



Texas Wendish Heritage Society

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

VOLUME V, NUMBER 4, May, 1992

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

PHONE 409/366-2441

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The success of the people visiting in Texas from Australia and Spreewitz, Germany was the result of many hours of time and service of many people. Families in the Houston, Serbin, Austin, and San Antonio areas contributed their time and transportation, food, and other means to make their visit to Texas a time that they will long remember.

It is truly a joy to work with people that belong to an organization and are willing to dedicate their time and services so that people from other nations can enjoy and experience the American way of life.

Their last full day was spent at the Serbin Homecoming Picnic.

Many visitors took advantage of going thru the Museum on the picnic day. The gift shop sold noodles and other items to help benefit the Museum. Due to lack of help on this day, the Museum was not able to take full advantage of the people who did visit the facilities.

The next activity will be the Folklife Festival in San Antonio on August 6-9. The San Antonio members are attempting to obtain enough help from that area so people from other areas do not have to stay over night in order to keep the Wendish booth manned.

Rev. Paul Hartfield of St. Paul's Serbin will be leaving for Russia on June 14th. He will be visiting with the Lutheran Hour speaker Rev. Wallace Schulz, and will also conduct German services at several areas. He will visit the Seminary in Riga, Latvia. On June 21st Rev. Hartfield will preach and have Bible studies in Omsk, Siberia, the following Sunday, June 28th he will conduct services in Alma Ata, Kazakstan. He will then go to Moscow and from there he will return home. We look forward to having Rev. Hartfield share with us his experiences when he returns.

St. Paul, Serbin, is going thru a renovation program. The Sanctuary is now fully air conditioned and is being enjoyed during the worship services.

The second phase of this program is renovating the feather painted pillars. This project is almost complete. Mr. Thomas Dreyer, and his assistant Garrett Mormando, both of San Antonio, have done an outstanding job of cleaning and touching up the feather painting.

Ken Weiser
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 19 Bake sale in front of La Grange State Bank
June 21 Winchester Picnic at St. Michael's Park in Winchester
July 6 Deadline for articles for July newsletter
August 6-9 Folkfestival at San Antonio
August 16 General membership meeting at the Museum at 2:00 p.m.

BAKE SALE

Members this is your opportunity to help raise funds. Lutheran Brotherhood Branch 1559 has agreed to match funds for this bake sale. For those of you in the Lee County area please take your items to the Museum before 5:00 p.m., Thursday, June 18th, if you cannot bring them to the La Grange State Bank by 9:00 a.m. on June 19th. Fayette County members, please have your baked items at the booth a little before 9:00. You can all help by pricing your items.

For those of you who are too far away to bake goods for us, your cash donations will be appreciated.

Please call Barbara at the Museum, 409/366-2441, if you can help man the booth. All help is needed and appreciated.

Thank you, to Hattie Schautschick, Bessie Mertink, Carroll, Jerry, and Judy Hielscher for helping to get the newsletter in the mail last month.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

Bryan Wukasch, San Marcos, TX Randy Moerbe, Bryan, TX
Ruth Mertink, Hillsboro, TX

Student Members

Bryan Wukasch, San Marcos, TX

VISITORS

During the month of April we had visitors from: Maine, Germany, Montana, Georgia, Iowa, Michigan, Connecticut, Virginia, South Dakota, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Illinois, and all parts of Texas.

DOCENTS

Serving as docents during the month of April were: Jack & Marian Wiederhold, Judy Hielscher, Evelyn Kasper, Herbert & Hattie Schautschick, Barbara Hielscher, Esther Buscha, Georgie Boyce, Bessie Mertink, Elinor Steglich, Daphne Garrett and Vivian Taylor.

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!!!!!!

THE SECOND ANDREAS KAPPLER - AGNES (GROESCHEL) KAPPLER AND
JOHN ERNST BERGER - ANNA (WUKASCH) BERGER FAMILY REUNION!!

DATE: Sunday, July 12, 1992
TIME: 9 AM until ?????????? Come Early--Stay Late--All Day!!
PLACE: American Legion Hall - Giddings, Texas

A meal will be served at 1:00 . Please plan to bring enough food for your family. The reunion will provide all of the paper goods. Tea, coffee, and drinks will be available inside the hall. PLEASE BRING YOUR SERVING SPOON FOR THE COVERED DISH.

Please make every effort to attend and get the word out to brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, parents, children, grandchildren, and all our relatives.

Bring addresses of anyone you know of who may not be attending and any family information with old family pictures that we can all share with each other.

There will be family group sheets available for all to look at as we have family members that are tracing our ancestors back to the old country.

So mark your calendars and we hope to see everyone there!! Let's keep our family tradition going!!

For any additional information please contact:
HARRY SCHOPPE or ALLEN KAPPLER
5109 33RD STREET 115 ELECTRA
GROVES, TEXAS 77619 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77079
(409) 898-8377 or 962-7353 (713) 468-4212

In the Giddings area you may contact:
GEORGE BERGER at 542-5650 or
LEONARD KAPPLER at 366-2373

Everyone come on out and have a good time!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

THE 12TH ANNUAL WUENSCHER FAMILY REUNION

This year's reunion is lovingly dedicated to the memory of Ella Wuensche Wagner by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Bill and Doris Wagner are "picking up the tab" for all expenses; however, we request that you bring your invitation as you register you and your guests.

IN A NUTSHELL

What: Wuensche Family Reunion
When: Sunday, July 19, 1992
Time: 9:00 - ?
Bring: Dessert
Preparation: Act for talent show.
Admission: Invitation
Please: Check for needed corrections at registration.

NO R.S.V.P. NEEDED

DON'T MISS THESE!

12:00 noon - Rev. R. H. Wuensche, Sr. will lead a devotional.

12:30-1:00 - A bar-b-que chicken and sausage dinner will be served. Drinks and utensils are provided, but we ask that everyone bring a dessert.

Soon after - Gifts will be awarded and plans will begin for the 1993 reunion.

And then - It's time for you to "get your act together" and show off your talent. We want a large line-up on our entertainment list, so whether your pet crickets can harmonize, or you can blow a huge bubble, contact the Hughes' address by July 1st. Don't let your epitaph read: "This one didn't do a thing."

PLANNERS

Bobby Wuensche
Route 2, Box 215
Taylor, TX 76574
512-352-3013

Frances Parker
P.O. Box 409
Louise, TX 77455
409-648-2083

CO-CHAIRMEN

Betty Hughes
P.O. Box 277
Colmesanville, TX
75938
409-837-5442

Bill Wagner
3639 41st Street
Pt. Arthur, TX
77642
409-905-2349

GROUP TOURS

By Evelyn N. Kasper, Co-Ordinator

April Outstanding Tour Month

Our docents all had tired, happy faces by the end of the month! On April 1st a group of 35 from the University Place Retirement Center enjoyed a tour and luncheon. On Friday evening, April 3rd, a dinner was hosted for an attorney from Houston, who has a weekend place at Winchester, and 10 of his friends; on Tuesday, April 7th, Laurel Heights Methodist Church of San Antonio brought a group for a luncheon with special Easter Egg Demonstrations at 11:00 and 1:00 by Daphne Garrett.

We had a full house (48) from the Geophysical Auxiliary of Houston for a noon meal on Wednesday, April 8th. Since Daphne was available for the egg demonstration, this was another feature. On Thursday, April 9th, the group of 30 from the Round Top Historical Institute came for Egg Demonstrations, and coffee cake and coffee. April 11th brought a group of 15 for a tour only. On Good Friday, April 17th, members of the Austin Saengerunde, together with their visitors from Berlin, Germany, attended German services at St. Paul Church. They were then given a tour of the church by Jack Wiederhold and brought their lunch here, where coffee cake and coffee were served by our docents. They had time for a leisurely tour of the Museum complex after lunch.

April 22nd brought us a busload of folks from a Catholic Church in Houston for a tour, and April 29th brought about 10 from Faith Lutheran Church of Corsicana for lunch and a tour.

Wends from three Continents



Pictured from left to right are, front, Beverly Gotsky, Esther Hornich, Susanne Hornich, Pastor Manfred Hornich and Johannes Grosa. Back row, Benno Gotsky, Dieter Kretschmar, Waltraud Kretschmar, Elke Jensch, and Wilfried Jensch.

(tours cont...)

Tours cont--

May has been an extremely busy month here, not so much with general tours, but with our European and Australian visitors. The guests, as well as the host and/or hostesses, were entertained on Thursday evening, on Friday for lunch, and on Saturday evening with a fish fry by some of the local members. The day of the Serbin picnic, they were again guests of Walter and Laverne Gersch and of the Wiederhold and Kasper families.

Special thanks to the Houston hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Zoch, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fischer, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Bush, Mrs. Emilie Putnam, and Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilson, the Austin hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Teinert, Mrs. Della Mullens, Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Groeschel, and Mrs. Annie Bartholic, and the San Antonio hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Knippa, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Knippa, and Mr. and Mrs. David Goeke.

Thanks to all who helped show these folks some real Texas hospitality. I know that George Boerger and Charles Mukasch, who also served on this committee, appreciate all that you have done as much as I do.

On the evening of May 18th nationally known author and speaker, Joyce Landorf Heatherly was given a tour of St. Paul Lutheran Church by Jack Wiederhold, and a tour of the Museum Complex by Barbara Hielscher.

A group of 7 visited on Thursday, May 21st, from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Temple.

Students from Grace Lutheran, Brenham, and from Our Saviour Lutheran, Austin, together with their teachers and/or chaperones were given a tour on Friday, May 22nd.

Texas Mendish Heritage Society

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