



Texas Wendish Heritage Society and Museum - Serbin, Texas

1011 CR 212, GIDDINGS, TEXAS 78942-5940

EMAIL: wendish@bluebon.net

FAX (979) 366-2805

(979) 366-2441

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XIV

NUMBER V

OCTOBER, 2001

President's Message

Greetings to everyone from the Wendish Museum! Fall has finally arrived, and with it cooler temperatures. The level of activity at the Museum has been a bit slower since Wendish Fest, but we are still busy hosting visitors almost daily. Speaking of Wendish Fest, the event was successful, for which we are all grateful. Many people, members and non-members alike, helped before, during, and after the Fest, and we want to thank all of you who did help. We could not have done it without you! It was unfortunate that the Wendish dance group from Germany could not be here for the day. However, Jack Wiederhold and members of the St. Paul Lutheran Church choir and bell choir stepped in at the last minute and provided wonderful entertainment for us, and we are truly grateful to those folks for sharing their talent on such short notice.

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society was invited to participate in Concordia University at Austin's 75th Anniversary Founder's Fest on Sunday, October 21. The event was held outdoors on Concordia's campus, and we were blessed with beautiful weather and a sizable crowd. Many folks, some who knew us and some who did not, stopped by our tables to watch the Wendish Easter egg decorating demonstration, to peruse the books we had on display, and to just chat about the society and the Wendish culture. Thank you to Suzanne Mueller of Concordia for inviting us to share the day! I also want to thank Evelyn Buchhorn for sharing her talent at the noodle-making demonstration table, and Della Mullens for being such a great sales person!

As you will note inside this newsletter, the next quarterly Membership Meeting will be held November 18, 2001 at the Museum complex. I hope you will be able to attend this important meeting, as we will elect officers for 2002-03. If you are interested in serving as an officer or would like to nominate someone, please contact Barbara Hielscher at the Museum. This meeting will also include our annual Christmas party. We will sing Christmas carols and enjoy Christmas cookies and other goodies, so please remember to bring a plate of sweets to share!

God's blessings to you, and we hope to see you here on November 18 for our annual Christmas party and membership meeting.

Jan Knippa Slack
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 18** General Membership Meeting at Museum Complex at 2:00 p.m.
with election of officers.
- Nov. 22** Museum will be **CLOSED** for Thanksgiving
- Dec. 25** Museum will be **CLOSED** for Christmas Day
- Jan. 1, 2002** Museum will be **CLOSED** for New Years Day

AAAAAAAAAAAAA

NOVEMBER MEETING PROGRAM

There will be an election of 2002-2003 Officers. The nominating committee has prepared a slate of nominees for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer to be presented at the meeting. Nominations from the floor will be welcomed. If you would like to nominate someone, be sure to have them sign an "acceptance form" before the meeting. Call Barbara at the museum if you need such a form. After the meeting, we will have our annual singing of Christmas Carols. Please bring a batch of your favorite Holiday cookies for refreshments.

Notice to Board of Directors: There will be a short Board meeting immediately following the General meeting to appoint two Board members for the 2002-2003 term.

Thank you to Evelyn Kasper, Irene Boriack and Jan Slack for providing refreshments for the September general meeting.

Visitors

During the months of September and October we have had visitors from: Colorado, Germany, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Mexico, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Washington, and all parts of Texas.

Docents

Thank you to the following for acting as docents during the months of September and October: Lorine Domel, Janice Mitschke, Mildred Kilian, Jan and Charles Slack, Henry and Emily Zoch, Ruby Koslan, and J. B. Gersch, Jr.

TOUR REPORT

by

Evelyn N. Kasper, Coordinator

- Sept. 5 Mrs. Anchors and Mrs. Brown and Children – Home schooled children from Bastrop, TX ----- Tour by Eleanor Schulze
- Sept. 6 St. Patrick's Catholic Church from Houston, TX. (24 members)
Tour by Evelyn Kasper, Eleanor Schulze, and Telford Zoch
- Sept. 26 Immanuel Lutheran Church from Houston, TX (42 members)
Tour by Hattie Schautschick, Evelyn Kasper, Barbara Hielscher and Eleanor Schulze
- Sept. 28 Memorial Lutheran Church from Houston, TX (Senior Group)
Tour by Evelyn Kasper, Sandra Matthijetz and Eleanor Schulze
- Oct. 2 Our Savior Lutheran Church from Houston (30 – 7th grade students)
Tour by Sandra Matthijetz and Eleanor Schulze
- Oct. 18 St. Paul Lutheran Church from Columbus, TX (15 – Luncheon and Tour)
Coordinators: Pastor and Mrs. John Hunsicker
Cooks: Evelyn Kasper, Renata Fichte and Irene Boriack
Tour by: Telford Zoch, Eleanor Schulze and Barbara Hielscher
- Oct. 24 Texas A & M Students from College Station, TX (70 students)
Teacher: Susan Scott
Tour by J. B. Gersch, Jr., Eleanor Schulze and Sandra Matthijetz
- Oct. 30 Zion Lutheran Church from Pasadena, TX (24 students)
Tour by Telford Zoch - Church and Cemetery only

NOODLE REPORT

BY

Hattie Schautschick, Chairperson

We are very pleased that we sold out of noodles at our Wendish Fest and are busy catching up. From January 1, till November 1, 2001 we have made 3,064 pounds. We make approximately 180 to 190 pounds weekly.

OUR AUSTRALIAN FRIENDS

Thanks to Australian members, Beverley and Benno Gotzky for sending the packet of brochures for the up coming Festival in Bautzen. The brochures give monthly events for the year 2002 – the 1,000 birthday of this Wendish city.

If you did not get a copy at our Fest on the 23rd, and are interested in attending, call or come by the Museum. The month of May will feature a number of Sorbish events.

We would also take this opportunity to thank the Gotzky's for all their help over the last several years in helping us secure information and donating a copy of their Wendish related video, "Bautzen Volksfest 1998", Sorb. National Ensemble, and The Wends of Texas USA 1992 Spreewitz & Australian Visitors, to the museum.

New Dictionary

Mr. M. J. Dobring has compiled a Lower-Wendish/English dictionary containing approximately 8,00 words that is in two sections; one half is the Lower-Wendish (Lower-Sorbisch)/English part and the other half is the English/Lower-Wendish partion. The book will be available in the near future of some one wants to purchase a copy. The price will be approximately \$15.00 per copy plus postage. He plans to make only one printing so he would like to include everyone that would like a copy. Anyone interested in this book may contact him by mail at this address: Mr. Martin J. Dobring, 1317 Chestnut St., Port Huson, MI 48060-5719.

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF:

Harry Ruegg
Floyd & Betty Zoch
August & Laura Zoch

DONOR

Linda Boerger
Barney & Betty Hutchinson
Barney & Betty Hutchinson

IN HONOR OF:

Lillian Pratho's 90th Birthday

DONOR

J. B. Gersch, Jr.

Schedule of Events at Grand Targhee Summer Resort

Simank Family Reunion 2001

Welcome and social time before dinner on **Friday** night.

Dinner:

Pasta and meatballs, salad, bread and chocolate cookies.

1. Introductions of family members and socializing
2. Carrie Huffer had her laptop computer and entered in family information from all present. This is a HUGE job and we all thank Carrie for tackling this project and keeping the Simank Family recorded.
3. Elaine Clark got the "generations" together for photos. This is the best way to keep track of everyone and we all love to look at the scrapbook in the future and remember who is who.
4. Sylvia Simank brought the "family tree". We added new members and "starred" those family members attending this reunion.



1st Generation present
Elaine Clark, Irene McDaniel, Yvonne Rogers



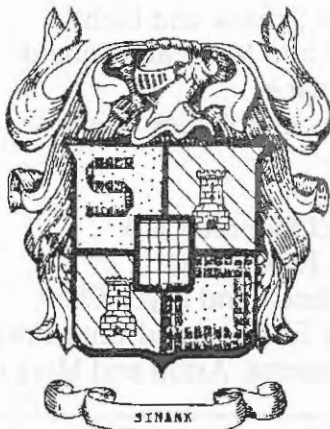
3rd generation present

back row

Axton Nielsen, Eric Shubert,
Vanessa Nielsen, Jeananne Simank

front row

Bryce Clark, Mara Nielsen, Nora Gibson



Saturday

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, bacon, cereals, fresh pastries, fruit

Family Meeting:

*Dues- it was decided to raise the dues to \$10.00 each reunion for each family

New officers :

President-Kathy McDaniel Flynn and Nancy Preston

Secretary/Treasurer - Carrie Huffer

Historian- Elaine Clark

*Next reunion- Texas! Kathy and Nancy will co-host the reunion based somewhere near the family homestead, with activity options in San Antonio.

We decided to have the reunion in October around the Columbus Day holiday. So mark your calendars for 2003!!

*More photos of families for the scrapbook.

*Carrie Huffer continued to interview and get information from families for our family records.

During the rest of the afternoon, many of the group rode the chairlift to the summit of **Grand Targhee**. Some chose to hike down the short way, others ventured off for an full afternoon excursion! There were horseback rides, mountain bike rides, some swimming and of course lunch.

We gathered again at dinner time where we socialized, ate a wonderful dinner of fried chicken, corn on the cob, salad and brownies. The rain had us all scurrying indoors about the time we had our second piece of chicken, but we quickly resumed a fun meal.

The rest of the evening was spent enjoying lots of historic photos that Nancy Preston had brought. Many of the photos were identifiable, much to the delight of all.

Sunday

Breakfast: fresh pastries, fruit

We took more group photos and said our goodbyes. Many families were heading to **Yellowstone** or **Grand Teton National Parks** for extended visits.

I think everyone had a wonderful time at **Grand Targhee**. The weather was beautiful with sunny mornings and the typical Rocky Mountain thundershowers in the afternoons.

We have a great family and it is wonderful to gather every two years to reacquaint ourselves with our family roots and meet new members.

See you in 2003!



2nd Generation present

left to right Ken Mueller, Carrie Huffer, Gary Clark, Cristin Clark Nielsen, Mark Clark, Lori Clark-Erickson, Dow Simank, Nancy Preston, Kathy McDaniel Flynn, Don Gibson

The Outlaws!

back row

Ray West, Sylvia Simank, Jenn Shubert, John Huffer, Kevin Flynn, John Preston, Monroe Clark, Cal Rogers

front row

Marijeane Simank, Carolyn Mueller, Melinda Clark, Chris Erickson, Ruth Clark

Attendees: 44!

#2 Henry
Ken and Carolyn Mueller

#7 Herman
Yvonne and Cal Rogers
Carrie and John Huffer
Eric Shubert and Jenn
Don, Kathleen, Nora, Abby and Nathan Gibson

#9 Alma
Irene McDaniel
Kathy McDaniel-Flynn and Kevin Flynn
Nancy and John Preston

#10 Edmund
Susan, Sarah and Katy Kenslow
Dow Simank
Jeananne Simank and Rich
Frederick and Marijeane Simank
Sylvia Simank
Sarah, Ray and Patrick West

#11 Ben
Elaine and Monroe Clark
Gary and Ruth Clark
Mark, Melinda and Bryce Clark
Lori Clark-Erickson and Chris Erickson
Cristin, Vanessa, Axton and Mara Nielsen

WENDISH FEST REPORT

Dear Members and Friends:

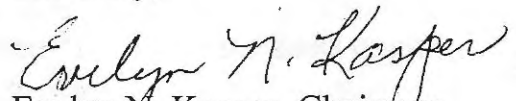
"Mensch denkt und Gott lenkt" is an old German saying, which means "Man thinks but God guides." This was very true as we all saw again at our Wendish Fest. We thought we would have two groups from Germany for entertainment – then it came down to one group – and eventually to none. Thanks to the St. Paul members who took over at the last minute with the Adult Choir, Bell Choir, and patriotic sing-a-long for our program. What could have been more fitting than that with the terrorism? We were sorry that our friends from Germany could not be here as planned but felt relieved also because we knew that customs would have been a real hassle for them with their costumes and instruments. Perhaps something can be worked out again in the future.

The Lord gave us beautiful weather for the festival after a rainy day and worries the day before.

We had plenty of food and served 1,400 plates at noon in addition to the snacks in the afternoon. Thanks to all who helped set up the grounds, cook and/or serve the food, donate desserts and activities, donated for the Silent Auction and helped with the clean up again on Monday.

You were a fantastic crew and I hope we can count on you again next year.

Sincerely,


Evelyn M. Kasper, Chairman
Wendish Fest Committee

**RESULTS FOR THE CONTEST HELD AT OUR 13TH ANNUAL
WENDISH FEST - SEPTEMBER 23, 2001**

Coffee Cake Bake-Off Winners were:

Streusel: 1st place – Irene Boriak,
2nd place - Gladys Saegert
3rd place - Martha Lorenz,

Cheese (Kaese): 1st place - Martha Lorenz,
2nd place - Wilma Bigon
3rd place - Irene Boriack

Special: 1st place- Billy Krause,
2nd place - Evelyn Buchhorn
3rd place – Hattie Schautschick

Washer Pitching Winners were:

1st place – Jeff Robertson and Glenn Albrecht
2nd place – Mike Mitschke and Michael Schmidt
3rd place – Walter Gersch and Steve Hooper

Crosscut Saw Winners were:

Women's Division – 1st place – Carolyn Jurk and Carolyn Bamsch;
2nd place – Sandra Kalbas and Kim Droegemueller;
3rd place – Laura Jackowski and Janice Barton

Men's Division – 1st place – Wayne Chapman/Harvey Hobratschk;
2nd place – Allan Jurk and Ralph Bamsch;
3rd place – Clarence Chernosky and Martin Biesert, Sr

Mixed Division - 1st place – Allan Jurk and Carolyn Jurk;
2nd place – Ralph Bamsch and Carolyn Bamsch;
3rd place – Jack Jones and Kathy Jones

TEXAS WENDISH HERITAGE SOCIETY
General Membership Meeting – August 19, 2001

President, Jan Slack, called the meeting to order at 2:00PM in the Kilian Building of the Museum Complex at Serbin, Texas, on Sunday, August 19, 2001. Present were 43 members and 6 visitors.

Rev. Michael Buchhorn lead the devotion with the song "Salvation unto Us has Come" and Pastor Hohle sang the last verse in Wendish. He then read from Ecclesiastes Chapter 1. Will we be wise or be fools when we receive our inheritance? Our riches are not in earthly things, but in salvation. This is the legacy passed on by our ancestors. Hold fast to that blessed hope, the greatest legacy is the gift of faith, hope and love.

The minutes of the May 20, 2001 meeting were distributed at the meeting as they were not included in the previous newsletter. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented.

Evelyn Kasper reported that the ladies are busy making noodles for the Wendish Fest. She also stated that the assignment list for the Wendish Fest is nearly completed and should be mailed shortly. Items are still needed for the silent auction. Evelyn also mentioned that a permanent stage was being built and should be completed by the Fest. Also, a group of young people from Serbin will be helping with the food lines this year. There are a total of 47 people coming from Cottbus this year and also Kornelia Thor is returning. Laverne Gersch stated that we are in need of more kase kuchen entries in the bakeoff along with the regular streusel kuchen and special entries.

Eunice Dunk reported that we received \$1,000 from the hotel motel tax instead of the \$6,000 we had hoped for; however, every bit helps.

President Slack then presented the dues proposal for a second consideration since at our last meeting we did not have a quorum. A motion was made and seconded to accept the revised dues schedule as presented to be effective on January 1, 2002:

\$ 7.50	Student Membership (unchanged)
\$ 15.00	Single Membership (up from \$12.50)
\$ 25.00	Couple Membership (new option)
\$ 30.00	Museum Patron (up from \$25.00)
\$ 50.00	Museum Sponsor (unchanged)
\$ 100.00	Museum Century (unchanged)
\$ 250.00	Museum Silver (unchanged)
\$1,000.00	Museum Life (unchanged but would be payable over 2 years)

President Slack then called for nominations for 2002-03 officers for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Matthijetz
Secretary

Texas Wendish Heritage Society and Museum

1011 CR 212
GIDDINGS, TEXAS 78942-5940

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GIDDINGS, TX
PERMIT NO. 14

