

# Lincoln Chapter NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII, ISSUE VI

November-December, 2018

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## 2019 Membership Drive

### Underway

The new year of 2019 is upon us, and with it once again, it is time to renew our local Lincoln Chapter memberships. Find enclosed in this issue a copy of the 2019 Membership Form. Membership forms can be returned to AHSGR Lincoln Chapter Membership Chair, 1000 North 81<sup>st</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68505.

It is so important that you fill out and return the membership form along with your payment. With the form we can make sure we have your current address and the like, along with any information concerning birthdays or anniversaries you would like to share in the newsletter. We respect the privacy of our members and if information is not filled out on the registration form, we assume that member does not want that information shared, and it will not be. For example, if a member does not fill out the birth month or anniversary section of the form, the local chapter assumes that is private information and it will not be listed in the "Happy Birthday / Anniversary" portion of the newsletter. Of course, no address, phone number or personal birth date information is ever released without the consent of the member. Membership privacy and security is the chapter's number one concern.

At only \$15, membership in your local chapter goes to providing you so much. For example, hall rentals and procurement of interesting and entertaining speakers; discounts to our special events; a complimentary meal at our annual fall carnival and picnic; and, of course an annual six issues of this chapter newsletter.

This is a very important year for the Lincoln Chapter as the Golden Anniversary of the AHSGR International Convention will be held right here, in the capital city at the end of July. Educational sessions, dancing, genealogy, food demos, tours, and special events are being planned at this time. It's a good time to be a member. Renew today.

50th International Convention  
of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia

## Our Golden Jubilee



An Enduring Legacy

Come join us as we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> annual convention  
of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia

July 22-27, 2019  
Embassy Suites Hotel  
Lincoln, Nebraska



American Historical Society  
of Germans from Russia



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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.

**COLOR copies of this and every recent AHSGR Lincoln Chapter Newsletter can be found on the web at [www.ahsgrlincolnchapter.org](http://www.ahsgrlincolnchapter.org).**

## Christmas Memories in the North Bottoms

Submitted by Becky Schenaman

Growing up in the 1950's there were four of us in our family. We never asked for a lot of presents. We usually asked for one main thing and if we received more we were happy.

We always had a Christmas tree which we decorated with lights and tinsel, along with old decorations we used every year. I remember some of my favorites were old Santa and snowman light bulbs that had burned out off an old string of lights for the tree. They had store string tied on the top of the screw-in part and that's how they hung on the tree. I think they were made before World War II. I still look for them at sales. I have tried to find one as a keepsake over the years but have not succeeded. I am a person who likes to find special memories.

We always bought a fir tree with short needles. We bought from the stack of trees that were on the sidewalk at the grocery store. I loved the smell of the tree in the house. I also loved turning out the living room lights and watching the tree shimmer from all the tinsel and Christmas lights. It was beautiful to lay on the linoleum front room floor watching those lights glow off the walls.

I wanted a Terri Lee doll. The dolls were made in Lincoln until the factory caught fire and the company moved to California. Santa never brought me one but I always got a few fun things and usually some warm flannel pajamas.

*(Editor's note: Terri Lee dolls were manufactured in Lincoln from 1946-53, until the factory moved to Apple Valley, CA. The company quit production of the dolls in 1962. There was a whole line of "Terri Lee" dolls, named Terri Lee, Connie Lynn, Linda Lee, Nanook – Terri's Eskimo friend, Guadeloupe – her Hispanic friend, her brother Jerri Lee, and even actor Gene Autry.)*

One year we even got a pair of ice skates. I never was a good skater because my ankles always gave out. However, Christmas was always fun. I liked going to town and seeing all the window

displays with their music and moving animated figures.

As an adult I worked in Gold's Department Store display department. That was the most fun job I ever had. I made signs on a "print-a-sign" machine and learned how to make signs on a big "line-o-scribe" machine. This was a real interesting and hard craft to learn. In the 1960's when I worked at Gold's, the store opened every morning with a bell and a moment of prayer for our country. Then the bell would ring again and the doors would open for business. Those were wonderful times.

Getting back to Christmas – one of my favorite memories was going to my grandparents in the north bottoms. They were John and Katherine Dellos who lived at 1137 Claremont Street. Each of us always got a brown paper sack with a big bag of hard candy, an apple, an orange, peanuts, and cookies. Then we went to grandma upstairs and each of us got a new handkerchief with a nickel tied into the corner and with a big "koose" grandma would wish us each a merry Christmas and blessed New Year in **German**. Oh, to hear those words again would be the best gift each of us could ever receive.

Love is what is important in life – not material possessions. So, to each of you I wish the joy of Christmas past and a blessed New Year.

Mocks Goot.

Frohlich Juhrestag

"Happy Anniversary"



**NOVEMBER**

Rosalie and Dick Geier

Peggy and Mike Kapeller

**DECEMBER**

Rebecca Hansen and Kirk Payne

## Fall Meeting / Carnival a Success

The annual Fall General Membership Meeting and Carnival was held on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, once again at the Antelope Park Shelter. The celebration of fall was started off by a short business meeting, led by President Paul Loos.

After the meeting, Lee's Restaurant catered the afternoon lunch for all. The all-you-can-eat meal included fried chicken, buns, corn, mashed potatoes, and gravy. Beverages and deserts were provided by the Lincoln Chapter, but participants could bring their own as well.

As is our custom, the fall meeting entertainment was in carnival form. Participants tried their hands at table games to win tickets. The eight games included: bean bag toss, disk drop, coin toss, duck pond, ring the bottle, spin the wheel, ping pong toss, and a new entry – the giant dice roll.

Participants won tickets for each time they were successful at a game. After writing their names on the tickets they could choose to place any or all of their tickets into a jar specific to a prize they desired to win. Different players had different strategies. Some placed all their tickets in a single jar to better their chances while others split their tickets up between jars in an effort to increase their chances at winning *something*.

The tension built as Paul blindly drew names from the various jars to determine winners. It was a fun time for all. Thanks to all who donated prizes to once again make our carnival a successful event.



Games in Action



A Happy Winner



Carnival prize winners are as follows:

**Cook Books donated by International AHSGR**

Jane Harrison and Susan Stoehr

**Seasoning Salt donated by Sherry & Dean Pawelko**

Donna Day and Sandra Gettman

**Nebraska Husker bag donated by Sharon Buckner**

Dorothy Klein

**Lee's Restaurant Gift Certificate donated by Judy Lawson**

Don Weber

**Bottles of wine donated by Country Pines**

Nancy Borrell, Sandy Broman, Sharon Buckner, Geri Debus, Bill Gettman, Judy Runion, Becky Schenaman, and Kay Wood

**2019 Lincoln Chapter Membership**

Karen Johnson and Judy Lawson

# Where's the Beef?

-- at the Broda!

The annual Lincoln Chapter broda dinner was held Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at the WSI Hall on North 10<sup>th</sup> street, in the historic North Bottoms. Usually the broda dinner is held in November but it was decided to schedule it earlier this year and what a good choice it was.

The weather was quite good, and so was the crowd. A steady line of people visited the all-you-can-eat meal that ran from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Of course there was delicious roast beef, cooked to perfection by our own master chef Paul Loos. Included with that was carrots and potatoes, luscious green beans, and cakes and treats made by board members.

Once again the fabulous AHSGR quilting ladies fashioned another of their famous creations to be raffled off. Many purchased tickets to enter for the drawing, but only one ticket could win. That lucky ticket holder was Deborah Duncan. Congratulations to her.

Volunteers are the backbone of all of our events, especially one of this magnitude. Thank you to the following people who helped make the broda happen: Ed Barthule, Nancy Borrell, Sandy Broman, Sharon Buckner, Donna Day, Geri Debus, Tim Hardt, Jane Harrison, Corinne Jacox, Jay Jacox, Karen Johnson, Dorothy Klein, Judy Lawson, David Loos, Adam Loos, Paul Loos, Steve Loos, Diane Ohlson, Sherry Pawelko, Rick Rekart, Becky Schenaman, Susan Stoehr, Bob Wagner, Marilyn Wagner, Don Weber, Kay Wood, and the Kids Care Club from Norwood Park Elementary School as a community service project.



**Ticket Takers Prepare**



**Enjoying the Evening**



**Broda**



**Vegetables**



**Beans**



**Desserts**



**The Valuable Quilt and its' "Guard"**



**A Helper Draws for the Quilt Winner**



**A Strong Crowd**



**Nancy Borrell and Friends**



**Norwood Park Elementary's Kids Care Club**

## January General Meeting

The next General Membership Meeting of the Lincoln Chapter will be held at 1:00 on Sunday, January 13, 2019. The place will be at Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall at 10<sup>th</sup> & Charleston Streets.

Following social time and a potluck dinner, a short meeting will take place, including election of 2019 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.

Herzlichen Glukwunsch  
Zum Geburstagl  
"Happy Birthday"



**NOVEMBER**

Sidonia Babcock  
Sandra Broman  
Sandra Gettman  
Jay Jacox

Rebecca Lee Schenaman

Susan Stoehr  
Bob Wagner  
Lee Zurawski

**DECEMBER**

Marlene King  
Judy Lawson  
Kirk Payne  
Joyce Riddle  
Norma Schenkel  
Henry Schmidt  
Marilyn Wagner

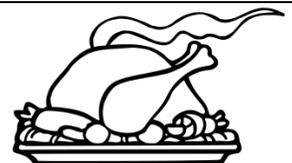
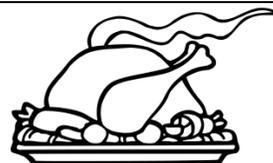
## Christmas Open House /

### German Church Service

The annual Christmas open house will be held in the International AHSGR Museum at 631 "D" Street on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. International Headquarters and the Lincoln Chapter work together to put on this fun event. Come see the museum decorated, take a tour, sing traditional holiday songs (in both English and German), and enjoy treats such as cookies, peanut brittle, hot chocolate, and apple cider.

In conjunction with the museum open house, Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church at 540 "D" Street (across the street from the museum) will be having their annual German Christmas service that day from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Seasonal music and spoken word in both English and German will be the fare of the day.

Come enjoy our heritage and the joy of the season at both events. The AHSGR museum will be open both before and after the Friedens service to compliment the event.



This is the time of year we think of family, friends, and become more thankful for what each of us has. The Lincoln Chapter of the AHSGR is a totally volunteer organization and we could not do what we do without the multitude of tireless volunteers that all make it work.

Sometimes it is not said enough but from every board member we are grateful for you and would like to say one thing to each and every one of our volunteers that had made such a difference throughout the course of the year -- a very warm and heartfelt:

*Thank You!*

## Fall in the North Bottoms

Submitted by Becky Schenaman

(Reprinted by request from the November/December 2016 issue of the AHSGR Lincoln Chapter Newsletter)

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.

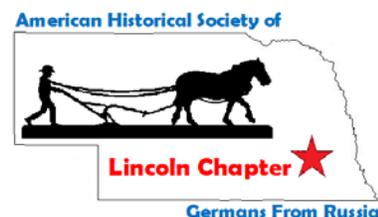
Mocks Goot.

### Unsere Leute Erinnyng “Our People in Memory”

LaVerne “Lue” Marie Heidtbrink  
Marcella K. “Sally” Kahler  
Anna Marie Meier  
Alexander J. Wacker

#### **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.



# 2018 Calendar of Upcoming Events

**\*additional events added as dates are finalized\***

<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
Monday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Board Meeting	631 "D" Street	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Club	Stauffer's, 48 <sup>th</sup> & Hwy 2	9:00 a.m.
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
Tuesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Club	Stauffer's, 48 <sup>th</sup> & Hwy 2	9:00 a.m.
<b>JANUARY, 2019</b>				
Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Winter Meeting (with election of 2019 officers)	Immanuel Fellowship Hall 10 <sup>th</sup> & Charleston Streets	1:00 p.m.

## 2018 Board Members – AHSGR Lincoln Chapter

**OFFICERS:**

President:	Paul Loos	400 Fletcher Ave. (68521)	440-6417	loospaul@hotmail.com
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Jay Jacox	1000 North 81 <sup>st</sup> St. (68505)	327-8962	cjacox@neb.rr.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice president:	Donna Day	235 North 24 <sup>th</sup> St. (68503)	484-5589	dday5@neb.rr.com
Treasurer:	Jane Harrison	3735 Pace Blvd. (68502)	202-5541	bharrison@neb.rr.com
Secretary:	Corinne Jacox	1000 North 81 <sup>st</sup> St. (60505)	327-8962	cjacox@neb.rr.com
Historian:	Sharon Buckner	4821 South 55 <sup>th</sup> St. Ct. (68516)	466-4786	
Corresponding Sec:	Judy Lawson	4811 South 55 <sup>th</sup> St. Ct. (68516)	420-9580	heyjude@aol.com

**DIRECTORS:**

Ed Barthule	610 "C" St. (68502)	435-0472	
Karen Johnson	2525 North 69 <sup>th</sup> St. Ct. (68507)	904-4818	karenmarie725@yahoo.com
Becky Schenaman	817 "Y" St. (68508)	477-1627	
Don Weber	6201 Normal Blvd. #322 (68506)	489-4898	
Kay Wood	447 South 40 <sup>th</sup> St. (68510)	405-1525	

**Committee Chairs:**

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

**AHSGR Lincoln Chapter**  
**1000 North 81<sup>st</sup> Street**  
**Lincoln, NE 68505**

**AHSGR Lincoln Chapter activities of 2018:**



Winter Meeting



Stars Hockey



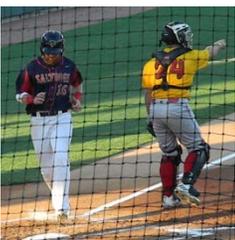
Spring Meeting



Soup Supper



Garage Sale



Saltdogs Baseball



Fall Carnival



Broda Dinner



**Scheduled:**  
Christmas Open House