



Texas Wendish Heritage Society

Route 2, Box 155 / Gliddings, Texas 78942-9769

VOLUME IV, NUMBER 9, OCTOBER, 1991

OPEN FROM 1:00 To 5:00 EVERY DAY EXCEPT SATURDAY & HOLIDAYS

PHONE 409/366-2441

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On November 17 the Society will hold its annual business meeting at which time the officers and directors for 1992 will be elected. In another part of the newsletter you will find a list of the nominees being presented by the nominations committee. Nominations will be opened to the floor at which time you may nominate members for an office or for director. When nominating someone, please obtain written permission and consent from that member before making the nomination.

The church collection at the German service on Wendish Fest Sunday amounted to \$405.00. The congregation designated this collection to be used for the church renovation fund. Some of the many projects that will be worked on in the church renovation are, pew refinishing, installing an air conditioning system in the church and repainting the pillars. Repainting the pillars will be an interesting project to follow in that as they are repainted, the pillars are to be refinished identical to the original paintings.

Many of our members have not sent in their 1991 membership dues and we urge you to do so as soon as possible and also you may consider sending in you 1992 dues at the same time. We failed to send out notices earlier this year and we apologize for any inconvenience which we may have created.

You may also want to encourage some of your relatives who are not members to become a member. Or you may wish to give gift memberships to some relatives.

Speaking of gifts, you may consider giving some of the books which are available at the museum, in the gift shop, as Christmas gifts. A book list, giving a brief summary of each book, and the prices is included in the newsletter.

Ken Weiser
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 15 Deadline for articles for November newsletter.
November 17 Quarterly membership meeting at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum with election of officers.
December 13 Deadline for articles for December newsletter.
January 18, 1992 Vogelhochzeit at the Sons of Herman Hall, Giddings, Texas

LILLIE MOERBE CALDWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY by Georgie B. Boyce

We would like to thank the following people for their contribution to our Family History Section: Verne M. Kolba of Plainfield, Illinois, donated information on the KOLBA Family; Marvin Walther of Giddings, Texas, donated his research on the WALTHER Family; Donald and Helen Wright of Canyon Lake, Texas, donated the "Family History of CARL TRAUOGOTT KUTSCHKE"- HENRIETTA CHRISTINA K. MITTAG - ANNA AUGUSTE KRIEDEL; Michael Plaster of Austin, Texas, donated the KIESCHNICK Family Lineage.

Other new accessions we would like to acknowledge are: the history of the St. John's Church in Klitten, Germany, written in German and an English translation donated by Barbara Schneider of San Antonio, Texas, and The Wendish-Texan Coloring Book written, illustrated and donated by Daphne Dalton Garrett of Houston/Ward, Texas. Mrs. Garrett also donated a book titled, A History - The Lutheran Orphans' and Old Folks' Home Toledo. We also have the new Lee County, Texas Cemeteries Volume No. 2.

GIFT SHOP by Barbara Hielscher, Manager

MERRY CHRISTMAS!! It's that time of the year again, time to do your Christmas shopping. Our gift shop has a unique assortment of gift items: bluebonnet jewelry, items that are crocheted, beaded angels, bells, and small animals, wooden toys and rockers for children. The rockers can be completely disassembled and mailed anywhere. They are held together with one wooden peg. Also, we have adult and children's bonnets, wall plaques, quilt stands, pie racks, recipe holders, puzzles, crayon holders, book marks, picture frames, dolls dressed in Wendish costumes, and for the person who has everything, we have homemade jam, jelly, and noodles. So stop by to visit the museum and do some Christmas shopping!

VISITORS

Visitors in September came from: Missouri, Germany, California, Colorado, Louisiana, Australia, and all parts of Texas.

DOCENTS

Thank you, to the following for acting as docents in the month of September: Jack and Marian Wiederhold, Walter and Erna Mersiovsky, Hattie Schautschick, Evelyn Kasper, Bea Tschatschula, Esther Schmidt, Elinor Steglich, Georgie Boyce, Barbara Hielscher, Ruby Koslan, George Boerger, and Bessie Mertink.

Membership Meeting
Texas Wendish Heritage Society
August 18, 1991

1. 25 people were in attendance.
 2. Ken Weiser opened the meeting.
 3. Rev. Hartfield gave the devotion and the members sang a hymn in German.
 4. Laverne Gersch thanked Rev. Hartfield and introduced the program.
 5. Rev. Hartfield gave a talk on the meaning of heritage.
 6. Rev. Hartfield recognized Rev. and Mrs. Robert Boyce's 25th anniversary and the 80th birthday of Lillian (Wieder) Oltmann.
- Ken Weiser showed us the ribbons that the Ben Nevis float received at the McDade Watermelon Festival, and the banner which the TWHS received at the August Folk Life Festival. Ron Knippa said that the Folk Festival will continue and that the TWHS should provide more Wendish crafts (aprons, bonnets, etc.). Carolyn Bohot suggested that we have a craftmaking session once a month. Someone suggested quilting.
- Reinhold and Irene Teinert brought a quilt to the meeting and Irene gave its history: A friend in Chattanooga, Mary Mertins, made it as a gift for the Teinerts. Ken Weiser mentioned that he had been contacted by someone who said that AT&T would give the TWHS 7% of the proceeds of long-distance calls which members made (5% for business lines). Ken Weiser wondered

if we shouldn't have our meetings on the same day as the German service at St. Paul's Serbin so that members could attend both.

7. Charles Wukasch gave a lesson on the Wendish language.
8. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer in German.

Charles Wukasch

Charles Wukasch, Recording Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Hattie Schautschick, Chairman, Flora Kunze, Bessie Mertink, Leroy Steglich, and Telford Zoch.

BALLOT

OFFICERS

Ken Weiser - President

Laverne Gersch - Vice-President

Carolyn Bohot - Treasurer

Charles Wukasch - Recording Secretary

Barbara Hielscher - Corresponding Secretary

DIRECTORS

Ron Knippa

Evelyn Kasper

Ron Lammert

Weldon Mersiovsky

Doris Reagan

Hattie Schautschick

Mary Watts

Jack Wiederhold

Victor Zoch

Vote for six (6) of the above for directors by circling the names

TEXAS WENDISH HERITAGE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP
BOOK LIST

The Wends of Texas by Anne Blasig. One of the earliest books on the Wends, written in 1952 by the daughter of Pastor Hermann Schmidt of Serbin. Hardcover. 123 pages. \$9.00

Texas Wends Their First Half-Century by Lillie Moerbe Caldwell. Story of the Wends, written in 1961. It includes many stories about the lives of some of the Wends who lived in Serbin in the 1800's. Hardcover. 283 pages. \$14.36 including tax.

Wendish Texans by Dr. Sylvia Ann Grider. Written in 1982, this book presents a concise overview of the Wends life in Texas and former life in Europe. Hardcover. 120 pages. \$9.61 including tax.

Pastor John Kilian's Baptismal Records of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Serbin, Texas 1854-1883 translated by Dr. Joseph Wilson. Includes baptismal records of children Pastor Kilian baptised at Serbin, New Ulm, Swiss Alp and other communities. Records indicate occupations and residences of parents and baptismal sponsors. Hardcover. 359 pages. \$16.01 including tax.

As I Remember by Dora Weiser Fischer. Memories of growing up in Fedor in the early 1900's, includes stories on church, homemaking, language, farming, school and others. Hardcover. 178 pages. \$11.96 including tax.

Wendish Cookbook. First edition (1975). A quote from the book: "And in these recipes North European food style is adapted to use the foods of Texas, a new South Climate homeland." Softcover. 126 pages, \$10.00. While supply lasts.

Wendish Cookbook. Second edition (1988). A quote from the book: "Wherever the Wends have gone they have taken their love of fine food and their ability in preparing it. The pages of this book contain many of the recipes which Wendish women have passed down for generations, along with many other Texas favorites." Softcover. 134 pages. \$6.95.

(CONTINUED ON BACK)

ORDER FORM

BOOK

PRICE INCLUDING TAX

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Shipping (\$2.00 for the first book, and \$.75 for each additional book,) \$ _____

Name _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Address _____

Mail to: Texas Wendish Heritage Museum
Route 2, Box 155
Giddings, TX. 78942

Town, St, Zip _____

History of the German Settlements in Texas 1831 - by R. L. Bieseke. Discussion of the founding and history of many German settlements in Texas prior to the Civil War. Hardcover. 261 pages. \$17.93 including tax.

The Lost Kitten by J. A. Rickard and Clyde Inez Martin. Children's book about two children who learn about the Wendish heritage. Softcover. 9 pages. \$1.00.

Confessional Lutheran Migration to America 150th Anniversary. The book covers the early history of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Softcover. 105 pages. \$10.68 including tax.

Pause to Ponder by Pastor Robert Koenig. History of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod in Texas, written in 1980. Softcover. 276 pages. \$10.62 suggested donation.

The Art of Decorating Wendish Easter Eggs by Daphne Dalton Garrett. The book is a "How To" book explaining and illustrating the art of decorating Easter eggs in the old Wendish custom. Softcover. 32 pages. \$5.28 including tax.

History of Fayette County by F. Lotto. Written by a son of Fayette County in 1902. The county seat of Fayette County is La Grange. Hardcover. 424 pages. \$16.01 including tax.

135th Anniversary Book of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Serbin. Printed in 1989, this book was written by the pastors of St. Paul. Softcover. 35 pages. \$4.26 including tax.

Lee County, Texas Cemeteries. Details information on cemetery markers in northern Lee County (North of Highway 21), including Lexington, Lincoln, Fedor, Manheim, and others. Softcover. 255 pages. Vol. I \$21.35 including tax.

Lee County, Texas Cemeteries. Details information on cemetery markers in southern Lee County (South of Highway 21), including Giddings City, St. Paul's Serbin & Dime Box. Vol. II \$26.69 including tax.

In Search of a Home. Nineteenth-Century Wendish Immigration by George R. Nielsen. Written in 1977 and revised in 1989, this book tells the histories of the Wends who migrated to Texas, Australia, Canada, Nebraska, and South Africa. The appendix includes a list of Wendish immigrants. Hardcover. 213 pages. \$12.00 including tax.

Christmas in Texas by Elizabeth Silverthorne. This book is ideal for giving. It will interest those interested in Texas history, those who want to reminisce about the old ways, and those who want to learn more about their heritage and the holidays.

The Wendish-Texan coloring book by Daphne Dalton Garrett. An educational coloring book for all ages. A historical explanation is given for each of the 25 pictures. Softcover. 28 pages. \$3.74 including tax.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members/Previous Members Renewed

Bernice Wendland, San Antonio, TX.

Patron Members

Arnold Mathias, Waco, TX.

Elo Toll, Cedar Park, TX.

Century Members

Bernice Wendland, San Antonio, TX.

MEMORIALS

On Occassion of:	Donor	Amount
M/M Elton Karisch 50th Wedding Anniversary	M/M Leroy Steglich	\$10.00

REUNIONS

NOACK REUNION

The heirs of Johann and Maria Noack had their annual reunion at the Holy Cross Picnic Grounds, Warda, on Sunday, October 6th. 101 members signed the register. The following prizes were awarded: a Santa Claus plaque made by Pat Schmidt was given to Della Mae Keene of Rockdale, with the lucky number 3; The pot plant which had been placed in church Sunday morning was given to Alma Tiemann, 84, the oldest member present; one of the new Wendish coloring books was presented to Beth Schmidt, 6 months, the youngest member present; and \$5.00 were given to Alma Tiemann of Priddy, Texas, for traveling the farthest (she traveled 210 miles and this was the first reunion she was able to attend); Elmo and Ruby Noack Kuehn, married the longest (will be married 56 years on the 20th of October); and Allen and Angie Noack of Rockdale, who were married two months ago.

A devotion was led by Rev. Robert Boyce of Warda, after which the noon meal consisting of barbecued sausage prepared by Leon Noack and sons of Rockdale, and side dishes that were brought by all the members, was enjoyed.

Present officers are Leon Noack of Rockdale, President, Debbie White of Friendswood, Vice-President, Pat Schmidt, of Sealy, Secretary and Elinor Steglich of Warda, Treasurer. The group voted to have next years meeting at Warda again.

Each family member was called upon to share events he or she remembered from days gone by. This was a good ice breaker and started much reminiscing.



PARADES AND EVENTS

On September 9, the Ben Nevis Float was entered in the Carmine Pioneer Days Parade. The float received a First Place trophy. "On Board" were: Walter and Laverne Gersch, and their three granddaughters, Shaina, Sarah, and Alicia Gersch, Laverne Falke, Lorine Domei and Walter Mersiovsky. The float was pulled behind Herbert Falke's truck. Assisting him were Telford and Freddie Zoch.



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Heritage Society**

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