



Texas Wendish Heritage Society and Museum - Serbin, Texas

ROUTE 2, BOX 155, GIDDINGS, TEXAS 78942-9769

(409) 366-2441

OPEN FROM 1:00 To 5:00 P.M. EVERY DAY EXCEPT SATURDAY & HOLIDAYS
Phone 409/366-2441

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VII

NUMBER 1, FEBRUARY, 1994

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, I want to thank all of the officers, board members, and the many volunteers who helped make 1993 a successful year. Memberships, visitors (Texas, out-of-state, and international) group tours, memorials, matching fund gifts, book and craft sales, noodle sales, booth participation at other area events, Museum display additions, all increased last year. We shared our heritage with extensive newspaper, magazine, and television coverage.

We especially thank sainted Agnes Lehmann for remembering the Texas Wendish Heritage Society in her will. So far the estate (Emily Putnam, executrix) has donated \$4,790.70 to the Society. It is gifts such as this that help build up the Endowment Fund

One of the long range goals of our organization is to build up this fund, whereby the interest earned by the fund will cover costs of maintaining the Museum.

140th Anniversary tributes are coming in very well. There was no mention in the "Vogelhochzeit" letter as to how these gifts will be used, with all the research being done, both the archivist and librarian would like to add more genealogy helps and library books. The log cabins and contents need preservation work to keep them from deteriorating. the Museum curator needs supplies to add and change displays in the 5 buildings. Plans are being made to have the Museum open 7 afternoons a week from April 1st thru September 30th. We are missing many people who would like to do research on Saturday, or have a family reunion on Sunday, and can visit the Museum on Saturday only. Evidence of this is a look at the Saturday registrations in the St. Paul Lutheran guest book. This anniversary year is a good time to add to the Endowment Fund. Look for more information in future newsletters, and at quarterly membership meetings.

This is your Newsletter! Please share your special family events and accomplishments with your fellow members. Do you need information on a family name or place of Wendish settlement, (Black Jack, Texas is one often asked about), instructions for a craft Grossfatter Schmidt excelled in, a quilt pattern Mutter Miertschin

used but has gotten Lost, a special dish Tante Hohle Made? If this information is not in the archives, perhaps a member can help and also add that information to the archives. **Send in family reunion information early to ensure that it will be published before the reunion date.** Add at least 2 weeks to Newsletter deadlines to allow for bulk mailing which takes much longer than first class mail for delivery.

See you at the February 20th meeting.

Laverne Gersch
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 20	General Membership Meeting at the Museum at 2:00 p. m.
April 16	Yesterfest, sponsored by the Old Bastrop Opera House in Bastrop, Texas
April 18	Deadline for articles for April newsletter
May 13-14	Lone Star District Walther League Reunion at Camp Lone Star in La Grange, Texas
May 15	General Membership Meeting at the Museum at 2:00 p.m.
May 29	Serbin Homecoming Picnic at St. Paul picnic grounds, Serbin, Texas
June 1-4	National Genealogical Society Conference in the States hosted by Clayton Library Friends, at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas
June 19	Winchester Picnic at St. Michael's Park in Winchester, Texas

The video of the Wendish wedding, Teresa Zoch and John Worm, that took place on the day of the Wendish Fest, September 26, 1993, will be the program the day of the general membership meeting, February 20th.

The following officers will serve in 1994 and 1995:

President: Laverne Gersch
Vice-President: Victor Zoch
Treasurer: Leroy Steglich
Recording Secretary: Della Mullens
Corresponding Secretary: Evelyn Kasper

The following directors will serve in 1994:

Ken Weiser, Georgie Boyce, Barbara Hielscher, Hattie Schautschick, Glenn Pittsford, Jack Wiederhold, Ron Knippa, and Mary Watts.

The following directors will serve in 1994 and 1995:

George Boerger and Charles Wukasch.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

Margery Rayburn, Houston, TX
Ray M. Boriski, Houston, TX
Jerbert M. Korra, Naples, FL

Kathy Steglich, Richardson, TX
Herbert R. Reinsch, Texas City, TX
Walter P. Zoch, Austin, TX

Patron Members

Mrs. Arthur Fehr, Austin, TX
Esther Herbrich, Houston, TX
Milton Kaiser, Houston, TX
Dr. George Kunze, Warda, TX
Emajean S. Moody, Paradise, TX
W. L. Simank, Stillwater, OK
Marvin Wappler, Groves, TX
Delores R. Hall, Wharton, TX
Duannah Ashmore, Austin, TX
Clara Kessler, Houston, TX.

Alfred Herbrich, Houston, TX
Betty Jentsch, Wichita Falls, TX
Flora Kunze, Warda, TX
Joan Z. Miller, Wichita Falls, KS
Randy Moerbe, Bryan, TX
Betty Teston, San Angelo, TX
Mary Guggisberg, Vernon, TX
Herbert M. Korra Naples, FL
Mildred Coffey, San Antonio, TX
Eugene E. Hemmann, St. Charles, IL
Dr. Gunter Schaarschmidt, Victoria, Canada

Sponsor

Kathy Steglich, Richardson, TX
Bernice, Schulz, Houston, TX

Edgar Schulz, Houston, TX

Century

Linda S. Boerger, Wharton, TX
Walter P. Zoch, Austin, TX

Weldon Boerger, Wharton, TX

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society will have a book sale booth at the National Genealogical Conference at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston on June 1st - 4th. Volunteers for this booth are needed these 4 days. If you have not received registration information, and are interested in volunteering, please contact the Museum at 409/366-2441. Volunteers need not attend the meetings, however, Dr. Joe Wilson will be the speaker at one of the sessions.

"CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD"

Reinhold and Irene Teinert, Co-ordinators

This is the third year that the Austin Chapter has decorated a Christmas Tree according to our Wendish Heritage. It was one of fourteen trees decorated by different ethnic groups in the Austin area.

Decorations were consistant with what was remembered from our Christian heritage as the Wends settled in the Serbin area of Texas. Bags set under the tree remind us of the children receiving goodie-bags after the Christmas Eve Service in Church. Other decorations on the tree consisted of cookies, apples, small bags filled with nuts and candy, crocheted snow flakes, candles, and decorated antique Christian Christmas Cards. Some of the cards

were pictures of the manger scene in Bethlehem. On the top of the tree was a crocheted angel in white depicting the message to the shepherds that Christ was born.

Many compliments were received from people who saw the tree, giving special comments about the crocheted baskets and snow flakes.

The tree remained in place from November 21st to December 28th. Irene and Reinhold Teinert decorated the tree. They were assisted by their son Nelson and his two children Cara and Nelson Jr.

These trees were set up in North Cross Mall which is located South West of the intersection of Burnet Road and Anderson Lane. Plans are in place to have this Christmas Tree display again in 1994.

VISITORS

During the months of December and January there were visitors from all parts of Texas and the following: Oregon, Louisiana, Washington, Colorado, California, Ohio, Germany, Nebraska, New York, Washington, and Minnesota.

DOCENTS

Serving as docents for the months of December and January were: Henry and Emily Zoch, Mildred Kilian, Lorine Domel, Ruth Lindner, Ken Weiser, Laverne Gersch, Elsie Socha, Ruby Koslan, George Boerger, Della Mullens, Vivian Taylor, Evelyn Kasper, and Herbert and Laverne Falke.

VOGELHOCHZEIT

The following donations have been received:

Frieda Wendland, \$20.00 M/M Arnold Kasper, \$50.00
Mildred Woelfel, M/M George Kunze, and M/M Bill Knippa.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of:	Donor	Amount
Emma D. Wuensche	M/M J. K. Behrend	\$20.00
Emma D. Wuensche	McDade Extension Homemakers Club	\$10.00
Emma D. Wuensche	M/M August Gruetzner	\$20.00
Emma D. Wuensche	George Boerger	\$100.00
Emma D. Wuensche	Elwood Komashk, Jr.	\$100.00
Emma D. Wuensche	Jeanette Schaefer	\$25.00
Walter Schulze	M/M Alvin Bernstein	\$20.00
Walter Schulze	M/M Jim Baccus & M/M Bob Fanning	\$25.00
Walter Schulze	M/M Herb Schulz	\$20.00
Walter Schulze	M/M Edgar Schulz	\$25.00

In Honor of:	Donor	Amount
M/M Leroy Steglich	M/M Parker Bradley	\$100.00

A \$4,790.70 donation has been received from the estate of Mrs. Agnes Amanda Lehmann.

1994 National Genealogical Society Conference in the States

Join your fellow genealogists in Houston at the NGS Conference in the States — for learning, networking, and fun.

★

The program will offer something for everyone with sessions that focus on history, records and repositories, immigration and naturalization, migration patterns, land records, religious groups, methodology and problem-solving, organization of materials, the use of computers in genealogy, and much more. Special emphasis will be on the building of America by its ethnic groups and Native Americans.

★

Research opportunities abound! The Clayton Library is one of the nation's major genealogical libraries. The Houston Public Library also offers the Houston Metropolitan Archives and the Texas and Local History Department. Other research facilities in the Houston area include collections at several universities — Rice, the University of Houston, Houston Baptist, and Texas

Houston, Texas
1 - 4 June 1994



Join us in
Houston in 1994
and
Explore a Nation
of Immigrants

Southern. You may also research at the Harris County Courthouse, the Harris County Law Library, and the Texas Medical Center Library. The area also has several LDS family history centers, historical societies and museums, and local libraries with genealogical collections.

★

Texas is a state of mind, find its mystique as an Urban Cowboy or put on your top hat — Houston offers a variety of fun activities as well as historical tours, museums, art galleries and a wide diversity of restaurants. Shop at the Antique Center of Texas, the Lone Star State Factory Stores, or at the beautiful Galleria. Enjoy a trip aboard the *Sam Houston* to view the famed Houston Ship Channel or an excursion to nearby Galveston aboard the *Texas Limited*. Enjoy an event at the famous Astrodome or the Houston Sports Complex — from Six Flags amusement park to NASA to Bayou Bend, genealogical researchers and their families will find that time is too short to enjoy it all.

Please send me the conference program and registration brochure when it becomes available in January 1994.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

NGS members will automatically receive the conference program and registration brochure with the January newsletter.

☐ Nonmember

☐ Send membership information

1994 NGS Conference in the States • 4527 17th Street, North • Arlington, VA 22207-2399

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