



Lincoln Chapter
The American Historical Society of Germans From Russia
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE 1

January/February 2013

From Larry...

Well, here it is 2013. We managed to make it past the Mayan prediction of the world coming to an end, and here we are – still around.

The newsletter is a bit late because we decided to hold off until we had the results of the election of officers and board members.

things as Becky, especially the fishing in Oak Lake. I also remember “swimming” in Salt Creek. My uncle, Manny Luft, remembers going to the beet fields. The whole family would go out and help with the planting and then the hoeing. The endless hoeing! Finally it was time for harvesting.

Lincoln schools would allow stu-

Wagner agreed to run for the office of Treasurer and Judy Lawson accepted the nomination for the office of Correspondence Secretary. All were elected to the respective offices. If you are interested in becoming involved in your Chapter, call Paul Loos or any of the other Board Members. We need YOU!!



Outgoing Officers (left to right): Judy Runion, Pam Wurst, Dale Dinges, Ruth White, and Gladys Herstein.

I have often put Eddie Loos's poetry in the newsletter and I found one that Eddie wrote some years ago but it could have been written now. In his poetry, Eddie showed how much he loved his heritage and his country. I will try to include more of his poetry in the future.

We have another contribution to the newsletter from Becky Shenaman, remembering what it was like growing up in the North Bottoms. As I read it, I remembered doing many of the same

dents to start school in October if they had been in the beet fields with the family. I have never heard anyone talk about what a “good time” they had in the beet fields.

We have the results of the election of the board members and officers. There were four empty spots for officers with no one to fill them. Two people were nominated from the floor. They agreed to accept the nomination. There was no one for the office of President or 2nd Vice President. Bob

Karen Johnson, Bob Wagner and John Weber were elected for the terms of 2013 to 2016. Officers elected for 2013 to 2014 were:

President	Vacant
1st Vice President	Paul Loos
2nd Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Bob Wagner
Secretary	Karen Johnson
Correspondence Secretary ...	Judy Lawson
Membership	Nancy Borrell

Fishing with Gram Pa

Last night I was having a hard time falling asleep. So I turned on the television, flipped channels and came across a fishing show. It was a professional fisherman and his guide.

They were on this beautiful lake on a big boat which contained fish locators, depth finders, fancy rods and reels, shrimp for bait along with assorted lures.

They were fishing for something called a bone fish? They eventually caught one. It looked something like a Northern Pike to me.

After he took the hook out, he was holding it in both hands for the camera when it flipped out of his hands and swam off.

I thought those two guys should have gone fishing with my Gram Pa Dellos and me.

I loved it when, after breakfast, Gram Pa would say "Kindt, let's go fishing".

Gram Pa always wore bib overalls, a long-sleeved shirt, work shoes, and his wool golf-style cap.

He made his own dough ball for bait, along with a small amount of canned whole kernel corn. We fished for carp.

He liked to fish at Oak Lake here in Lincoln.

He didn't drive so we walked from Claremont Street in the North Bottoms to Oak Lake. It was just a good stretch of the legs away.

Our fishing equipment consisted of two cane poles with string, a hook, and

a bobber. He carried extra hooks, bobbers, and line in his front pockets. He also put a few peppermint candies in his chest pocket to keep a little girl happy.

He let me carry our gunny sack that we put the carp in to take home.

Oak Lake had piles of broken concrete on the edges of the lake and this is where we sat to fish. It was quiet and pretty, looking at the skyline of Lincoln and our North Bottom neighborhood. (This was, of course, before the interstate was built.)

It only took a couple of hours and Gram Pa had his limit. He only took four fish, two for us and two for the widow Kot Vess Likem, Gram Ma's best friend and neighbor.

Our uncle Fred Dellos lived in her Summer kitchen. They both were the kindest and best neighbors.

When we got home Gram Pa would clean the fish and bury the head and innards either in his rose garden or in the vegetable garden. We kids liked to stomp on the lungs and pop them.

I wonder if people fishing today would have the patience to sit and just enjoy the beauty around them waiting for that bobber to go under.

Those were simple times and wonderful memories. The North Bottoms of my youth are special memories which I treasure. ■

—Contributed by
Becky Schenaman
North Bottoms Resident

Editorial...

The New Mexico Chapter has dissolved as well as two chapters in California because of lack of membership. The same thing could happen to the Lincoln Chapter. Five of the members of the board chose not to run and we were able to fill two of the slots at the January meeting. One of the five vacancies was filled with an appointment before the meeting.

As a side note: The number of years those five board members served constitute close to 100 years!

We need new members! The theme that was decided upon at the Convention last summer is "Each One, Reach One." If we all could get one new member, we would be assured of not losing our chapter.

As always, we need volunteers to help with the mailings for the International organization. We have a good bunch of volunteers now, but they have been helping with this task for a long time and would appreciate some help. If you would like to help out, call Ruby Weber at 402-488-2313. Ruby is the person that calls members when a mailing is ready to go out. (I don't believe you'd be turned down because there were too many.)

The Chapter calendar was not available at printing time but it will be included in the next newsletter. In the meantime:

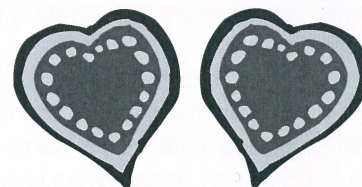
January 21 - Board meeting
7PM at 6th & "D" Streets

February 12 - Coffee Club
9AM at Stauffer's, 48th & Hwy 2

February 18 - Board meeting -
7PM at 6th & "D" Streets ■

*"Happiness is not a goal,
it's a byproduct."*

Eleanor Roosevelt





**HERZLICHEN
GLUCKWUNSCH
ZUM
GEBURSTAGL
*"Happy Birthday"***

January

Ed Barthule
Sharon Buckner
Clarence Gunn
Joyce Riddle

February

Diane Butherus
Phil Dinges
Irene Gabelhaus
Dorothy Heidenreich
Annie Settell
Lillian Weber

**FROHLICH JUHRESTAG
*"Happy Anniversary"***

January

Sid and Ken Babcock

February

Louis and Roseline Wudel

**Unsere Leute Erinnyng
*"Our People in Memory"***

William (Bill) Giebelhaus
Lillian Joan Giebelhaus
Clara Wertz
Donna Hollway Bell
Katheryn E. Worster

Give Me Back My America

(by Eddie Loos, with permission of his son, Paul)

Give me back my America,
That served the people's needs.
Not only the special interest groups,
That feed on power and greed.

Give me back my America,
We had when I was a lad.
When neighbors and friends were patriots
and were proud of their country and flag.

It was a treat to stand along Main Street
to watch a parade passing by.
And to me it was not unusual
to see a veteran wipe a tear from his eye.

To hear "America the Beautiful",
As the band passed by in review
The drums and trombones were blaring.
It made you proud of the red, white and blue.



9th AH\$GR Membership Campaign

June 15, 2012 - May 15, 2013

EACH ONE - REACH ONE

The Membership Campaign rewards AH\$GR members and chapters who recruit new members for AH\$GR or purchase gift memberships for new members. Cash prizes will be awarded at the 2013 Convention. Membership Data Forms are available through Chapters or on-line at <http://www.ahsgr.org/membership.htm>

- *\$100 to the AH\$GR member AND \$200 to the AH\$GR Chapter who recruits the largest number of new members*
- *\$75 to the AH\$GR member AND \$150 to the AH\$GR Chapter who recruits the 2nd largest number of new members*
- *\$50 to the AH\$GR member AND \$100 to the AH\$GR Chapter who recruits the 3rd largest number of new members*
- *A \$25 cash prize to 3 new members selected at random.*

New Members are Critical to the Growth and Success of AHSGR

Every Member Counts - Talk to your Family & Friends - Tell your community about AHSGR - Buy a Gift Membership for someone

79% of New Members Join Because Someone Asked Them!

If EACH ONE of us strives to REACH ONE new AHSGR member, we help to assure the future of AHSGR

See the reverse side for a Membership Data Form – Copy and Recruit

On the Internet

All sites in this section begin with <http://www>.

Adobe Acrobat Reader: Use this FREE software to download newsletters and other valuable information from millions of other sites
adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

Worth Repeating–Wikipedia Warning The Wikipedia website is a wonderful resource with a wealth of information, including information relevant to our German-from-Russia heritage. However, anyone can contribute information to post there so errors may exist. As always, verify any information that you take from the Internet with a reliable PRIMARY source of information.

NEW! The German-Russian Heritage Collection (GRHC) at North Dakota State University has changed its website to this new address:
library.ndsu.edu/grhc

Disasters. Events that touched our ancestors' lives.
www3.gendisasters.com

National Institute for Genealogical Studies
genealogicalstudies.com/eng/links.asp

Cemeteries. A database of cemetery inscriptions and photos
findAGrave.com

Tombstone Inscriptions. Transcribed and indexed cemetery inscriptions
interment.net

DNA. A DNA ancestry cataloguing project. GeneBase.com

DNA Testing. DNA testing service focused upon family history test types. FamilyTreeDNA.com

Obituaries. Obituary database for finding obituaries and performing cemetery searches. ObitCentral.com

Family Trees. Upload and share your family trees
GenCircles.com

Genealogical Information. Large collection of genealogical information pages for England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man
Genuki.org.uk

Italians. Website focused upon Italian research with instruction, information, and more
Daddezio.com

Politicians. Comprehensive source of US political biography that tells where many dead politicians are buried
PoliticalGraveyard.com

Genealogy Links. A collection of genealogy links categorized by region and surname
Linkpendium.com

Census. Links to free census records CensusFinder.com

Census Abstracts. Census abstracts (the US GenWeb Census Project)
US-Census.org

Marriages. Online marriage records, where to order, some indexes, and more
GenWed.com

Free Sites. Links to free sites, arranged by state and county
Genealogylinks.net

Professional Genealogists. Website created by professional genealogists with links, instruction, data, and reference aids.
ProGenealogists.com

New Mexico Chapter on the Net
At GRHS, including all past issues of our newsletter
Click Chapters, click New Mexico
At AHSGR
Click Organization, click Chapters,
click New Mexico Chapter

Organizations

AHSGR (publications, membership, etc.)	ahsgr.org
GRHS (publications, membership, etc.)	grhs.org
GRHC (G-R Heritage Collection)	library.ndsu.edu/grhc
FEEFHS (Fed of East European Fam Hist Societies)	feefhs.org
SGGEE (Soc for Ger Genealogy in East Europe)	sggee.org
EEGS (East European Genealogical Soc, Inc)	Eegsociety.org

Archives

National Archives (U.S.)	archives.gov/aas/
Odessa Archives (Pixel)	odessa3.org
LDS Family History Library	familysearch.org
Ellis Island	ellisland.org
Canadian National Archives	archives.ca
Canadian Archives, including passenger lists	collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/passenger/index-e.html

Sugar Beets on the Volga (and in America)

[Taken from the Winter 2012 Edition of "Norka Newsletter"]

The methodical use of beets for the extraction of sugar dates to 1747. The discovery that beets could yield sugar was little utilized at first. However, sugar beets were selectively in-bred until a beet was developed that made manufacturing feasible. The world's first beet factory was opened in Germany in 1801. Napoleon became interested and in 1811 compelled farmers to plant a large acreage of sugar beets the following year.

In 1813 a sugar beet factory was built in the colony of Sebastyanovka in Russia, which could also distill alcohol from the beet residue. The colonists gave land to the factory on which to grow the beets.

There are many accounts of sugar beets grown by the Germans to be used as a sweetener. Making a supply of sugar beet syrup each year for use

in the kitchen was common. It had its own unique flavor, and was used for many cooking purposes.

Successful sugar beets and associated sugar production started in the United States in about 1890. Nebraska and California were early pioneers of the sugar beet industry, but soon Colorado became a major player in the cultivation of this plant.

FDR wrote these words:

"Today we are faced with the pre-eminent fact that, if civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships—the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world, at peace."

(The following is a brief history of the Germans from Russia contribution to the beet industry in the Valley. This excerpt is from the Nebraska Panhandle Chapter newsletter.)

Sugar production in Nebraska began in 1890, with the first factory

For the 1910 season, 12,000 acres were contracted at \$5 a ton and the factory was completed in time for the fall crop, beginning the foundation for sugar beets becoming the great agricultural industry it is today.

In order to fulfill the high potential for this area, efforts were made to recruit help from more experienced growers. It was at this time that the Germans from Russia (referred to as "beeters") from Lincoln and Omaha were enticed to come to the North Platte Valley. These workers first came to the Panhandle seasonally in the spring at planting, and returned in the fall after harvest. Their experience with sugar beets dated back to their time in Europe, and was also essential in the initial efforts to produce beets in Nebraska.

By 1924, two-thirds of the beet workers in Scotts Bluff County were these

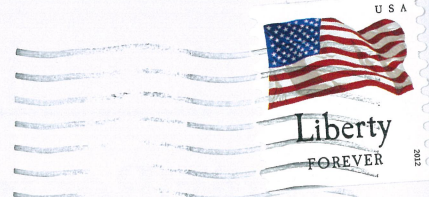
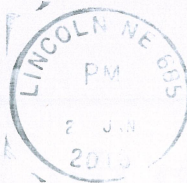
German-Russians. As they became more Americanized, they began to find other jobs that would sustain them for the entire year, and their numbers decreased in the sugar beet fields. As the numbers of the German-Russian workers began to decline, much of the slack was taken up by Mexican and Japanese laborers. Many settled in the area, leasing farms, and buying land. Today, much of the farm land in Scotts Bluff County is owned by second- and third-generation descendants of the original German-Russian "beeters."

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being established in Grand Island... The State of Nebraska offered a bounty of one cent per pound on sugar produced in Nebraska to encourage the industry to expand. Other factories were then built in Norfolk and Ames in 1891 and 1899.

Production began moving west to Scotts Bluff Co., due primarily to the development of irrigation and the expansion of the railroads through western Nebraska....By 1900, enough sugar beets had been raised in the Panhandle to convince the farmers that their land was suitable for this crop. In 1909, land was acquired, a factory site was secured, and Great Western Sugar Co. bought the Ames factory and moved it to Scottsbluff.

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CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP DUES

Yes, once again it's time to pay your Lincoln Chapter Membership dues. The cost is only \$12 for a year, which helps pay for the printing and postage for this newsletter.

Lincoln Chapter Membership Application

Name _____ German Russian Heritage? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E-mail _____ Date of Birth _____ Anniversary Month _____

Spouse _____ German Russian Heritage? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E-mail _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Ancestral Village _____ Ancestral Names _____

Make your check for \$12 payable to Lincoln Chapter AHSGR and mail to:
Nancy Borrell, Membership Chair, 2221 Devonshire, Lincoln, NE 68506