



Lincoln Chapter

The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME X, ISSUE 3

JULY/AUGUST 2002

Ruth's Notes

by Ruth White, President

Well, the summer is moving along. Where has it gone? The Annual Convention in Des Moines was good. Mark your calendar for the Annual Convention in 2003. Where? The location is Yakima, Washington.

August is Garage Sale time. The dates are Friday, August 16, and Saturday, August 17. The hours are Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You may bring your donations starting Tuesday, August 13, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and noon, Wednesday, August 14, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and noon and Thursday, August 15, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and noon.

THIS IS A LINCOLN CHAPTER PROJECT. DO NOT DISTURB THE STAFF. CALL GLADYS HERSTEIN, 489-5976, OR NANCY BORRELL, 489-2583, FOR INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS.

We are still evaluating the possibility of a Broda dinner. More information in the next newsletter.

The next General Membership Meeting is Sunday, September 15, at 1:00 p.m. at Faith United Church of Christ, 901 Charleston. It is potluck. We will share memories to be included in our next Folklore booklet and also Bingo. □

Folklore Project 2002

In May, 2000, the Lincoln chapter published a collection of stories about growing up in the North and South Bottoms neighborhoods in Lincoln. It is entitled, "Passing Down the Memories," and 100 copies were sold to folks in Lincoln and at the AHSGR convention that year.

At that time the Folklore committee felt the response was so positive that we should collect and publish memories of other facets of our lives as Germans from Russia living in the "bottoms" in Lincoln.

After our homes, the church was the most respected and important institution in our lives. The church gave our parents, and us, a sense of belonging and unity. It enabled our parents and grandparents to perpetuate their use of the German language, and traditions of baptism, confirmation, marriage, and burial, in their new homeland.

Each of our churches has maintained excellent historical records, but it was, and still is, the people who worshiped there who made the church what it was.

Now it is time to write another chapter in our book of memories. For two years we have asked you to share your stories of growing up in your church. Several people have sent Larry Schenkel and Norma Somerheiser some of their recollections of traditions and events that occurred in their church.

Did you know that Zion Congregation had a Sunday School band and they accompanied the singing in the Sunday School for a number of years? Or did you hear about the time the girl set fire to the hair of the girl in front of her in the Christmas procession at Friedens? Do you remember being taught the German language in Sunday School by Pastor Henkelman's wife?

These are examples of some of the remembrances we have received. We'd like to hear from you. Tell us about a special church program, or church service, songs you sang, that special pastor or Sunday School teacher, or a lesson or passage of scripture that you still remember. Each of us has a story to tell and something we cherish. Will you share it? Will you help preserve it?

We hope to publish these stories early next year. If response is good, we may be able to work with AHSGR staff members and possibly publish an edition combining the previous stories with the church recollections.

Contributors may remain anonymous if they so desire.

Call or send your written stories to: Larry Schenkel or Norma Somerheiser. Larry can be reached at 2111 Kingswood Cr., Lincoln 68521, 438-3814; Norma at 2675 So. 11th Street, Lincoln 68502, 476-8976.

Machs Gut! □

Thank You, Volunteers

Many thanks to the following volunteers who helped make what may be our last Kraut & Brei dinner a success: **Bud & Virginia Dietrich***, **Phil & Irene Dinges**, **Henry Sader III**, **Henry Sader IV**, **Donnie Burbach**, **Ed & Gladys Herstein***, **Leroy & Diane Butherus***, **Dale Dinges**, **Phil Sorenson**, **Ann Reitz***, **Lucille Hedges***, **Delores Schwartz***, **Norma Somerheiser***, **Nancy Borrell**, **Suzy Stoehr***, **Barb Schmidt***, **Helen Schwartz***, **Larry & Norma Schenkel***, **Ruth White*** (President of Lincoln Chapter). The

names with stars are those who also brought cakes for dessert, along with: **Dorothy Sinner**, **Molly Grenemeier**, **Frieda Dobler**.

I also wish to thank all of you who have bought tickets and attended our dinners and soup suppers which is what really made them so successful.

And a special thanks to my two dear friends, **Roger "Sugarbear" Petersen** and **Bruce Trautwein**. Neither of them are Germans from Russia and have no connection to our organization yet they helped cook the Broda, Soup Supper, and Kraut & Brei because they are my friends

and I asked for their help. I guess that is what real friends do, isn't it?

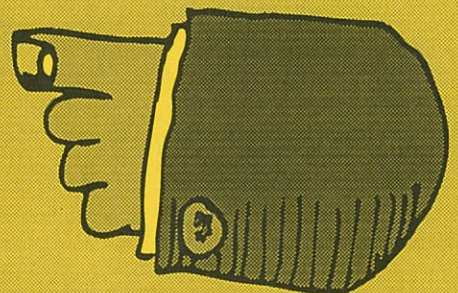
I will put more about our dinners in the next newsletter, explaining the problems we have been having and why there is a possibility they may be ending.

The one big reason is the aging of all our steady volunteers and the lack of younger, more able-bodied volunteers coming forward to take their place.

Thanks for listening. □

—Larry

General Membership Meeting
Sunday, September 15, 2002
Faith United Church of Christ
901 Charleston
Potluck • Folklore Memories • Bingo



Lincoln Chapter
American Historical Society of
Germans from Russia
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FRI. 8-16-02
8:30 AM. - 5:00 PM.

SAT. 8-17-02
8:30 AM. - 3:00 PM.

GARAGE SALE

601 D STREET

**FRI., AUGUST 16
8:30 A.M. TO 5 P.M.**

**SAT., AUGUST 17
8:30 A.M. TO 3 P.M.**

**DONATIONS
ACCEPTED
TUESDAY,
WEDNESDAY
AND THURSDAY,
AUGUST 13-15,
8:30 A.M. TO NOON**

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