



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 1

January/February 2010

Broda Dinner

It takes a lot of volunteers to cook and serve a Broda dinner. My way of saying thank you to these volunteers is to list their names in the newsletter so everyone knows who they are.

Some of the people worked all day, some in the morning, some in the afternoon, some helped with serving, and some helped clean up afterward. I'm not going to try to break the list down by time of day, but list their names alphabetically.

Sid Babcock, Leslie Bill, Nancy Borrell, Nancy Bouwens, Diane Butherus, Dale Dinges, Phil Dinges, Sandy and Bill Gettman, Gail Gingrich, Gladys Herstein, Jay and Corinne Jacox, Judy Lawson, Paul Loos, Ray Richards, Judy Runion, Larry and Norma Schenkel, Barbara Schmidt, Delores Schwartz, Helen Schwartz,

Susan Stoehr, Bruce Trautwein, Roger and Karen Trautwein, Don Weber, John and Ruby Weber, Diane White, Jone White, and Ruth White.

As you can see, it takes a lot of workers. Why do we need so many people? One reason is that we aren't as young as we used to be and we tire out quicker. I'll bet the median age of this group is 65-70 years of age. And, if I counted right, there were 33 workers.

As always, if you helped and I don't have your name here, forgive me, call me and I will correct my mistake in the next newsletter.

The winner of the quilt was Mary Joyce Schoening of Glenwood, Iowa. Mary was at the dinner and had bought her ticket there. Needless to say, she was quite thrilled.

Mailings

There was a mailing between the Broda dinner and the Christmas Festival. Norma and I were unable to be there to help, so if I miss your name, you know what to do.

The names I have are:

Barbara Schmidt
Susan Stoehr
John and Ruby Weber
Ed Barthule
Phil Dinges
Judy Runion
Nancy Borrell
Bob and Joyce Riddle
Delores Schwartz
Bob Meisinger

Okay, here's the deal! We have a sign-in book for volunteers, BUT if you don't sign-in, it is hard to get all the names right and there's no record of the number of volunteers there are or how many hours they put in. Would you believe no one signed in the day of the mailing?

Also, if you would like to be called when volunteers are needed, let Ruby Weber or Elsa Amen know. They do the calling for volunteers. And if you can't help for that particular activity, you might be able to help on the next one.

Remember, you're not only helping your organization, you can have a lot of gemulichkeit getting to know some of your bruders und schwestern. (If you don't what these words mean, come help and you'll learn them. Believe me, these are only good words. Not a negative in the bunch.)



Quilt winner Mary Joyce Schoening with Sid Babcock



Saturday Coffee

On Saturday, the day following the Broda dinner, we once again convened at the Heritage Center for fellowship, coffee, and sweet rolls. Those who were there were: Sid Babcock, Paul Loos, John Weber, Norma Somerheiser, Scotty Kaufman, Phil Dinges, Bill Schleicher, Roger and Karen Trautwein and Norma and me.

While we were visiting and enjoying our rolls and coffee, the phone rang. I answered it and found myself talking to Wally Martin who had visitors from Germany. He wanted to know if they could bring them down to the Heritage Center for a tour. I began to explain

the Monday thru Friday hours and he said his guests were leaving the next day. I asked Norma Somerheiser if she would give them a tour, and as always, Norma said, "Sure."

So, Rudy and Ruth Lense, who were born in Lubiece, Poland and came to

America from Koln, Germany, had their tour and were very appreciative and thanked us over and over. They were extremely impressed by what has been built to honor our ancestors. Sometimes we forget and need to be reminded.



Annual Soup Supper

Friday, March 19, 2010

WSI Hall, 1430 N. 10th Street

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Adults \$7.00

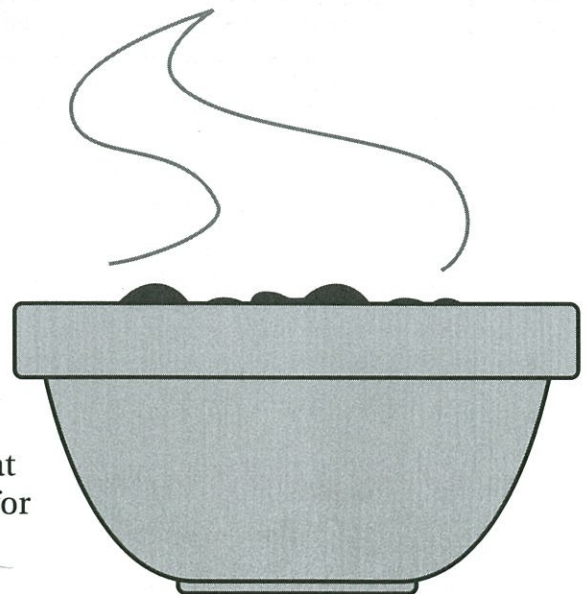
Children (12 & under) \$3.00

Chicken Noodle with Butter Balls

Vegetable Beef

Chili • Green Bean Soup

Tickets may be purchased from any board member or at the door. Extra noodles and butterballs will be for sale for take-home.



Annual Membership Meeting & Election of Officers

The annual potluck dinner, membership meeting and election of officers was held January 10, 2010 at the Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall.

This meeting has always been a potluck dinner and, as usual, there was plenty of delicious food. After the dinner, the election of the Board of Directors was held. Every one of the serving members of the board, whose term was up, agreed to run for re-election. There were no nominations from the floor so it was deemed, according to our by-laws, that a unanimous ballot was cast for the nominees.

The nominees for officers of the Chapter were then presented and nominations were open from the floor. Again, no nominations were made so nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot for all officers was declared.

The following are your Board of Directors officers for 2010:

PresidentNancy Borrell
 1st Vice PresidentPaul Loos
 2nd Vice PresidentDale Dinges
 Recording SecretaryLeslie Bill
 TreasurerSidonia Babcock
 Corres. Secretary ...Gladys Herstein
 HistorianJudy Runion
 Membership Chairman .. Dale Dinges

It is important to call your attention to the fact that we have a president this year. Way to go, Nancy! Thank you, Ruth White, First Vice President, for stepping up to do the duties of the President in 2009.

The Board of Directors terms run for three years, and if you think you might be interested, sit in on a meeting or two at the Heritage Center. The meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 pm.

The president of the Chapter can also appoint a board member for a one-year term. It's your organization. Get involved!

A Little Poem

Another year has passed
 and we're all a little older.
 Last summer felt hotter
 and winter seems much colder.

There was a time not long ago
 when life was quite a blast.
 Now I fully understand
 about 'Living in the Past.'

We used to go to weddings,
 football games and lunches.
 Now we go to funeral homes,
 and after-funeral brunches.

We used to have hangovers
 from parties that were gay.
 Now we suffer body aches
 and wile the night away.

We used to go out dining
 and couldn't get our fill.
 Now we ask for doggie bags,
 come home and take a pill.

We used to often travel
 to places near and far.
 Now we get sore tushes
 from riding in the car.

We used to go to nightclubs
 and drink a little booze.
 Now we stay home at night
 and watch the evening news.

That, my friend is how life is,
 and now my tale is told.
 So, enjoy each day and live it up...
 Before you're too darned old!

[Anonymous—from the Internet.]



2009 BOARD MEMBER DIRECTORY LINCOLN CHAPTER – AHSGR

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
GINGRICH, Gail	631 D Street	Lincoln, NE 68502	474-3363 x16
HERSTEIN, Gladys	520 Teakwood Drive	Lincoln, NE 68510	489-5976
JACOX, Jay	1000 N. 81st Street	Lincoln, NE 68506	327-8962
LOOS, Paul	400 Fletcher	Lincoln, NE 68521	477-3978
RUNION, Judy	2848 Katelyn Circle	Lincoln, NE 68516	423-3853
SADER, Henry	Route 1	Roca, NE 68430	423-4212
WEBER, Don	6201 Normal Blvd., Apt. 322	Lincoln, NE 68506	489-4898
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)

REITZ, Ann (Emeritus)

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.

2010 OFFICERS

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 1st Vice PresidentPal Loos
 2nd Vice PresidentDale Dinges
 Recording SecretaryLeslie Bill
 TreasurerSidonia Babcock
 Corresponding Secretary ..Gladys Herstein
 HistorianJudy Runion
 Membership ChairmanDale Dinges



CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP DUES

Yes, once again it's time to pay your Lincoln Chapter Membership dues. The cost is only \$12.00 for a year, which helps pay for the printing and postage for this newsletter.

Lincoln Chapter Membership Application

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Spouse _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____ Anniv. Date _____

Make your check for \$12.00 payable to Lincoln Chapter AHSGR and mail to:
Dale Dinges, Membership Chairman; 1609 S. Cotner Blvd.; Lincoln, NE 68506

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FEBRUARY

1st	Convention Committee Meeting	5:30pm	631 "D" St.
9th	Breakfast at Stauffer's	9:00am	48th & Hiway 2
15th	Convention Comm. Meeting	5:30pm	631 "D" St.
15th	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00pm	631 "D" St.
Every Saturday (weather permitting)	Coffee & Rolls	9:00am	631 "D" St.

MARCH

1st	Convention Comm. Meeting	5:30pm	631 "D" St.
9th	Breakfast at Stauffer's	9:00am	48th & Hiway 2
15th	Convention Comm. Meeting	5:30pm	631 "D" St.
15th	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00pm	631 "D"
19th	Soup Supper Adults \$7.00 Children 12 & under \$3.00 Soups will be: Chicken Noodle with Butter Balls, Vegetable Beef, Chili, Green Bean	5:00pm to 7:00pm	WSI Hall
Every Saturday	Coffee & Rolls	9:00am	631 "D" St.

APRIL

5th	Convention Comm. Meeting	5:30pm	631 "D" St.
13th	Breakfast at Stauffer's	9:00am	48th & Hiway 2
19th	Convention Comm. Meeting	5:30pm	631 "D" St.
19th	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00pm	631 "D" St.
Every Saturday....	Coffee & Rolls	9:00am	631 "D" St.

There will be an updated calendar for the entire year in the next newsletter.

THE 2010 ANNUAL AHSGR STORYTELLING CONTEST

Adult Division

First Place Award - \$100.00

Second Place Award - \$75.00

Third Place Award - \$50.00

(Awards for ties will be prorated)

"Honorable Mentions" are also possible

Youth Division (14 years old or younger)

First Place Award - \$50.00

Second Place Award - \$30.00

Third Place Award - \$20.00

(An AHSGR Youth Membership will be included with each of the above awards) "Honorable Mentions" are also possible.

ENTRY FORM FOR THE 2010 AHSGR STORYTELLING CONTEST

This completed form must accompany your story!

I hereby give my permission to allow the inclusion of the following personal story of mine in the Storytelling Contest of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia:

I certify that I currently control all the copyrights to the story.

I hereby grant AHSGR the rights to publish my Story and Photos for AHSGR use.

My signature: _____ Date: _____

Title of my Story: _____

I am currently an AHSGR member: Yes No

I plan to be at the AHSGR Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska, August 1-8, 2010:

Yes No

FULL NAME: (please print clearly) _____

ADDRESS: (Street & Apt. Number) _____

CITY & STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ AREA CODE & PHONE NUMBER: _____

AGE (if 14 years old or younger) _____ BIRTHDATE (if 14 years old or younger) _____

E-MAIL Address (please print clearly): _____

Please send this completed entry form, along with 5 printed copies of your story, a copy on a CD or Flash Drive (if possible), any pictures that enhance the story, a short biography and a picture of yourself, to:

**Mabel Kiessling
11204 Braxton Road SW
Calgary, AB T2W1C6 Canada**

DEADLINE: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2010

If you are interested in entering AHSGR's Storytelling Contest, here is what we're looking for.... A good, interesting, unpublished story that pertains to the history, culture, folklore, language, or life experiences of the Germans from Russia. Examples:

- Memories of village life in the Old Country (festivals, foodways, visits by Gypsies)
- Stories about immigration to the New World (the great voyage, Ellis Island, early hardships)
- "Believe it or not" stories, ghost stories, humorous stories, inspiring stories, etc.

AHSGR STORYTELLING CONTEST RULES:

1) Each entry must follow the following format or it will be disqualified:

- Typewritten, double-spaced, and in clear, dark print on 8 1/2 x 11" white paper with one (1") margins, in standard 12 point font/type.
 - If using computer, submit in Word Perfect, MS-Word, or RTF not PDF documents.
 - No story can be longer than five (5) typewritten pages.
 - Contestants may submit as many stories as they wish, but each entry must be separate and accompanied by a separate and completed entry form.
 - Send five (5) printed copies of each story.
 - Send CD or Flash Drive (if possible) which includes: 1) your story, 2) any pictures that enhance the story (in jpg format), 3) a short biography of yourself as author, and 4) a picture of yourself.
 - Photos should be 300 dpi and unedited. If unable to send original photos in jpg, send physical copy of photo to be scanned.
 - You will be notified via e-mail upon receipt of your packet.
- 2) The name of the author/submitter should **NOT** appear on the story itself. Complete the form on reverse page and attach to your entry with a paper clip. Upon receipt, each story will be assigned a reference number (to assure fair and impartial judging).
- 3) Entrants who are 14 years old or younger must indicate their current age and their full birth date (month/day/year). These individuals will be entered in the "Youth Division." All entrants 15 years old or older will be judged in the "Adult Division."
- 4) The title of the story should appear that enhance the story on the first page of each entry.
- 5) Each story must deal with some aspect of the Germans from Russia. To help put your story in context, you might want to begin with something like - *"This story is based on an actual incident that took place about 1890, in the Volga village of Straub. The story was often told by my grandfather who was born in Straub in 1875 and who immigrated to the United States in 1907."*
- 6) If submitting a story in dialect German or Standard German, a full translation (in English) must be included. Both versions must still be within the 5-page limit.
- 7) Each entry must represent the story of/by the entrant.
- 8) Submitted copies of the story will not be returned.
- 9) All stories will be evaluated by a sub-committee of 3-4 AHSGR members. Entries will be evaluated using a score sheet and the final results will be announced at the upcoming AHSGR Convention. Three prizewinners and one or more "Honorable Mention" winners are possible in both the Adult and the Youth Divisions.

All entries must be received by MARCH 1, 2010.

Entries received after that date cannot be considered.

HERZLICHEN GLUCKWUNSCH ZUM GEBURSTAGL HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January

Bill Svoboda
Duane Olson
Ruth Schafer
Mary Frost
Robert Heitbrink
Mary Hessler
Pam Wurst
Ray Richards
Robert Riddle

February

William Paxton
Martha Schleicher
Ronald F. Bauer
Phil Dinges
Jack Frost
Irene Gablehaus
Ruby Weber
Lenny Schneider
Ruth Mosby
Dorothy Heidenreich
Ronald Hill
Annie Settell
Diane Butherus

FROHLICH JUHRESTAG HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

January

Kathy & Randy Tichota

February

Ed & Gladys Herstein
Victor & Shirley Michel

UNSERE LEUTE ERINNRYNG OUR PEOPLE IN MEMORY

Robert "Bob" E. Butts
Pauline Deines
Jake G. Frickel
Edward C. Glantz
Frances Marie Hanneman
Arleen Loos
Gladys Loos
Robert "Bob" E. Loos
Pauline V. Maul
Michael Niederhaus
Lydia Palmer
Lillian York

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

The next event on our calendar was our annual Christmas Festival, which is held at the Heritage Center. Because we had all of the outbuildings on the campus open for our visitors, we needed a lot of volunteers to man them.

We needed volunteers in the Chapel, General Store/Shoe Shop, Blacksmith Shop, Summer Kitchen, the research area, the museum on the second floor, as well as someone serving cookies, coffee, and cider and Volga Boatman sandwiches.

It was necessary to have extra volunteers for the outbuildings because of the cold and the need to relieve those workers more often.

Those helping were:

Sid Babcock	Nancy Borrell
Nancy Bouwens	Sharon Buckner
Virginia Dietrich	Phil Dinges
Amy Frohn	Gail Gingrich
Lucille Hedges	Gladys Herstein
Jay and Corinne Jacox	Scotty Kaufman
Judy Lawson	Paul Loos
Ruth Mosby	Judy Runion
Larry and Norma Schenkel	Barbara Schmidt
Delores Schwartz	Annie Settell
Norma Somerheiser	CeCe Sherman
Kathy Svoboda	Roger and Karen Trautwein
Don Weber	John and Ruby Weber

To all of our wonderful volunteers; herzliches dankeschoen!

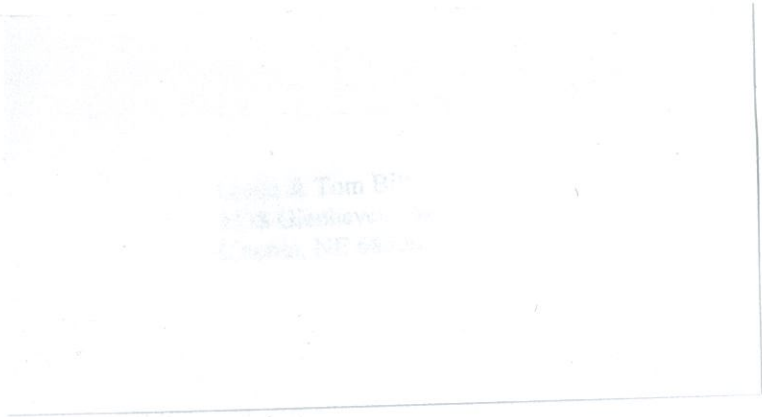
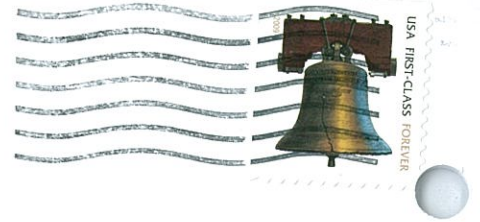
We had a pretty good turn out of both our members and the public. Many of them said the same thing, "Wow! This is really neat. I didn't know this was here." or "I've seen the signs on 9th and 10th Street, but I just never got down here." Hopefully some of those who made such positive comments will start coming to meetings or one of our many activities.

At a number of Christmas Festivals in past years we have enjoyed listening to the Friedens Girls' Choir singing German Christmas Carols in the Chapel. Since they are no longer together, we called up Kathy Svoboda to lead us in a sing-along of those German Carols. It turned out to be the highlight of the day. C. J. Hanner accompanied us on his accordion, which made it even more special. C. J. also entertained us throughout the afternoon with a variety of songs and carols. As a side-note, C. J. is related to Sylvia Hanner who has been a member of AHSGR for many years.





Mr Larry D Schenkel
 9439 Benziger Dr
 Lincoln NE 68526-9219



6850693900 CO17

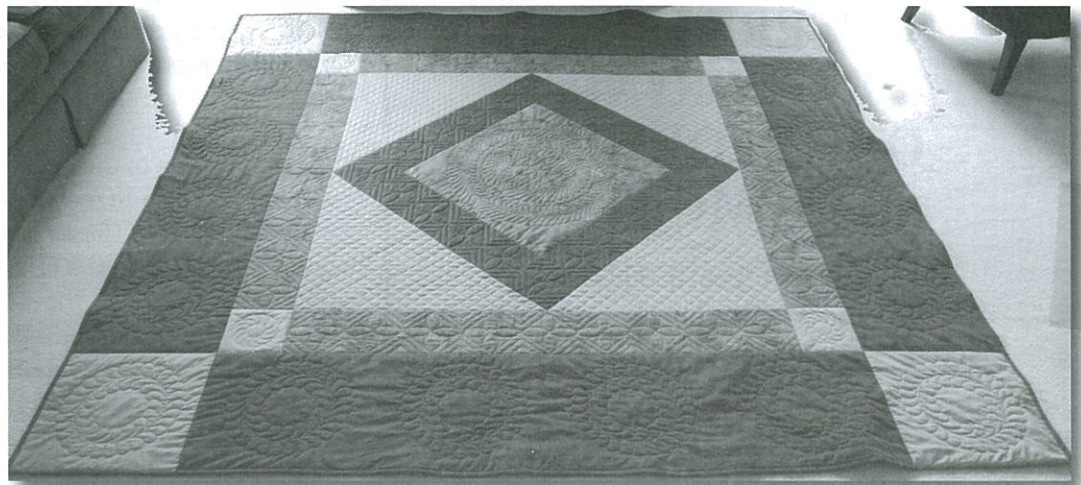


2010 International Convention QUILT Drawing

by Judy Runion, Lincoln Chapter Quilters

The quilt drawing which we all look forward to each year at the Annual AHSGR Convention will be the Center Diamond pattern. Entirely constructed by the Lincoln Chapter Quilters, the ladies donate their time to the society sewing the quilts in the Boardroom at the society museum in Lincoln, Nebraska, every Monday.

This quilt is a modified Amish quilt pattern—a simple geometric design. It speaks of strength and simplicity. The colors are strong and the quilting is full, balancing the starkness of the design. These intense colors and simplicity of its pieced design create a strong, unusual statement. Feathered wreath motifs characterize the Center Diamond. The back of the quilt is a whole cloth making it equally attractive on either side. This quilt measures 96 inches by 96 inches. Three hundred, eighty-



seven sewing hours went into the making of the quilt by the Lincoln Chapter Quilters.

An Amish quilt is fascinating because in this modern, fast moving, technological age, one often grasps for links with the past to find stability: Faith—Family—Tradition. Quilts stand for symbols of the past, speaking of long family evenings, gatherings of church ladies, and handcrafted works of love.



Lincoln Chapter

The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XVIII, ISSUE 6

November/December, 2009

Welcome Home, Larrie Schmidt

Larrie has retired and returned to the town he loves. He has been living in Las Vegas where he started a chapter of Germans from Russia. I hope it will keep going without his leadership.

Larrie has joined the Lincoln Chapter and has already become active by helping on the Chapter's Convention Committee. His background is in advertising, human resources, publicity, and more. His knowledge and "get it done" attitude will be invaluable on that committee.

Again, welcome home, Larrie and welcome to the Lincoln Chapter of AHSGR.

While going through a pile of papers, I found several stories that Larrie sent me, about growing up in the South Bottoms. The following is

one of them:

During the 1950's in Lincoln, there was a church sponsored Basketball League for boys age 12 to 15.

But in order to play, the boys' pastors had to verify that the players regularly attended the church they represented!

Also, one of the best athletes in the South Russian Bottoms was Cliff Hardesty, an Irish-Catholic boy whose family lived on "C" Street between 3rd and 4th Streets.

If Friedens Lutheran Church in the South Bottoms was to have even a remote chance at winning the League Championship that year it had to have Cliff on the team.

Just prior to the season opener and the pastor's verification, the

entire basketball team showed up for Sunday services, with a nervous Cliff Hardesty seated in its midst at the back of the church.

Pastor Hermann Goede, a much-loved but stern overseer of the flock, launched into a sermon that morning that was so powerful in its message that Cliff Hardesty, overcome with the Holy Spirit within him, began genuflecting. Pastor Goede, normally unflappable, witnessed this aberration in his church and fell speechless.

The congregation, confused, began glancing about the pews to discern the object of their pastor's shock and bewilderment.

But Larrie Schmidt, sitting next to Cliff, had responded quickly and now held Cliff's left hand tightly in his own, out of view.

Pastor Goede soon recovered his composure, finishing his sermon with an admonition for the basketball team to come to his office.

Explanations given, the kindly pastor weighed propriety against his team's glory.

"We will never turn anyone away from this church," he pointed out. "All are welcome, even you Clifford. But in the future, please leave your hands by your side...as for the rest of you...."

Okay, Here's the Deal...

In the last newsletter, I printed a poem entitled "Old Babushka". I gave credit to the author, Charmaine Wood, and now you'll hear the rest of the story.

Have We Learned

We honor our ancestors' memory,
Admire their homelier ways,
Their helpful, sociable lifestyle,
Their simpler, quieter days.

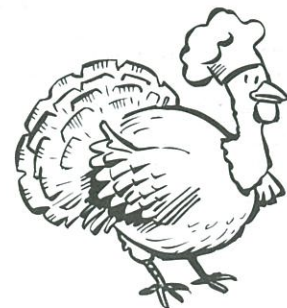
We enshrine them in museums,
Celebrate their times, way-back-when.
This is the essential question:
Have we learned anything from then?
by Charmaine Wood

(I got this out of the September, 2009 issue of the Panhandle Chapter's newsletter.)

"People taking one of the tours at the AHSGR convention in Medicine Hat returned with a booklet titled "Poems for the Pioneers" by Charmaine Wood, a lady from Canada they met on the tour."

They felt, as I did, that the poem "Old Babushka" struck a special chord and that it needed to be shared. I hope you liked it, and that it may have struck a special cord with some of you.

I felt a pull from several other poems and thought I would share another one.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



Bits and Pieces



Chapter Picnic

The Chapter Picnic, which was held on September 20 at Antelope Park, was very successful. Approximately 40 people attended, including almost all of the quilters. The barbecued pork, baked beans and potato salad were from Famous Dave's and were delicious. Several Lincoln Chapter members provided desserts. There were several different kinds of cookies, and no one, anywhere, can make cookies like GRs. There were brownies covered with chocolate (By the way, did you know that chocolate makes your clothes shrink?) and a couple "yellow" desserts. I don't know what Judy Runion called the one she brought, but if I could have gotten away with it, I would have tucked it away and sneaked out. Those of you who did not make it missed a great meal and a lot of gemutlichkeit.

Paul Loos, co-chair of the 2010 Convention Committee, gave a short report of progress of plans that have been made so far. We are making progress, but...as Paul reminded everyone, we're going to need a lot of volunteers!

The Committee has been meeting once a month but changed that to twice a month from now on.

Come on, gang! Get on board and volunteer.

Familiar Names

Do these names sound familiar?

- John and Ruby Weber
- Bob and Sandy Gettman
- Ed Barthuli
- Don Weber
- Phil Dinges
- Frieda Dobler
- Judy Lawson
- Helen Schwartz
- Norma Somerheiser

- Barbara Schmidt
- Lucille Hedges
- Larry and Norma Schenkel
- Virginia Dietrich

Yes, these names are in your newsletter fairly often, either for meeting at Stauffer's for breakfast or getting together on Saturdays at the Heritage Center for coffee and rolls. They are also there for volunteering to help with mailings. The above names were all at the last mailing on September 24th. Also present was Sharon Buckner who often joins for breakfast at Stauffers.

Pam Wurst, Kathy Sheperd and Diane White were working with us too, as well as Ray Richards, Diane's oldest son. I have praised Diane's children many times in the past and nothing has changed. Ray worked like a trooper. Thanks, Ray. And to the rest of the volunteers, Danke!

There are a number of other great volunteers who weren't helping with the mailing because of prior commitments.

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2009 OFFICERS

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Recording Secretary	Leslie Bill	Membership Chairman	Dale Dinges