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# TEXAS WENDISH HERITAGE SOCIETY

## AND MUSEUM

### Newsletter

Volume XVI, Number 3

July 2003

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### ***Sorbian (Wendish) Superintendent Installed in Bautzen, Germany***

In a large festival service on June 1, 2003, Rev. Jan Mahling was installed as the Sorbian Superintendent of the Lutheran Church in Saxony. (In Germany, the terms Sorb and Sorbian are used instead of Wend or Wendish.) At the same time, Rev. Mahling was also installed as pastor of St. Michael Lutheran Church in Bautzen. St. Michael is located just outside the wall, next to the Old Water Tower, and was historically the Lutheran Church for the Wends/Sorbs in Bautzen.

Since 1994, Rev. Mahling had served as the Lutheran pastor of St. Peter in Bautzen. St. Peter is the largest church and is used by both the Lutherans and Catholics. After the reformation, most of the area became Lutheran, but part of the area remained Catholic and it was decided to share the great church. Therefore, half of the church is used by the Catholics and the other half by the Lutherans.

The position of Sorbian Superintendent was created in Saxony after World War II, in 1949. Since that time, only three others have held the position: Gustav Mörbe, pastor in Hochkirch near Bautzen (1949-1958), Gerhard Wirth, pastor in Neschwitz near Bautzen (1958-1979), and Siegfried Albert, pastor of St. Michael in Bautzen (1979-2002). The Sorbian Superintendent is the leading Wendish Lutheran pastor in Saxony and is responsible for all of the Sorbian (Wendish)-related activities in about 20 congregations including the church services, education of children and youth, and various gatherings and meetings. While the use of the Sorbian language has declined dramatically among the Lutherans and is mostly spoken by the older people, diligent work continues to maintain Sorbian as a living language for the future.

June 1<sup>st</sup> was an important day for the Lutheran Sorbs in Lusatia. Many people were present including Catholic Sorbs. It was a great day of Ökumene, which means "working together with Christians from other churches" or, in this case, Lutheran and Catholic Sorbs working together.

Information provided by George Boerger and Gertrud Mahling. See photo of the event on Page 11



## ***Within the Fold...***

### ***In Memoriam***

Waldemar John (Wally) Hobratch, born January 20, 1919 at The Grove, Texas, passed away March 16, 2003 in Dallas.

Esther Schmidt, Warda, Texas, member since at least 1977, passed away May 15, 2003.

Paul Knippa, Jr., Austin, Texas, member since 1980.

Ervin Krautz, Winchester, Texas, member since 2001, passed away April 11, 2003.

Herbert Diers, Houston and Round Top, Texas, a descendant of Herman Kilian and member since 1999, passed away April 3, 2003.

Frances Kilian Pfluger, Austin, Texas, a descendant of Jan Kilian and member since 1990, passed away April 2, 2003.

## **President's Message**

### **Eunice Urban Dunk**

Things are buzzing in and around the museum as we are making plans to host the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Wendish Fest featuring the Trachtentanzgruppe Zeissig accompanied by the Blasorchester Konigswartha from Zeissig, Germany on Sunday, September 28, 2003. The event will be held on the grounds of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society Museum and St. Paul Lutheran Church picnic grounds at Serbin.

Rev. Harold W. Schroeter will be the speaker for the English Service at 8:30 a.m. and the German worship service at 10:30 a.m., both of which will be held in the historic St. Paul Lutheran Church. Bible Class and Sunday School are at 9:30 a.m.

Meal tickets will be available for purchase beginning at 10:45 a.m. and the Wendish noon meal will be served from 11:15 to 1:30 p.m. Snack booths open at 2:30 p.m. Drinks will be sold throughout the day.

Deadline for entries in the annual Coffeecake Bake-off is 10:30 a.m. and winners will be

announced at 12:30 p.m. Demonstrations and activities throughout the day include a silent auction, tours of St. Paul Lutheran Church (12:30 and 1:30 p.m.), noodle-making, sausage stuffing, blacksmithing, children's coloring contest (1:30 p.m.), washer pitching (2:00 p.m. with sign-up by 1:30 sharp), cross cut saw contest (4:30 p.m.), children's train rides, Klettern Pfosten, corn shucking, and many others. Kovanda's Czech Band will provide live music from 11:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

The Trachtentanzgruppe Zeissig, a dance group from Zeissig, Germany, accompanied by the Blasorchester Konigswartha will provide the featured performance for this year's Fest. The orchestra will begin their performance at 2:30 p.m. Both groups, which total about 40 members, will be dressed in colorful Wendish costumes and will entertain with traditional Wendish dances.

The Ladies Aid of St. Paul Lutheran Church will offer copies (audio and video) of the morning worship services. If you are unable to attend the festival and would like to order a copy of either service, you may contact Marilyn Miertschin, 1646 CR 210, Giddings, TX 78942, for information. A limited number of copies will be available at the Festival.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the program detailing all of the day's activities and we hope that everyone will participate in as many events as possible. We especially invite you to consider entering the coffeecake bake-off. By doing so, you will assist in making the contest more interesting and will also provide much-needed desserts to serve with the noon meal and for afternoon snacks.

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, September 28, and encourage your friends and family to join you. Family reunions at Wendish Fest are growing in popularity—family members can buy a plate lunch from us and your reunion committee does not have to worry about feeding anyone! You can even purchase door prizes from our museum or the arts and crafts booth.

Eunice Urban Dunk, President



#### UPCOMING EVENTS

August 17	General Membership Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Museum complex
September 1	Museum CLOSED for Labor Day
September 7	Warda Picnic
September 28	15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Wendish Fest, St. Paul picnic grounds and Wendish Museum complex, Serbin
October 13	Deadline for articles for October newsletter
October 15-18	Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International 2003 Genealogical/Cultural Conference, Houston
November 16	General Membership Meeting with election of officers

#### Silent Auction at Wendish Fest

One of our most popular Wendish Fest attractions, the Silent Auction, will be held in the barbecue pit area between the pavilion and the road on the Serbin picnic grounds. This has become one of our most successful sources of income at Wendish Fest and we encourage you to consider making a donation to it and/or buying an item on the day of the event. Last year's biggest attractions included handcrafted items and the various cookbooks donated by individuals whose church, civic group, or family had produced a collection of favorite recipes. Many other unique items are always available, and the bidding will cease at 2:30 so winners will have time to collect their treasures.

**We are in need of donations for the Silent Auction!** The Texas Wendish Heritage Society, Inc., is a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization, so your donation will be tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

If you have any questions, please contact the museum.

#### Goodies Needed for Souvenir Bags

We are in the process of preparing "goodie bags" for our Wendish Fest performers to take back to Germany. If you would like to donate items for this project, please consider making the donation as soon as possible. We need to prepare about 40 bags, but if you do not have that many identical "gifts", please don't let that stop you from donating. The goodie bag contents do not have to be identical. For more information or to donate, please contact the museum.

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#### General Membership Meeting

**Sunday, August 17, 2003, 2:00 PM**

Wine making has long been a Wendish tradition, and Mr. Carl Droemer has invited us to hold the next general meeting of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society at the Lehm Berg Winery located at 1266 CR 208, just outside of Giddings. The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 17, 2003. Following a short business meeting, Mr. Droemer will share the history of the winery, followed by a tour. We look forward to seeing you on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Should you have questions or need directions to the winery, contact Sandra Matthijetz at (979) 242-3442.

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#### John A. and Pauline Michalk Family Reunion

As our president referred to in her message, the Wendish Fest is an excellent venue for family reunions. And speaking of that subject, the John A. and Pauline Michalk family reunion will be held during Wendish Fest on September 28 at 1:00 p.m. All family members are asked to gather directly across the road from the Wendish museum, and look for the signs if you get lost!



### \*\*\*TWHS Want Ads\*\*\*

If you have been searching for a great deal on a great lawnmower, we are here to help you! We are offering for sale a fine quality, gently used, low mileage Sears Craftsman lawnmower with grass catcher, purchased in 1999, at a price too good to pass up - \$99.00 or best offer. If you are interested, please contact the Museum at 979-366-2441.



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### 9<sup>th</sup> CGSI Conference, Houston, Texas

The Texas Czech Genealogical Society is hosting the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International 2003 Genealogical/Cultural Conference, "The Lone Star Experience." The conference will be held during October 15-18 at the Omni Houston Hotel Westside. For more information, contact Sandra Matthijetz at (979) 242-3442.

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### We Need Your Help!

In the last newsletter, we published a list of special projects for which funding is needed in order to be possible. Unfortunately, no responses were received to our request. Following are the proposed projects for which we need financial support:

1. Renovate the St. Paul Building and re-roof the Peter Building
2. Create a dudelsack exhibit
3. Computerize the archives
4. Create an exhibit commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wends' immigration to Texas
5. Support the development of the children's book *Dear Opa...A Wendish Adventure*
6. Fund a statue of Mato Kosyk at Concordia, Austin

Hopefully, one of these projects will interest you; if so, please contact the museum Tuesday through Friday from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at 979-366-2441 or leave a message, or you can send an e-mail to [wendish@bluebon.net](mailto:wendish@bluebon.net).



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### 2003 Texas Folklife Festival

A special *thank you* to Ron Knippa and his group of faithful workers who again did an outstanding job of representing the Texas Wendish Heritage Society at the Folklife Festival in San Antonio in June. Not only will the money they raised help keep the museum going for everyone's enjoyment, but they also helped spread the word about the Texas Wends.

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### Memorials

From Suzanne Buck in memory of her mother, Frances Kilian Pfluger.

From the August and Marie (Biar) Schulz Family Reunion.

From Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kappler in memory of Jeanette Mertink.

From Donie Meador in loving memory of Erwin Krautz.

From Mr. Leland Miller in loving memory of Bernice (Elsik) Miller.

Donation to TWHS from Bill Biar.

From Pastor and Mrs. Robert Boyce in memory of Herbert Jurk.

From Pastor and Mrs. Robert Boyce in memory of Esther Schmidt.

From Pastor and Mrs. Robert Boyce in memory of Walter Bamsch.

From J. B. Gersch in memory of Lillian Pratho.

From J.B. Gersch in memory of Leonard Kappler.



From J.B. Gersch in memory of Melvin Winkler's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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## **Report from the Tours Committee**

### **Evelyn Kasper, Chairperson**

The museum hosted 4 tours during May, June and July. Summertime is traditionally a bit slower than spring and fall, so we are using the "down time" to prepare for Wendish Fest.

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## **Report from the Noodle Committee**

### **Hattie Schautschick, Chairperson**

Thus far for 2003, the Noodle Ladies have made 2,528 pounds of noodles. We think the ladies have made more noodles so far this year than they had at the same time last year!

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## **Presentation to the Texas German Society, South Belt Chapter**

On June 17, George Boerger gave a presentation on our new CD, *From Wendish to German to English*, to the South Belt Chapter of the Texas German Society at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Houston. Thank you George!

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## **News from Bautzen**

Gabriela Handrik, one of the high school-age members of Chor Meja, announced that her high school orchestra (the Wendish high school in Bautzen) was in competition for the state of Saxony. In their category, they took first place and next year will travel to Osnabrueck to compete with orchestras throughout Germany! Kudos to Gabriella and the rest of the group!

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## **Visitors**

The Museum hosted 372 visitors during April through June from New Mexico, Minnesota,

Arizona, California, Louisiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Germany, and cities and towns across Texas.

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## **Museum Docents**

Thank you to the following volunteers for serving as museum docents during April, May and June:

J.B. Gersch, Jr., Lorine Domel, Carolyn Bohot, Eunice Dunk, Hattie Schautschick, Janice Mitschke, Freddie Zoch, Henry and Emily Zoch, Mildred Kilian, Ruby Koslan, Evelyn Kasper, Coni Karisch, Bethany Ruhnow.

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## **May Membership Meeting Refreshments**

Thank you to Evelyn Kasper, Eunice Dunk, Jan Slack and Barbara Hielscher for providing the refreshments for the May General Membership meeting.

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## **Lee County German Society News**

The Lee County German Society held their monthly meeting on Thursday, July 3 with 27 members and 5 visitors present. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short devotion led by Renata Hughes. The birthday song was sung for members who had a birthday in July.

Dr. Stephen Flowers of Smithville gave a very informative program on the Germanic language. He explained the differences among old High German, Middle High German, and New High German. We welcome Stephen and Crystal Flowers as new members.

On Thursday, August 7, the Society will have their annual summer picnic at the air conditioned picnic grounds of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Warda beginning at 4:00 p.m. A pot-luck salad supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. Drinks will be furnished by the Society. Entertainment for the evening will be German music provided by local musicians.



## The 1853 Immigrants

**Dr. George Nielsen,**

**Special Features Editor**

### Help Wanted

The brief histories of the remaining families of the 1853 migration have not been completed in time for this issue. If you can help with the history of any of the following families, including photographs, please write to me. The names are Johann Kasper, Matthes and Johann Matthiez, Christoph Hollas, George Schelnik, August Polnik, Johann Schmidt, and Johann Domaschk-Janak. If you know of anyone who could assist, encourage them to write to me at 1132 Enchantment Road, Rapid City, SD 57701 or by email to GNie857317@aol.com.

### Kilian Letter

In place of these family histories I would like to offer a letter written by Johann Kilian to Johann C. W. Lindemann, first president of the teachers seminary in Addison, Illinois. The school had been founded in 1864 and then, in 1913, was relocated to River Forest. Kilian's son, Gerhard attended Addison from 1867 until 1872, and then became the teacher in Serbin. In 1867 Gerhard had traveled from Serbin to St. Louis under the guidance of Pastor C. T. H. Fick of Collinsville, Illinois, who had visited the Serbin congregation. In St. Louis, Gerhard stayed with Pastor C. F. W. Walther until someone could take him to Addison. During the first summer vacation, Gerhard evidently remained in the North.

The photograph Kilian referred to is shown on Page 8 and supports Kilian's appraisal of the photographer's skill.

Throughout the letter, whether giving advice about wives in Texas or avoiding postage costs, Kilian reflects the top three Wendish virtues: Godliness, cleanliness, and thrift. It reminds me of my own Wendish mother's advice against marrying "eine Amerikanerin." "American" girls did not know how to cook and clean like Wendish and German girls did, and neither were they

careful with the money. Luebner arrived in Serbin as a single man and married later, so Kilian's fears – as well as my mother's – were not realized.

Serbin June 26th 1868

Prof. J. W. Lindemann Addison, Ills.

Dear Director,

I received your dear letter of June 4th on June 20. Your news concerning Gerhard was most pleasing to me and my wife. My wife sends friendly greetings to you and your wife. I am in complete agreement with you that Gerhard should not go to Collinsville during the next school vacation. I gave him free choice between going to Collinsville, and remaining in Addison. He should speak to you about what would be best. My letter to you, which was written on 24 May, was written in haste and sent without the necessary thought. It was on a Sunday evening that I had to write to you and Mr. J. Kauffmann & Company in Galveston because the next day we would go to Brenham where my nearest express office is located and from which the money and both letters are sent. I hope that you received the money draft with which my Gerhard can take his vacation without worry. Actually, I would like to know which choice he makes when he gets the money. Permit him to manage on his own as long as he does not exceed the limits that his calling might prescribe.

It has been quite a while since you sent me your photograph. It has been framed and hangs over my Melodian, so I always have it before me. Recently I sent my son several photos and you should select one that pleases you. The pictures are not that good because the photographer, who on occasion stops by our colony, does not position the persons he is taking in the proper light, because of the unfamiliar surroundings and just possibly because he is learning the art. Gerhard, however, will make a judgment if it resembles us or not.

I received your letter along with a letter from Pres.[of the Western District, Johann F.] Bünger [in St. Louis] on Saturday June 20, so on Sunday I could announce a congregational assembly to be



held in the afternoon of the Feast of St. John. This congregational assembly officially took place. Your letter as well as the letter from Pres. Bünger were read. The congregation needed to decide if it desired to take Ernst Leubner, even though he did not meet all of our requirements. After both letters were read all the cranks were quiet, because there are always some here, so the vote could be taken. As a result of the vote it was decided that Ernst Leubner was desired as school teacher. He must therefore come to Serbin.

Our present organist, Carl Teinert, is pleased with the vote because Mr. Leubner must first learn how to play the organ. Teinert will gladly instruct him how to play the organ if he is willing to become a student. Carl Teinert, our farmer, plays the organ nimbly even though he does not use notes. He also plays the violin quite well. He previously learned the notes and the key and how they fit together. Now he does not want to know anything about notes, but plays every melody that he can sing. And he is a good singer and sings most melodies. If a new melody is introduced, I play the notes for him until he knows them well enough to sing them. Then he plays them on the organ. Even an organ with pedals and many registers is not a predicament for him. But he is poor and in debt and a father of many children. He faithfully plays the organ here and receives nothing more than an annual gift of \$20 and gifts for each baptism and marriage. He is a Lutheran through and through, and was one of the first of the Wends in Prussia who left the royal Prussian state church. Our Teinert, who always has been a member of the church council will humbly take Mr. Leubner under his wing. Then all will go well, that concerns singing and the organ.

Because Mr. Leubner is 21 years old, I am greatly concerned, that he does nothing rash in response to my expressed wish in an earlier hurried letter that our teacher should enter into marriage. Therefore I am forced to explain that he, as a single man, will gladly be accepted and brought to us.

But unlucky is a married man in Texas whose wife cannot or will not take hold of all things with

her own hands and therefore wants a domestic servant. The wife must herself be the maid or it will go badly in Texas. Therefore it would be better if Mr. Leubner remained single for the time being instead of bringing along a wife who needs to be served and not willing and able to do all kinds of work such as cooking, washing, and ironing with her own hands. Mr. Leubner should not be offended by this tip. My intentions are good and I have experience.

As for the travel money, Pres. Bünger wrote that he will see to it that the money is advanced to Mr. Leubner on the condition that the advance would in such a case be repaid from here. This congregation wishes that this method be used because with the sending of a draft they would not know if Mr. Leubner is coming with a wife or without one or if the sent amount would reach him soon enough. And he may wish to undertake his trip here before the usual Texas sick period in fall.

I would also like to suggest that he bring with him a small stock of books that he might need. I had 2 boxes of books sent from St. Louis and had to pay express costs of \$12 per box. This expense Mr. Leubner can save if he provides himself with the necessary books. For example, there are no copies of the St. Louis hymn books here any more. He could take about 30 from Mr. M. C. Barthel [of Concordia Publishing House] on my account that I could settle when I sent a draft for reimbursing the travel money. The large print edition of the St. Louis hymnal is the best. The middle print is acceptable. But the small print is not favored and with that I remain in the Lord, your obedient servant, J. Kilian P.

[Translator: Bill Biar]





## Johann Kilian Family

Left to Right: Theresa, Maria (Groeschel), Johann, Bernhard

Standing: Hulda & Gerhard

Photo courtesy TWHs Museum



## International Wendish Conference gets American Perspective

**Dr. David Zersen, former President at Concordia University at Austin**

Scholars from several countries gathered from June 15-18 in Werben, near Cottbus, Germany, to celebrate and draw implications from the life of Wendish poet, Mato Kosyk who was born in this town 150 years ago in 1853. I was among the 19 invited scholars. The two languages of the conference were German and Wendish/Sorbian. My presentation was made in German, although almost half of the presentations were in Wendish as well.

Mato Kosyk emigrated to the United States in 1883, became a Lutheran pastor and lived for the next 55 years in Iowa, Nebraska and Oklahoma. During his years in ministry as well as in retirement he wrote poetry in his native Wendish and sent the poems back to Lusatia for publication. This year the critical editions (five volumes) of his poems and dramas are being published as he is hailed as the greatest Lower Sorbian writer who ever lived. (His life is summarized in a segment of the CD, *From Wendish to German to English*, recently produced by the TWHS.)

It should not be seen as surprising that the two best known Wends who emigrated to the United States, Kilian and Kosyk, were both Lutheran clergyman and poets. Receiving a higher education in Wendish families of the late 1800s was not self-understood since costs were often prohibitive and there was little cultural support for higher education. However, pursuing a role as pastor, a career subsidized by the Church, was highly regarded and provided a background which appreciated languages and literature.

I was invited to speak on Der Einfluss der Umgebung auf den kuenstlerischen Ausdruck: Einblicke in die Poesie von Mato Kosyk aus der Sicht der neuen Welt (The Influence of Environment on Artistic Expression: Insights into the Poetry of Mato Kosyk from the Perspective of the New World). During 2002-2003, I published

four articles in U.S. journals on my research into the American background of this little known representative of Wendish culture in America.

The conference was hosted at "Zum Stern," a Werben Hotel famous for its Wendish cuisine. Typical meals were Boiled Potatoes with Quark and Leinenöl (linseed oil) and a large side-dish of Spreewald pickles or Schmorgurken (sautéed cucumbers with Schinken and onions) with new potatoes. Festival events included Wendish dancers and singers, a worship service in Wendish and German and the opening of an exhibition that will come to Texas this fall.

The conference was sponsored by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the central research organization funded by the Federal Republic of Germany that promotes research at German universities. Dr. Roland Marti, the convener of the Conference, will come to Serbin for the Wendish Fest as well as for the dedication of a Kosyk statue at Concordia University at Austin on Sept. 29. (Information about this dedication can be received by contacting Dr. Zersen at [dzersen@aol.com](mailto:dzersen@aol.com)).



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## Membership Report

**George Boerger, Membership Chairperson**

We want to thank Marvin Schulze of Austin for becoming a life member of the Society. Currently there are 9 life members, including 5 who joined during the last 5 years. The cost of becoming a life member is \$1,000 and can be paid over two years, so please consider this option for membership and support of our museum.

As of July 17, a new record of 654 members has been set, breaking last year's record of 561! We have exceeded the goal of 600 members in every category thanks to the incredible efforts of our



members. Thank you for your hard work and for the gift donations.

	Goal	Year-to-date	Above goal
Membership renewals	488	515	27
First-time members	100	110	10
Former members rejoined	12	29	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>54</b>

### July 2003 Sponsor Members

Ben Herbrich	Hollis Hills, NY
Walter Zoch	Cherokee, TX

### July 2003 First-Time Members

Kirstin Carleson	Leysin, Switzerland
Cheryl Fritsche	Houston, TX
Rev. Eddie Greschel	Racine, WI
Ben Herbrich	Hollis Hills, NY
Allison M. Kieschnick	Austin, TX
Andrew Kieschnick	Austin, TX
Carolyn Miertschin	La Grange, TX
Monroe Miertschin	La Grange, TX
Katherine Ruse Richards	Austin, TX
Shirley Schulze	San Antonio, TX
Loretta Simank	Houston, TX
Esther Kolbas Williams	Grandbury, TX
Barbara Zoch	Houston, TX

### July 2003 Student Members

Ashley Hielscher	Brentwood, TN
Charles Hielscher	Brentwood, TN
Jerry Hielscher, II	La Grange, TX

### July 2003 Life Members

Marvin Schulze	Austin, TX
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### July 2003 Patron Members

Kirstin Carleson	Leysin, Switzerland
Shantelle Grace	Dublin, GA
Elizabeth Kunze	Warda, TX
Dr. George Kunze	Warda, TX
Katherine Ruse Richards	Austin, TX
Shirley Schulze	San Antonio, TX
Laveda Thompson	Adkins, TX

### Minutes of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society General Membership Meeting

The quarterly membership meeting of the Texas Wendish Heritage Society was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Peter Building on Sunday, May 18, 2003, by Eunice Dunk, President.

Reverend Michael Buchhorn provided the opening devotion, reading from Lamentations, Chapter 3. The story of the trip the Wends made to Texas – the day-by-day story – is a story of God's faithfulness. The Wends probably understood the trials faced by the people in Lamentations, Chapter 3. We should remember we are people on a journey to our heavenly home and pray that God sustains and supports us on our way and that we also stick together and support each other.

There were 19 members present.

The minutes of the February 2003 meeting were approved as presented in the April newsletter.

George Boerger reported that the number of members has reached an all-time high of 635, up from 561 for 2002.

In Hattie Schautschick's absence, Evelyn Kasper reported that 521 pounds of noodles were made during March, April and May.

Evelyn Kasper reported that 6 tours were provided during April and May, and one tour is scheduled for August 20.

Eunice Dunk reminded the group of the following upcoming events: Folklife Festival scheduled for June 5 – 9, 2003 in San Antonio; Wendish Fest on September 28; and the Serbin Picnic on May 25.



Donations are needed for the Wendish Fest Silent Auction.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The program was provided by George Boerger who presented the museum's new CD and exhibit entitled *Wendish to German to English: A Journey into Wendish Culture, History and Language*.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Slack, Secretary

### In Search of.....

Richard Gravesmill of Del Plaines, Illinois is seeking information on the history of a large ruin of a Wendish settlement in northern Mecklenburg, on the Ostsee, north of Grevesmuehlen, west of Klutz in Germany. If you have information you can share, please contact Richard by email at [gravesmillr@aol.com](mailto:gravesmillr@aol.com) or by surface mail at 410 North Fourth Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016.



Jan Mahling installed as Sorbisher Superintendent and Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran congregation St. Michael in Bautzen, Germany, June 1, 2003

Photo courtesy Gertrud Mahling



# Wendish Fest September 28, 2003 See you there!

## *Texas Wendish Heritage Society*

Executive Director.....	Barbara Hielscher
Officers.....	Eunice Dunk, President
	Sandra Matthijetz, Vice President
	Jan Slack, Secretary
	Laverne Gersch, Treasurer
Newsletter Editor-in-Chief.....	Jan Slack

Please send Newsletter submissions to:

Newsletter Editor, 1011 CR 212, Giddings, Texas 78942-5940

Email [wendish@bluebon.net](mailto:wendish@bluebon.net) or Fax (979) 366-2805

## **Texas Wendish Heritage Society and Museum**

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