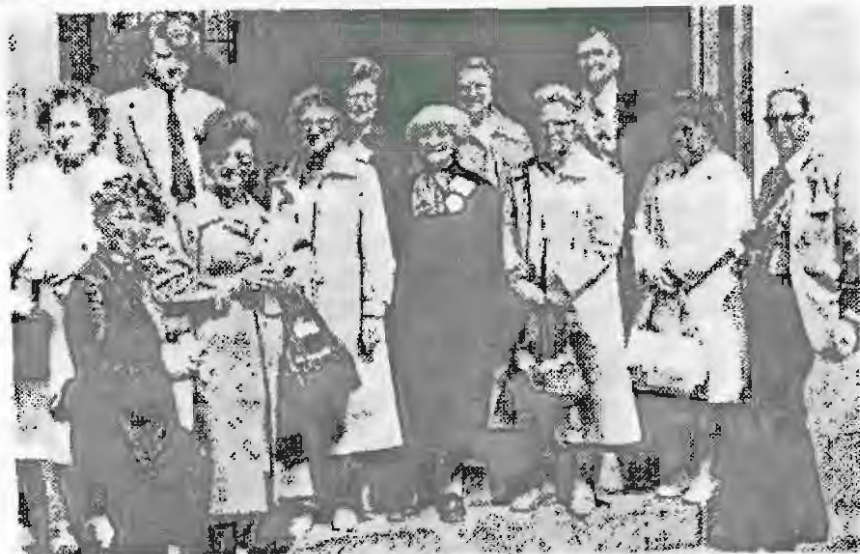




Volume III, No. 4 - Giddings, Texas- July - Sept., 1982

Hosćo w Serbach



kupina potomnikow serbskich wupućowarjow do Texasa před Serbskim
omom w Budyšinje. Na hornim wobrazu šesta wotprawa miss Luise Peter,
mnučka serbskeho fararja a nawody wupućowarjow Kiliana, Referend Rein-
old Telnerl z Austina z mandželskej na pohrjebnišću w Sprjejcach, hdžež
amaka row priwuzneho swojeho dźěda a hdžež sej turisća z USA tež staru
ykowanu cyrkej wobhladachu a na pišćelach zahrachu Foće: M. Laduš



The NEWSLETTER of the Texas
Wendish Heritage Society, with
headquarters at the Wendish
Museum in Serbin, Texas, is
published quarterly.

Editor; John J. Socha

Contributors; Officers and mem-
bers of the TWHS and anyone in-
terested in helping to preserve
the Wendish (Sorbian, Upper
Lusatian heritage.

The Texas Wendish Heritage So-
ciety is a non-profit organi-
zation and in no way discrimi-
nates in matters of race, reli-
gion, or ethnic background.

Financial contributions to the
Texas Wendish Heritage Society
are tax-deductible.

Dues are \$5.00 per person per
year and may be sent to the
TREASURER, T.W.H.S., P.O.Box
211, Giddings, Texas 78942.

The Officers are: Theodore
Farmert, President; David
Coeke, Vice-President; Joyce
Scherer, Secretary; Olivia May
Treasurer.

FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL
San Antonio
August 5-8, 1982

VISIT

THE

WENDISH

BOOTH

WENDENLAND TRAVELERS

CHARLENE JORDAN
HENRY JORDAN
JOHN J. SOCHA
ELSIE SOCHA
MARY SOCHA
LOUISE KILIAN PETER
BERNICE NOAK MILLS
EVELYN KASPER
ANNA ROSENHAIN
GLORIA MAE GERSCH
PAUL HABLE SR.
MRS. ROSE HABLE
PAUL HABLE JR.
ROBERT HABLE
REINHOLD TEINERT
MRS. IRENE TEINERT
GARY JORDAN

DATE: MAY 3-14, 1982

PAN-AM; HOUSTON, NEW YORK,
FRANKFURT, BERLIN.

FRANKFURT, NEW YORK
HOUSTON,

=====

1983 WENDENLAND - LUTHERLAND
trip being planned.

In observance of the 500th
anniversary of Luther's
birth. Contact WENDENLAND,
Route 3, Box 278, Giddings,
78942 or call: 713/542-3919
or 713/542-3455

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Learn Wendish! Get a copy
of Wendish Hymns and Spirit-
ual Treasures, \$2.00 to
WENDISH, Box 280, Giddings,
Texas, 789

Daphne Garret, an active member of the TWHS, and a member of the Committee on Museum Acquisitions, has copied an interesting report on JACK D. RITTENHOUSE whom we introduced in the Newsletter, Vol. II, No. 4, July-Spt. '82. She writes:

"On March 8, 1982, I met with Mr. Jack D. Rittenhouse in Albuquerque, N. M. I had accompanied my husband to the American Petroleum Institute Conference and took the opportunity to contact Mr. R. concerning the Wendish type which he had obtained in 1952 from the Giddings Deutsches Volksblatt..... Mr. R. is a delightful gentleman and we had many interests in common. He was formerly the producer and writer for the Baroid News Bulletin,....

Mr. Rittenhouse has his own small printing press, the Stagecoach Press, and because of this interest, he searched out the Wendish type. He can be credited with preserving the only known surviving examples of Wendish type used by the Volksblatt. Eight special characters were combined with German type to print in the Wendish language for the newspaper, and Mr. R. obtained one of each of the characters. He also acquired the roller, and paid Mr. Miertschin (Albert) to print 150 copies of a hymn verse which had been set up by Mr. (Andrew) Proske. In a junkyard in Bastrop he found the Volksblatt sign, and an advertising blotter with a picture of Mr. Proske.

In 1962 he wrote and published a small book, Wendish Language Printing in Texas,..... In 1979 he gave the eight pieces of type to the Institute of (Texan) Cultures. He had given the sign to another man, but it was in turn donated to the Institute. Since Mr. R. only has one copy of his book left, he gave to the Wendish Museum the typed Manuscript copy of his book.....

Anyone wishing to donate or loan copies of the Volksblatt or examples of the job printing (announcements, programs, invitations) which was printed on the Volksblatt press, or provide any other pertinent information or pictures, is invited to contact Evelyn Kasper or Daphne Garrett, Box 35, Warda, Texas 78960; Phone 713/242-3822.

(The TWHS is grateful to Mrs. Garrett for her energetic work in behalf of the Society. JJS)

VISITORS TO WENDENLAND - Pictures on page one.

TOP PHOTO - Members of the Wendenland Tour organized by John J. Socha May 3-14, 1982.

Left to right: Mary Socha, Sonja Ritter (East German Tour Guide), Gary Jordan, Evelyn Kasper, Anna Rosenhain, Bernice Mills, Louise Peter, Elsie Socha, Gloria Mae Gersch, Rev. John J. Socha, Irene Teinert and Reinhold Teinert. (Not present when photo was taken: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hable Sr., Paul Hable Jr., Robert Hable, Charlene and Henry Jordan (Longhorn Travelers))

BOTTOM PHOTO - Irene and Reinhold Teinert and members of the Wendenland Tour at the Cemetery of the Lutheran Church at Spreewitz, where the Teinerts found heartfelt family ties

The photos were made by Mr. Manfred Ladusch, editor of the Wendish newspaper, NOWA DOBA, who also served as the Guide for the visit in the region from Bautzen northward to Hoyerswerda and beyond, the homeland of many who emigrated in 1854 to Texas under the leadership of the Rev. Jan Kilian.

The Tour Group also visited at Hochkirch, where Rev. Jan Kilian served as Asst. Pastor and at Kottitz, where Pastor Kilian accepted his first and very important charge. The Group saw Rev. Kilian's parsonage and beautiful wooded farm and garden spot. They were quartered at Dresden during their Lusatian visits. Among those they met were the Rev. G. Laser, who conducted a Wendish worship service at Gausigattended by the group; Rev. Albert at the Bautzen Church and Mr. and Mrs. Brejer, Mr. Herzog and others at the Kottitz Church.

Your Editor is planning a WENDENLAND - LUTHERLAND TOUR in May, 1983. Many cities are already making plans for the observance of Martin Luther's 500th birthday celebration. If you are interested in obtaining further information, kindly write: WENDENLAND-LUTHERLAND, Box 180, Giddings, Texas 78942.