



Lincoln Chapter
The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XV, ISSUE 6

January/February 2007

The Christmas Festival...

DANKE

*Phil & Irene Dinges
John & Ruby Weber
Erwin Ulmer
Annie Settell
Delores Schwartz
Kyle & Shelly Loos*

*Sidonia Babcock
Barb Schmidt
Norma Somerheiser
Diane White
Ray Richards
Susan Stoehr*

*Bud & Virginia Dietrich
Judy Lawson
Paul Loos
Pam Wurst
Caleb Loos
Larry & Norma Schenkel*

*Nancy Bouwens
Gladys Herstein
Ann Reitz
Nancy Richards
Kacy Loos*

As you can see, it takes a lot of volunteers to put on a Christmas Festival. And that list doesn't include all of the people who baked and brought cookies down to the Heritage Center but couldn't stay for the festivities. There was a lot of free coffee and hot spiced cider to enjoy with the delicious cookies. But it was worth all the effort put forth because we had a great many visitors.

Mrs. Claus reined supreme in the Summer Kitchen with treats for all the children. The children also received traditional sacks of fruit, hard candy and peanuts. For those with "heftier" appetites, there were Volga Boatman sandwiches and hot dogs were available as well.

The Belznickel was there but, sadly, the Kristkindge didn't make it. She really wanted to, but since she is growing, as all young people do, the dress no longer fit her. Her Mom, bless her heart, went on a quest to find an appropriate gown, but didn't have any luck. So Diane and Nancy came down to the Heritage Center to help in anyway they could.

Do you, dear readers, mind if I pay tribute to Diane White? (Well, I'm going to anyway, but at least I asked.)

We always hear about teens who blame everything on everyone but themselves. ("My parents are too strict!" "My parents are divorced." Etc. etc.) And who's general attitude is anything but friendly. I don't see that in Diane's three teenagers.

These three young people are almost always at the Lincoln Chapter events, pouring coffee, cleaning tables, carrying trays, carrying out trash, etc. And they are always courteous and happy!

As they have gotten older, their school activities have cut into their free time, as has their part-time work schedules. Yet, there always seems to be one or two of them help-

ing out at our functions.

Oh, yes, I've seen them behave like normal teenagers. I've seen them upset with their mother and I've seen their mother upset with them, but it doesn't seem to last long.

So, Diane, I want to congratulate you on what you have accomplished, as a single mother, with you children! And congratulations to Ray, Nancy and Will, for caring and respecting your mother enough to bow to her wishes, even though that wasn't what you might have wanted. You are truly great young people that we've all enjoyed getting to know.

[see photographs on page 8]

Teaching About Our Heritage

Wesley Botham, 18, of Cove, Oregon, is a freshman at the University of Nebraska, majoring in Economics. He is taking an anthropology class and was given an assignment to research a dessert from any culture that came to the Great Plains prior to 1900.

Choosing the Germans from Russia, he contacted AHSGR and was invited to our Octoberfest where he visited with some of our

Lincoln Chapter members. We decided to help him make Grebel. He came to the home of Nancy Borrell on November 1 where, with the help of Norma Somerheiser and Judy Runion, he rolled out, cut, twisted and fried the Grebel. He took enough Grebel with him for his class to taste. This is an excellent example of how we can teach our heritage.

Soup Supper

Because of the large number of ticket sales at the door, it is extremely difficult for us to know how much food, be it for the soups or for the Broda dinner, we need to purchase. At the last Broda, we had nearly 100 people buy tickets at the door.

Therefore, to try to solve this problem, the Lincoln Chapter Board of Directors voted to increase the cost of the tickets at the door to \$8.00. This increase will be for adult tickets only, the tickets for children 12 and under will remain \$3.00.

If you call and reserve tickets to be paid for at the door, that is not a problem. You won't have to pay more because we'll know you're coming and will have ordered accordingly.

There are sixteen Board members and their phone numbers listed elsewhere in this newsletter. You may call any of them and reserve tickets or fill out the following form with the number of tickets you want and send it along with you check and a stamped self-addressed envelope to Norma Somerheiser and she will

send the tickets to you.

There will be other Chapter members, who are not on the board, who will also be selling tickets. I will be one of them and you can call me, Larry Schenkel, at 438-3814 for ticket reservations.

There should be no reason for most people not having either ordered or purchased tickets. Please help us with this problem!

SOUP SUPPER

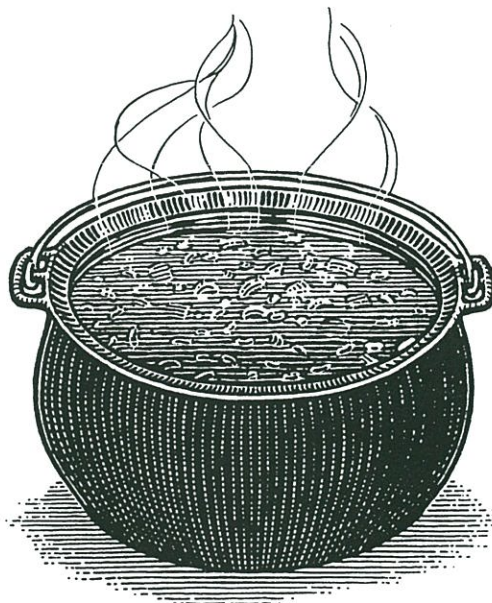
FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2007; 5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

**WSI HALL, 1430 N. 10TH STREET
TAKE OUT AVAILABLE**

**Adults: \$6 in advance \$8 at the door;
Children under 12: \$3**

**4 Kinds of Soup Available:
Chicken Noodle w/butter balls ■ Green Bean
Vegetable Beef ■ Chili**

The menu also includes Rye Bread, Coffee & Dessert. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your order and your check to made out to Lincoln Chapter AHSGR to Norma Somerheiser, 2675 So. 11th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502. 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, MARCH 23, 2007 - WSI HALL - 1430 N. 10TH STREET
\$6 ADULTS IN ADVANCE; \$8 AT THE DOOR; \$3 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER**

NUMBER OF TICKETS: ADULT _____ CHILDREN _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY MARCH 16

SEND RESERVATIONS WITH CHECK TO:

NORMA SOMERHEISER, 2675 SO. 11TH STREET, LINCOLN, NE 68502



2007 Board Member Directory Lincoln Chapter - AHSGR

AMEN, Bill	4737 South 52nd Street	Lincoln NE 68516	488-3746
BABCOCK, Sidonia	403 Stagecoach Avenue	Hickman, NE 68372	792-2175
BILL, Leslie	3338 Glenhaven Place	Lincoln, NE 68506	486-0596
BORRELL, Nancy	2221 Devonshire Drive	Lincoln, NE 68506	489-2538
BOUWENS, Nancy	1121 N. 79th Street	Lincoln, NE 68521	435-3052
DINGES, Dale	1609 S. Cotner Blvd.	Lincoln, NE 68506	488-5154
GRENEMEIER, Henry	7200 Van Dorn, #128	Lincoln, NE 68516	486-1673
HEDGES, Lucille	214 NW 126th Street	Lincoln, NE 68528	475-8221
HERSTEIN, Gladys	520 Teakwood Drive	Lincoln, NE 68510	489-5976
LOOS, Paul	400 Fletcher	Lincoln, NE 68521	477-3978
REITZ, Ann	4121 S. 30th Street	Lincoln, NE 68502	489-5462
RUNION, Judy	2848 Katelyn Circle	Lincoln, NE 68516	423-3853
SADER, Henry	Route 1	Roca, NE 68430	423-4212
SOMERHEISER, Norma	2675 S. 11th Street	Lincoln, NE 68502	476-8976
WEBER, John	4940 Sinclair Court	Lincoln, NE 68516	488-2313
WHITE, Ruth	3300 Serenity Circle #7	Lincoln, NE 68542	423-4345

(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.

2007 OFFICERS

President Paul Loos	Treasurer Norma Somerheiser
1st Vice President . . Sidonia Babcock	Corresponding Secretary
2nd Vice President Dale Dinges	Lucille Hedges
Recording Secretary Nancy Bouwens	Historian Leslie Bill

Elected for three-year terms:

Sidonia Babcock
 Nancy Bouwens
 Judy Runion
 Ruth White

Appointed for a one-year term:

Leslie Bill
 Norma Somerheiser

We want to welcome back Judy Runion, who has been off the board for a while. We, sadly, had to say "Goodbye" to Donnie Burbach. Larry Schenkel and Norma Somerheiser chose not to accept nominations to remain on the board. Norma did accept a one-year appointment, hoping to train someone as the new treasurer. Therefore, she is still on the board. Larry has agreed to continue to write the newsletter, at least for now.

DER JAHRESTABL/ Happy Anniversary

January

Kathryn and Randy Tichota

February

Phil and Irene Dinges
Ed and Gladys Herstein

GET WELL SOON

Bill Amen
 Henry Heckman
 Susan Stoehr



Millionaire Mania

Approximately twenty members collected Mania Bucks to help the Lincoln Chapter try to purchase a prize offered by the Lincoln Journal-Star newspaper and a host of retailers who donated the prizes.

Erwin Ulmer again headed up the effort and went out after Mania Bucks like a house on fire.

He came up with over one billion Mania dollars, while the members

collected nearly 400 million.

Erwin said he tried to purchase some of the weekly prizes for the Chapter without any luck. The luck came on the final auction when he bid \$1,463,000,000 for a \$1000 gift card from Hy-Vee, and had the high bid.

At the last Lincoln Chapter Board meeting, Erwin presented the gift card to our Chapter President, Paul

Loos and our Chapter Treasurer, Norma Somerheiser.

Erwin asked that his appreciation be expressed to everyone who helped to win this prize. A big "Thank you" also goes to Erwin for all the time and effort he put in on this project, which will benefit the Chapter.



Erwin Ulmer presents gift cards to Paul Loos and Norma Somerheiser



Chapter members who contributed Mania Bucks

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Tuesday, February 13—Breakfast at Stauffer's (no, this won't pass as a Valentine's Day outing for you "Sweetie"!!!)

Monday, February 19—Board of Directors meeting at the Heritage Center

Every Saturday AM—Coffee and rolls at the Heritage Center (Research and/or tours, by appointment.)

Mondays—Quilting at the Heritage Center

Fridays—Obituary filing, etc. at the Heritage Center

Tuesday, March 13—Breakfast at Stauffer's

Monday, March 19—Board of Directors meeting at the Heritage Center

Friday, March 23—Lincoln Chapter Soup Supper at WSI Hall.



Lincoln Chapter Membership

First off, I want to thank each of you for your support of the Lincoln Chapter during 2006. It was a very busy year for our Chapter.

The highlight of the year, and the most demanding and rewarding, was hosting the 37th International Convention of AHSGR. To finance the Chapter's portion of the convention, we held three fund-raisers, which were a soup supper, a garage sale, and a Broda dinner.

We had four General Membership meetings during the year and sponsored and celebrated an Oktoberfest and a Christmas open house at the Heritage Center.

The Lincoln Chapter dues are \$12.00 per year and are due on January 1st and delinquent after March 31st. They are payable to the Lincoln Chapter AHSGR. These dues do not cover your membership in the

International AHSGR.

There are many benefits of being a member of the Lincoln Chapter. Some of them are; the bimonthly newsletter, a picnic dinner that is provided free of charge, and refreshments that are served at the General Membership meetings.

Your membership dues also helped purchase an educational trunk, at the cost of \$500, for use by teachers throughout the state. The trunk contains books telling about our history, folklore, foods, and clothing. An authentic dress for a girl and a suit for a boy are included in the trunk.

The trunk also contains CDs and cassettes of our music and a video of cooks preparing a traditional Broda dinner. There are many other artifacts including lesson plans enabling teachers to present a complete unit

on the Germans from Russia.

Once a month, Lincoln Chapter members are welcome to gather for breakfast and gemütlichkeit at Stauffer's café. On Saturday mornings, a group of Lincoln Chapter men and women gather at the Heritage Center for coffee, rolls, (sometimes, dill pickles) and fellowship. By appointment, members can come for research and tours.

Please consider renewing your Lincoln Chapter membership, and come and enjoy fellowship with your friends at AHSGR. If you are not a member, please complete the membership form below and return it along with your check.

(Submitted by Dale Dinges, Chairman of the Lincoln Chapter Membership Committee)

Name _____	Spouse _____
Address _____	City/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:
Dale Dinges, 1609 S. Cotner Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68506

HERZLICHEN GLUCKWUNSCH ZUM GEBURSTAGL / HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January

Bill Svoboda
Duane Olson
Ruth Schafer
Mary Frost
Robert Heitbrink
Mary Hesser

Ed Klein
Pam Wurst
Ray Richards



February

William Paxton
Martha Schleicher
Ronald F. Bauer
Phil Dinges
Jack Frost
Irene Gabelhaus

Ruby Weber
Lenny Schneider



Work Week – Past and ...

The following are excerpts from a letter which was sent by Jim Fabricius, who was Facilities Committee Chairman in 2006, to the AHSGR Board of Directors and Trustees following the Work Week in early June, 2006.

"The Facilities Committee did complete a successful "Work Week" on the campus of the Society. I say successful in what was accomplished. I believe the Campus is much more presentable in terms of the newly painted and renovated buildings. In terms of the number of volunteers that helped, it was very disappointing. Of the 27 persons who attended the event, only 5 board members availed themselves for the tasks that required attention. The other 22

were Lincoln Chapter members. Hats off to the Lincoln Chapter and others that chose to come and share in the work.

There were no members attending outside of both Boards and Lincoln Chapter members. In my opinion that did not display much of an interest from the membership at large. This reflects the survey that was recently completed by the Society membership where the museum was rated quite low in terms of interest. Then why should it be disappointing? Because we, as a Board, decided to keep the museum afloat and in that affirmation we committed ourselves to making the Campus a place where the visiting public and membership could be proud.

With the hard work of the volunteers much of the mission was accomplished. More could have been done but the buildings look a great deal better than they have for a long time. Other items that require attention were left undone. Hopefully in the ensuing months these items could also be taken care of.

The office staff was significant in their support for the volunteers, providing lunch and making us as comfortable as possible. It was very enjoyable to have them present, making certain that we were taken care of. All in all we had a good time in working together while scraping, painting, measuring, sawing, window cleaning, replacing doors, caulking, replacing rotting wood, etc., etc., etc."

...Future

Another "Work Week" is planned for March 25 through 31, which is the week following the spring meeting of the Society and Foundation Boards.

Major and minor repair and maintenance of all the buildings and grounds of the AHSGR campus need your expertise in some areas, while other areas just need a little TLC (tender loving care). So bring your skills, talents and tools such as saws, hammers, paint, brushes, cleaning supplies, Windex, etc. and plan to help where you can.

The Office Manager, Diane White, will have a team who will help you get started with the work you choose to do. Please let her know as soon as possible if you are able to help so she and the team can plan accordingly. Diane's phone number is 474-3363, ext. 14.

Some of the projects on the "To Do" list are:

- Painting the trim on the Chapel
- Painting the out side of the Heritage Center building
- Replace the roof of the General Store, Chapel, Summer Kitchen

- and Blacksmith Shop
- Painting inside the Heritage Center building
- Tile the floor of the Chapel
- Repaint parking lines and handicap parking signs
- Wash windows and blinds
- Landscaping
- Pouring a concrete slab at the south doors of the Blacksmith Shop
- Painting the door of the Summer Kitchen

UNSERE LEUTE ERINNRYNG/ OUR PEOPLE IN MEMORY

Lena Burbach

Harry E. Bauer

Janet Ann (Schleiger) Wunder

LINCOLN CHAPTER – AHSGR TREASURER’S REPORT—2006

ITEM	INCOME	EXPENSE	PROFIT/LOSS
Soup Supper	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 358.72	\$ 1,041.28
Garage Sale	1,087.45	50.00	1,037.45
Octoberfest	1,346.68	884.08	462.60
Broda Dinner	2,078.00	1,040.99	1,037.01
Christmas Open House	529.00	172.50	356.50
General Meetings	184.50	230.00	(46.00)
Picnic	-	304.50	304.50
Donations	362.50	-	362.50
Repair Chapel Doors (donated 2005 & 2006)	300.00	(300.00)	
Insurance	-	190.00	(190.00)
Educational Trunk	-	500.00	(500.00)
Carpet Cleaning-AHSGR	-	150.00	(150.00)
Newsletters-Settell Printing	-	1,198.40	(1,198.40)
Dues 2006 & 2007	987.00	12.00	975.00
Folklore Books Sold-12	112.00	-	112.00
Cards & postage	306.82	(306.82)	
Quilt Raffle	693.00	-	693.00
CD's cashed & repurchased	7,422.54	6,000.00	1,422.54
Interest - Union Bank Acct.	21.97	-	21.97
Prize Won – Millionaire Mania	100.00	-	100.00
State Sales Tax	-	271.91	(271.91)
Parking sticker sold	5.00	-	5.00
Convention Items:			
Funds trans. to convention acct.	-	6,000.00	(6,000.00)
Chapter's vendor table	343.00	100.00	243.00
Fisher Rocks	485.00	-	485.00
Honorarium	-	50.00	(50.00)
Donation	20.00	-	20.00
Convention Quilt Raffle	-	2,368.12	(2,368.12)
Balance from convention acct.	1,726.26	-	1,726.26
Funds donated by OK Chapter returned to AHSGR	-	1,629.27	(1,629.27)
Totals:	\$18,903.40	\$22,117.31	\$4,853.62
Balance 1-1-06 <u>\$8,067.53</u>	<u>\$18,903.40</u>	<u>\$22,117.31</u>	Balance <u>\$4,853.62</u> 12-31-06



Calendar of Events

February 13, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
February 19, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
March 13, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
March 19, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
March 23, 2007	Soup Supper	5:00-7:00PM	WSI Hall	1430 N. 10th St
April 10, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
April 16, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
April 22, 2007	General Membership Meeting	2:00PM-Chapel - (Refreshments following)		631 "D" St.
May 8, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
May 17-18, 2007	Garage Sale	9:00AM-4:00PM, Thurs & Fri		2221 Devonshire Dr.
May 21, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
June 10 thru 17, 2007	International Convention of AHSGR			Hays, Kansas
June 12, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
June 25, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
July 10, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
July 16, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
July 22, 2007	General Membership Meeting	2:00PM-Chapel (Refreshments following)		631 "D" St.
August 14, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
August 20, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
September 11, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
September 16, 2007	General Membership Meeting & Picnic	4:00PM		Bethany Park Shelter
September 17, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
October 6, 2007	Octoberfest	11:00AM-3:00PM		631 "D" St.
October 9, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
October 15, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
November 2, 2007	Broda Dinner	5:00-7:00PM	WSI Hall	1430 N 10th St.
November 13, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
November 19, 2007	Board Meeting	7:00PM		631 "D" St.
December 1, 2007	Christmas Festival	11:30AM-3:00PM		631 "D" St.
December 11, 2007	Coffee Club	9:00AM	Stauffer's	48th & Hwy 2
December __, 2007	Board Member's Christmas Dinner			(Date, time and location TBA)
January 13, 2008	Annual Membership Meeting	1:00PM		Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall
	(Potluck Dinner & Election of Officers)			(10th & Charleston Sts)

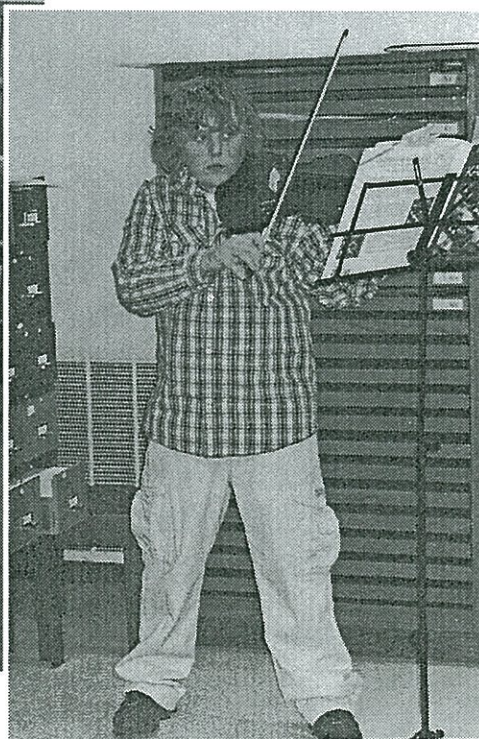
The Christmas Festival...



The *Belznickel* is befriended
By Sidonia Babcock



Barb Schmidt is scolded by Mrs. Claus



Caleb Loos entertained us
with Christmas Carols.