



## Lincoln Chapter

The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 3

May/June 2010

## *From the Chapter President...*

FINALLY, spring is here!!! We've all had a long winter and now we're gearing up for a busy, spring and summer at AHSGR.

I hope all of you are planning on attending the Jubilee on May 15. And don't forget the Convention coming up in August. It is shaping up to be a great convention with good speakers, tours

and entertainment.

And remember to volunteer, too. The convention requires a lot of volunteers, so if we all do a little bit, a few hours, it will make it easier for all of us. Also think about volunteering at Headquarters. There's always something to be done there.

I personally want to thank all those

who helped with the soup supper. I've heard many compliments.

We do have quite a few new Lincoln members and I look forward to meeting all of you, hopefully at our General Meeting on April 25. We will be watching a video on the Schmeckfest and ethnic foods. We will have kuchen and grebel to sample.

## *OLLI Class on "How Our Kitchens Connect Us"*

OLLI stands for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. It is affiliated with the University of Nebraska. Classes are held quarterly, and each class lasts six weeks. They cover a great variety of subjects, and retired college professors teach most classes.

OLLI has used AHSGR for four classes in the last few years. Norma Somerheiser lead one on the Germans from Russia in Nebraska, Pam Wurst lead one at AHSGR Heritage Center on genealogy, and Norma also subbed at the Heritage Center as part of a class called, "Museum Crawl." One of their classes on "Places of Worship" was held at Friedens Church with Nancy Borrell helping with that class.

This quarter the class was entitled "How Our Kitchens Connect Us" and was held at the Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn Street on March 31st.

The six sessions began with an overview of how the pioneers used meager provisions to sustain themselves and how different ethnic foods and traditions have influenced our American eating habits.

There was a class on keeping Kosher, Thai Cuisine, East Indian foods,

and Scandinavian cooking, and one on German Russian foods entitled "Kuchen, Butter Balls, and Kraut und Brei." Diane White, Nancy Borrell, and Norma Somerheiser were the presenters. They took a few items from the museum at the Heritage Center, which relate to food preparation, such as a kraut cutter, meat scraper, and cow horns which were used to clean the part of an animal used for sausage casing.

Diane provided a cherry kuchen, Nancy brought butterballs and grebel, and Norma brought some of Paul Loos' wurst. Samples of the kuchen, butterballs, grebel, and wurst were served to the class and they had many questions for us. Recipes were shared with those in attendance.

Diane opened the presentation with a brief review about when and why our people left their homes in Germany to accept land in Russia, and why they later immigrated to this country.

Norma asked Nancy and Diane to tell about their grandparent's kitchens, and how some of their foods were prepared.

As was stated before, professors

usually lead OLLI classes, and they have used AHSGR presenters four times. Each time our presentations have been well received, and the people in the classes are always amazed at the things we tell them about our culture.

One thing noted by the class is how similar the foods of different ethnic groups are. Each time we do classes like this or lead tours of our AHSGR campus, we hear positive comments about our Heritage Center and our people.

We can be very proud of and grateful to our ancestors for making that long and hazardous journey from Russia so that we may enjoy the good life we have known in this great country. (Submitted in part by Norma Somerheiser)

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*Editor's note: Nancy and Diane did an excellent job. Although Norma says her knowledge of German/Russian foods is minimal, she did an excellent job as well.*



# Annual Soup Supper

Despite the not-so-perfect weather, we had a great crowd at our soup supper. We fed around two hundred hungry folks. Once again, we served four soups; chili, green bean, vegetable beef and the overall favorite, chicken

noodle with butterballs. However, the butterballs were optional.

People made short work of the noodles and frozen butterballs we had for sale to be taken home. There were many quart-sized take-home contain-

ers of soup sold as well.

As you all know by now, I believe in thanking the volunteers by name. And I will attempt to do that again but if there ever was a time that I have missed a name, this will be it.

Norma and I went down to the WSI Hall the morning of the soup supper to help in any way we could with peeling vegetables, cutting up chicken and beef, wrapping silverware, arranging tables, setting out condiments, etc, etc. After we finished we left to run errands and then went home. As the time neared for us to go back to WSI, it began snowing heavily. We encountered several icy spots and when we got to the hall, I asked Norma to get my wheel chair from the hall and "Let's go home." Therefore, we missed out on, not only the supper, but being able to help with taking and selling tickets, helping serve and visiting. Our loss! Fortunately, our volunteers and soup eaters weren't so faint-hearted.

Thank you to the following:

Paul Loos	John and Ruby Weber
Bruce Trautwein	Helen Schwartz
Don Weber	Norma Somerheiser
Delores Schwartz	Nancy Borrell
Diane White	Phil Dinges
Sid Babcock	Barb Schmidt
Dale Dinges	Judy Lawson
Judy Runion	Gail Gingrich
Sharon Buckner	Jay and Corinne Jaycox
Roger Trautwein	Pam & Rodger Wurst
Gladys Herstein	

It should be noted that some of the volunteers were at WSI hall all day.

## 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

President	.....Nancy Borrell	Treasurer	.....Sidonia Babcock
1st Vice President	.....Pal Loos	Corresponding Secretary	.....Gladys Herstein
2nd Vice President	.....Dale Dinges	Historian	.....Judy Runion
Recording Secretary	.....Leslie Bill	Membership Chairman	.....Dale Dinges

## Yet Another Mailing!

Another volunteer project, on March 30th, was the latest mailing of the International Newsletter and the Journal.

There weren't too many people there but from what I heard, those that were there had a good time and a good selection of rolls.

Thank you, John and Ruby Weber, Don Weber, Bill and Elsa Amen, Ed Barthole, Virginia Dietrich, Norma Somerheiser, Nancy Borrell, and Barb Schmidt.

As usual, if I left your name out, call me and I will get it in the next newsletter. If I have listed you and you weren't there, my bad!

# Calendar of Events

May 3	Convention Meeting	5:30 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
May 11	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
May 15	Nebraska Jubilee		Friedens Church 6th & D Sts.
May 17	Convention Meeting	5:30 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
May 17	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
May 27-28	Garage Sale		Nancy Bouwen's Home 1121 N. 79th Street
June 7	Convention Meeting	5:30 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
June 8	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
June 21	Convention Meeting	5:30 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
June 27	General Membership Meeting	2:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
July 5	Convention Meeting		6th & D Sts.
July 13	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
July 19	Convention Meeting	5:30 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
July 19	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
August 1-8	Convention		
August 10	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
August 16	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
Sept. 14	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
Sept. 19	General Membership Meeting & Picnic	4:00 p.m.	Antelope Park Shelter
Sept. 20	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
Oct. 12	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
Oct. 18	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
Nov. 5	Broda Dinner	5-7 p.m.	WSI Hall 1430 N. 10th Street
Nov. 9	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
Nov. 15	Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
Dec. 11	Christmas Festival	11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	6th & D Sts.
Dec. 14	Coffee Club	9:00 a.m.	Stauffer's 48th & Hwy. 2
Dec. 2010	Board Member's Christmas Dinner		TBA
Jan. 9, 2011	Annual Membership & Business Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall (potluck dinner and election of officers)



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## Mark Your Calendars!

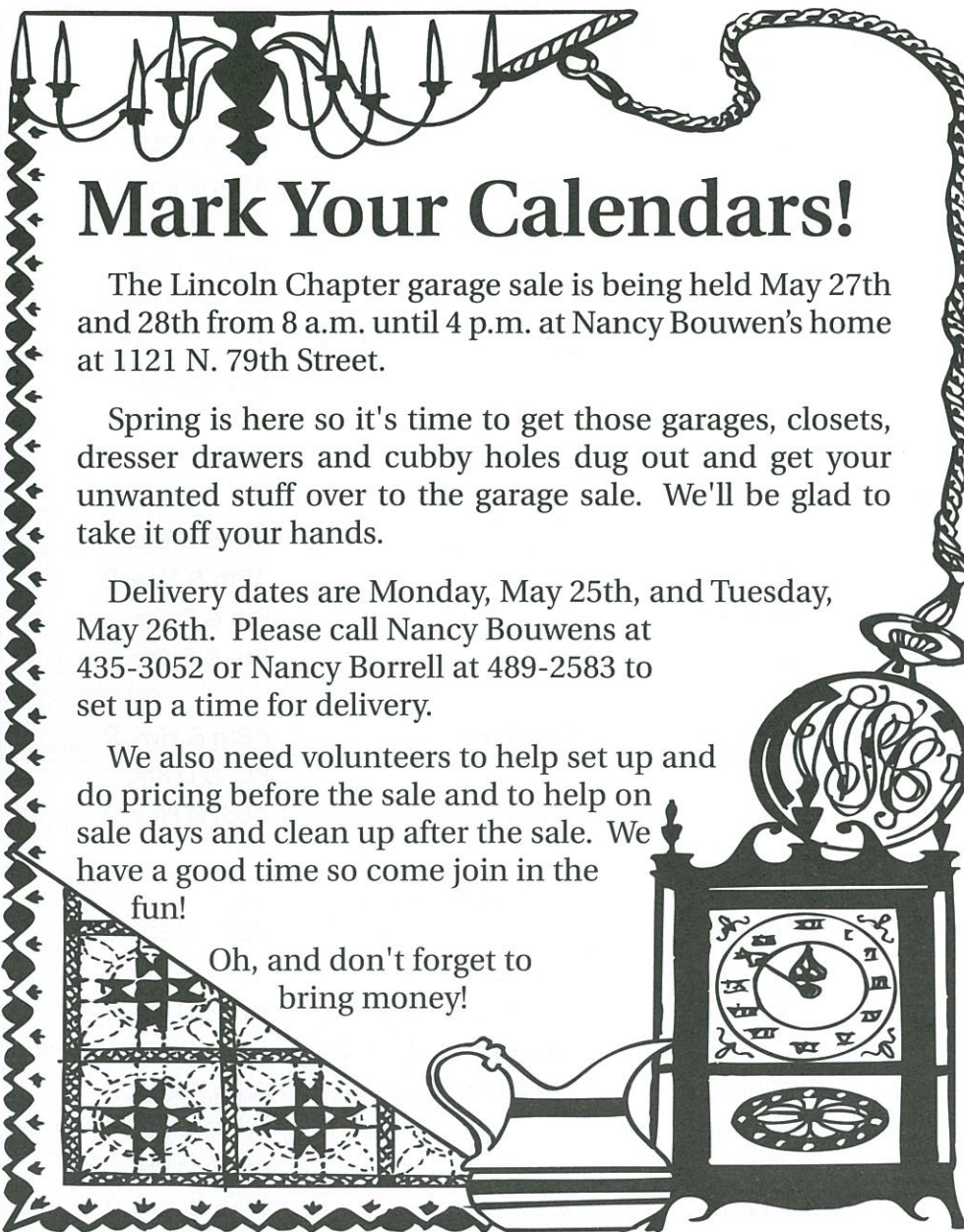
The Lincoln Chapter garage sale is being held May 27th and 28th from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Nancy Bouwen's home at 1121 N. 79th Street.

Spring is here so it's time to get those garages, closets, dresser drawers and cubby holes dug out and get your unwanted stuff over to the garage sale. We'll be glad to take it off your hands.

Delivery dates are Monday, May 25th, and Tuesday, May 26th. Please call Nancy Bouwens at 435-3052 or Nancy Borrell at 489-2583 to set up a time for delivery.

We also need volunteers to help set up and do pricing before the sale and to help on sale days and clean up after the sale. We have a good time so come join in the fun!

Oh, and don't forget to bring money!



## Nebraska GR Jubilee 2010 Second Annual Nebraska Conference

By now all of you should have gotten your notice of the Jubilee which is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2010, at Friedens Lutheran Church, 6th and "D" Streets.

There will be music, guest speakers, lunch and a quilted wall hanging will be given as a door prize. An interactive tour of AHSGR headquarters is also

planned.

Space is limited so if you haven't sent in your registration you should call Nancy Borrell at (402) 489-2583.

The Jubilee that was held last year was very informative and enjoyable and it sounds like this year's will be just as good.

## Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors

I goofed up in the last newsletter. I didn't alert you to the fact that the International Board of Directors and the Foundation Board of Directors were meeting here for three days during the week of the soup supper.

If you have a concern about any thing at the Heritage Center, both boards will be here during the convention from August 2 through August 8 and you can speak with them then. It's good to get acquainted with these folks and to learn the workings of our organization.

Something to remember — the board members serve without remuneration of any kind. Not food, travel nor lodging. These expenses come out of their own pockets.

At the present time, there are four Lincoln Chapter members who are also International Board Members. Jane Nickolaus and Norma Somer-heiser are on the Foundation Board and Nancy Borrell and Judy Runion are on the Society Board. If you should see any of these ladies, thank them for their time and dedication to AHSGR.

I was told that Board members, Dodie Rotherham, from California (by way of the North Bottoms), and Jene Goldhammer from Oregon, and Lincoln Chapter member Charles Saranto from Washington, all volunteered at the soup supper after being in meetings all day. Do they know how to have fun or what?

## HERZLICHEN GLUCKWUNSCH ZUM GEBURSTAGL HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### May

William Gettman  
Marilyn Dering  
LaVerne Hietbrink  
Steve Kahler  
Ronald Meininger  
Victoria O'Neal  
Teresa Zitterkopf

### June

Ken Babcock  
J. Richard Spellman  
Elizabeth Hayes  
Delores Kaufman  
Henry Sader  
Philip J. Schenkel

## FROHLICH JUHRESTAG HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### May

(None I'm aware of)

### June

Scotty and Marti Kaufman  
Myron and Sue Pudwill  
Henry and Judy Sader  
Larry and Norma Schenkel  
Jerry and Janice Siebert  
Donald and Doris Taylor  
Bob and Marilyn Wagner  
John and Ruby Weber

## UNSERE LEUTE ERINNRYNG OUR PEOPLE IN MEMORY

Donald Wayne Beeman  
Phyllis Lucille Gardner  
Wayne L. Giebelhaus  
Richard "Bud" J. Goeschel  
Robert "Bob" Franklin Goodban  
Daniel John Hedges  
Edwin J. Hergert  
Linda Lee "Jake" Jacobs  
Lydia Strauch Koehler  
Elruth (Loos) Knight  
Conrad Kruse  
George Jacob Michael  
Evelyn Marie Pederson  
John Schadt  
Jacob "Jake" Schaffer  
Marie M. Ward  
Bertha E. Welsch

## As Time Passes

One of the worst things about writing the newsletter is the "Our People In Memory" part.

Last month two men from my North Bottoms childhood passed away. One was Pete Reifschneider and the other was Richard Schenemen. While I knew Pete and knew he was a good guy that I liked, he was not what would be called a close friend. A friend, yes, but not a bosom buddy.

On the other hand, Richard and I were about the same age and went to Hayward School together. Usually leaving for school from Grandma and Grandpa Kriek's house on 8th and Vine, I walked up 8th Street (which is the street Schenemans lived on), and Richard and I would walk to school together. Oftentimes we would walk home together and I would stop at Schenemans to play with Richard. It was also a magical place to stop because Richard's older brother, Robert, was in to model airplane building and flying.

Needless to say, after our family moved away from the Bottoms, I lost track of many of the friends I had made. Richard was one of them.

When I heard that Becky and Richard had joined AHSGR, I looked forward to seeing them at a Chapter meeting and renewing an old friendship. Unfortunately that was not to be as Richard passed away before that could happen.

I talked with Becky and asked her if I could write about Richard. As you can see, she said yes.

I don't remember all that much (we're talking about sixty years ago) but I do remember I always felt comfortable in Richard's home and with his family.

And so, even though we had lost touch, I mourn his passing, as I do Pete's and all the other Germans from Russia.

The names you see listed "In Memory" in each newsletter are our people and every death diminishes us a little.

So, rest well, Richard and Pete; and Becky, I hope to meet you at one of our Chapter General Membership meetings so we can talk.

## The Language of Love

A kiss is a universal way of saying, "I love you." The Romans had a hierarchy for recipients of kisses, from a basium (acquaintance), to an osculum (close friend), then finally a savium (lover). German dictionaries detail more than 30 words for kisses, including kusshandchen werfen, to blow kisses; abgekusst, smothered with kisses; and nachkussen, "the making up for kisses that have been omitted." However, the Germans distinguish between the kiss and its consequences: "A kiss may indeed be washed away, but the fire in the heart cannot be quenched."

Tea served from a petite pink tea set, such as the German one pictured here, would surely be prelude to a kiss. The mark, KPM with a scepter, indicates that the Konigliche Porzellan-Manufaktur company in Berlin made the tea set between 1840 and 1895. In 1763, Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, gave the company its name

and permission to use the scepter as its symbol. KPM manufactures fine porcelain to this day. (From "The Collectable Teapot & Tea Calendar for

2010" by Joni Miller; photographs by Martin Brigdale, Workman Publishing, New York, NY and submitted by Gail Gingrich)

