



Lincoln Chapter

The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 5

September/October 2010

The President's Perspective

by Nancy Borrell

Another convention has come and gone and what a great one it was. My thanks and congratulations to the Lincoln Chapter members and friends and the Lincoln Convention Committee for their hard work and planning. It was a great convention with about 380 people in attendance.

The tours were very well attended and good comments were received from all. The food demos were also a big success.

The River Boys Polka Band entertained all day on Friday and played for a very well attended polka dance Friday night.

Open House on Saturday at the Heritage Center was the highlight of the week with a good crowd in spite of the

heat. Those of you who were there could see that our campus looks beautiful and we heard many compliments.

There were good speakers, good food, good weather and great camaraderie. Now we can all look forward to going to Salt Lake City next year. That should be a great convention, giving us more opportunity for genealogy research.

Next up for the Lincoln Chapter is our picnic for all Lincoln Chapter members. It will be held on Sunday, September 19, at Antelope Park shelter at 4:00 pm. We will furnish Volga Boatman sandwiches and everyone is asked to bring either a salad or a dessert. We will play bingo, so bring a "white elephant" for a prize. ☐

Ecumenical Church Service

by Victoria "Tory" O'Neal

On Sunday, the last day of the convention, the only scheduled activity was an Ecumenical Service of Worship. About 50 GRs attended the service, which was conducted by Pastor Jerry McInnis of Lincoln. Dr. Don Schank of Sioux City, IA led the singing of "Schoenster Herr Jesu" (Fairest Lord Jesus), which everyone sang in English, and "Gott ist die Liebe" (God is So Loving), which all sang in German. It just wouldn't have sounded "right" sung in English, would it?

In his sermon, "Celebrate! Faith, Family, Tradition," Pastor Jerry mentioned trying to make a braid with just one hair, which cannot be done. Three hairs are needed, though this doesn't make much of a braid. If you take three bunches of hair you can make a beautiful braid. Similarly, taking just Faith or Family or Tradition, we cannot truly celebrate our heritage. But by combining all three, Faith plus Family plus Tradition, our heritage comes alive and becomes beautiful for each of us. ☐

From the Convention Co-Chair

The convention is over and I believe the presentations and entertainment truly represented the theme, "Celebrate Faith, Family, Tradition." Having the Open House at the Heritage Center was a rare opportunity for many of those members from other parts of the USA, Canada, Argentina and Russia. I heard so many wonderful comments about the Heritage Center, and people actually being able to see it. No one seemed to really mind the hot, humid weather that day. Well, maybe a few folks thought the Nebraska weather was a bit unforgiving.

The highlight of the week was the dance on Friday night. It was a good time, and as Lew and Dona Marquardt say, "Having fun is what life is all about."

After the hours of planning and taking care of details that cropped up each day, I appreciated the positive comments from those who attended the sessions at the Embassy and the Heritage Center. The many volunteers who helped during the week made all of this possible, and I want to thank them for their dedication to AHSGR, their hard work, and their smiles.

With appreciation,
Sidonia "Sid" Babcock ☐

Fall Membership Picnic

Sunday, September 19, 2010
Antelope Park Shelter
4:00pm

Volga Boatman sandwiches will be furnished. Bring either a salad or dessert. We'll be playing bingo so bring a "white elephant" for a prize.

Convention 2010

As you can see by the reports from Nancy and Sid, we had a successful convention but it was not without some constructive criticism.

After hearing many comments and reading a few evaluations, I'm afraid we need to find a more economical site for the next Lincoln convention and, possibly, away from downtown. After paying registration fees, etc. attendees found they still had to pay \$6 a day for parking. Many also felt the cost of the food at the hotel was way too high.

If we look for a new site for the next Lincoln convention, which will be in 2015, all costs must be taken into consideration.

There was more of the same type of criticisms with evaluations ranging from poor to excellent. Now the information will be studied and collated so we have a record of what we're doing right and what needs to be changed.

Thanks to all of you that took the time to fill out the evaluations. If we don't have input from our attendees, we can't make changes. And changes will be made based on your evaluations!

Many Volunteers Does It Take?

How many volunteers does it take to hold a convention? I don't know exactly, but I know it's a bunch!

Following is a list of the Lincoln Chapter members, some Lincolniters who are not G-R's but who volunteered anyway, and people from other states who volunteered anywhere from an hour to a full day:

Lincoln Members

Linda Ashelford	Ruth Mosby
Sidonia Babcock	Jane Nicholas
Ed Barthule	Tory O'Neal
Leslie Bill	Joyce Riddle
Nancy Borrell	Judy Runion
Nancy Bouwens	Larry Schenkel
Sharon Bruckner	Norma Schenkel
Virginia Dietrich	Barbara Schmidt
Dale Dinges	Helen Schwartz
Amy Frohn	CeCe Sherman
Mary Frost	Norma Somerheiser
Polly Greiss	Susan Stoehr
Bill Gettman	Roger Trautwein
Sandy Gettman	Marilyn Wagner
Lucille Hedges	Robert Wagner
Norman Helzer	Don Weber
Gladys Herstein	John Weber
Corrine Jaycox	Ruby Weber
Jay Jaycox	Ruth White
Judy Lawson	Helen Wipf*
Paul Loos	

All of the Lincoln Chapter members volunteered numerous days, not just a few hours. *Helen Wipf is a new member who joined at the convention. She immediately jumped in and volunteered every day!

Some of the out-of-town attendees who volunteered were:

Edith Adams	Shirley Hurrell
Elizabeth Barker	Judy Kaland
Glenn Barker	Pete Kaland
Anna Dalhaimer Bartkowski	Lois Klaus
Mary Ellen Behm	Dick Klaus
Gene Bell	Gwen Mayer
Ed Babitske	Albert Miller
Barb Bretz	Karen Penner
Nick Bretz	Molly Ann Rimerman
Judy Curtis	Sharon Robertson
Beth Davenport	Helen Roffs
Richard Davenport	Arlene Rolfs
William Dellos	Sheri Rose
Karen Dellos	Mary K. Schenk
Bill Doos	Jan Siebert
Jim Fabricius	Kathy Stahlman
Patsy Fabricius	Anne Stang
Judy Garesis	Don Wagner
Sue Groh	Doris Wagner
Linda Hasse	Diane Wais
Dorothy Heidenreich	Gretchen White
Sheryl Heidenreich	Gladys Wyatt
Maggie Hein	Dennis Zitterkopf
Gloria Hooper	Deanna Zitterkopf

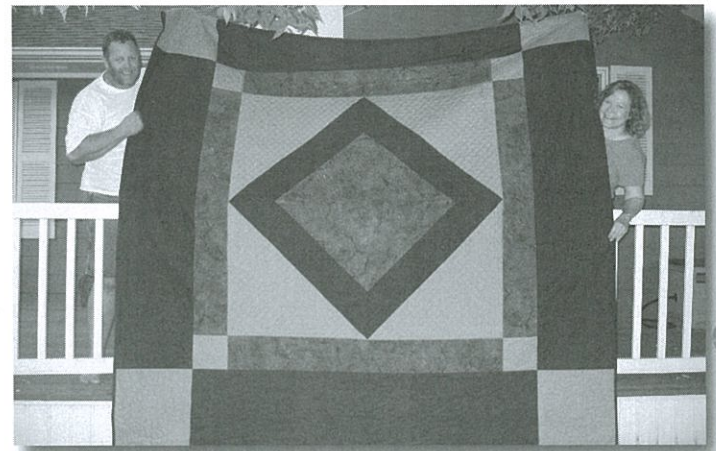
Also volunteering were members of the Convention and Visitors Bureau:

Brenda Haugh	Gayla Nelsen
Lorraine Stroh	Leonard Welch
Joan Welch	

Another group of volunteers were the BBC Red Hatters from Lincoln. They are:

Jan Erdly	Judy Petersen
Nancy Meinzer	Pat Novak

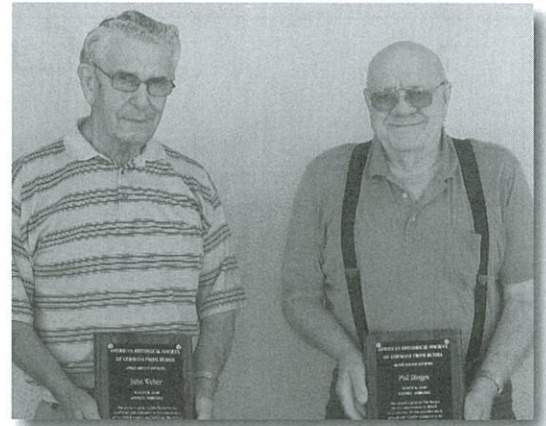
A big "Thank You" goes to all. We couldn't have done it without you. ☐



Quilt winners Herb & Linda Anderson

Special Citations Awarded During the Convention

At the Saturday Recognition Breakfast, John Weber and Phil Dinges, Lincoln Chapter members, received special citations from the International Board of Directors. They were each recognized for their dedication and the hard work they do at the Heritage Center. Congratulations both of you! ☐



John Weber & Phil Dinges

The Heritage Center Open House and Picnic

Despite the hot and humid weather, a large number of convention attendees were able to visit the Heritage Center open house and picnic. There was a dedication, presentations and a Memorial service, which were held in the Heritage Center Headquarters building and the Chapel.

Paul Loos and his volunteer staff grilled and served sausages, i.e. Volga Boatman sandwiches. Following is a list of his volunteer staff:

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| David Loos | Caleb Loos | Kacy Loos |
| Shelley Loos | Don Weber | John Weber |
| Larry Shuster | Ruth White | Dale Dinges |



Left: Lunch at the open house at HQ

Right: Jim Griess presented a DVD in the Chapel



Tour group in Henderson, NE




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Calendar of Events


Sept. 14Coffee Club9:00 a.m.Stauffer's48th & Hwy. 2
Sept. 19General Membership Meeting & Picnic4:00 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, 2011Annual Membership & Business Meeting1:00 p.m.Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall	
	(potluck dinner and election of officers)			

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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
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LOOS, Paul	400 Fletcher	Lincoln, NE 68521	477-3978
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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 PresidentDale Dinges	HistorianJudy Runion
Recording SecretaryLeslie Bill	Membership ChairmanDale Dinges

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"Happy Birthday"

September

Sharon Spellman
Nancy Borrell
Lucille Hedges
Jerry McInnes
Judy Runion
Nancy Richards
Tom Bill
Doris Taylor
Janet Worster

October

Greg Bouwens
Patricia Olson
Frieda Dobler
Lillian Giebelhaus
Jewel Hardt
Norma Somerheiser
Jane R. Alt
Delores Schwartz
Lois Leonhart
Helen Burbach
Paul Loos
Scotty Kaufman
Nancy Meinzer
Roger Trautwein
Diana Kruse

Belated birthday wishes to Don Weber. We failed to include his name on the July birthday list.

FROHLICH JUHRESTAG

"Happy Anniversary"

September

Annie and Bob Settell
James and Laurie Andreas

October

Leslie and Tom Bill

UNSERE LEUTE ERINNRYNG

"Our People in Memory"

Lois J. Blum
Melva Jean Schneider
George Keller
Katherine Strasheim
L.T. "Jack" Beers
Robert Wayne "B" Gettman
Ronald A. Schwindt
Richard George Green
Wynona M. (Calvert) Harris
Robert "Bob" Dean Frieche
Mary Boshart
Marie Hergert
Stephen C. Lebsock
Rev. Benjamin E. Rieger
Amelia Isaacson
Gwendolyn Herstein Asher

Are You Looking For Something to Do?

During the convention there was a tour of Homestead National Monument and Museum, and then the Bedient Pipe Organ Company. If you didn't get a chance to go on this tour, both would make an excellent day trip.

Homestead is open every day from 8:30am to 5:00pm. The last time we were there 50-60 people were taking the oath and being sworn in as U.S. citizens.

Bedient Pipe Organ Company is located here in Lincoln at Highway 77 and Saitillo Road. They are open 7:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Another tour that was held during the convention was a bus tour to Sutton, Nebraska led by Jim Griess. If you get a chance and have a day to spend there, go and learn the history of the Mennonites and the founding of Sutton. The people who took the tour were well pleased.

The tour that was held on Thursday would also make a wonderful day trip. That tour was to the UNL East Campus where they went to the International Quilt Study Center and Museum and the Larson Tractor Test and Power Museum. The tour ended with a visit to the UNL Dairy Store for ice cream. What a great way to end a tour! □

Did You Know?

Did you know that the Heritage Center has a large collection of videos?

Norma and I spent several hours looking through part of the collection and choosing some for the Video Room during the convention.

We settled on 33 titles that went from music, to food, folk humor, customs and traditions, history of villages, Dakota memories Oral History Project, history of survival. You should go to the library in the lower level of the Heritage Center and look at what has been collected to help enrich your knowledge of Germans from Russia. □

Great Opportunity

Do you have time on your hands? Are you bored and wish you could get out more and maybe lend a helping hand where needed?

If so, you might consider volunteering at the Heritage Center. There are a number of things that you could do, i.e. filing, sorting, rearranging exhibits, or even dusting to keep the Museum neat and tidy. There's a never-ending list.

There is also a need for someone to give tours of the Museum and campus. If you think you don't have enough knowledge to give a tour there is an outline of information that will be of help. If you're interested in this opportunity to help your organization, call 402-474-3363. □

Music, Music, Music

If you attended the convention and didn't get enough music, well, I just don't know how much it's going to take.

On Tuesday evening we were entertained with "American Folk Music with Bill and Gwen." (Bill Behmer and Gwen Meister of Lincoln.)

Wednesday was Welcome Night and a cake social. We were entertained by The Shim Sham Girls. (The youngest Shim Sham Girl is in her 50s and the oldest in her 80s.) We also enjoyed David Marsh and his "Music of the Germanic Lands." David plays several instruments and sings as well.

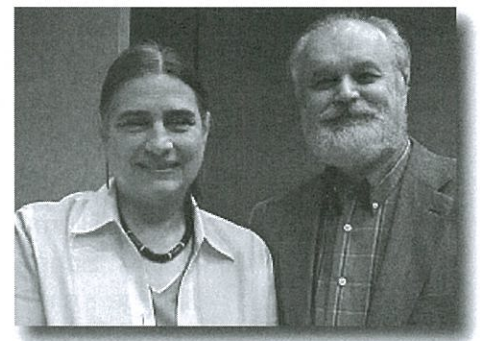
On Thursday, before we stopped by our own village gathering for Village Night, we all enjoyed participating in a "Sing-a-Long."

Friday was filled with music starting with the Dutch Hop Symposium.

Dr. Tim Kloberdanz presented the first session entitled "Dutch Hop: The

Leap from the Old World to the New." The second session, entitled "Dutch Hop: Polka with Attitude!" was presented by Gwen Meister. The third session was "Dutch Hop: Dance with a Bounce!" and was presented by Georgia Wier and Anne Hatch. That evening Polka time and Dance was held featuring "The River Boys Dutch Hop Band."

Saturday was the open house at the Heritage Center and a roving accordionist, C.J. Hanner, entertained us and set the mood for a picnic of Volga Boatman sandwiches. That evening, following the banquet, the Poppfaimiekultur entertained us with a musical presentation called "German Culture: Old and New." □



Tim & Rosie Kloberdanz



C. J. Hanner entertained at Open House