

Lincoln Chapter NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE VI

November-December, 2016

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Make the Holidays Brighter by Filling Young Tummys

Not only are Germans from Russia proud of their heritage, they should be proud of the work we do for youth in our community. This includes the Lincoln Chapter's involvement in school Fun Nights, Reading Across America, Trunk or Treat on Halloween night, as well as appearances at fairs and festivals – all free.

Once again this holiday season our Lincoln Chapter is going the extra mile by making a donation to the Food Bank of Lincoln to help feed needy youth in our community. Our donation will be earmarked for the Food Backpack program targeting youth hunger. In the youth Food Backpack program, unprepared meals from the food bank are distributed to children, free of cost, who may not have enough to eat over winter break without the benefit of school meals.

The Lincoln Chapter board is the conduit this holiday season for helping to feed some of those hungry families. We are collecting individual donations and making a blanket donation in the name of the Lincoln Chapter to the Food Bank. With the assistance of other community partners the Food Bank estimates that three meals for children can be provided for every \$1 donated.

Last year's response from the Lincoln Chapter was phenomenal for our first attempt at this outreach. Our gracious members donated enough to provide over 1,400 meals for hungry kids.

If you can and would like to be part of the Lincoln Chapter's donation to the food bank, you can give by check. To make your donation a **tax**

deductable one, make checks payable to the **Food Bank of Lincoln**. We will present our blanket gift after December 15.

To be included in the Lincoln Chapter's blanket donation, gifts should be sent to:

Jay Jacox
1000 North 81st Street
Lincoln, NE 68505



Have a wonderful holiday season and let's make it bright for others as well.

January General Meeting

The next General Membership Meeting of the Lincoln Chapter will be held at 1:00 on Sunday, January 8th. The place will be at Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall at 10th & Charleston Streets.

Following social time and a potluck dinner, a short meeting will take place, including election of 2017 board members and officers. Open discussion is encouraged on how the Lincoln Chapter can serve our members better. At press time additional activities were still in the works. Everyone is invited. See you there.

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If there is anything you would like to see in future issues please contact Jay or Corinne at 402-327-8962. We welcome comments and suggestions.

Fall in the North Bottoms

Submitted by Becky Schenaman

Today is an absolutely beautiful fall day. The leaves are turning a golden amber color and you can tell we are due for a cold snap.

This week I went to a slide show down at AHSGR International Headquarters. It was presented by Mike Messenger who went with a group to Russia this summer. As it turned out, two of the villages he visited were where my grandparents came from. My grandfather Henry Bridegam was from Kolb and my grandmother Katherine Sterger Bridegam came from Doenhof.

I was so surprised to see how empty and forlorn the villages were. The roads were still dirt with ruts in them that would be hard to drive on. The landscape was bleak with a few trees and wild grass.

The few homes were in need of paint and had old wooden fences with missing boards. One pretty feature on the homes was the decorative wooden trim work on the window frames. This must have been a German piece of carpentry because I saw it on many homes in these slides. But the thing that stood out to me most was there were no cats, dogs, cows, chickens, flowers, or gardens. It was not how I imagined our German villages to be. I realize the Russians destroyed the villages and graveyards after us Germans left but to see how it is today is very sad.

Our families that came to America were so lucky! We who were born here were blessed. I feel even more blessed to own a home in the North Bottoms. It is well kept and full of flowers. Both sets of my grandparents lived in Lincoln's bottoms – the Bridegams in the South Bottoms and the Dellos in the North Bottoms. They both had spotless homes with flowers and gardens. They attended church and became naturalized citizens.

My grandparents came to America with very little but when they died their homes were paid for and they had money in the bank. They raised good children, cared about their neighbors, kept their houses and yards neat, and even kept their portion of the streets and sidewalks clean. They were proud to be in America. Their sons served in World

War II and some died in battle. They would never have let their Russian homes and countryside look like it does.

We German Americans need to look at their American villages and know how blessed we are to have the German neighborhoods that they created here, be proud to live in them, and be glad we can go to our local cemeteries to find their graves and decorate them. We can still attend their churches.

Our history is now in America and as we look at the homes they created here we can know this is how well they maintained their homes in the Old Country. We carry their pride of place and home within ourselves in their memory and will carry it on for generations to come. God bless America and their new homeland – and “our” village, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mocks Goot.

Frohlich Juhrestag

“Happy Anniversary”#



NOVEMBER

Rosalie and Richard Geier
Peggy and Mike Kapeller

DECEMBER

Mary Joyce and Don Schoening
Pam and Roger Wurst

Unsere Leute Erinnyng

“Our People in Memory”

Kathleen M. Dinges
Ronald G. Galois Sr.
Sylvia (Gabelhaus) Hanner
Marie Harris
Marilyn J. Healey
Esther E. Heine
Norma R. Kruse
Robert “Bob” L. Loos

Your Help is Needed

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

On the Road Again

Willie Nelson had it right. “The life I love is making music with my friends – and I can’t wait to get on the road again.”

This Lincoln Chapter did take to the road again this past October 2 as Arbor Lodge State Historical Park again invited us to participate in their Ethnic Festival. On a fantastically beautiful Sunday afternoon we piled in a van and traveled to Nebraska City.

At the festival we had a booth inside the Morton mansion displaying GR quilting and designs as well as activities for the kids. Outside, we played “buncock” with families, teaching them the game and answering questions about our heritage. Many interesting stories were passed our way, as well, from participants.

Other ethnic groups at the event were the Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project, Mid-Summer Scandinavian Committee, Omaha Czech Cultural Club, Sons of Norway, and Scottish Bagpipes.

This is the second year we have been invited to this Arbor Lodge event and have already been asked to return in 2017. As we left we were all given bags of delicious orchard apples as a “thank you” for coming.

Then we piled into the van and got “on the road again” to return to Lincoln. Quite a fun day!



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October Meeting A Carnival

The Fall General Meeting on October 9 had a carnival atmosphere, and for good reason! After a delicious catered Lee’s chicken meal at the Antelope Park shelter we got down to business.

A short business meeting was followed by the annual GR Carnival. Participants tested their skills at several carnival events including the ping pong ball toss, wheel of fortune, bean bag toss, duck pond, disc drop, coin toss, and basket shooting games. Contestants won tickets at each event and then dropped their tickets into a jar for the prize they would like to win. Tickets in each jar were then randomly drawn to select the winners. A great time was had by all!



Prize winners:

“The Russian Germans under the Double Eagle and the Soviet Star” Book

Susan Stoehr

“Norka: A Passage in Time” DVDs (one donated by AHSGR International)

Donna Day & Cindy Silber

Gift Bags (donated by A Memory Maker)

Delores Schwartz & John Weber

Lincoln Saltdogs Military Honor Caps

Ed Barthule & Dick Haloren

Bottles of Wine (donated by Country Pines Vineyard)

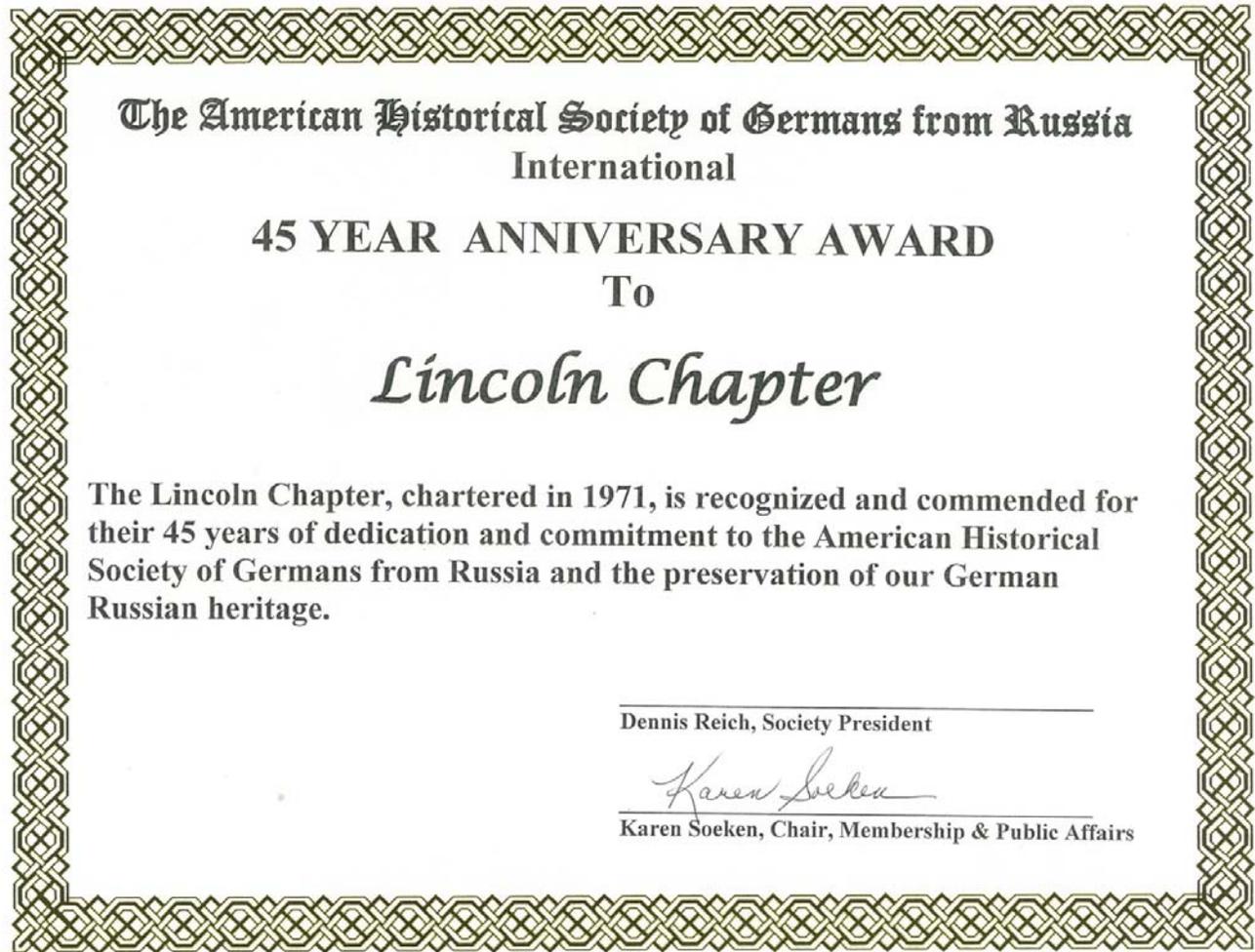
Renaë Jacox, Sherry Pawelko, Don Weber & Pam Wurst

Gift Cards to Fireworks Resturant

Sharon Buckner, Barb Schmidt, Bob Riddle, Joyce Riddle & Tracy Wagner

Free 2017 Lincoln Chapter Membership

Becky Schenaman



FOURTY-FIVE YEARS YOUNG – Congratulations to the Lincoln Chapter for receiving this award for continuous service at the recently concluded AHSGR International Convention in Concord, California. Our Lincoln Chapter was chartered 45 years ago in 1971. Early Lincoln Chapter news and newsletters from 1970-71 onward can be found at www.ahsgrlincolnchapter.org. Click on the “newsletters” to review 45 years of events.

Herzlichen Glukwunsch Zum Geburstagl



“Happy Birthday”

NOVEMBER

Sidonia Babcock	Leslie Bill
Sandra Broman	Robert Doberstein
Eugene Edwards	Luther Frost
William Gettman	Jay Jacox
Rochelle Loos	Joyce Riddle
Rebecca Scheneman	Norma Schenkel
Jim Sommers	Susan Stoehr
Robert Wagner	Roger Wurst

DECEMBER

Chuck Jones
Judith Lawson
J. Scott Nelson
Terri Nelson
Barbara Schmidt
Henry Schmidt
Marilyn Wagner

2016 Calendar of Upcoming Events



AHSGR Lincoln Chapter



2017 Calendar to be released in January

NOVEMBER

Friday	4 th	Broda Dinner	WSI Hall, 1431 North 10 th St.	5:00-7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8 th	Coffee Club	Stauffer's, 48 th & Hwy 2	9:00 a.m.
Monday	21 th	Board Meeting	631 "D" Street	7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

Sunday	4 th	Christmas Open House	631 "D" Street	1:00-4:00 p.m.
Monday	5 th	Board Member's Christmas Dinner	Fireworks Resturant	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	13 th	Coffee Club	Stauffer's, 48 th & Hwy 2	9:00 a.m.

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	8 th	General Membership Meeting, Potluck Dinner & Election of Officers (speaker to be announced)	Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall 10 th & Charleston Street	1:00 p.m.
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2016 Board Members – AHSGR Lincoln Chapter

OFFICERS:

President:	Paul Loos	400 Fletcher Ave. (68521)	440-6417	loospaul@hotmail.com
1 st Vice President:	Jay Jacox	1000 North 81 st St. (68505)	327-8962	cjacox@neb.rr.com
2 nd Vice president:	Donna Day	235 North 24 th St. (68503)	484-5589	dday5@neb.rr.com
Treasurer:	Barbara Schmidt	6201 Normal Blvd. #317 (68506)	489-4743	bkschmidt33@windstream.net
Secretary:	Karen Johnson	5804 Princess Margaret Dr. (68516)	904-4818	karenmarie725@yahoo.com
Corresponding Sec:	Judy Lawson	4811 South 55 th St. Ct. (68516)	420-9580	heyjudene@aol.com
Historian:	Sharon Buckner	4821 Sooth 55 th St. Ct. (68516)	466-4786	

DIRECTORS:

Ed Barthule	610 "C St. (68502)	435-0472
Becky Schenaman	817 "Y" St. (68508)	477-1627
Don Weber	6201 Normal Blvd. #322 (68506)	489-4898

Committee Chairs:

Dinners:	Paul Loos	Program:	Jay Jacox
Finance / Audit:	Barbara Schmidt	Publicity:	Judy Lawson
Garage Sale:	Jay Jacox	Quilt and Raffle:	Judy Lawson
Genealogy/Folklore:	all	Social:	all
Historical:	Sharon Buckner	Special Projects:	Jay Jacox
Membership:	Corinne Jacox	Ticket Sales:	Judy Lawson
Newsletter:	Corinne & Jay Jacox	Webmaster:	Corinne Jacox
Nominating:	all		

**AHSGR Lincoln Chapter
1000 North 81st Street
Lincoln, NE 68505**

Lincoln Chapter activities of 2016 (through October 15):



Feeding Hungry Kids



Winter Meeting



Spring Speaker



Soup Supper



Youth Fun Night



Garage Sale



Saltdogs Baseball



Summer Speaker



Arbor Lodge



Fall Meeting