



Lincoln Chapter
The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XII, ISSUE 3

JUNE/JULY, 2004

WHAT'S COMING UP...

- ☞ June 21, 2004—Board Meeting—7:30 PM—631 “D” St.
- ☞ July 5-11, 2004—AHSGR Convention—Modesto, CA
- ☞ July 13, 2004—Coffee Club—9:00 AM—HyVee—40th and Old Cheney
- ☞ July 19, 2004—Board Meeting—7:30 PM—631 “D” St.
- ☞ August 10, 2004—Coffee Club—9:00 AM—HyVee—40th and Old Cheney
- ☞ August 11, 2004—Happy Birthday, Happy Cooks!!!
(Larry Schenkel, Bruce Trautwein, Roger Petersen and “He who eats what they cook,” General Ed Binder. Happy Birthday, my dear, dear friends!!!)
- ☞ August 16, 2004—Board Meeting—7:30 PM—631 “D” St.
- ☞ **September 26, 2004—General Membership Meeting—Potluck at 1:00 PM, St. Paul UCC—13th & “F” Streets. Our guest speaker will be John Schleicher:**

John was very active in the Midlands Chapter until he went to work for the Nebraska State Historical Society and moved to Lincoln. John then became very active in the Lincoln Chapter. He also served on the International Boards of Directors of AHSGR for six years.

John is now an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and he is also the Head of Special Collections for the McGorgan Library of Medicine, also at the Med. Center. He also teaches night classes at the University of Nebraska in Omaha.

John has always been the type of person who, rather than be part of the problem has been one who is part of the solution.

John’s presentation will be on immigrant/ethnic groups in Nebraska—who settled where and when, etc., including Germans from Russia, of course. But he will talk about all European ethnic groups.

So bring some good ethnic food for the pot luck and let’s have a good time. I plan to bring “Pigs-in-the-Blanket” and *gumen salat*.

Quilters' Update

I am happy to report that, since we had the story about the Quilters in the newsletter, Judy Runion reports that their ranks have grown. These ladies are:

**Linda Ashleford
Mary Froschelser
Barbara Schmidt
Helen Schwartz
Cecelia Sherman
Gerry Shuster
Donna Thompson
Judy Runion**

Well done, ladies.

In the next newsletter, I will have an update on the quilt they are currently working on, as well as a picture.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER:

If discouraged about your work, call Psalm 126.



Happy
Fourth of July!



MUSICAL MEMORIES

Have you ever heard any of our people say they didn't like music? None that I can recall. Often, just talking about the singing in our churches here in Lincoln brings fond memories. The singing in the Sunday schools, prayer meetings, and during regular Sunday services was harmonious, and certainly done with much enthusiasm.

Our people didn't need psychologists, psychiatrists, or counselors: they talked to their friends and family members, and they sang their sorrows away in their churches, prayer groups, and at home. The psalmist says to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord," and didn't we when the whole congregation sang "O du frohliche" on Christmas Eve!

Remember in warmer weather when the windows were open, because none of our churches were air conditioned, and you could hear them singing nearly a block away. "Jesu geh voran" took many of our people from cradle to their grave.

Each church was blessed with some talented people who willingly gave their time and talents to play the piano, organ, or to direct the choir. Some are still active in their church's music program. Some who come to mind are:

Elsa Weber Amen, who began playing the piano at Ebenezer when she was just a teenager. She even played for "Gross Versammlung."

Frieda Brehm Wall who still plays piano at Immanuel Church.

St. John's on 10th & Charleston had three Helens: Helen Snyder Raymer, Helen Reifschneider, and Helen Hempel Smith.

At Salem (now Faith UCC) several ministers' wives directed the choir and played the organ, Mrs. Roemmich and Mrs. Kissler, to name two, and later Beverly Maser Kissler served Faith church for a number of years. At First German some of their ministers wives helped with the music, and Rev. Rieger built *hackbretts* (hammered dulcimers). Donald Ernst and his father were leaders in their music programs, and Henry Heckman still enjoys singing.

Helen Moessner, a lovely lady, played the organ for many years at Friedens Lutheran. One of our life members, Lydia Spomer, was often a soloist at Immanuel Lutheran. Mary Joyce Deer worked with their youth choir and Kathy Schreiber Svoboda now directs their *madchen chor*. At Zion church, August Heinz, his wife, and later his son, Reuben, played the organ and directed the choir. Verna Loos Damm began playing for the German service when she was still in high school. When Rueben Heinz died suddenly, Verna became the organist and choir director and served Zion for many years.



Katherine Donis Pabst

Katherine Donis Pabst played the piano for the Sunday school at Zion and later played the organ and accompanied the choir at Ebenezer.

Whether playing for a sing-a-long at Lancaster Manor or playing at church, Katherine continues to inspire others with her beautiful, upbeat playing. She first played a toy piano. Later she took piano lessons at Park school. They used a cardboard keyboard and took turns playing the lesson on the one, real piano they had. In 1984, Katherine organized the German Singers, and many from our German churches enjoyed the old songs. The group grew to 55 members and for thirteen years brought joy to people in nursing homes, senior centers, and special church and club events. Their number is dwindling, but 26 of them recently got together for a good hour of singing their favorite songs.

I know I've omitted a number of people who should have been mentioned in this reminiscence. It is not intentional. I just don't know the many others, but I hope this will start you on your own journey down memory lane.

Machs Gut!

(Submitted by Norma Somerheiser)

VOLUNTEERS—

Ya gotta love 'em!

In the past, I have forgotten Ron Meininger a faithful volunteer. Apologies and many thanks for all you do.

GARAGE SALE

Monday—Nancy, Judy, Suzy, Barb, Norma & Larry
 Tuesday—Nancy, Judy, Suzy, Norma & Larry
 Wednesday—Nancy, Judy, Barb, Norma & Larry
 Thursday—Nancy, Judy, Suzy, Barb, Norma & Larry
 Friday—Nancy, Judy, Suzy, Barb, Norma & Larry
 Saturday—Nancy, Judy, Suzy, Barb, Norma Somerheiser, Norma & Larry

KRAUT & BREI

Nancy Borrell, Don Burbach, Dale Dinges, Bud & Virginia Dietrich, Frieda Dobler, Ed & Gladys Herstein, Larry & Norma Schenkel, Barb Schmidt, Delores Schwartz, Norma Somerheiser, Suzy Stoehr, Jim Hempel, Bruce Trautwein, John Novak, Roger Petersen, Judy & Roger Runion, Henry Sader III, Henry Sader IV, Ray, Nancy & Will Richards.

CLEAN-UP DAY AT THE HERITAGE CENTER

Jim Hempel, Bud Dietrich, Jake Sinner, Judy Runion, Nancy Borrell, Larry & Norma Schenkel, Paul Loos, Delores & Cory Schwartz, Diane White, Ray & Nancy Richards.

Many people, who always were there and still want to be but can't, because of age or ill health, were there in spirit. They are: Molly & Lefty Grenemeier, Ann Reitz, Mary Froescheiser, Ruth White, Martha Schleicher, Helen Schwartz, Lillian Weber, Lillian Loos, Dorothy Sinner, and on, and on.

Some of these folks still bake cakes for our dinners, cookies for our chapter meetings and even help get tables ready, wrap silverware, or serve at our different dinners.



New Staff Members

Meet Pam Wurst

Pam is a Lincoln native who's grandparents are Germans from Russia.

She has been married to her husband, Rodger, for almost 39 years. They have two grown sons, Scott and Lynn, and four grandchildren, Colton, Brooke, Jodyn, and Lilly.

Pam attended UNL and has an associates degree from Southeast Community College. She worked for Family Drug and Barb's Hallmark for ten years as a Front Manager. After leaving full-time work, Pam began volunteering at AHSGR. She worked on many different projects, which allowed her to get acquainted with many areas of the Heritage Center's operation.

Pam is also very interested in, and volunteers for, the SOAR Project. Pam was offered, and accepted, part-time employment by the Society as a reference librarian. She will be an asset to the staff.

Meet Janet Frohn

Janet is the new Editorial and Publications Coordinator for AHSGR. She has excellent credentials for this position. Several years ago, she edited a book for the Society, and, for the past four years, has served as Assistant Editor of Aging Services, *Life Lines Magazine*. This is a 64-page bi-monthly publication of the City of Lincoln.

Janet has also been a teacher, art gallery director/conservator of art in Colorado Springs, graphics designer, painter, and jewelry designer. (Pieces of her original jewelry are in several public collections as well as the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery/UNL.)

Ay-yi-yi! Gooka mau! soo!*



Lt. to Rt.—Marian Mueller, (hidden from view) Frieda Dobler, Barb Schmidt, Bernice Booth, Ann Reitz, (hidden from view) Gladys Herstein, Norma Somerheiser, and (back to camera) Judy Runion. Picture taken by Nancy Borrell

Freiwillige=volunteer

Volunteer=*Gemutlichkeit*

Gemutlichkeit=fun and fellowship

The eight ladies in the photo are in the process of making butter balls for the soup supper. Needless to say, they had a fun time together. They gathered at Nancy Borrell's home.

When other members heard about them doing this, many asked why no

one had asked them to help. So, if we do this again, we will let you know.

Would you like to make noodles sometime in the future? We, also, may be giving this a shot in the future.

By the way, the spelling of the caption is my own attempt to write it the way it sounds. Basically, it means, "Holy, Moly, take a look at this!"

"Memories"

by Eddie Loos

*Memories are a gift from God,
To cherish and to save.*

*It's just a story of our lives
From the cradle to the grave.*

*Memories are a gift from God,
That we can all enjoy.
They stand out like a monument
That death cannot destroy.*



“Members of the AHSGR”

by Eddie Loos

*To be a member of the AHSGR,
Is to keep the dream alive.
Of where our parents came from,
And where and when they arrived.*

*The hardships they endured for us,
Would take some time to explain.
Those long hard days on the ocean,
And those hot summer days on the train.*

*We knew they were a determined people,
Who kept their faith in the Lord.
They prayed that He would guide them,
And by God their prayers would be heard.*

*To the members of the AHSGR,
I proudly give them praise
If the old folks could look down,
I'm sure they would be amazed.*

*So I ask all the members politely,
Let's keep the dream alive.
And give praise and thanks to the Lord,
And keep the spirit of the AHSGR alive.*



THE LAST NEWSLETTER

For approximately 160 of our people who receive this newsletter, it is your last one. The following list of names are those members who have sent their \$12.00 membership fee, OR, have let me know they want to receive the newsletter but can't afford or don't want to pay the \$12.00.

I have explained several times how the membership list became necessary and how it was determined for you to be a member of the Lincoln Chapter and continue to receive the newsletter.

Below is a form you can fill out and mail in. It tells you to make out a check, but since you can be a member without payment, just fill the form out and send it to the address indicated without money. Or call me at 438-3814 and I will take care of it. I really hate to see our members not get the newsletter.

List of members:

- Amen, Bill & Elsa
- Amen, Virginia
- Babcock, Sidonia & Kenneth
- Bauer, Ronald
- Booth, Bernice
- Borrell, Nancy
- Burbach, Don & Helen
- Butherus, Leroy & Diane
- Deines, Ed
- Dietrich, Bud & Virginia
- Dinges, Dale & Heidi
- Dinges, Phil & Irene

- Dobler, Frieda
- Froscheiser, Mary
- Frohn, Amy
- Frost, Mary & Jack
- Gabelhaus, Irene
- Gettman, William & Sandra
- Grenemeier, Henry & Molly
- Hansen, Rebecca & Payne, Kirk
- Heckman, Henry & Esther
- Hedges, Lucille
- Heib, Bill & Sally
- Heitbrink, LaVerne & Robert
- Hempel, Jim
- Herstein, Ed & Gladys
- Hessler, Mary
- Jacobs, Mary
- Kaufman, Delores
- Kaufman, Scotty & Marti
- King, Joyce
- Kolb, Peter
- Leonhardt, William & Lois
- Loos, Lillian
- Loos, Paul
- Lutzi, Judy
- McInnis, Jerry & Jolene
- Morey, Shirley & James
- Nickolaus, Jan & Lowell
- Olson, Duane & Patricia
- O'Neal, Victoria
- Paxton, Marta
- Reifschneider, Henry
- Reitz, Ann
- Runion, Judy & Roger
- Sader, Henry & Judy

- Schafer, Ruth & Steven
- Schenkel, Larry & Norma
- Schenkel, Philip
- Schleicher, John
- Schleicher, Martha
- Schmidt, Barbara
- Schmidt, Larrie
- Schneider, John
- Schwartz, Delores
- Schwartz, Helen
- Schwartzkopf, Ed & Dorothy
- Sherman, Cecelia
- Sinner, Jake & Dorothy
- Somerheiser, Norma
- Stoehr, Susan
- Ulmer, Erwin
- Wagner, Bob
- Wertz, Clara
- White, Diane & Jone
- White, Ruth
- Zitterkopf, Theresa

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

When you want peace and rest, call Matt. 11:25-30.

LINCOLN CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP—2004

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

GR Ancestral Village _____ Your Birth Month _____ Spouse Birth Month _____

GR Surnames _____

Make check for \$12.00 payable to Lincoln Chapter AHSGR and mail to: Judy Runion, 2848 Katelyn Circle, Lincoln, NE 68516. We are always looking for volunteers to help out and run for office. If you want to help, you can find our phone numbers or emails in the newsletter.

Lincoln Chapter AHSGR
631 D Street
Lincoln, NE 68502-1199

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2004 Board Member Directory
Lincoln Chapter – AHSGR

489-2583	BORRELL, Nancy	2221 Devonshire Dr.	Lincoln, NE 68506
476-3600	BURBACH, Donald	3600 Hartley Cr.	Lincoln, NE 68521
483-1421	BUTHERUS, Leroy	1500 Buckingham Dr.	Lincoln, NE 68506
488-5154	DINGES, Dale	1609 So. Cotner Blvd.	Lincoln, NE 68506
486-1673	GRENEMEIER, Henry	1121 No. 79th St.	Lincoln, NE 68505
475-8221	HEDGES, Lucille	214 NW 126th St.	Lincoln, NE 68528
489-5976	HERSTEIN, Gladys	520 Teakwood Dr.	Lincoln, NE 68510
477-3978	LOOS, Paul	400 Fletcher	Lincoln, NE 68521
489-5462	REITZ, Ann	4121 So. 30th St.	Lincoln, NE 68502
423-3853	RUNION, Judy	2848 Katelyn Cr.	Lincoln, NE 68516
423-4212	SADER, Henry	Route 1	Roca, NE 68430
438-3814	SCHENKEL, Larry	2111 Kingswood Cr.	Lincoln, NE 68521
435-3636	SCHWARTZ, Delores	1000 Butler	Lincoln, NE 68521
423-8209	SCHWARTZKOPF, Ed	3910 So. 27th St. #8	Lincoln, NE 68502
423-0602	SINNER, Jake	1733 Marlene Dr.	Lincoln, NE 68512
423-4345	WHITE, Ruth	3300 Serenity Circle #7	Lincoln, NE 68542
		(Mail to: PO Box 23095	Lincoln, NE 68516)

Officers are elected to the Board of Directors for a three-year term. However, if you are interested in serving for a shorter period of time, you could ask about a one-year appointment, to determine if it would be something you would enjoy doing.

2004 Officers

President...Larry Schenkel	Treasurer...Judy Runion	Historian...Gladys Herstein
1st VP...Leroy Butherus	Recording Secretary...Paul Loos	
2nd VP...Delores Schwartz	Corresponding Secretary...Ann Reitz	