



Lincoln Chapter  
**The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia**  
**NEWSLETTER**

VOLUME XIII, ISSUE 1

January/February, 2005

WELCOME 2005  
 NEUJAHRSWUNSCH

To all of you, a New Year's blessing:

"May the road you walk be a smooth one,  
 May your troubles be few, if any,  
 May the days and years that lie ahead,  
 Be healthy, happy, and many.  
 May you have friends in abundance,  
 May the sun shine bright around you,  
 May the world be a wonderful place to live,  
 And may God's love always surround you."



*(Norma and I received this from a dear friend in Texas and I just had to share it with my GR family.)*

**FROM YOUR PRES...**



Well, the yearly election of officers and members of the Board of Directors is over, and it looks like you have me to put up with me for another year.

The new officers for the Board are:

1st Vice President – Delores Schwartz (she was 2nd VP last year); 2nd Vice President – Nancy Borrell; Historian – Pam Wurst (she was appointed to the Board for a one-year term).

All of the members of the

Board of Directors whose terms of office had expired, agreed to run for their vacancies. There were no nominations from the floor, so nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for the slate of candidates.

I am concerned about getting some new candidates for the Board of Directors. I have been on for fifteen years, and there are those who have been on even longer. Come on, family. We need new ideas.

I am also concerned about attendance at the Chapter general meetings. Does anyone have any ideas for programs, etc?

The phone numbers for the members of the Board of Directors are all listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Give one of us a call with input for your Chapter!

**In Memorium**

On December 21, 2004, I not only lost a friend, but so did AHSGR. Jim Hempel and I became friends in the 1960's when we served together in the National Guard.

After our service in the Guard, we would run into each other at the barber shop we both went to, or at T & R's Garden Café, or once in a while, at Drewel's Used Cars, at the National Guard Retiree's breakfast, or at a retirement dinner for a friend we had served with in the Guard.

Then Jim found his lost desire to know more about his Hempel namesake, and his heritage, which was German-Russian, and we became very close again.

Jim fell in love with AHSGR and we fell in love with Jim.

He helped with the Lincoln Chapter dinners, he mowed the lawn and picked up the leaves at the Heritage Center, he helped with mailings or anything else he was asked to do. "Need a weed whacker?" "I'll go buy it." "Need new porch posts for the General Store?" "I'll go buy them and help my friend, Phil Dinges, install them." "Need a decent step ladder?" "Need a new electric roaster?" "Need something?" Jim seemed to become our go-to guy.

He spent hours working on his heritage. He traveled to Hastings, to Atlanta, GA, wherever the search took him.

Just before we lost Jim, he came to our Saturday coffee, as he had done for some time, and he was just beaming. His 90+ year old aunt in Atlanta had found some pictures in the family Bible and had sent them to Jim. They were like new, yet they were of his great-grandfather, as a young boy, and his family. Jim couldn't have been happier had he won the lottery.

I could go on and on, but my feelings are too private.

Goodbye, Jim. You will be sorely missed. I hope you are enjoying getting to know your ancestors personally.

# Apologies and What Not

## To Ed Schwartzkopf:

Ed has been on the Foundation Board of Directors or the International Board of Directors for as long as I can remember.

Dr. Myron Pudwill also accepted a one-year appointment to the Foundation Board.

I left both of these names out of the last newsletter, and I must apologize.

I also said I would forget someone from the Broda volunteers, and sure enough, I did. I'm not sure how I could have forgotten her, as she is a charter member of AHSGR and the Lincoln Chapter, and has always helped with almost every project we have. I am talking about Delores Schwartz. I really do apologize, Dee. (After the way you treated that poor potato peeler, I don't know how I forgot you.)

## Since the last newsletter:

1. Members of the Lincoln Chapter have helped decorate the Heritage Center for the Christmas Festival. (Norma Schenkel, Nancy Borrell, Delores Schwartz, Jim Hempel, Judy Runion, and Phil Dinges.)

2. Members have staffed the Christmas Festival with volunteers. (Jim Hempel, Bud & Virginia Dietrich, Phil & Irene Dinges, Ann Reitz, aka Mrs. Claus, Annie Settell, Ed & Gladys Herstein, Norma Somerheiser aka Beltznickel, Jim Hempel, Diane White, Nancy Richards (Diane's daughter) aka Christkindje, Nancy Borrell, Delores Schwartz, Susan Stoehr, Barb Schmidt, Art Kuhr, Judy Runion, Ray and Will Richards (Diane's



**Christmas Decorating Crew: Delores Schwartz, Nancy Borrell, Judy Runion, Norma Schenkel, Jim Hempel, Judy Runion (not pictured: Phil Dinges).**



**Christkindje Nancy Richards and Elf-in-Training Jim Hempel**

sons) and Pam Wurst.

3. Many members donated cookies for the Christmas Festival. The Lincoln Chapter furnished coffee and hot cider, all of which was served free of charge. Jim Hempel and Larry Schenkel bought sacks, fruit, and candy so we could pass out the traditional sacks of goodies, which, during hard times may have been the only gift received at Christmas. The attendance was good and we will soon start planning for the next Festival. Before we lost him,



**Beltznickel Norma Somerheiser**

Jim Hempel had already arranged for a most magical surprise for next year. We plan to go forth with his surprise.

4. We also helped with the mailing of the Journal and International Newsletter, the last for the year 2004. This was done during the week between Christmas and New Years. Diane and the staff had made up traditional "sacks" for the volunteers to show us their appreciation.

The volunteers who worked on the mailing were: Roger & Judy Runion, Frieda Dobler, Helen Schwartz, Bill Leonhardt, Nancy Borrell, Susan Stoehr, Barb Schmidt, Ruth White, Jone White, Norma Somerheiser, and, of course, Diane, Janet and Pam were right in there with us.

Speaking of Diane, she has asked me to put out a call for volunteers to haul the mail sacks to the post office after the mailings. The sacks are getting to be just too much, too heavy, and too many for her to handle by herself. Diane says this can even be done after you get off work.

What do you say, G-R family? Are there several of you who can answer this call for help?? Please!

## Congratulations

❖ Norma Somerheiser was nominated and recognized by First-Plymouth Congregational Church as one of the Notable Women of 2004. (Heck, we could have told them that a long time ago.) Seriously, Norma, congratulations! It is a well deserved honor and you have joined the ranks of some of the most notable women of Lincoln.

❖ Art Kuhr was featured as the "Cook of the Week" in November by TheVoice Newspaper of Hickman. Art's late wife, JoAnn, worked at AHSGR for many years. You can still find Art at AHSGR from time to time as a volunteer. The last time was the Christmas Festival. I'm glad he didn't bring any of his Special Egg Nog to share with the kids.

❖ Henry Sader was featured in the fall Norka Newsletter. It was a good story about good old "Sonny Boy." Henry is on the Lincoln Chapter Board of Directors and is also very involved with the North Bottoms Reunion. Henry is also a cook of some note. He helps put on a Wild Game Dinner at the Izaak Walton League each year and helps with our soup supper, Kraut & Brei dinner and Broda dinner. Henry makes the chili for the soup supper, which he has donated in the past. How about this year, Sonny?

Do you know someone who has received an award, recognition, or a tribute of some kind? Send it to me for inclusion in future newsletters



## 2005 CALENDER OF EVENTS LINCOLN CHAPTER AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

January 9, 2005	Annual Membership Meeting (Potluck Dinner & Election of Board & Officers)	1:00 PM	St. Paul UCC, 14th & "F" Sts.
January 11, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
January 17, 2005	Potluck Dinner/Board Meeting	6:00 PM	631 "D" St.
February 8, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00 AM	Hy Vee, 70th & Pioneers
February 21, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30 PM	631 "D" St.
February 25, 2005	Soup Supper	5-7:00 PM	WSI Hall, 1430 N. 10th St.
March 8, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
March 21, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30PM	631 "D" St.
March 26, 2005	Easter Egg Hunt	1-3:00PM	631 "D" St.
April 12, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
April 18, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30PM	631 "D" St.
April 24, 2005	General Membership Meeting Program by Annie Settell...Coffee & <i>Dina Kuchen</i> (German coffeecake) following.	2:00 PM	Chapel, 631 "D" St.
April 28-30, 2005	Garage Sale 2221 Devonshire Drive	9AM-4PM Thurs. & Fri ... 9AM-12 noon Sat.	
May 10, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
May 16, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30 PM	631 "D" St.
May 20, 2005	Kraut & Brei Dinner	5-7:00PM	WSI, 1430 N. 10th St.
June 14, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
June 20, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30PM	631 "D" St.
July 12, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00 AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
July 17, 2005	General Meeting Speaker—Jim McKee	TBA	
July 18, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30PM	631 "D" St.
August 9, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00AM	HyVee, 70th & Pioneers
August 14-21,2005	AHSGR Convention	Oklahoma City, OK	
September 13, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00 AM	Hy Vee, 70th & Pioneers
September 19, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30 PM	631 "D" St.
September 25, 2005	General Membership Meeting (Potluck Dinner, Bingo, fellowship, and etc.)	1:00 PM	Friedens, 6th & "D" Sts.
October 11, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00 AM	Hy Vee, 70th & Pioneers
October 17, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30 PM	631 "D" St.
October 22, 2005	Octoberfest	11:00AM—3:00PM	631 "D" St.
November 8, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00 AM	Hy Vee, 70th & Pioneers
November 11, 2005	Broda Dinner	5-7:00PM	WSI Hall, 1430 N. 10th St.
November 21, 2005	Board Meeting	7:30 PM	631 "D" St.
December 3, 2005	Christmas Festival	12:30—3:00PM	631 "D" St.
December 13, 2005	Coffee Club	9:00 AM	Hy Vee, 70th & Pioneers
December 2005	Board Member's Christmas Dinner		(Date, time and location TBA)
January 8, 2006	Annual Membership Meeting (Potluck Dinner & Election of Board & Officers)	1:00 PM	St. John's Reformed 1101 S. 26th St.

# Membership Dues

Membership dues for the Lincoln Chapter Membership for 2005 are due now. Okay, here's the deal—-. We got off to a pretty rocky start with dues for the Lincoln Chapter last year, so I hope this year is easier.

These dues are for membership in the Lincoln Chapter ONLY and have nothing to do with your membership to the International Society of Germans from Russia.

The dues for the Lincoln Chapter are \$12.00 a year, or whatever you can afford. If you can not afford \$12.00 or if you do not want to pay dues but still want to be a member of the Lincoln Chapter, all you have to do is call me or one of the other Board members and tell us you want to be a member. But you MUST contact someone, please, so I know how many newsletters to have printed. You will find a list of the Board members and their phone numbers elsewhere in this newsletter.

Have you ever wondered what the dues money is used for? Well, some goes to help defray the cost of the newslet-

ter, i.e. printing and postage, some will help pay the expenses incurred for programs at General Membership meetings, and open houses, such as the Christmas Festival. Notice in the calendar that we are adding two events, one new and one old. The new one is an Easter Egg Hunt, hopefully with a wonderful surprise and treat, and the old one is the return of the Octoberfest.

Do you have any thoughts or wishes on other programs or events? Let your representatives on the Board of

Directors hear from you.

## PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE

Fill out the form below and send it with your dues. We would like to acknowledge our member's birthdays and anniversaries. Also, as we get more members who have access to the internet, we can possibly send the newsletter to them online and cut back on the printed ones, again, saving money.

Now, to see if I can add to any confusion already in existence, the following names have already paid their membership for 2005 and do not need to send any dues.

Frances Amen  
John Bauer  
Henry Blitz  
Nancy & Greg Bouwens  
Matt & Nancy Duxbury  
Marilyn Forke  
Herman & Arlene Gerlach  
James & Jane Hacker  
Ed Klein  
L.G. Lefler  
Gwendolyn Meister

Victor & Shirley Michel  
Marion Mueller  
Terry M. Nelson  
Fern & Weston Pickett  
Gerald Schleich  
Annie & Bob Settell  
LaVern (Phil) Sorenson  
Marvin & Bonnie Spomer  
Irma Waggoner  
John Weber

## LINCOLN CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP – 2005

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cty/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_  
GR Ancestral Village \_\_\_\_\_ GR Surnames \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check for \$12.00 payable to Lincoln Chapter AHSGR and mail to:  
Judy Runion, 2848 Katelyn Circle, Lincoln, NE 68516**

*Gluckstag Geburtstag! –  
Happy Birthday!*

### January

Bill Svoboda  
Duane Olson  
Ruth Schafer  
Mary Frost  
Robert Heidtbrink  
Mary Hessler  
Ed Klein

### February

William Paxton  
Martha Schleiche  
Ronald Bauer  
Phil Dinges  
Jack Frost  
Irene Gabelhaus  
Ruby Weber  
Annie Settell



*Der Jahrestab! —  
Happy Anniversary*

### February

Phil and Irene Dinges  
Ed and Gladys Herstein



# TOURS

## Visiting the Heritage Center on Saturdays



As you may remember, the Heritage Center is closed on Saturdays except by appointment. This has been necessary because we have such a small full-time staff.

However, because there are many people who are in town only on the weekend, it was felt that something needed to be done for those members. The Lincoln Chapter was asked if they could give tours on Saturdays if someone called and made an appointment. There were several positive responses and it turned out to be the right thing to do.

There have been a number of appointments made for tours and Norma Somerheiser, Bud Dietrich and Pam Wurst have come through to give "short-notice" tours. Also, people such as Erwin Ulmer, have taken time from

their research to answer questions the touring group may have.

Since we also allow people to make appointments to do research on Saturdays, Erwin has given a lot of help to researchers as well.

As you know, there is a group of the original building crew that meet at the Heritage Center on almost every Saturday for coffee and fellowship. They have accepted me, and a few others, into their group. Since we are already there, we have allowed many people, usually from out of town, to come in and have an impromptu tour, which Bud Dietrich is always willing to do, or to do research. Football Saturdays are great for this. We have made some peo-

ple very happy by doing this and it has been financially beneficial as they usually make purchases in the Gift Shop and Book Store.

So, if you are having visitors or you just can't get down during the week, call me, Larry Schenkel (438-3814), email me, [lschenkel@neb.rr.com](mailto:lschenkel@neb.rr.com) or call Headquarters and make an appointment.

Please do try to make an appointment. Even though the Saturday coffee guys are usually there, they may not be able to give tours or help with research. If you make an appointment, KEEP IT! There were several times during the year that local members made appointments and then didn't show up. This is very rude, especially to the volunteers who have come in special to give the tour and open the stores.

### 2005 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	GRENAMEIER, Henry	7200 Van Dorn, #128	Lincoln, NE 68516
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	9439 Benziger Dr.	Lincoln, NE 68526
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 Cr #7	Lincoln, NE 68542
		(Mail to: PO Box 23095 Lincoln, NE 68516)	
489-2634	WURST, Pam	7508 Nemaha	Lincoln, NE 68506

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.

#### 2005 Officers

President...Larry Schenkel  
1st VP...Delores Schwartz  
2nd VP...Nancy Borrell  
Treasurer...Judy Runion

Recording Secretary...Paul Loos  
Corresponding Secretary...Ann Reitz  
Historian...Pam Wurst

#### UNSERE LEUTE

*Erinnerung—  
In Memory*

*October  
Alex Fink  
Richard Loos  
Sam Giebelhaus*

*November  
Kathryn Schmidt*

*December  
Marie Likem  
Christina Loos  
Kathryn Miller  
Jim Hempel*

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

## WHAT'S COMING UP

Coffee Club – 2nd Tuesday of each month – 9:00 AM to—???  
HyVee Store, 70th & Pioneers

Soup Supper – February 25, 2005 – 5-7:00 PM  
WSI Hall – 1430 N. 10th St.

Easter Egg Hunt – March 26, 2005 – 1-3:00 PM  
Heritage Center, 631 "D" St.

Schmeckfest – April 8 & 9 and 15th & 16th, 2005  
Freeman, SD

AHSGR Convention – August 14-21, 2005  
Oklahoma, OK

### **SOUP SUPPER**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2005**

**5:00 - 7:00 P.M.**

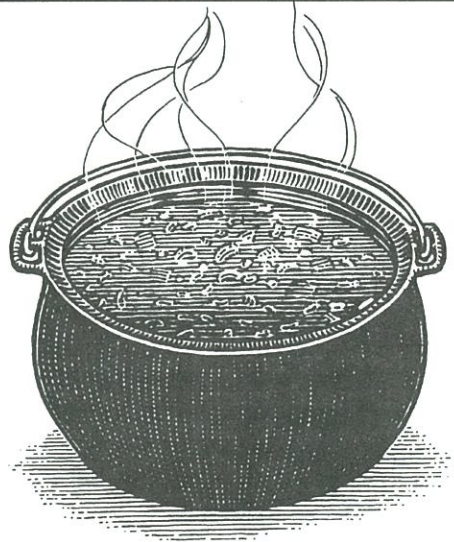
**WSI HALL, 1430 N. 10TH STREET**

**Adults: \$6; Children under 12: \$3.50**

#### **Soups Available:**

**Chicken Noodle ■ Green Bean  
Vegetable Beef ■ Chili**

Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your order and your check to Judy Runion, 2848 Katelyn Cr., Lincoln, NE 68516. You may order tickets from me by using this order form or get one from any of the board members.



(Tear off this reservation slip and mail with payment)

**SOUP SUPPER – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2005 – WSI HALL – 1430 N. 10TH STREET  
\$6 ADULTS; \$3.50 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER**

NUMBER OF TICKETS: ADULT \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY FEBRUARY 17

SEND RESERVATIONS WITH PAYMENT, TO: JUDY RUNION, 2848 KATELYN CR., LINCOLN, NE 68516