



THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS FROM RUSSIA LINCOLN CHAPTER

VOLUME IV

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ISSUE XI

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**November 7, 1996 Memorial Service for German-Russian Victims
of Murder & Genocide from 1920 through 1956.**

East Chamber- State Capitol Building

7:00 P. M.

Catholic and Protestant Clergy will be memorialize our people

November 12, 1996 LLCGS (Lincoln Lancaster County Genealogical Society)

Dick Administration Building (Lower Level) Union College Campus

7:00 p.m.

November 16, 1996 PAF-LUG (Personal Ancestral File-Lincoln Users Group)

Family Service Center 3100 Old Cheney Road

7:00 p.m.

November 19, 1996 AHSGR Board Meeting

AHSGR Headquarters Building

7:00 p.m.

November 22, 1996 Broda Dinner

WSI Hall 1340 North 10th Street

See reservation form within this letter.

6:00 P.M.

Editor's Notes:

This month we have the pleasure of giving you an insight on the newest employee at AHSGR. Her name is Wilma Orcutt, and I wish I had her computer skills! I hope you will be as pleased as I was to find such a capable person on the computer as Headquarters.

The term of the editor of this Newsletter on the local AHSGR Board is coming to an end this coming December. I will not be renewing my term as a local Board member.

UNSER LEUTE DER JAHRSTAG (HAPPY ANNIVERSARY)

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

November 4, 1943	Hasseltine and Tony Chonuskie	53 years
November 23, 1951	Normajean and Richard Stauffer	45 years
November 28, 1940	Theresa and Willie Zitterkopf	56 years

GEBURTSTAG (HAPPY BIRTHDAY)

November 2	Helen Reifschneider	November 19	Harold Heidenreich
November 3	Ferd Nuss	November 21	Elsa Amen
November 5	Lois Sorensen	November 21	Norma Schenkel
November 8	Sidonia Babcock	November 21	Adam Schwindt
November 8	W. W. (Bill) Hahn	November 25	Ann Reitz
November 9	Jim Sommers	November 27	Richard Pearce
November 14	Tom Mandeville	November 27	Marjorie Nagel
November 17	Harry Niederhaus	November 27	Ardith Stuertz
November 19	Dorothy Sinner		

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ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ANNUAL STATE CAPITOL MEMORIAL SERVICE TO GERMAN RUSSIAN VICTIMS OF SOVIET MASS MURDER AND GENOCIDE NOVEMBER 7, 1996 7 P.M.

IN THE EAST CHAMBER OF THE NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Be sure to attend the first memorial service in America to publicly remember and honor our over million relatives who were murdered in Russia. Please plan on joining us for this historic event. Catholic and Protestant clergy will be attending to memorialize our people who fell victim to government oppression in Russia.

In memory of the relatives and fellow German Russians murdered from 1916 to 1956 during:

World War I Deportations

The Bolshevik Revolution

Lenin's Red Terror

Deliberate mass starvation of 1920-1924

The Collectivization Drive of Stalin

Deliberate mass starvation of 1933

The Stalinist Purges

World War II Deportations

The Worker's Army, Gulag Soviet Concentration Camp System

THEY DESERVE TO BE REMEMBERED

THE GENOCIDE OF SOVIET-GERMANS

The consensus of modern scholars is that the Russian-Germans were victims of genocide in the U.S.S.R. :

(1) The United Nations adopted the following definition of genocide on December 8, 1948:

ARTICLE II:

In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy in whole or part, a national, ethnically, racial or religious group as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group.
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group.
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the groups condition of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part.
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group.
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

All of these atrocities were committed against our people. The mass murder was carried out by the following means:

- (1) Unlawful deportation (declared a "crime against humanity" by the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal) carried out brutal conditions leading to the deaths of hundreds of thousands at a time.
- (2) Deliberate and murderous mass starvation by means of violent grain requisitions and the denial of relief to the starving.
- (3) Forcibly removing children from the group.
- (4) Preventing births within the group by forceful separation of family members.
- (5) Forced labor in Siberia and Central Asian concentration camps. In Magnitogorsk alone a mass grave of 40,000 Volga Germans has been reported.
- (6) Mass executions of the innocent by shooting, torture and other means.

These victims must not be forgotten.

The pain caused by the murder of our relatives is with us today. Vast numbers of our ethical group in North America lost their parents, grandparents, siblings, children, other relatives, and friends to Soviet Genocide. It is time to memorialize them with honor, publicly.

PARTIAL LIST OF CZARIST AND SOVIET GERMANS MURDERED FROM 1915-1946

1915 Deportation of Volhynian Germans under Czar Nicholas	50,000
1929-1924 Enforced Starvation of Soviet Germans	300,000
1932-1933 Enforced Starvation of Soviet Germans	350,000
1940-1946 Deportation of Soviet Germans	<u>300,000</u>
Total	1,000,000

(Sponsored by the International German Russian Victims of Genocide Memorial Committee and the Lincoln Nebraska Chapter of Germans from Russia (AHSGR)

(Use main entrance on North Side of Capitol. Handicapped parking is also on the north side. Ministers will be Rev. Steve Ratzlaff, and Rev Fred Wolff).

**THE LINCOLN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS
FROM RUSSIA WILL BE SERVING THE TRADITIONAL**

"BRODA DINNER"

SERVED "FAMILY STYLE"

NOVEMBER 22, 1996

6:00 P.M.

AT THE WSI HALL 1430 N. 10th

**TICKETS ARE \$7.50 AND \$3.50 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12
DUE TO LIMITED SEATING MAY WE SUGGEST
RESERVATIONS BE MADE. FILL OUT RESERVATION
FORM AND SEND CHECK WITH SELF ADDRESSED
STAMPED ENVELOPE .**

In addition to the dinner we will have Richard Rye from Headquarters for our speaker. AHSGR has received many pages of documents from the 100 villages along the Volga River, and now we are in the process of getting many more pages from the Black Sea area. His talk centers around these documents.

A month ago with this Newsletter you received 10 raffle tickets for a beautiful hand quilted, hand pieced Queen size quilt. You do not need to be present to win, but this quilt is worth the chance to win it. Return your ticket stubs with your meal reservation. There will be other prizes to be given that night.

**PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN WITH A
SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE TO:**

LINCOLN AHSGR CHAPTER

% LOIS SORENSEN

1605 S. 58th St. LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68506

**Please send us _____ tickets for the ANNUAL BRODA DINNER
on November 22, 1996 at the WSI HALL 1430 N. 10th
at \$7.50 each (children \$3.50) each**

WILMA ORCUTT

Wilma was born at the Western Nebraska General Hospital in Scottsbluff, Nebraska to George H. and Mary Ellen (Field) Wightman.

All of her childhood was spent in Minatare and Sidney, graduating from Gering High School in 1979.

After graduation, she decided to go on her own, moving to Commerce City, Colorado, where she worked in several office positions during the 1980's.

While there she met Charles David Lee, and married him in 1981. From this marriage, she has one daughter, Melissa Renee' Lee, who is 14 years of age.

After her divorce, Wilma decided to return to Scottsbluff, where she worked as a nurse's assistant at both Scottsbluff Villa in Scottsbluff and the Heritage Health Center in Gering. Part of this time she worked at both places at the same time, for a total of 5 years.

On August 15, 1987 she married Gerald C. Orcutt in Gering.. Gerald was already working for the Burlington Northern Railroad in Alliance at the time of their marriage, but now he has transferred to Lincoln. His position then, as now, was in the mechanical field as pipe fitter at the Burlington Northern Sante Fe West "O" yards.

Coming to Lincoln, Wilma took a job with Milder Manor, a nursing home in Lincoln for a short period of six months. Then because of a back injury, she laid off work for the next two years.

Returning to the work force in 1989, she decided to attend a technical school in Omaha, called Skills Plus, where she took accounting and computer literacy classes.

After graduating in October 1989, she went to work for George Jonaitis, P.C. an accounting firm. where she got her network administrative training. She resigned from this position in order to attend college.

1994 saw a big change in the family when Wilma and Gerald were blessed with twin girls. Stephanie Michelle Rose and Ashlie Nichole Rose Orcutt (Rose was to honor Gerald's mother's name) who were born April 28, 1994.

From August 1993 to September 1995, Wilma attended Southeast Community College receiving an Associate degree in Accounting.

She then went to work as the Administrator of Networking for D.A.Linemann P.C. CPA firm in Lincoln. Her duties were the Administrator of computer network, accounts receivable and payable. She worked here from June 1995 through February 1996.

She then went to work for Dana Cole Accounting firm for six months as a bookkeeper; when she noticed the ad for a data entry position at the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia.

Since coming to AHSGR her duties are: Computer Data Entry and input new genealogy forms to record changes in genealogy records as received from members.



NOVEMBER 22, 1996

**BRODA DINNER
A FAMILY STYLE DINNER**

1430 N. 10th

WSI HALL

SPEAKER : RICK RYE

**DON'T FORGET TO CONTRIBUTE BY SENDING IN YOUR
RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THE BEAUTIFUL HAND SEWN QUILT**

American Historical Society
of Germans From Russia
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Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-1199

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