



# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XVI, ISSUE 3

May/June, 2007

## General Membership Meeting

The program during the Lincoln Chapter's April 22, 2007 General Membership Meeting was presented by Pam Wurst, Research Librarian. It was an inspirational short-course on beginning and continuing genealogy research.

Pam emphasized the value of beginning one's research by questioning one's family. She detailed the countless resources for German Russian genealogy that can be found at Headquarters. She also discussed the many other resources available to all of us, such as census records, land records, state and county records, the Mormon Library, obituaries and some as simple as touching a few keys on a computer to connect us with a genealogical website. Also displayed were fascinating maps of German Russian settlement areas in Russia and a gigantic family surname chart that came from Russia.

Pam has researched her family history for many years and she shared some of her most amusing moments.

The program provided was exciting, informative and much enjoyed by all attending.

(Submitted by Lucille Hedges,  
Corresponding Secretary)



Above: Pam Wurst presents at the Lincoln Chapter General Membership Meeting.

Below: Pam and Delores Schwartz with a Surname Chart.



# Volunteers

## Mailing

Since the last newsletter, we have had another mailing and a big "Thank you" goes to:

Norma Somerheiser  
Bud Dietrich  
John & Ruby Weber  
Barb Schmidt  
Susan Stoehr  
Judy Runion  
Frieda Dobler

## Soup Supper

Our Soup Supper was very successful. We fed a lot of people a lot of really great chili, grüne Bohnesuppe (green bean soup), veg-

etable beef soup and chicken noodle soup with butterballs. Again, thank you to the volunteers listed below, who made it all possible.

Paul Loos, Bud & Virginia Dietrich, Bruce Trautwein, John & Ruby Weber, Phil & Irene Dinges, Dale Dinges, Diane White, her mom, Jone and two of her great teenagers, Will & Nancy Richards, Leslie Bill, Ann Reitz, Judy Runion, Judy Lawson, Barb Schmidt, Susan Stoehr, Delores Schwartz, Delores Kaufman, Ruth While, Marion Fuhrman, Norma Somerheiser, and Steve Bauer.

Thank you, also to Gladys Herstein

and Susan Stoehr for the chicken noodle soup, Nancy Borrell and Barb Schmidt for the butterballs, Henry and Judy Sader for the chili, Paul Loos for the green bean soup, Norma and Larry Schenkel for the vegetable beef soup. These folks paid for all the ingredients to make these soups.

As you can see, it took a lot of people to "Get'R Done!" If I left someone out, forgive me. Danke Schon, volunteers.

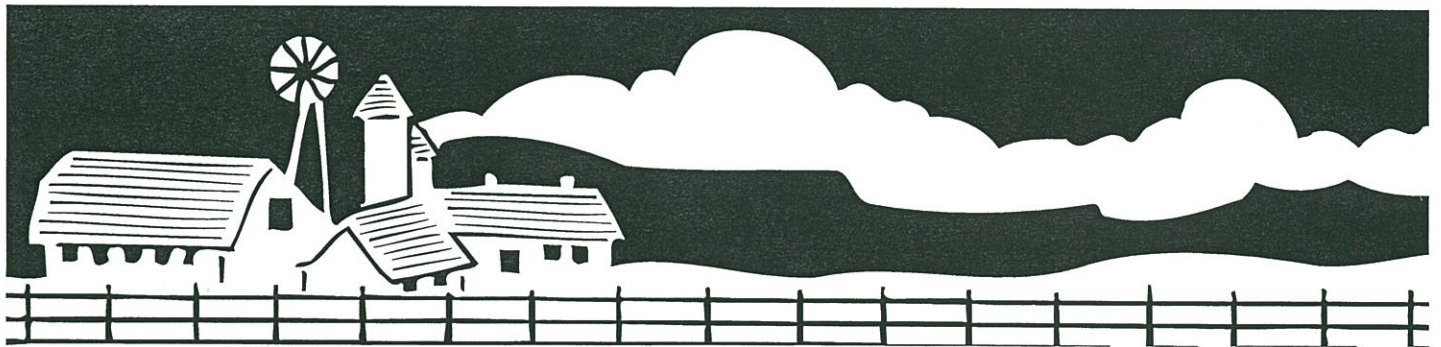
# Surnames...What Do They Mean?

Submitted by Leslie Bill)

The last couple of years, I've spent a lot of time on the Internet researching my family tree. (You can probably relate to that.) Anyway, I've come across

Eckhardt: from German "agi" (edge, pointer) and "hard" (hardy, brave, strong).

Schneider: one who makes outer garments. From German verb "schneider" (to cut).



several sites that tell you the meaning of the surname you are looking for. Do you know the meaning of YOUR name? Here are some you might find interesting.

Bauer: from German "bur" (farmer or peasant).

Dinges: German vernacular form of the Latin "Dionysius".

Gerlach: From German "ger" (spear) and "lach" (sport or play).

Klein: a descriptive surname often given to someone short. From German "Klein" and Yiddish "kleyn" (little).

Kohler: from the German "koler" (maker and seller of charcoal).

Schafer: from the German "schaefaere" (shepherd).

Schmidt: an occupational name for "blacksmith" or "metalworker". From the German "schmied".

Schwartz: from German "swarz" (black). Originally used to describe someone with a dark complexion, or dark hair.

Weber: from German "weber" (weaver).

Weigand: a German personal name Wigant, meaning Wigan (to fight, warriors).

## 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	489-2583
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.

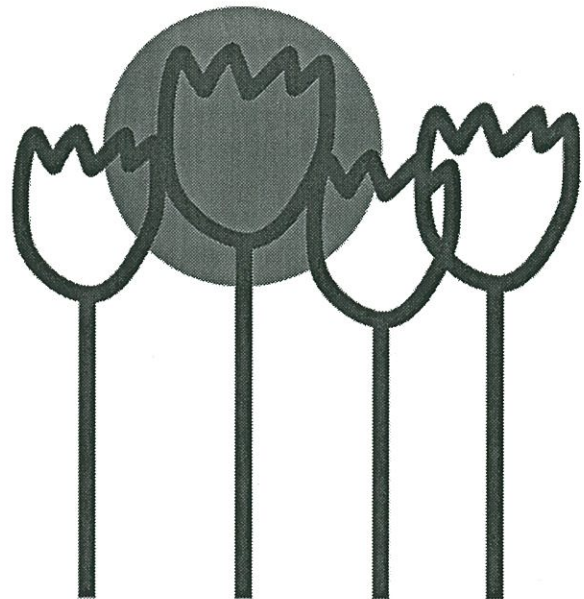
### 2007 OFFICERS

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

## *GLUCKWUNSCH* Congratulations

**Bill & Elsa Amen celebrated their  
60th wedding anniversary in March.**

**Sylvia Hanner celebrated her  
90th birthday in April**



# HACE (Hays), KANSAS LINGO

While most people of our state speak the same language, there's still a couple of counties in north central Kansas where the King's English is spoken in a unique manner. Heck, let's call a spade a spade. It's a totally different language.

After spending four years at Fort Hays State University, listening to my uncle Alex who grew up on a farm northeast of Hays, and visiting with farmers and ranchers who continue to live in and call this part of our state home, I've decided to write about their language—so rich and unique to Kansas. And please don't think I'm making fun of these people who share this strong Volga German heritage. Just look at my last name. I'm one of them.

Sit back and read 'cause here's how the story gosse (goes). Whoa boyce (boys, the fellas), I'm getting ahead of myself.

In case you haven't visited, Hace (Hays) is a small city in the north-central region of Kansas. A Cow'ndy (county) is a small district within a state and Hace is located in Ellis Cow'ndy. And Wine (vine) is a major street in Hace.

Tounce (towns) are even smaller than cities and there are several in Ellis Cow'ndy. Muncher (Munjor), Chinchin (Schoenchen) and Cat'rin (Cathrine) are some of these small tounce. Chirman (German) has long been the unofficial language spoken in Hace. Grimpa (your father's father) talks Chirman to the boyce.

My uncle Alex was forever axding (inquiring) me, "How much money do you make?" He also axed me dis and dat (this and that) and do you have one of deese, two of dose and tree of dem (these, those, and them)?

Farmers around Hace generally kept cattle in red barns built with borts. Borts are pieces of lumber like dem 2x4 borts. The livestock in the barns were usually couse (cows). You might even find a cult inside the barn.

A cult is a young horse. These farmers sometimes feed their couse and cults by trowing (to toss) them a bale of hay.

Hace farmers haul their livestock to market in a pigup (small truck). And they put the livestock in de back-a-duh (back of the) pigup.

When these folks go to tounce for church on Sunday they drife (drive) their carse. These automobiles include the Fort, Pony'ac, Olce, Dotch and Plymit carse. Plymit had one model called a Furry. Until a few years ago, no one would be seen dead driving one of dose leedle (little) forn (foreign) carse.

Every few years these farmers are blessed with rain and roads become wet and slippery. That's when they opt to drife their Cheap. A Cheap is a 4 wheel drive vehicle. Drife dat Cheap down dat @#\$\*\*# wet wrote (road) right now and don't get him stuck. Please note that nearly all inanimate objects are referred to in the male pronoun.

When they finish Sunday services, and with color in their language like that, they certainly need religion—just kidding—some of the folks of Hace like to eat at one particular chigan (domestic fowl) house.

At the Chigan house they have frite (cooked in grease) chigan and frice (French fried potatoes). They also like to eat bret (bread) ant chelly (fruit preserves). I can still remember my Uncle Alex telling me at the dinner table when I was a boy of five, "Eat dis bret and chelly san'ich what I figs'd (fixed) for you."

Sometimes after eating too much Sunday dinner, Hace residents had to take pilts (medication)—especially after too much beer. That's when they might have a het (part of the body above the neck) ache. Take dese pilts for dat het ache.

Sonofapitch was an often spoken exclamation that tumbled liberally out of the mouths of members of the male

sex in Hace. "Sonofapitch it's hot out here boyce." &\*#%dam'mitahell was another favorite exclamation.

Chunk (junk) is something almost everyone in Hace has at one time or another and it is better than trash. Haul dat chunk over by da dump.

Wint (moving air currents) blowing heart (strong, powerful) can often be found in Hace. Sometimes &\*#%dam'mitahell dat wint blew so heart last night, the garot'ch fell toged'her. Most residents kept their carse in a garot'ch (building). And note that the word toged'her actually means just the opposite—apart.

Someone referenceing local folks was heard to say, "Dose Weibert boyce got no weinel (floor covering) in dare store over on Wine Street."

Now my all-time favorite story is about the veteran Hace farmer who tells about driving out to his pasture one morning to look at his couse. Here's how he told his friend about it: "I drive my pigup out in da grass. I drove down da hill by my windmill, up da hill and over by the fence line, back down another hill, t'rough da crick and back up again. When I reached da top of da hill, dere de vere—GONE!

I'm out of here, too.

Tanks for reading.

Another person on the German-Volga ListServ responded with a few elements which would be recognizable to the original residents of Hace (and us): Vee gates? (What's happening?); Na ya (well of course) and Gella? (right?).

(The actual author is unknown to me. The story was in the Nebraska Panhandle Chapter Newsletter and we were given their permission to use it in our newsletter.) Some additions from the North and South "Russian" Bottoms of Lincoln: Machs Gutt (roughly, Be well), and Goom (pal, buddy, etc.).

# HERZLICHEN GLUCKWUNSCH ZUM GEBURSTAGL / HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## May

Victoria O'Neal  
William Gettman  
Wayne Giebelhaus  
LaVerne Hietbrink  
Steve Kahler  
Theresa Zitterkapf  
Ronald Meininger

## June

J. Richard Spellman  
Philip J. Schenkel  
Kenneth A. Babcock  
Marilyn Dering  
Delores Kaufman  
Elizabeth Hayes  
Henry "Sonny" Sader

If you know of one of our people having a special birthday or anniversary,  
please call me, (438-3814) so I can get it into the newsletter.  
If you know of someone who has passed, please get that information to Lucille Hedges.

# FROHLICH JAHRESTAG Happy Anniversary

## May and June

Bob & Marilyn Wagner  
Henry & Judy Sader  
Myron & Sue Pudwill  
Scotty & Marti Kaufman

John & Ruby Weber  
Doris & Donald Taylor  
Larry & Norma Schenkel

# GUTE BESSERUNG Get Well

Phil Dinges  
Phil had a total knee replacement and  
is now home.

# UNSERE LEUTE ERINNRYNG OUR PEOPLE IN MEMORY

*Florine M. Tuckerman (Bernhardt)*  
*Henry Heckman, Jr.*  
*Richard Huck*



## The Building Crew

The next time you're down at the Heritage Center, look above the sink in the kitchen area, and you will see a row of cups with names on them. Above these cups are the words, "Building Crew". These are the men who built the Heritage Center under the guidance of Jake Sinner.

Jim Amen, Rudy Amen, Diffy Froescheiser, Adam Green, Pete Kaufman, Phil Kehling, Phil Kruse, Dusty Miller, Lefty Miller, Jack Sittner, Ace Strasheim, Vic Weber, and Ed Wunder are all gone now but others who are still with us are: Lefty Grenemeier, who now lives at the

Legacy, and Jake Sinner (and his wife, Dorothy), and John Schneider now call Bickford Cottage (46th & Old Cheney) home. These men are no longer able to come to the Heritage Center on Saturday mornings, so, now and then, we get a group together and go to where they live and have coffee and rolls with them.

Other members of the Building Crew, who spent many hours helping to make the Heritage Center what it is today, are Bud Dietrich, Phil Dinges, and Scottie Kaufman. These three still go to the Center every Saturday morning for coffee, rolls,

dill pickles (during summer) and good conversation.

One person for whom there is no cup, and there probably should be, is Henry Heckman. Henry owned Gregg Electric at the time the Center was being built, and he donated a lot of his time and material to the building of the Center.

You would also see many of these men shoveling and blowing snow in the winter and mowing or "weed whacking" in the summer.

Should you see any of the last survivors, you might give them a pat on the back and a "gut durchgebraten" (well done).

## Letting Go and Saying Goodbye

This part of the newsletter has become the hardest part for me to write. Letting go and saying goodbye.

I did not know Florine (Bernhardt) Tuckerman, but she was one of "unsere leute" and so part of our history is gone with her passing.

Probably many, or even most of you, never heard of Dick Huck. Dick died of a heart attack recently. He lived, and had lived, in Littleton, Colorado for many years, but he was a GR who grew up in the North Bottoms.

Dick, Wesley Faust, Danny Walker, and I were great friends and ran around together in our teens. We probably raised a little cane now and then, but we never got into any real trouble, nor did we do anything that would get us into real trouble. (Well, there was that Halloween we tipped an outhouse over while someone was in it!)

My memories of Dick are good ones and I had to chuckle a few times remembering them with

Wesley Faust when I called him in Oregon to tell him Dick had died.

As is usually the case, I wish I had kept in touch with an old friend, but it's too late now, and so, another "brick" from my past is gone.

Another recent loss is Henry Heckman. I've written about him as part of the building crew. I knew, at that time, Henry was fighting cancer, but I thought he was too tough for cancer to win. I was wrong. Now, I will write just a little about the man I knew.

I loved Henry. I first got to know him with the Saturday coffee bunch at Headquarters. After Bud Dietrich "allowed" me to join the Elks to help him cook his Octoberfest dinner, I became part of a group of GR's that sat together at those dinners. The usual gang consisted of Bud and Virginia, Bill and Elsa Amen, Ed and Gladys Herstein, Henry and Esther Heckman, John and Ruby Weber and Norma and me. It was here I got to know Henry better and my affection for him grew.

Then Norma and I got invited to be a part of the group that drove to Freeman, South Dakota, in the spring, to attend the Schmeckfest there. You guessed it, Henry was part of the group and I got to know him still better, and cared for him even more. He was always offering to help me, or do things to make me more comfortable, when I had to use my wheelchair.

If there was electrical work to be done at the Heritage Center, Henry was the "go-to" guy. He did most of the work without ever charging AHSGR.

Henry, Goom, I won't be the only one who will miss you, so will a lot of people who's lives you entered into and touched. Auf Wiedersehen und Machs Gut!



## Calendar of Events

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	Antelope 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 (10th & Charleston Sts)

## WITH REGRET...

I recently learned that Delores Schwartz has quit her position at the Heritage Center. She has been the person responsible for filling and shipping all the book orders.

Delores has been an important part of AHSGR since day one and I, for one, am sorry to see her leave. Good luck, Delores.

## Garage Sale Reminder

Don't forget, the Annual Chapter Garage Sale will be held on May 17 and 18th from 9:00am to 4:00pm at 2221 Devonshire Drive. If you have any items to donate and need them picked up, you may call any of the Board members or me.



# work week

The two Boards of Directors met at the Heritage Center on March 22, 23, & 24 for the annual spring meeting. On those days, spouses who came too, did a lot of volunteer work. Many thanks to Jan Seibert (her husband is president), Charlotte Hoak (her husband is immediate past president), Barb Bretz (her husband is a past president), Glen Barker, Sue Groh, and Alton Sissell.

The week following the meetings had been set as a "work week" on the Heritage Center campus. The following persons were here for part or, in some cases, all of the week:

These volunteers also deserve a huge "Thank-you"! They didn't volunteer for praise, they volunteered for the love of AHSGR.

Again, thank you, everyone. I am proud to call you friends!

*Larry Schenkel, Newsletter Editor*

## Board of Directors

\* Nancy Borrell  
\* Norma Somerheiser  
Jerry Seibert  
Al Hart  
Dennis Zitterkopf  
Patty Scellenrick

\* = Double dippers. (ha-ha)

\*\* = Non-member volunteers

## Lincoln Chapter Members

\* Nancy Borrell  
\* Norma Somerheiser  
Judy Runion  
John Weber  
Steve Bauer  
\*\* Will Richards  
\*\* Don Weber (John's brother)

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# THANK YOU

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