level of the AHSGR Museum. ■



Coming Soon . . . Lincoln Chapter AHSGR Annual Kraut and Brei Dinner

**May 9, 1997 — 4:30-7:00
WSI Hall — 1430 North 10th Street**

Buy your tickets from any Board Member or send in this reservation form.
No tickets will be sold at the door.

To order by mail, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with this form and your check, made out to AHSGR, to:
Ann Reitz, 4121 South 30th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502.

Please reserve _____ adult tickets (\$7.50 each)
Please reserve _____ child tickets (\$3.50 under 12)
for the Annual Kraut and Brei Dinner.

From the Editor's Desk

On Friday evening, March 14, we served 193 hungry people at Lincoln Chapter AHSGR's annual soup supper.

The chicken noodle and vegetable soups were superb after simmering under the watchful eyes of your dinner committee: Don Burbach, Larry Shenkel, Henry Sader, Mary Wunder, and Esther Stuertz.

Several wonderful cakes were donated for the event and your dinner committee would like to thank each and every one who helped make this soup supper such a wonderful success.

A belated happy anniversary to Wilbur and Elsa Amen. They celebrated 50 years together on March 29. ■

Annie Settell, Editor

Unser Leute Geburtstag (Happy Birthday)

April 4 Clara Wertz
April 8 Ferne Pickett
April 14 F. Wendell Groth
April 16 Judith Sader
April 18 Jerry Harris
April 21 Henry Grenemeier



April 28 Donald Yost
April 30 Victor Weber

Der Jahrestag (Happy Anniversary)



Don't forget to send in your names for inclusion of the birthday, anniversary, and congratulation section each month. Send all communications to Annie Settell, 333 South 11th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508 (fax 402-476-6532).

Congratulations to:
April 6, 1952...
Dorothy and Richard Pearce
April 23, 1955...
Carol and Jim Sommers
April 24, 1955...
Lucille and Richard Hedges

Mama's Apple Dessert



4 cups sliced apples (six to eight)
7 tbsp. butter
1 cup sugar
¾ cup flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
½ cup water

Butter casserole and add apples. Add water and cinnamon. Work flour, sugar, and butter until crumbly. Pour over all. Bake 30 minutes at 350°. Yummy good!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sunday, June 1, 1997
Lincoln Chapter AHSGR
Picnic
Potluck Lunch and Bingo

St. Paul United Church of Christ
1302 F Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

AHSGR Lincoln Chapter

Executive Committee, 1997

President John R. Stuertz
1st Vice Pres. Larry Schenkel
2nd Vice Pres. Dale Dinges
Treasurer Ann Reitz
Folklore Delores Schwartz
Newsletter Annie Settell
Secretary Gladys Herstein

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Richard Dittenber, Henry Grenemeier,
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Henry Sader, John Schleicher,
John Schneider, Ed Schwartzkopf,
Jake Sinner, Samuel Sinner,
Norma Somerheiser, Lois Sorensen,
Esther E. Stuertz, Kathie Svoboda,
Lillian Weber, Mary Wunder



Coming Events

April 6, 1997

General Meeting; 2:00 p.m.;
632 C Street Chapel

April 8, 1997

LLCGS (Lincoln Lancaster County
Genealogical Society); 7:00 p.m.;
Dick Administration Building;
(Lower Level) Union College Campus

April 19, 1997

PAF-LUG (Personal Ancestral File —
Lincoln User's Group); 7:00 p.m.;
Family Service Center; 3100 Old
Cheney Road

April 21, 1997

Board Meeting; 7:00 p.m.; 631 D;

May 9, 1997

Kraut & Brei; 4:30-7:00 p.m.;
WSI Hall

June 1, 1997

Chapter Picnic; Potluck and Bingo;
1:00 p.m.; St. Paul's, 13th and F

Victims of Communism Memorial

From the Kolb Newsletter, edited by Norm and Pauline Dudek

A law was enacted by the U.S. Congress creating the authority to establish a monument to honor the Victims of Communism. It was approved December 17, 1993. It is our opinion that the story of our people needs to be included in this memorial.

"The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, Inc.'s president is Dr. Lee Edwards. Some of the more recognizable names include Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, Robert Conquest, Dr. Edwin J. Feulner, Jr., who served on the National Advisory Board along with 13 others. Other countries have expressed an interest in the Memorial and include Elena Bonner, widow of Andrei Saakharov; Vladimir K. Bukovsky, former Soviet dissident from Russia; the president of Albania, Hungary, Estonia, and Latvia amongst other international people. An honorary Congressional Board is still being formed and currently lists 18 Congressmen.

"Several Senators are currently on the Honorary Congressional Board and include Robert Dole, [former] Senate Majority Leader; Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Claiborne Pell, former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Dick Armey, House Majority Leader, and others.

"As of this writing there are nine governors and 18 mayors across the U.S. that have issued proclamations in support of this project. None of the governors of the states that have a large number of Germans from Russia are currently known to have supported this project. It would seem appropriate that the governors of Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Colorado, [and] Washington need to be encouraged to support this memorial. Mayors of cities in these states with large portions of Germans from Russia should also be encouraged to issue proclamations to support this project.

"The Museum will include a Hall

of Heroes, a Roll Call of Victims (as many as can be identified), Liberty Auditorium Theatre, the Hall of Infamy, a Timeline of Communism, a Research Library, and the Gateway to Freedom. The site will be the Old Tariff Building located at 7th and 8th Streets between E and F Street, NW. It is a three-story, marble building containing approximately 100,000 square feet plus a courtyard of about 30,000 square feet. The building is currently vacant. The Foundation is currently forming

their strategy for publicity and fund raising. It is hoped that the project will be completed and ready for opening by 1999."

For more information you can contact the Kolb Newsletter, 920 Hill St., Apt. A, Hastings, NE 68901-3023, or you may contact Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 1997, Washington, DC 20013-1997 or the public relations firm Hugh Newton & Associates, 800 South Lee Street (old Towne), Alexandria, VA 22314. ■

Letters... Can You Help?

I am researching my grandmother's ancestry, which is German-Russian. Grandma Rose's maternal grandparents, George Wagner and Katherine Margaret Hoffman, were both born in the German colony of Frank, Russia. They married in December, 1891, in Odessa, Russia, and then left Russia in 1892 with the bride's parents.

Family tradition tells us the parents and newlyweds all settled in Hastings, Nebraska, on April 2, 1892. The Wagners had a child, Katherine, in Hastings on October 7, 1892. The Wagners moved from Hastings to Lincoln sometime before or during 1894 to find work with the railroad. A second child, Anna Margaret, was born in Lincoln on July 15, 1894.

A family bible says that the Wagners left Nebraska in March, 1895 and settled in Walla Walla, Washington, on June 5, 1895.

My interest lies in the time of the Wagner's stay in Nebraska. Katherine Hoffman's parents probably settled in Hastings permanently, but that is just a guess on my part.

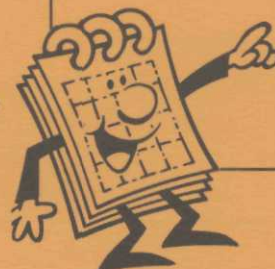
I would like information from the 1893-1895 city directories of Lincoln, if they are available. I do not know if any county or state's census

reports were taken at that time. I have already written to the State of Nebraska for a copy of Anna Margaret Wagner's birth certificate. Any information you could find about the Wagners or Hoffmans would be greatly appreciated.

*Sincerely—David M. McGovern
Bremerton, Washington*

If you have information that might help Mr. McGovern find answers to his questions, please contact Delores Schwartz, 1000 Butler Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68521, (402) 435-3636. ■

JULY 20, 1997
**American Historical
Society of Germans
From Russia**
**INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION**
San Jose, California



APRIL 1997

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY!!	2	3	4	5
6 GENERAL MEETING 2:00 p.m. 632 C STREET CHAPEL	7	8 LLCGS 7:00 p.m. Dick Admin. Bldg. Building (lower level) Union College Campus	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 PAF-LUG 7:00 p.m. Family Service Cntr., 3100 Old Cheney Road
20	21 BOARD MEETING 7:00 p.m. 631 "D" Street	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**Lincoln Chapter
American Historical Society
of Germans from Russia
631 D Street
Lincoln, NE 68502-1199**

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1000 Butler Ave .
Lincoln NE 68521**