



Lincoln Chapter

The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

NEWSLETTER

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A Message to the Membership

by Larry Schenkel, 489-3213

I hope this newsletter finds everyone happy and in good health.

I want to start by thanking everyone who helped with the garage sale. While I can't thank everyone by name here, I would like to thank the host of volunteers who helped get everything ready. Without your help, we couldn't have pulled the whole thing off. I'd also like to thank everyone who donated items. Because of the great merchandise we had to sell (including the kitchen sink!), the Lincoln chapter earned more than \$1,200. And last – but certainly not least – thanks to those who worked on the two days of the sale. There was a lot of “merchandising” that went on during the sale, and I know that this helped increase our take. The money we raised will be put to good use during the next year getting ready for the convention in 2000. Again, thanks to all of you who made this such a great success.

Help! Help! Help!

It's time for the quilt raffle! This was a very profitable endeavor last year, and we need your help again this year to sell raffle tickets. We are enclosing a supply of raffle tickets with this newsletter and hope that you will be able to sell them quickly.

The tickets come in sets of six. If you sell the set as a single unit, the cost is \$5. If you sell the tickets as singles, the cost is \$1 each, and you get to put your name on the sixth ticket as a thank you for helping us sell the tickets.

If you need more tickets, if you cannot sell the tickets or do not want to buy them yourself, or if you want to turn in your money and ticket stubs,

please contact me or Ann Reitz. I can be reached at 489-3213, and my address is 2538 S. 53rd Street, Lincoln 68506. Ann can be reached at 489-5462 and her address is 4121 So. 30th Street, Lincoln 68502. Please do not go through headquarters. They have enough to do without having to sort our mail and take our phone calls! A special thank you goes to the Lincoln Quilters for providing the quilt again. We will draw for the quilt at the Broda in November, and the winner of the quilt need not be present to win.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Lincoln chapter of AHSGR is September 19 at 1:00 p.m., at St. Paul's UCC on 13th and F Streets. This will be a pot luck, so we'll have lots of delicious food. We'll also have a Bingo tournament, with all prizes being furnished by the Lincoln chapter. John Schleicher has been busy contacting the Omaha chapter to invite their members to attend as our guests. If any do attend – and I really hope they do – let's give them that great Lincoln hospitality. We have invited all of the headquarters staff to attend this meeting. Maybe Jan can fill you in on all of the projects going on.

I hope a lot of members who haven't attended a meeting come. The more, the merrier!

New Hours

Have any of you been taking advantage of the new hours? Debra Khouri, I hope you have. Your letter is one of the reasons the new hours are in effect. The new hours are Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Try them. Remem-

ber the old saying, “Use it or lose it.”

Sponsorship Program

Do you know someone who has talked about joining AHSGR but just hasn't gotten around to it for one reason or another? A new sponsorship program was started at convention where a member signs a sponsorship pledge and pays for the new member. I did that for my brother, who is always helping me with AHSGR projects but just doesn't join. I hope he will renew his membership for 2001. (Yes, membership is good for the rest of this year and all of 2000.) When I talked about it with the Lincoln Quilters, two of their members took pledge sheets and sponsored new members. Cate will be at the next meeting to talk about it.

See you on the 19th!

Folklore Recalled

Did your mother or grandmother ever tell you to, “Stehl dich nicht so dumm an?”

When asked if he knew “Was ist Los?” a man answered, no, but he knew his brother, “Das ist Los,” to which a bystander added, “Ja, they have a little sister; her name is ‘Dies ist Los.’”

From Paul Stoehr, about 1975

If you have a favorite saying or story you would like to see in print, send it to Larry Schenkel or Norma Somerheiser. We will use them in future newsletters as space permits.

Looking Back...

Satchel Paige once said, "Don't look back; something might be gaining on you." That's good advice, but sometimes it's fun to reminisce a little. So, let's look back at some events in the Lincoln chapter's past.

February 1969

The Lincoln Chapter had five members. Three years later, February 1972, there were 329 members, and they set a goal to have 500 members by convention time. The convention was held in June in Boulder, Colorado, that year and they nearly reached their goal.

1973

A house at 615 D Street officially became the International Headquarters for AHSGR. All records were transferred from Greeley, Colorado, to Lincoln. Ruth Amen was elected International President at the convention in Portland, Oregon, and Delores Schwartz, Jake Sinner, and Katherine Weber, were elected to the International Board. Ed Schwartzkopf was also serv-

ing on that board, having been previously elected.

A Broda dinner was held at the National Guard Armory. Ticket prices were \$3.00 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

1983

The headquarters building at 631 D Street was dedicated. Staff moved in on January 17 and 18 and enjoyed the space, space, and more space, after the cramped quarters at 615 D.

AHSGR members provided the funds to construct this facility as well as the museum buildings, and volunteers donated countless hours to build it. A large corps of volunteers aided staff, doing clerical work, conducting tours, cleaning and yard work, and more.

By the end of 1983, the Lincoln Chapter had contributed \$38,792.64 to the International organization. This money was raised by selling Volga Boatman sandwiches, runzas, noodles, home-baked breads, kuchen, and cook-

books at the State Fair, and festivals in downtown Lincoln. Prices charged ranged from \$1.00 for a runza, \$1.25 for a one-pound bag of noodles, to \$1.75 for a Volga Boatman sandwich. A lot of hard work and many jobs well done.

1993

Most of this year was devoted to fund raisers and planning and preparing to host the 1994 Convention.

Our quilters held a very successful quilt show and bake sale in October. The beautiful quilts displayed in the chapel included some old, some new, and some original design quilts. net profit from the bake sale was \$320. They also sold 100 raffle tickets on the quilt they made for the Broda dinner raffle, and two AHSGR memberships.

Each year, these ladies have earned and donated approximately \$1,000 to AHSGR and the International Foundation.

Source: 1969-1993 Lincoln Chapter minutes of board meetings.

More Volunteers

