TEXAS NEWS AT FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL
JULY 31, AUGUST 1, 2, 3

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society has the distinction of being one of the most distinctive groups represented in the world-famous Texas Folklife Festival.

This will be one of the State's biggest centennial celebrations. Tourists from the world-over will be at San Antonio for the Folklife Festival. Plan to be there.

Calling all Wends and members of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society to do their part in making this year's participation the very best. JJS
As chairperson of the Committee to review and update the Constitution and By-Laws of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society, I am requesting input and suggestions from ALL members. Have your say! It is your organization.

Please mail directly to me:
Vivian F. Taylor, Chair.
Rt. 3, Box 263 E
Weimar, Texas 78962

P.S. It is essential that items be mailed directly to me: Vivian F. Taylor

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SEQUICENTENNIAL PLACE MATS FOR SALE AT MUSEUM.

When you come to the meeting at the Museum in Serbin, May 18, be sure to purchase a set of beautiful Sesquicentennial Place Mats. They will make nice Christmas or Wedding presents. We find them an interesting table piece at the Dinner Table. Priced for just $1.50, they are priced much higher at exclusive business houses in Texas.

FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL, July 31-August 3, 1986. Be sure to read the informative letter from Ron and Cindy Knippa, Folklife Chair-persons, inserted as a mailing with this newsletter and other items from Viola Spacek, Sec.
While researching for my roots I discovered that eleven of my ancestors were in the Pro Nevis that brought the large immigration of Wends to Texas in 1854. There were on my father's (Otto Biar) side and four on my mother's (Lydia Moerbe Biar) side.

Three of the seven ancestors on my father's side had the surname of Biar: 1. Jan Biar - Great grandfather; 2. Magdalene while Biar - Great grandmother; 3. Andreas Biar - Grandfather (Father of Otto Biar).

One ancestor had the surname of Hottas: 4. Andreas Hottas - Great great grandfather (Father of Jan Hottas) The other three ancestors had the surname of Kieschnick 5. Jan Kieschnick - Great grandfather; 6. Agnes En- lich Kieschnick - Great grandmother; 7. Magdalene Kieschnick - Great grandmother (Jan Hottas' second wife)

One of the four ancestors on my mother's side had the surname of Moerbe: 8. Rosina Jacob Moerbe - Great Grandfather (Father of Otto Biar) - Lydia Moerbe Biar's father)


Two other ancestors also immigrated to Texas from what bow is East Germany.

One of those, on my paternal side, came to Texas with a small group of Wends in 1833: 12. Jan Hottas - Great grandfather (Father of Maria Hottas Biar, Otto Biar's mother)

The last foreign ancestor on my maternal side, came to Texas in 1879: 13. Ernestine Michael - Grandmother (Wife of August Moerbe and mother of Lydia Moerbe Biar)

One of the above did not make it to Texas. He was Michael Dube who died on the BEN NEVIS and was buried in Ireland.

All of the above were of Sorbian-Wendish origin and were born in Lusatia

We are grateful to Bill Biar of Denver, Colorado, for this exemplary family research study. We would encourage others to report their findings to the NEWSLETTER.

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**THE COOKBOOK COMMITTEE** says: "Thanks to all of you who are taking time to share your recipes. But we need many more immediately send in recipes. Thanks!"
The family of Mr. & Mrs. E.L. Lamert (Eric and Amanda) invite relatives and friends to attend an Open House on Sunday, June 22nd at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1515 Hillendale, Houston, between 2 and 5 P.M. The occasion is their 60th Wedding, which occurs on June 3, 1986.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamert have been members of the THS since 1976, and have been very devoted to the work of the society. We appreciate this fine couple and the many other society members who give so willingly to the society.

FAMILY TREES

Dear Reader: You are in a better position than anyone else to prepare YOUR Family Tree. Start now. Write down as much information as you have available about your mother and father, your sisters and brothers and their families. That's a good start. Then go back to your grandparents and great-grandparents on BOTH sides. Use any and all information documents such as birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage and death certificates, newspaper obituaries, and the like.

You will find this effort very rewarding and you will be helping preserve for posterity the best genealogy in all the world, the story of your family. John J. Soca

ALBERT ELANA will be the program at the May 18 meeting in Selvin. Mr. Elana is one of Lee County's most distinguished historians. Being of Slavic birth, he has a keen interest in the history of the Wends and has done much research into various phases of the Wendish Immigration of 1834. The program should be of special interest to any and all who had ancestors aboard the BEN NEVIS.

A native of Dime Box, Texas, Mr. Elana has been in the employ of Brown and Root, a world-famous company started by two Lee County boys from Shady Grove near Loebau and Dime Box.