



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

Volume XV, Number 1

January 2002

In Memoriam *Louise T. Peter* *September 24, 1899 - December 25, 2001*

(Pictured with Rev. Henry Wied of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Winchester, Texas on her 100th birthday)



Within the Fold...

In Memoriam

Louise T. Peter

September 24, 1899 – December 25, 2001

During the Christmas holiday season the Wendish community in Texas laid to rest the matriarch of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society. Louise T. Peter, granddaughter of Rev. Johann Kilian, was buried in her birth town of Winchester on December 27, 2001.

Louise lived frugally, but gave generously based on the strength of her faith in God, her Wendish heritage, and her interest in education and music. She was happiest when she could give of her time, energy, and funds, and would do so with a mischievous sparkle in her eyes!

Louise was a fun person and always saw the best in everyone. She was very proud of her huge pecan trees and long row of gorgeous lilac bushes at her home in Wichita Falls. She once visited the church in Germany where her grandfather, Rev. Kilian, was minister before coming to Texas in 1854. She even shed a few tears at the thought of walking in the footsteps of her grandfather.

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society will be forever grateful for her generosity in funding the Peter Building at the Wendish Museum complex in Serbin. Following is an excerpt of Louise T. Peter's obituary courtesy of the *Fayette County Record*, La Grange, Texas.

Funeral services for Louise T. Peter, 102, were held Thursday, December 27, at 2 p.m. at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Winchester. Burial was in the church cemetery. The Rev. Thomas Handrick of Wichita Falls and the Rev. Henry Wied Sr. of Winchester officiated. Born Sept. 24, 1899 in Winchester, she was the youngest child of John Albert and Theresia Martha (Kilian) Peter. Her grandfather was the Rev. Johann Kilian, the Lutheran pastor who led the Wendish people as they

immigrated from eastern Germany on the ship, Ben Nevis, to resettle in Lee County. Peter was a resident of Houston for 17 years, associated with Anderson Clayton and Company in the Futures Department, lifelong member of the Lutheran Church, instrumental in funding the building of the Texas Wendish Heritage Museum located in Serbin, and a major donor of a building at Concordia Lutheran College in Austin, the Louise T. Peter Center named in her honor. She was preceded in death by her parents, six sisters and five brothers.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Elevator Fund, 1417 11th St., Wichita Falls, TX 76301, the Texas Wendish Heritage Museum, 1011 County Road 212, Serbin, TX 78942, or to St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 700 Frio St., Winchester, TX 78945.

William John "Bill" Dube

November 21, 1913 – November 23, 2001. Bill was a former Katy, Texas city councilman and longtime local businessman decorated for combat valor in World War II. He was born in The Grove, Texas. Following the war, he settled in Katy and bought the old Pitts Grocery. Over the years he expanded the business to include variety and hardware goods and, eventually, clothing. He retired in 1990. He served as President of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society from January 1984 through December 1985. During his term he played a major role in shaping the organization during its early years.

Eugene Wukasch

July 12, 1921 – November 2, 2001. Eugene was born in Austin, Texas and was a well-known architect with a special interest in the rehabilitation of historic structures. Eugene was a long-time supporter and member of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.

Walter G. S. Fehr

December 12, 1901 – December 28, 2001. Walter was the son of Herman Beno Fehr and Selma Kilian. His great-grandfather was Johann Kilian and his grandfather was Gerhardt Kilian, teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran School who helped design the pipe organ at St. Paul's Lutheran Church to play Wendish sheet music.

Ewald Hempel

January 20, 1905 – December 24, 2001. Ewald was a Life member of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| February 12 | Walk-In Coffee/Bake Sale, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall, 192 S. Grimes,
Giddings, TX |
| February 17 | General Membership Meeting
2:00 p.m., Museum complex |
| March 15–17 | German-Texan Heritage Society
Annual Meeting, Brenham and
Shelby |
| March 24 | Museum CLOSED for Palm
Sunday |
| March 29 | Museum CLOSED for Good
Friday |
| March 31 | Museum CLOSED for Easter
Sunday |
| April 22 | Deadline for articles for April
newsletter |

Walk-In Coffee/Bake Sale

February 12, 2002

The Texas Wendish Heritage Society will sponsor a Walk-In Coffee/Bake Sale on Tuesday, February 12, 2002, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church, located in the 100 block of South Grimes in Giddings, across from the Schubert-Fletcher Home and Eleanor's Cottage. Everyone is invited to come out for a relaxing coffee break or lunch, or both. Cost is a free-will donation.

If you have never enjoyed a walk-in coffee, we will give you a good idea of what we mean: Members and friends of our organization donate a variety of baked items such as coffee cakes and cheese cakes (these are most popular) and pies, cakes and cookies. A group of ladies prepare various types of sandwich spreads (particularly ham and chicken salads) and keep a fresh supply of sandwiches ready to serve. A variety of desserts is available along with the sandwiches, chips, pickles, coffee and tea. Patrons can select from the "spread" and leave their free-will donation. The meals are available as take-out or you may stay and enjoy visiting with friends and neighbors while eating.

Donations of baked goods or money to pay for the ingredients will be gratefully accepted!

General Membership Meeting

February 17, 2002

The speaker for the February General Membership meeting will be Dr. David Zersen, President Emeritus of Concordia University at Austin. The topic of Dr. Zersen's presentation will be the Wendish poet and Lutheran pastor, Mato Kosyk. We hope you will join us!

November Meeting Refreshments

Thank you to the following people who provided refreshments for the November 18, 2001 General Membership meeting: Evelyn Kasper, Lillian Oltmann, Laverne Gersch, Elsie Mertink, Eunice Dunk, Mary and David Noak, Renata Fichte, Jeannette Huelsebusch, and Jan Slack.

President's Message

Eunice Urban Dunk

Happy New Year to our members and friends! As we look back over 2001, we cannot help but be thankful for all the hard work done by our many members, volunteers, employees, and officers. We especially thank Jan Slack for her two years of service as President of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society — she has been a wonderful volunteer who is always willing to take on one more project and we appreciate her services. As you will notice in the noodle report in this newsletter, we have another group of volunteers who give of themselves so freely and we thank them — and their families — for sharing their time for the benefit of the Wendish Society. We are so thankful for every volunteer hour given to our Society and are hoping that the momentum will continue and even improve as we enter the new year.

We have reorganized the work performed at the museum office and, in an effort to use our limited funds more efficiently, will attempt to get more of the work performed with volunteer time. Please let us know if there is something with which you would be willing to help. During our youth, we all thought about what we would do when we "grew up." I am now at the point of wondering about what I want to do when I "grow old" and I hope that many of you will join me in remembering the Texas Wendish Heritage Society with some good volunteer time. If you would be interested in assisting in any way, please call the museum office and leave your name and phone number so that the appropriate person can return your call.

At the present time, we are making plans for the following major fund-raising opportunities for the Wendish Society and its projects while we increase awareness of our organization. First, the annual Walk-In Coffee will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2002 in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in the 100 block of South Grimes Street, Giddings. All baked goods, workers, and cash donations will be very much

appreciated. Second, plans are underway for our booth at the Texas Folklife Festival. Scheduled dates for the event are June 6–9, 2002, in San Antonio. Third, the 14th Annual Wendish Fest will be held on Sunday, September 22, and will again feature entertainment from Germany.

If you are missing the Winedale Festival from the above list, it is because of a conflict in scheduling that we will not be able to participate this year. We look forward to returning in 2003 if possible.

In addition to the previously mentioned events, we have many opportunities to publicize our organization each day at the museum complex (hosting tours, making noodles, manning the gift shop, etc.). Please call and let us know if you are interested in helping in any of these areas. Chances are you will meet and get to know a lot of great Wends!

We also appreciate the publicity we are continuing to receive. Besides being featured in the October issue of *German Life* magazine, our "story" is told in a beautiful manner on the Internet under Texas Escapes, Serbin. Our web site is also attracting a lot of attention and gives a great deal of information on our society, heritage, and museum (enter "Wendish" and you will reach us through Concordia University at Austin's home page). The best way of getting the word out about our society though is through our members and friends, so we hope you will tell others about us and encourage them to join our organization. If you have family members or friends that may be interested in joining, please give us their name and address and we will see that they receive the information they need.

I look forward to working with you and for you during the next two years. Please let me know if I can help you in any way, or if you are interested in helping us.

Wends Who Broke the Pattern

Dr. George Nielsen,
Special Features Editor

The large majority of Wends who migrated to Texas in 1854 either stayed with the core settlement around Serbin or followed several paths to neighboring communities. But there were also some who broke the pattern and their intimate association with the Wendish community. One of these families is that of Johann Sommer, listed as #109 on the Ben Nevis passenger list, which settled near Waldeck.

Several years ago when Gertrud Mahling was helping me gather letters of emigrant Wends she came across a set of letters written by Johann Sommer that tell the story of that family. The first of his letters is an important one because it includes information about the journey to Texas.

I know of only three other correspondents who left accounts. The most extensive accounts were written by Pastor Johann Kilian. The second account was written by Johann Teinert, advanced in age, and describing events as he remembered them. And the third was a German, August Haak, who left a diary that Dr. Joseph Wilson edited and published in *The Journal of the German-Texas Heritage Society*.

Following is the first of Johann Sommer's letters, as translated by William H. Nielsen:

[1855-1861] Sommer to Family [Mahling]

Dear Parents and Brothers and Sisters

Many greetings to you from me and my wife and children. God be praised that we are for the present fresh and hale and hearty.

I would like to inform you what has happened to me and my wife and how we are presently doing. The day after we departed from Bautzen we arrived at Hamburg at 11 o'clock. We had to stay in Hamburg for five days. After that we traveled by steamship from Hamburg to England to the large city of Hull. There we again boarded the train and traveled through Manchester to

Liverpool. There we were quartered for four days. After that we joyfully boarded the large sailing vessel Ben Nevis. But after we were on it for several days, as we were all together, all the passengers, young and old, became so sick, that we did not know what to do. Nothing had been said before [illegible]. If I had not taken so much rum with me, the same could have happened to me as it did the other passengers.

On September 30 we arrived at Ireland specifically because of the sickly conditions. We remained in Ireland for four weeks. On October 22 we again boarded the ship. The sickness was so bad the first 5 days, that the majority were all sick, and my wife was so sick for seven days that I feared she would die; but with God's help she regained her health. In all 73 people died at sea because of a type of cholera that prevailed; and the situation was horrible to view because on many days 6 to 8 died and were tossed overboard.

We arrived at the city of Galveston on December 16. On the same day we disembarked from the sail ship and embarked on a steamship that traveled to Houston. We disembarked in Houston.

From Houston an American pastor [Caspar Braun] transported me to Industry, and I am housed near the town of Round Top, one hundred English miles from Houston.

I would like to inform you that I have excluded myself from the [Serbin] community, only because I had no work in the area; they live at least 12 miles from my house and I must consider how I can best survive. So I followed my own reason, built fireplaces, because masonry work is highly paid here, and I receive for one [illegible] wall one and one half dollars, and earn 12 to 14 dollars per week.

One dollar is as much as 1 Taler 13 Neugroschen according to German calculation. And now everyone here receives meat and bread three times daily. I have bought 100 Schefel of land. One

Schefel costs 1 Taler 8 Neugroschen. My land is clear of debt. On my land there is all kinds of timber; cedar, oak, eleven kinds. I have my cultivated land on one side and the timber on the other side. The timber has been there since the creation of the world. On the average the trees are 12 to 15 feet tall and there is so much that my children and I won't lack wood as long as we live.

I have bought 4 cows with calves by their side. The best milk cow with calf costs 15 to 17 dollars. I have at times rented oxen, because horses here are very expensive. And I own 4 sows for breeding purposes. Just think all these have been acquired in this short time.

And I would like to have my parents and my brothers and sisters with me because here one does not need to work nearly as hard as in Germany and through sweat has earned things sooner. I am always working with American [English speaking] people, and they treat me well because of the work I do for them, for everywhere around here there is much sandstone with which I find it easy to work. I am also quite able to communicate with them in English. These American neighbors are quite well-to-do here in Texas and all have 20 to 30 slaves. These slaves are dark skinned and the hair on their heads is as fine as sheep's wool.

A number of nationalities are found living here. Among them is a wild tribe who are scantily clothed, almost naked, but some cover their shame with skins of wild animals. They live about a hundred miles from me, but I have seen them quite often. This year a small garden has been made in which corn, beans, [illegible] and potatoes are planted. These potatoes are a kind of potato which taste very sweet.

Since leaving Germany I have not seen any snow. Three time this winter we had a light frost. In April the heat is so great that work stops about the tenth hour and is taken up again later in the afternoon. This heat lasts until October. In February trees begin to bloom. Fruits of the garden are enjoyed in summer and in winter. As to types of soil, they are varied. We have sandy, loamy, salty, and swampy soil, but all are fertile.

Many wild plants grow here. Wild plums, grapes, and others, many of them providing all abundance of enjoyable nourishment. The prairie grass stands as tall as a man so there is no need for feeding the animals. The milk cows come home in the evening on their own to be milked. Herdsmen are not needed – the cattle roam wherever they plan for the prairie is endless. The animals roam in mixed groups. Horses, cows, steers, goats, sheep may all be found in a group of a thousand or more. Many people let their animals roam the year round. To know to whom each animal belongs each owner must have a brand which is burned on each animal with a hot iron.

Male servants receive 15 to 20 dollars per month. Female servants [illegible] dollars. There is a great demand for servants so that here it is possible to acquire some property in a short time. There are no extra fees to be paid so that whatever one earns that is his. One may bargain and deal as one pleases. My area is not well settled. About 1/2 hour from me lives a Saxon from Mintschendorf at Immenburg and a few Americans. Here everyone must have a horse since distances are so great. To reach my church I must travel 4 miles.

Dear brother and sisters do come to me and don't let time slip away. And dear parents, come also. Here a midwife received 8 dollars per child that enter the world. And you my dear brother, when you are free of military service, come as you once promised, and do not bring too much cloth material along; rather linen which one cannot get here. Bring 4 to 6 pair of cloth pants. As for women's costumes [Trachten], sell them in Germany for they are not in fashion here. Buy colored linen and bring it along for cotton is cheaper here than in Germany. Boots are priced at 6 to 10 dollars. Women's shoes are 1 1/2 dollars. Be sure to bring blue and gray thread for me, two large [illegible], for local thread is very expensive, and the [illegible]. I will gladly pay you for all of it.

Do not bring too many cooking vessels along for these made here are better than those made in

Germany. Keep all iron ware at home since it will cost too much freight. Bring woolen socks along for both men and women. Bring a spinning wheel along to spin cotton thread. Greet the parents of my wife and the brothers and sisters. Also greet Adreas Zeschang in [illegible]. All of you come to Texas and follow these [illegible]. A day laborer's wages are 1 1/2 dollars per day.

Dear parents, brothers, and sisters I have no desire to return to Germany for I am ten times better off than you. And I have a very good husband. You always told me that he would mistreat me but I do not wish for any other. [These last comments are in the same hand as the earlier portion of the letter.]

I remain your son, John Sommer, Lynerde Sommer

Report from the Tours Committee

Evelyn Kasper, Chairperson

Two luncheon tours were provided during the last three months of 2001: October 18, we hosted a group from St. Paul Lutheran Church, Columbus, Texas; and November 2 we hosted a group from St. Justin Catholic Church, Houston. A group of students from Texas A&M University also visited on October 24. I would also like to mention that we received a lovely thank you note from Susan Scott, Assistant Lecturer at Texas A&M, for hosting the Texas A&M students.

Docents

Thank you to the following who served as docents during the months of November and December: Lorine Domel, Jan Slack, Mildred Kilian, Eleanor Schulze, Hattie Schautschick, Henry and Emily Zoch, Freddie Zoch, George Boerger, Evelyn Kasper, and Ruby Koslan.

Report from the Noodle Committee

Hattie Schautschick, Chairperson

We are proud to report that 4,339 pounds of noodles were made during 2001, and they sell almost as quickly as we make them. I want to thank everyone who helped during the year, either with making or with bagging the noodles. Such a tremendous effort involved 691 volunteer hours! [The Wendish Society would like to say a heartfelt *thank you* to the "noodle ladies" not only for their deep commitment to the Society but also for their unwavering sense of humor in the face of all that noodle dough each year.]

Visitors

The museum hosted visitors during the months of November and December from South Dakota, California, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Washington, Louisiana, Oregon, and all parts of Texas.

Memorials

From Doris Reagan. in memory of her grandmother, Theresia Tschatschula Biehle, to the Landscape Fund.

From Walter and Laverne Gersch, in memory of Louise Peter, to the Landscape Fund.

Walter and Laverne Gersch, in memory of Carolyn Vogel Renner, to the Landscape Fund.

Reinhold and Irene Teinert, in memory of Louise Peter.

Gloria Mae Gersch family, in memory of Louise Peter.

2002 Noodle Cook-Off

The 10th Annual State of Texas Noodle Cook-Off will be held on May 18, 2002, at Firemen's Park during the Lee County Fair. Complete details will be included in our April newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP IS ON THE RISE

**By George Boerger, Membership
Chairman**

Membership is on the rise in 2002! As of January 21st we have 399 paid memberships, and have already surpassed our total for all of 2001. During 2001, the number of members dropped to 395, marking the first time since 1988 that the TWHS had less than 400 members. The year 1992 marked our highest membership level – 509.

During September 2001 we began a campaign to re-enroll former members. To-date, 76 former members have rejoined and we have received 44 new memberships. We are happy to report that this shows an increase over 2001 during which 47 former members rejoined and 34 new members joined.

Our goal for 2002 is 500 members, and we seem to be well on our way. We hope to add even more new members by sending an invitation to potential members. It will be a simple invitation to join the TWHS and will include a letter describing our organization and a membership card to complete and return.

If you would like to suggest a potential member, please mail or e-mail their name and address and we will send them an invitation. If you want the invitation to state that it was sent at your request, let us know that and we will include your name; if not, your name will not be mentioned.

Your newsletter mailing label now indicates the year for which your membership is paid. If your membership is at one of the higher levels, that is also noted on the label. Please notify us of any errors so that we can correct our records.

If you paid your 2002 dues and have not yet received a membership card indicating your 2002 membership, please notify us and we will send you one.

If you have not sent us your membership renewal for 2002, we hope that you will do so soon. We will send reminder notices and membership information cards during the next few weeks.

2002 Life Members

George Boerger, Houston, TX
Jerry Caldwell, Cypress, TX
Elizabeth Caldwell Hutchinson, Gonzales, LA
Martin Meissner, Midland, TX
Carol Teinert Moravec, Axtell, TX
Irene Spatz Teinert, Austin, TX
Reinhold Teinert, Austin, TX
Frieda Wendland, Giddings, TX

2002 Century Members

Linda Boerger, Wharton, TX
Weldon Boerger, Wharton, TX
Dell Bush, Houston, TX
F. Woodrow Bush, Houston, TX
Herbert Fritsche, Houston, TX
J.B. Gersch, Jr., Giddings, TX
Glenn Hobrathschk, Pepper Pike, OH
Karen Koepke, Houston, TX
Michael Vukobratovich, Sierra Vista, AR
Ruth Wuensche Wright, Corpus Christi, TX

2002 Sponsor Members

Dr. Clarence Dube, Houston, TX
Steve Hooper, Kingwood, TX
Margie Bernstein Loomans, Austin, TX
Sandra C. Magers, Dallas, TX
David Noak, La Grange, TX
Mary Noak, La Grange, TX
Barbara J. Peckham, Urbanon, IL
Barbara Schneider, Metairie, LA

Janet Richter Schorlemmer, Eagle Lake, TX
Bernice Foerster Schulz, Houston, TX
Edgar Schulz, Houston, TX
Dr. Wilbert Sohns, Gatesville, TX
Betty Teston, San Angelo, TX
Harold Theiss, Houston, TX
David T. Weise, Eastland, TX
Hilton Wieder, Houston, TX

2002 Patron Members

Annette Scharath Albrandt
Duannah Ashmore, Austin, TX
Sylvia Miertschin Atsinger, Bethesda, MO
Linda Jean Lewis Barnett, Pontiac, MI
George Dillingham, Brenham, TX
Gunther Dube, Brounschweig, Germany
Michal Dube, McDade, TX
Kirsten Wukasch Egedi, Fillmore, CA
Ardie F. Engelhardt, Chase, MI
Carol Grote Flores, Edinburg, TX
Leona Meissner Foster, Midland, TX
Edna Groeschel, Austin, TX
Mary Schulz Guggisberg, Vernon, TX
Eugene Hemmann, St. Charles, IL
Donald C. Hilsberg, Elizabeth, CO
Rodney Koenig, Houston, TX
Arnold Kriegel, Austin, TX
Emma Michalk Kroeker, Turlock, CA
Elizabeth Kunze, Warda, TX
Dr. George Kunze, Warda, TX
Anna Knippa Land, Austin, TX
Margo Latimer, Lexington, TX
Alleen Kuretsch Lyons, Copperas Cove, TX
Douglas Malke, Giddings, TX
Arnold Mathias, Waco, TX
Helen Mathias, Austin, TX
Marge Mathias, Waco, TX

Vic Mathias, Austin, TX
Weldon W. Mersiovsky, Georgetown, TX
Kathy Lee Miller, Ellinger, TX
Angeline Mitschke, Humble, TX
Edwin C. Moerbe, San Antonio, TX
Dana Zoch (Clary) Mortimer, Orange, TX
Dr. George R. Nielsen, Rapid City, SD
Pam Wuensche Nordbrock, Bloomington, IL
Kimberley Jurk Odom, Lampasas, TX
Linda Wuensche Prestemon, Aurora, IL
B.J. Scharath, Indian Springs, AL
Wilfred Schrader, Pensacola, FL
Herb Schulz, Torrance, CA
Dennis Storch, Lubbock, TX
Dian Teinert, Houston, TX
Herman Teinert, Lubbock, TX
M. Joy Teinert, Lubbock, TX
Laveda Ann Thompson, Adkins, TX
Walter Toll, Austin, TX
Ruth Krakosky Tschatschula, Brenham, TX
Natalie Waggoner, Houston, TX
Marvin F. Wappler, Groves, TX
Paul Weise, Davenport, IA
Elmer Wuensche, Hoffmann Estates, IL
Rev. Reinhard H. Wuensche, Austin, TX
Barry Wukasch, Cave Creek, AR
Ted Wukasch, Groves, TX

2002 Student Members

Sara Buchhorn, Austin, TX
Mark Herbert Fritsche, New York, NY
Ashley Hielscher, Brentwood, TN
Charles Hielscher, Brentwood, TN
Jerry Hielscher II, Winchester, TX

Aaron Hohle, St. Louis, MO
Ketrin Jones, Abilene, TX
Elizabeth Schwartz, Giddings, TX
Sarah Schwartz, Giddings, TX
Jordan Watts, Houston, TX

2002 New Members

Annette Scharath Albrandt, Arvada, CO
Frieda Anderson, Austin, TX
Billy Becker, Corpus Christi, TX
Martin Biehle, Bellville, TX
Eric Borgas, Fullarton, South Australia
Lorie Christian, Rio Rancho, NM
Louis Doeblers, Giddings, TX
Nathan Dunk, Giddings, TX
Pamela Dunk, Giddings, TX
Mrs. Ardie Engelhardt, Chase, MI
Crystal Flowers, Smithville, TX
Alvin Fritsche, Houston, TX
Ronald Earl Ganer, San Antonio, TX
Aaron Hohle, St. Louis, MO
Steve Hooper, Kingwood, TX
Mrs. Louis W. Jannasch, Jr., La Marque, TX
Ardillo N. Johnson, Dixon, MO
Donald W. Johnson, Dixon, MO
Mrs. Norman Kneschk, Jonesboro, TX
Delores Knippa, New Braunfels, TX
Leslie T. Larson, Ingram, TX
Mary Leitko, Round Top, TX

Della Pietsch Markert, Ledbetter, TX
Weldon Markert, Ledbetter, TX
Faye Minnis, San Antonio, TX
Angeline Mitschke, Humble, TX
Edwin C. Moerbe, San Antonio, TX
Carol Noack, Port Arthur, TX
Gladys Noack, Waco, TX
Pam Wuensche Nordbrock, Bloomingdale, IL
Barbara J. Peckham, Urbanon, IL
Linda Wuensche Prestemon, Aurora, IL
Andrew Richter, Brenham, TX
Sanford Schmid, La Grange, TX
Mrs. Lloyd Schuhmann, Giddings, TX
Terry Simank, Thrall, TX
Charles Slack, Austin, TX
Peggy Spitzenberger, East Bernard, TX
Kenneth A. Stroebel, San Antonio, TX
Pearl Symmank, Giddings, TX
Rev. Monroe Teachenor, Oakland, CA
William Withrow, Houston, TX
Ruth Wuensche Wright, Corpus Christi, TX

2002 Officers and Board of Directors

President: Eunice Dunk
387 Edgewood, Giddings, TX 78942
979-542-3469
Vice President: Sandra Matthijetz
2020 Emil Road, Winchester, TX 78945
979-242-3442
Secretary: Jan Slack
4605 Trail West Drive, Austin, TX 78735
512-892-0514
Treasurer: Laverne Gersch
2686 CR 213, Giddings, TX 78942
979-366-2247

Raymond "Red" Arldt
1216 FM 2239, Giddings, TX 78942
979-366-2284
J.B. Gersch, Jr.
1111 E. Hempstead St., Giddings, TX 78942
979-542-2923
Jeanette Huelsebusch
966 South Madison, La Grange, TX 78945
979-968-3829
Evelyn Kasper
P.O. Box 68, Warda, TX 78960
979-242-3367

Ron Knippa
2662 Pebble Bow, San Antonio, TX 78232
210-496-3105

Doris Reagan
2502 Braemer Cove, Austin, TX 78747
512-280-2482

Hattie Schautschick
1045 PR 2141, Giddings, TX 78942
979-366-9621

Marvin Schwausch
3109 Freemont, Round Rock, TX 78681-3842
512-244-0784

Vivian Taylor
2221 CR 201, Weimar, TX 78962-5227
979-263-5416

Jack Wiederhold
3162 CR 208, Giddings, TX 78942
979-366-2335

Walter Zoch
P.O. Box 331, Cherokee, TX 76832
512-296-793 (cell)

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1572 CR 211, Giddings, TX 78942
Daniel Krause, Chairman
979-366-9650

Chaplain: Rev. Michael Buchhorn
1572 CR 211, Giddings, TX 78942
979-366-9650

Executive Director: Barbara Hielscher
113 Frio Street
La Grange, TX 78945

Bookkeeper: George Boerger
1019 Martin Street, Houston, TX 77018
713-686-4224

Texas Wendish Heritage Society General Membership Meeting November 18, 2001

President, Jan Slack, called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM in the Kilian Building of the Museum complex at Serbin, Texas, on Sunday, November 18, 2001. Present were 30 members and 4 guests.

Rev. Michael Buchhorn led the opening devotion and reminded all that in this darkest of times in this world Christians will soon be celebrating the birth of Jesus. We are to remember as we celebrate the holidays to keep them Christ centered.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2001 meeting as presented in the newsletter.

Evelyn Kasper reported that the ladies have been busy making noodles for the holidays and tour bookings have slowed due to the upcoming holiday season.

President Slack read a list of those nominated for election: President, Eunice Dunk, Vice President, Sandra Matthijetz, Secretary, Jan Slack and Treasurer, Laverne Gersch and asked for any nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed. A motion was made by George Boerger that those nominated for the various Board offices be elected by acclamation, this motion was seconded by Telford Zoch and the election process was completed without the casting of ballots.

Happy Birthday wishes were sung to honor Mrs. Elsie Mertink upon the celebration of her 90th birthday.

There being no further business, a motion was made and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Sandra Matthijetz

**The 51st annual reunion of the descendants of Ernst and Anna Dube
June 9, 2002
American Legion Hall, Giddings, Texas**

The reunion will feature a barbecue lunch, silent auction, and program. This year reunion members are inviting descendants of related Dube families, particularly those of Michael and Rosine Dube, to join the event. Ernst Dube was the youngest of Michael and Rosine's eight children. The family came to America on the Ben Nevis. Michael and one daughter died during the crossing. Reunion organizers hope to broaden the scope of the reunion by including additional descendants of this Wendish pioneer family. For more information, please contact Ron Lammert by phone at 210-695-5421 or by email at ron@lammert.com.

Texas Wendish Heritage Society and Museum

1011 CR 212
GIDDINGS, TEXAS 78942-5940

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

