



**Lincoln Chapter**  
**The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia**

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXIV, ISSUE 4

July/August 2015

## Bits and Pieces from Larry

**A**s you can see by the stories by Jay Jacox, the Lincoln Chapter has been on a number of outings. Why haven't I seen you there?

We have a number of things coming up that will need volunteers to help. It's easy and the neat thing is, no experience is necessary!

There are some scheduled events coming and I especially want to call your attention to the International Convention to be held in Billings, Montana July 12-19th. You still have time to get your reservation in.

It's not too early to remind you that the fall General Membership Meeting and Picnic will be held on September 20th at the Antelope Park shelter house. Also, the Lincoln Chapter will again participate in the Trunk or Treat activities at Norwood Park School on October 31. Look for updates on both these activities in the next newsletter.

Becky Schenaman has again written about life in the "North Bottoms." Sounds like she's blessed with a lot of friends who were there when she needed them.

I was a young lad of around twelve when the Bottoms flooded in the '50s.

I have included a picture of the water that reached to just past 7th and Vine. The picture was taken facing west and the house is the Henry and Molly Faust's home. The house in the far background, beyond the car, is where we had lived. At the time of the flood we had moved to south Lincoln. A few years ago I included in the newsletter a picture of my mother throwing a concrete block out of the hole in their basement wall that was caused by the flood.

I guess none of our Lincoln Chapter members have any recipes they want to share. We have one recipe in this newsletter and it is from Canada. I know Nancy Borrell makes a mean Deana Kuchen.



Can you share, Nancy? ☐

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## Soups On!

Submitted by Jay Jacox

The annual all-you-can-eat soup supper was held April 10 at the WSI Hall in the North Bottoms area of Lincoln. The soups were chili, vegetable beef, and chicken noodle which were prepared by "master chef" Paul Loos. A large variety of cakes were offered as dessert for the hungry guests.

It takes many folks and much hard work to put on this social event, but it's worth it as the money raised goes towards helping fund other events sponsored throughout the year. Thank you to everyone involved. (A list of the volunteers was included in the last Newsletter.) ☐



## Annual Spring Meeting Recap

Submitted by Jay Jacox



Our annual spring General Meeting was held April 26 with the first installment of our new "Speaker Series."

Corinne Jacox, Catalog/Reference Librarian at Creighton University, was our featured speaker. Her topic was "Researching Your Family History Using 'Find a Grave.'"

Attendees learned how to build their family tree using helpful tools and procedures found at the 'Find a Grave' website.

They also learned how to create memorial pages of their loved ones for others to discover via the World Wide Web.

The event was such a success that speakers on a variety of topics will be presented in the future. ☐



## AHSGR Wins Again!

Submitted by Jay Jacox



It's a fact. Each time the AHSGR Lincoln Chapter has traveled to see our Lincoln Saltdogs baseball club play, they have won.

On June 6 we once again saw the 'Dogs win as they beat the Wichita Wingnuts, 9 to 5. And what a night of fun it was as we dodged some rain that other area towns saw that evening.

Our own John Weber threw out the ceremonial first pitch, the chapter's name was announced over the public address system and our name was flashed on the giant scoreboard.

Larry Schenkel won a t-shirt door prize. Ruby Weber was selected for the tote bag prize and Sharon Buckner won the grand door prize of a travel bag. All in all, it was a "home run" of an evening! ☐





# Life in the North Bottoms

by Becky Schenaman, North Bottoms

In all my years living in the North Bottoms, last month was really the first time I feared flooding from the Salt Creek. I have never seen the creek this full and it was moving so fast.

The day they issued the voluntary evacuation notice for the North Bottoms, I did not get home until 4:30 P.M. When I arrived my neighbor told me, "Becky did you hear we are close to the levy giving away and we can flood?"

I must say I was shocked.

So I thought, where do I begin to know what to gather? I have no basement and my house is full. How can I move any furniture upstairs?

So I just prayed, gathered up a few clothes, a little food, important papers, my dog and his things. My sister, Donna, drove down and we put some things in her car.

I called the non-emergency police number and talked to an officer who told me it was true and right at that moment it was my own decision whether to leave or stay, but if the levy broke I could be in an emergency situation and I might not be able to leave,

So I put my dog, Shorty, into the car, locked the doors and told my home of 49 years goodbye, hoping it would be

safe from the flooding.

It seemed surreal as we left home because people were mowing their yards; students were walking home over the viaduct just like it was any other day.

As we got to the bottom of the road over the viaduct, it was 5:30 and it was bumper-to-bumper traffic in every lane leaving the Bottoms. The interstate was also bumper to bumper and we could only move by inches. There were no police directing traffic to keep it flowing and we sat at every light. I was trying to reach 9th and P so I could turn in front of the Journal Star.

It took me an hour and a half to travel those few blocks but once I turned onto P Street the traffic moved freely.

If that levy had broken all chaos would have erupted! You would have literally been trapped.

I left because my neighbors had water in their basements and backyards. It took several days to get it out.

I was very fortunate I had no water to speak of. Just a little in the corner of my garage. My nephew said my garage gutter was packed with leaves and he cleaned it out a few days later.

My grandparent's house was flooded in the South Bottoms several times

when I was a child. So I remember helping clean up flood water damage in their basement on B Street. Floods are one big devastating mess! I must say for the first time as a widow I felt helpless.

When I returned to my home my telephone answering service was flashing.

I had ten calls from friends and people from my Immanuel Church family with offers of help and even a place to stay.

They were all so concerned for me and my dog. God really does provide hope and strength when you need it. I will always be thankful. My home is still standing as it has since 1895. The Salt Creek is within its banks and all is safe in the neighborhood.

The South Bottoms took in more water, but we German people are strong and we persevere. But I pray we never see this problem again in my lifetime.

I appreciate our early German families who settled along the Salt Creek Bottoms even more. They had a very hard life and they made the most of what they had and clung to their faith and each other for support.

Mocks Goot ☐

## FROHLICH JUHRESTAG

*"Happy Anniversary"*

**July**

(None we are aware of)

**August**

Ed and Linda O'Neill

Bob and Joyce Riddle

## Unsere Leute Erinnryng

*"Our People in Memory"*

Mark Kevin Burbach

Lois L Reigert

Alice Lucille Hedges

Douglas Oltman

### Your Help is Needed

If you are aware of the death of someone who is a German from Russia, please give Judy Lawson, the Chapter Corresponding Secretary, a call: 402-420-9580.

## HERZLICHEN GLUCKWUNSCH ZUM GEBURSTAGL

*"Happy Birthday"*

**July**

Sheryl Heidenreich

Dick Holden

Don Weber

**August**

Ken Babcock

Richard Geier

Ampone Hergenrader

Larry Schenkel





## Verinega Casserole

1 pkg. lasagna noodles  
(Cook lasagna noodles in salted water until desired doneness and drain.)

### Filling:

2 boxes whole berries, usually strawberries. (I used fresh sliced strawberries)  
½ cup sugar  
1 cup bread crumbs browned in ¼ cup butter  
Mix above lightly together.

### Topping:

¼ cup cream  
½ cup melted butter  
¼ cup browned bread crumbs  
Mix above lightly together.

### Preparation:

- Prepare 10½ X 8½" casserole dish with ¼ cup melted butter and add ½ cup cream to coat the bottom.
- Then line bottom of casserole, 2 noodles deep.
- Add ½ of the filling, spreading over the noodles evenly (layer as you would in making lasagna).
- Top layer, use 2 more layers of noodles.
- Pour topping over top of casserole.

Cover with foil, bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

I actually got this recipe from the German Volga Rootsweb List in March 2011, posted by Marilyn Scott. This is a simpler version of the kind my Grandma used to make by putting sweetened strawberries inside sweet bread dough squares which were then boiled in water until the dough was cooked. Then bread cubes were browned in butter and added to real farm cream. This was then poured over the strawberry pockets. We called them "strawberry klee's." I still remember how good these were. The casserole tastes just like those. (from Cheryl Siemens—taken from the Calgary Chapter Newsletter)

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# GRs in the Community

Submitted by Jay Jacox

It was a chilly night in May but the Lincoln Chapter again made an impact in our community when members volunteered at the annual Norwood Park Elementary School Fun Night.

The event was a celebration of spring by the school and Parent-Teachers Organization and was complete with hamburgers and hot dogs,

student band performances, a dunk tank, giant inflatable slide, and several active games.

Chapter members who participated were Sharon Buckner and Judy Runion who ran the Plinko table, Paul Loos, Don Weber, and John Weber who ran the dice and slot game booths and Karen Johnson and Jay Jacox "played in the water" at the duck pond game.

And last but not least were Corinne, Austen, and Renae Jacox who ran the football toss challenge.

Event organizers estimated over 350 people attended this fun event and the Chapter received a rousing "Thank you" from both the school and PTO.

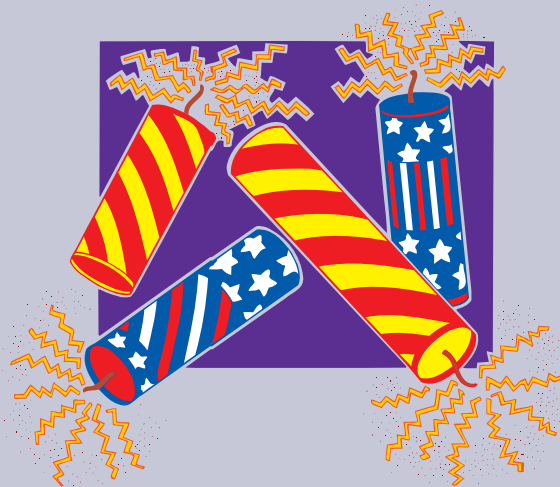
Great job, guys! ☐



## 2015 Calendar of Events

June 28, 2015	General Membership Meeting (Refreshments following)	2:00 pm	631 "D" St.
July 12-19, 2015	International Convention	Billings, Montana	
July 14, 2015	Coffee Club	9:00 am	Stauffer's Cafe, 48th & Hwy 2
July 20, 2015	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	631 "D" St.
August 11, 2015	Coffee Club	9:00 am	Stauffer's Cafe, 48th & Hwy 2
August 17, 2015	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	631 "D" St.
September 8, 2015	Coffee Club	9:00 am	Stauffer's Cafe, 48th & Hwy 2
September 20, 2015	General Membership Meeting & Picnic	4:00 pm	Antelope Park Shelter
September 21, 2015	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	631 "D" St.
October 13, 2015	Coffee Club	9:00 am	Stauffer's Cafe, 48th & Hwy 2
October 19, 2015	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	631 "D" St.
October 31, 2015	Trunk or Treat	6:00 pm	Norwood Park School, 4710 N. 72 St.
TBA	Broda Dinner	5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	WSI Hall, 430 N. 10th St.
November 10, 2015	Coffee Club	9:00 am	Stauffer's Cafe, 48th & Hwy 2
November 16, 2015	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	631 "D" St.
December 8, 2015	Coffee Club	9:00 am	Stauffer's Cafe, 48th & Hwy 2
TBA	Board Members' Christmas Dinner		
January 10, 2016	Annual Membership & Business Meeting (Potluck Dinner & Election of Officers)	1:00 pm	Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall 10th & Charleston Sts.

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**Have a Safe and  
Happy Independence Day!  
July 4, 2015**