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WENDS OF TEXAS AT TEXAS FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

AUG. 1-4, INSTITUTE OF TEXAN CULTURES, SAN ANTONIO

RON AND CINDY KNIPPA, COORDINATORS

512/496-3105

The Texas Wendisch Heritage Society could never pay for the good exposure and publicity we get from our annual participation in one of Texas' most Ethnic events in the whole calendar year.

Each year more and more opportunities are being given to our TWHs to expand our participation in the Texas Folklife Festival.

Ron Knippa tells us our Booth size will be doubled this year. That means we'll be able to sell many more food and craft items which tell something about our Wendish-Slavic heritage. It also means we will need more people to "man" the Wendish Booth. There is something for every member. Here is an opportunity to let our young teenagers of Wendish descent become involved and show they are proud to be of Wendish descent.

A special appeal is herewith made for all members of the TWHs to donate CRAFT items; FOOD items, and/or TALENT.

Contact Ron and Cindy Knippa if you are interested in helping with one of the most exciting ethnic activities in the State of Texas. Call them at the Phone number above and volunteer!!!

MUSEUM REPORT...

Evelyn Kasper

Our illustrious Museum coordinator, reports the acquisition of three important books to the growing Museum Library Collection. They are Edmund Schneeweiss' Feste und Volk Bräuche der Sorbe, donated by Gerhard Symmank; Meine Landsleute, by Prof. Harmut Zwahr, donated by Prof. Zwahr and Robert Zwahr Robinson from Lubbock, Texas. From Australia we now have Australia's Forgotten Migrants.

Note: It is the Editor's opinion that we have one of the finest growing Ethnic Museums in America...With the prospect of getting a new building, thanks to the Peter Foundation (Louise KILIAN Peter of Wichita Falls) we will have something most unique to show to the world. Add your Family Tree to the Museum's growing geneological Collection.

With thousands coming to America, and especially to Texas during our Sesquicentennial year of 1985, our TWHS will be a landmark to visit. Let's give it our best support so it will soon be built.....Our thanks to the Museum Board, the Building Comm. and the Peter Foundation and to all the Museum Volunteers. We can't do without them.
Note: Editor, JJS

THINK WENDISCH

KILIAN GENELOGY...

DAVID GOECKE OF S.A., REPORTED TO THE TWHS AND PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY A GENELOGY OF JAN KILIAN, LEADER OF THE WENDISH IMMIGRATION OF 1854, BY OUR GOOD TWHS MEMBER, GERHARD SYMMANK OF GERMANY.

YOUR EDITOR IS ANXIOUS TO READ THIS IMPORTANT NEW DOCUMENT, WHICH WAS ACCEPTED WITH THANKS BY THE TWHS AT THEIR LAST QUARTERLY MEEING.

THANK YOU, DAVID GOECKE
AND THANK YOU, MR. SYMMANK.

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TOWARSNY SPEWNIK.....

Henry and Charlene Jordan of Austin, presented your Editor with a copy of the Wendish Song Book, Towarsny Spewnik, compiled by Jan Bulank and Jan Handrik, and published by Ludowe nakladnistwo Domowina, Budysin (Bautzen). This is the first song: "Beautiful Lasatia," "Rjana Luzica": Rjana Luzica, sprawna, precelna. mojich serbskych wotcow kraj, mojich zboznych sonow raj, swjate su mi twoje hona!
Korla Awgust Kocor and Handrij Zejler

TRIBUTE TO KILIAN by Weldon Mersiovsky, Cont d

(This is the second of three installments of the Tribute to the Rev. Jan Kilian entitled, "The Texas Wends - How It Really Happened", originally presented to the LLL Fellowship Club of Zion Luth., Walburg on Nov. 1, 1984, and at the Quarterly meeting of the TWHS Nov. 11, 1984 at Serbin. JJS)

About 80 died on the trip, fathers, mothers, and children. Yet they stood by the Lord and the Lord strengthened them. He tested their resolve by taking loved ones, by giving them stubborn oxen for the journey, muddy roads for the trip, and mosquitos and disease. A remnant survived.

And it came to pass that Jan Kilian and God's people sttled in a land called Texas, on Rabbs Creek and called the place Serbin and built a church. Jan asked the Lord for rest for his people and the Lord said, "Now it is time to go to work for you are ready. I am with you. Serbin is your new home but there are people in other parts of Texas who need to hear my word. Train my people how to witness and to spread my story and start other churches in other places."

And the Word of the Lord grew and many left Serbin to go to the ends of the earth. Places like Walburg and Warda, Giddings, Paige, Manheim, Winchester, Lincoln, Fedor, Loebau, Dime Box, Lexington, Hochkirch, Thorndale, La Grange, and Fayetteville. And the word of the Lord grew and new churches were formed at The Grove, Copperas Cove, Bishop, Vernon, Port Arthur, Houston, and Brenham. And the Word of the Lord continued to grow. Then it came to pass that the Lord came to Jan Jilian and said, "It is all good but it is not yet done. My work will never cease till at the last day I will raise up both the living and the dead and I will separate those who love me from those who don't."

Jan said, " O Lord my God, you are truly great in the heavens and on earth. There is none other God than you and it is in you that I live and breathe and have my being. But I am getting old and weary and my eyes grow dim with age. Tell me Lord, before I join you with all your saints, what will become of the Wends of Texas and our brothers in Missouri, Illinois, Ohio and other states?"

(To be concluded in Vol. VI, No. 4)

FROM OUR PRESIDENT,

BILL DUBE

Recently a thought-provoking article was shared with me, showing the types of members belonging to organizations. It spoke of KNOCKERS (knock every new idea); wet BLANKETS (no enthusiasm); BULL-DOZERS; (push over everybody); ROCKING CHAIRS (lots of motion but don't get anywhere); CLOSET HANGERS (hold meetings in the dark); PARTY LINERS (talk about the meeting everywhere but at the meeting); and many more descriptions. Most every organization has people who fit these categories and we chuckle about it and go on with our routine.

We all, of course, fall short of perfection, but we have a heritage that's important. A heritage which presents a big challenge to each of us, and that is to do our best in fulfilling the goals of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society. As a member, you have agreed to do what you can to preserve our unique heritage. So let's get with it, let's show that we are proud of our heritage and that we can all enjoy working together in harmony to the honor of our ancestors. Be a positive member.

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TWHS WEARING APPAREL

Look at the costume worn by the ladies who started the TWHS. That the official garb.

This is what the women and girls are encouraged to wear when they represent the TWHS.

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DID YOU KNOW?.....

GERLANDS FOOD FAIR in Houston gives 1 % of returned grocery receipts to non-profit organizations. If you'll bring your receipts to a meeting, we'll turn them in for you. Or, just take them to the Courtesy Booth with your name and the name TWHS and Address, P.O.Box 311, Giddings, Tx. 78942. Some other cities may have chains who will do the same. Moore's Foods in Houston, also do....It adds up when we all contribute!

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It is reported that one of our regular Craft Makers for the Folklife Festival is unable to make her usual assortment of goodies. So, H-E-L-P, we definitely need "new blood" to help make ours a better and growing Booth.

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DUES, JUST \$10.00 PER

If you haven't renewed your membership for 1985 DO IT TODAY. Send check to TWHS, P.O.Box 311, Giddings, Texas 78942. You'll be glad you did!