



Lincoln Chapter The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2000

March Notes from Ruth

by Ruth White, President, Lincoln Chapter AHSGR

Well, here we are and it's March. The convention plans are progressing nicely. Your convention packet will be mailed soon. REMEMBER, WE NEED YOU—YOUR TALENTS, AND YOUR FINANCIAL HELP.

We need volunteers in all areas. The 2000 Convention will be the BEST EVER! In May, you will be requested to sign up for the Hospitality Room (a room restricted for volunteers to rest and have a snack) and needed will be such things as baked goods, cans of pop and whatever. Welcome night is our fiscal responsibility and you will be asked to donate monetarily. *Sunday, June 11, we will assemble the Convention Packets.*

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see an article from the Genealogy/Folklore Chairman, Norma Somerheiser. This is a new committee and Board approved. Please respond to her requests. We have asked the Facilities Committee of the Society Board for permission for a garden and possibly flowers around the Headquarters Center. We hope to grow our ethnic vegetables and flowers. You will hear more later at our General meeting.

We will need volunteers to help with the planting, weeding, watering, and

maintenance of this new garden.

You're thinking – a new president and convention person – and she is asking so much!

UM GOTTES HIMMEL.

I, too, am a German Russian and we can do it! Our slogan "WE CAN DO IT" (apologies to Nike) for the 2000 Convention, making it the BEST EVER!!

In April, to keep costs down, we will not have a newsletter but a reminder card for the April 30 General Meeting. The month of May will have a larger newsletter. Remember it will require all of us to help whatever way we can. Perhaps you can make telephone calls or assemble packets or bake or donate whatever or volunteer during the Convention.

On Friday, June 16, we will have the Headquarters Center open from 1 to 4 p.m. The building needs to be staffed by volunteers.

We will have Volga Boatmen with beverages for sale to everyone who attends. This is a Lincoln Chapter event and all profit from these sales will belong to the Lincoln Chapter.

Thank you for all you are able to contribute.

A Cheerful Note From...

Larry Schenkel

To all of you, for your cards, your calls, and your visits, THANK YOU!

A special thank you for your prayers. There are days when I knew I couldn't go any further, when something would lift me and give me the strength to go on. It had to be your prayers!

The whole thing has put me in a completely different plain when it comes to religious beliefs and spirituality.

I am making progress every day and am now using what is called an EVA Walker to walk with. I had been wearing two thigh-high braces that locked at the knee to walk with the walker, but this week they took one off of my right leg, and I walk without it. (My walks are about thirty feet with one brace).

I still don't know how long I will be here (Immanuel Hospital in Omaha) but I will let someone know as soon as I do.

I really miss working at the Heritage Center and seeing so many of you.

Hopefully, I will be home soon. Again, thank you all for your wonderful support.

I love you.



Quick Wit:

I'm so wracked with guilt. I don't want to stop therapy because I'm afraid to take the income away from my therapist. He's got kids in college. –Tim Halpern

I've been in love with the same woman for forty-one years. If my wife finds out, she'll kill me. –Henny Youngman

Life is something you do when you can't get to sleep. –Fran Leibowitz





From Jan Traci Roth, AHSGR Convention & Meetings Coordinator

We need your help! Could you please take a moment to help at the 2000 Lincoln Convention? Volunteers are always needed at every convention, and this year is no exception! Last year in Casper we had a tremendous turnout with over 300 volunteers helping with all of the activities. But we need your help to make this possible.

Enclosed please find sign-up sheets for people to volunteer at convention. Please return to AHSGR Headquarters before April 15, 2000. Once we receive the lists back at Headquarters, we will send additional information out to volunteers about their volunteer duties.

Please make sure that you fill out the information correctly, and include a mailing address, phone number and e-mail address if available. This will make it possible for us to contact you regarding your duties.

Please note that most volunteer duties are for three-hour shifts, with one exception: hospitality volunteers will work in two-hour shifts. Also, on Saturday afternoon, we will be closing all areas at 3:00 p.m. so volunteers for the 2:00-5:00 shift will not be needed.

If you have any questions regarding

volunteering at convention, please call me at 402-474-3363 or email me at: jantraci6666@aol.com

I look forward to seeing all of you in Lincoln!

WANTED! Folklore of the North and South Bottoms!

The Lincoln Chapter Board of Directors established a Folklore committee this year. This committee's project is to collect as much information about the North and South Bottoms as possible, and to have it published in book form by the end of May, 2000.

Why do this? Because the majority of our Lincoln members who are reading this newsletter are part of the last generation who remember these communities when they were bilingual, thriving parts of Lincoln. If we do not record our stories now, they will be lost forever. The author, Thomas Wolff wrote a book entitled, *You Can't Go Home Again*, but we'd like you to try. Each of us has a story that is worth remembering and telling to others.

Please plan to attend our next General Membership meeting April 30, 2000, at 2:00 p.m. in the AHSGR

Chapel, 6th and C Streets. We'll have a good time sharing our stories and recollections of growing up in these unique neighborhoods.

We'd like to know where you lived, the names of the families who lived on your block, about your school days, church events, games you played, personal anecdotes, nicknames you had or gave to somebody and why, pranks you played (we won't tell who did it), and special events and people in your lives.

Please help! Come join the fun Sunday, April 30, 2:00 p.m. AHSGR Chapel. Refreshments will be served.

If you cannot attend, send your written contributions to a member of the Folklore Committee listed below, or telephone them by May 1, 2000.

Allison Rye, 2665 So. 11th, Lincoln 68502, 435-1202; Larry Schenkel; Norma Somerheiser, 2675 So. 11th, Lincoln 68502, 476-8976.

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