



Sunflower Chapter Newsletter

Winter 2009

vol. 12, issue 5

Good food, good friends, GOOD FUN!

by Judy Hoffman

Once again we were truly spoiled by our chapter's excellent cooks: Betty Pfannenstiel, Dolores Pfannenstiel, Wilma Braun, and Verna Befort. Our fund-raiser German feast was one for the books as we all enjoyed smothered steak with all the trimmings and *Knebbel* (small dumplings) with *Schwartzbeeren* (blackberries). Top that off with a wide assortment of favorite desserts and you had a bunch of happy campers.

Once fed and content, we waited with high hopes for the lucky names to be drawn for the raffle. They were Laurinda Miller (\$50), Pat Weigel (hand-crocheted doilies), Donna Dreiling (hand-crocheted doilies), Rosemary Karlin (nesting dolls from Russia), Les Gross (songbook and CD), Diana Klaus (mystery box), Verna Befort (Schoenberger cookbook), Paul Schamberger (book), and Jeannie Dreiling (genealogy book).

After a short business meeting, Leona W. Pfeifer spoke about the old *stille Messe* (Low Mass) in Munjor at 7 a.m. on Sundays. It was called this because there was no music. It was also a short Mass, about a half-hour long, and it was especially good at a time



when the Eucharistic fast lasted from midnight on. The High Mass at 10 a.m. was always much longer and included a long sermon. In the afternoon was Vespers, a short prayer service.

Occasionally a lady came to Mass with her slip showing a little bit--not intentional, you understand. Leona's dad would say, "With her, Vespers today was longer than the High

Mass." Her dad was usually quiet, so Leona was a bit shocked when her dad would say that.

The day's entertainment was provided by LeRoy Herrman and Sylvester Befort. LeRoy played sax and accordian. Sylvester played the dulcimer. It was interesting to see the guys gather 'round the musicians. I wondered, did the music stir up lots of memories for them?

Our Local Volga Germans in the World Wars: Part 2

WWI ACTION IN FRANCE FOR FRANK WIESNER

by Rosemary (Wiesner) Larson

In 1918 Frank Wiesner was subject to the military draft, so on April 25 he was inducted into the United States Army at Camp Funston, Kansas (today's Fort Riley). After receiving basic training and his typhoid shots, he was ready for duty in France on May 15. He was a private in Company C of the 353rd Regiment, known as the Kansas Regiment of the American Expeditionary Forces.

The regiment sailed from New York on June 4, 1918 with nine ships in the convoy. The trip was uneventful except for some rough seas, seasickness, and the constant threat of German subs. The convoy arrived in England on June 15. By June 24 the regiment was in Manois, France, about 40 miles from the battle lines. For a brief period the regiment drilled there. "[We] cleaned and oiled our shoes getting ready for the trenches," Wiesner recalled later.

On July 24 the regiment was in the trenches and had a general headquarters inspection to assure the men's readiness. In preparation for action the men were stripped of all their worldly goods except for the packs on their backs and their weapons. A surplus kit consisted of one shirt, one extra pair of shoelaces, one blanket, and a box of shoe dubbing. The inspectors could hardly believe that the hardened, sunburned soldiers who stood before them were the same men who had begun their intensive training five weeks before.

From this time on, the 353rd was engaged in all the major battles of World War I, suffering through heavy losses of men, gas attacks, box barrages, rain, mud and all the conditions that made Sherman's remark that "War is hell" an apt one.

Frank fought at Saint Mihiel. The battle of Saint Mihiel in September 1918 was the first distinctly American offensive of World War I.

In an interview published in the Ellis County News on March 6, 1919, Wiesner gave these recollections:

"We were in the St. Mihiel drive, and it was just one big rush forward. The hard thing with the doughboys was to keep them from going too fast all the time, and getting into their own barrage. In fact, the marines were in the habit of hiking right to their objective even though it took them through their own barrage. Their objective was to 'take' the point, set the pace for the doughboys and then the doughboys did the holding of the

'WE DID FIND A GIRL WORKING A MACHINE GUN FROM THE TOWER OF A CHURCH.'



positions, and marines got to retire to their quarters [...] I saw the enemy machine-gunners chained to the rails of the railroad so they couldn't leave even if they wanted to. We did find a girl working a machine gun from the tower of a church. Two other women were found at the same time."

Commenting on the famous Hindenburg line, Wiesner remarked, "It was the most substantial defense you can imagine. Where solid rock didn't exist from which to cut it they made great concrete walls which couldn't be penetrated with any ordinary artillery. The dug-outs were deep and comfortable with good accommodations. In front the barbed wire entanglement was such that you could not put your foot down for perhaps four or five hundred feet. This barbed wire was about two feet high, and every so often there would be wires strung about five feet high. It couldn't be traversed until the wire was first blown up and cut away. That was done with artillery fire and with tanks [...] Sometimes the enemy airplanes came low enough that we could train our rifles on them."

Wiesner concluded, "I was in the Argonne offensive for only a short time when I was wounded on October 21. I was treated in the field hospital in the Argonne forest for a shrapnel wound in my left arm near the elbow." He also suffered as the result of gas attacks on the troops.

Wiesner returned to the United States on February 8, 1919, and was honorably discharged at Camp Funston, Kansas, on February 22, 1919.



More facts (and rumors) about life here in early days

ED. NOTE: Lucky for us, Rosemary (Wiesner) Larson has shared with us some additional tidbits she gathered while researching her family tree in early Ellis County newspapers. A few items are more than a bit puzzling. If you have any further information about any of them to share with our readers, please do so. Simply write to me or e-mail me at the addresses given on the back page of this newsletter.

27 July 1876, Ellis County Star

We have received but one Indian scare this week—seven families of Russians were massacred on Big Timber.

27 July 1876, Ellis County Star

Russians that arrived here Tuesday are simply in advance of 600 who will arrive in a few weeks. They will make homes on North Fork.

27 July 1876, Ellis County Star

Two carloads of Russians arrived Wednesday morning. The group were ten families—eleven to a family.

27 April 1879, Hays City Sentinel

Earthquake by WaKeeney at 8:45 p.m. For 1 minute and 30 seconds. Northwest to Southeast

25 July 1879, Hays City Sentinel

“Mosel” brings over 600 Russians, representing capital of over \$200,000—60 families and 223 children. They are a remarkably fine looking party.

1 November 1882, German American Advocate

Herzog church being completed.

17 November 1883

Jacob Karlin is first German Russian in public office as County Commissioner.

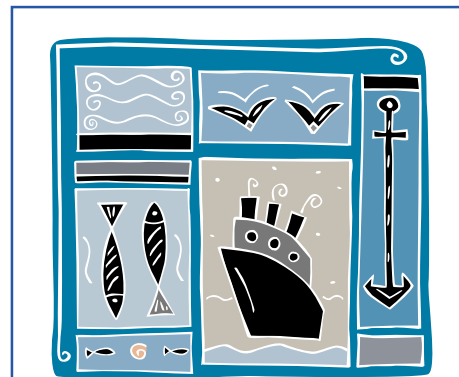
26 July 1913, Ellis County News

Joseph Fisher, Alex Graff, Andrew Leikam, Joseph Dechant, and Cornelius Kuntz went to Edmonton Alberta Canada.

10 September 1917,

Ellis County News

The Stations of the Cross at St. Fidelis Church are reproductions of the carvings by Martin Feuerstein which are in St. Ann’s Church in Munich.



The steamship Mosel, which carried hundreds of Volga German families from Germany to America, was built in 1872 by Scottish shipbuilders for the North German Lloyd Line. Along with 90 in first class and 126 in second class, it accommodated 600 third-class passengers. Our immigrant ancestors generally traveled third-class.

In 1875 the hapless Mosel was damaged by a bomb blast while it was in port in Bremerhaven, Germany. In 1882 it was destroyed in a shipwreck off the coast of Cornwall.

(For additional information, see freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~monajo/labs/mosel.htm .)

24 Oct 1918, Ellis County News To Prevent Influenza

Dr. J. D. Griffith expresses great confidence in the preventive method used in Gloucester, Mass. Where the epidemic has affected more people per capita than in any other city in the United States.

“A common teaspoonful of soda in a well-boiled pint of water, a glassful of which is used three or four times each day by a person who has not yet contracted the disease has been found to be the most effective preventive used in Gloucester,” Doctor Griffith said. In no case where used under these conditions has the disease been contracted, Doctor Garland informed Doctor Griffith.

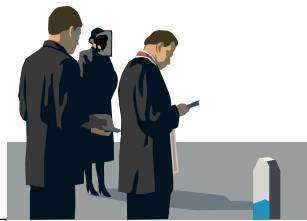
Health directions to keep the disease from spreading:

- Stay out of crowds.
- Avoid all dust.
- Keep the bowels active by drinking water freely.
- Say away from sick people.
- Consult a physician if you feel ill, then follow his advice.
- Eat plenty of wholesome food.
- Dress sensibly in keeping with the weather.
- Sleep on sleeping porch if possible; if not, keep room well ventilated but avoid drafts.
- Wash the throat frequently with salt solution.

FROM THE ARM & HAMMER BAKING SODA booklet, “A Friend in Need” (c)1924

During the first day take six doses of half teaspoon Arm and Hammer Bicarbonate of Soda in a glass of cool water, at about two hour intervals. Second day--four doses of half tsp at the same intervals. Third day--two doses of half tsp and thereafter half tsp each morning until cold is cured. Better results will be obtained if doses are not taken too near meal times.

Grim discovery in Saratov region



ED. NOTE: One of Kevin Rupp's foreign contacts alerted him to this Russian television news report broadcast by NTV on September 25, 2009. I translated it with the aid of the Google Translator software program. The original transcription, along with video and photographs, can be found online at www.ntv.ru/novosti/176656/.

The terrible discovery was made in the Saratov region. Washed away from the shoreline of the Volga River was an old cemetery. In some places were seen a coffin, a skull, and other bones. Many of the moldering remains were found strewn with a white powder similar to lime, which was used for burial during epidemics of cholera and plague.

Every time there is a flood, local authorities say, more land along the riverbank erodes away, revealing more graves.

On the scene at this terrible beach cemetery was NTV correspondent Mikhail Chernov.

Eugene Kravs waded into the Volga to his knees, into a grim neighborhood of the dead. He was not worried, joking that it is better not to look nervous when you are an inveterate fisherman and bones are your only catch.

Kravs, a local resident, added, "The coffins stick out straight from the slope, and the bones wash away. Sometimes we see skulls swimming. We have become accustomed to it."

The village along the Volga where this occurs is Chkalovskoye. It stands at a height of ten meters above the water-rotted coffins, where flood waters wash away the skulls and bones. Human remains are found regularly.

Vladimir Scheffer, another local resident, said, "The cemetery is located behind my house [...] It is just behind the barn."

Before the war a large German settlement called Laupen was located here. In 1941, almost the entire village was deported, and the graves were forgotten. Seventeen years ago, when the Volgograd reservoir was built here, there was simply nobody around to rebury the remains of the Germans.

One local resident said, "[...] If any of the deceased had relatives living here, they reburied their relatives. But in general the Germans were dispersed--they were evicted--and there was no one left to rebury the remains."

The old Lutheran cemetery once was located on the rural outskirts of the village, but when the Volgograd reservoir was dug up and filled in, the cemetery ended up right on its banks. Now, every spring the water opens a new grave. In the neighboring village exists the same grim picture. Next to an ancient cemetery you can find the village beach, a favorite place for kids. Yet each time there's a flood, the earth yields a terrible new discovery.

One local resident said, "Bones, skulls, coffins, sometimes pieces of coffins, old jewelry--we find these all the time."

A local school teacher, Marina Nikitina, searched the archives and found that the Volga Germans settled in these parts already 300 years ago, after Empress Catherine II had called her compatriots to Russia.

Nikitina, who teaches history, said, "It seems that the coins with the double-headed eagle belong to the era of

Catherine the Great. They are dated 1784. Our children found them on the ground of the former cemetery."

When hydrogeologists traveled on expedition to the place of the old graves, they became alarmed at their findings.

Valery Iovlev, head of the expedition from Saratov, said, "In a survey of the shoreline and the graves themselves, we noticed that a white powder covers the clothing of the deceased. We hypothesized that this is lime. Lime is used if the buried people have died in a cholera plague."

Official records kept in Rospotrebnadzor do not indicate whether there ever was an infection at the place of burial. The authorities recognize that urgent action is needed, but there is no money for that. It will take almost a year for an allocation of funds from the federal budget.

Valery Belov, Minister of the Saratov Region and Chairman of the Committee on Environment and Nature, said, "Applications for protection have been filed for 2010 and subsequent years. The documents note that the problem is real and action is justified. This was supported at the preliminary hearing. I am almost sure that this issue will be systemically addressed by next year."

In the meantime, local residents have one other hope left--that a foreign country will help. Descendants of repressed Germans are now returning to the land of their ancestors. They are going to contact the German embassy, and maybe from Germany, at least, there will be help.

POSTSCRIPT: In the United States we exercise similar caution in regard to old cemeteries where those with communicable diseases might have been buried. One reason the graves remain undisturbed at Hays' Boot Hill is the fear of spreading tuberculosis, which can remain active for 100+ years.

NEWS & MEDIA TIDBITS

In March of this year, the website www.Travel.ru reported plans for a new open-air museum to be built in the Kemerovo Region of Western Siberia. It will attempt to educate the public about the Stalin-era labor camps that stretched across Siberia and the Asian republics of the old Soviet Union.

An authentic Gulag environment will be re-created through the construction of a barracks, a wash house, a canteen, watch towers, and a fence surrounding the compound. Once completed, the museum is expected to attract 10,000 visitors annually.

Meanwhile, back in Moscow, government attempts to restore respect for Josef

Stalin appear to be succeeding, according to AP reporter Steve Gutterman writing on October 27. History books are once again painting him in a positive light, new portraits and statues of Stalin are appearing in public places, and last year a state TV station released survey results indicating that Russians rank Stalin third among Russia's all-time greatest leaders!

GENEALOGY TIP

Kim Komando is host of a popular national radio show that gives advice on computers and other electronics. Her website, www.komando.com, is full of useful information, too.

One page of her website notes that if you have a computer, you can assemble your family tree through a free service available online. Komando adds:

"Finding your ancestors isn't impossible. You just need a little bit of help. *Family Search* offers some of the best around. You can search through birth, marriage and death records. Multinational census data and church records are also available.

"You can keep your findings organized with the free PAF (Personal Ancestral File) software. It can produce family histories, pedigree charts and other genealogical records. And you can add new branches as your family grows. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints provides *Family Search*. It's tough to find a group that knows more about genealogy. This site has some of the most complete records you'll find."

If you wish to try the free software, go to www.familysearch.org. It presently accommodates computers with Windows XP and Windows Vista operating programs.



Russian professor arrested for researching WWII exile of Germans, Poles

If you type the name "Mikhail Suprun" into any internet research engine these days, you will get pages of references related to an incident that occurred in Russia's far north earlier this fall. On September 13, a Russian historian was briefly arrested for compiling data on 5000 Soviet citizens of Polish and German background who were exiled during or soon after WWII.

Suprun had received grant money from the German Red Cross and the Historical Research Society of Germans to do his research, and he was hoping to write two books. "I need another two or three years before I can finish them," Suprun said, but added that he had agreed not to talk further about his case as a condition of his release.

Completing his work is now in jeopardy because the FSB has seized his computer and all his hard drives. (The FSB was formed from elements of the KGB after the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union.) With the help of research assistants from his university, he had been compiling data for the past ten years.

Some of the best information on the Suprun case can be found at the websites for *Novaya Gazetta*, Russia's leading liberal newspaper, and the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group. A member of the FSB told a *Novaya* reporter, "Suprun copied whole personal information details about those resettled and sent them abroad....The relatives are against it, they say that nobody asked their consent and they don't want anyone finding out about their father. Some hid their nationality, surname: they made Russian ones from German or Jewish names." The government investigator added that 75 years must pass from the date of a person's exile before it becomes legal to divulge details about the person--and only if consent is obtained from his or her surviving relatives. Suprun, for his part, claims that the FSB has faked any alleged complaints from relatives.

The dispute between Suprun and the FSB, most observers agree, stems from a kind of "rehabilitation" of Soviet history that has been occurring within Russia since the rise of Putin a decade ago. In the words of Rauf Gabidullin, a human rights advocate in Archangelsk, "What we are seeing is the rebirth of control over history. The majority of Russians don't have any idea of the scale of Stalin's repression. Those in power are from the KGB. They don't want people to know what their KGB predecessors were doing, or its huge scope."

Some Details of My Mother's Life

On March 1, 1876, Athanasius Karlin was 16 years old when he arrived in Hays, Kansas, with his sister Maria and his parents Friedrich and Maria (Beilman) Karlin. Hailing from Katerinenstadt, Russia, the Karlins became one of the founding families of Catherine, Kansas. It was on February 8, 1887, that Athanasius began keeping a diary full of his memories of Russia and his new experiences in America. From that diary comes the following excerpt, which is part of a grade school teaching unit on the Volga Germans available from the Kansas State Historical Society. (For more info, visit www.kshs.org/teachers/trunks/volga.htm .)

She has been the daughter of a school-master, Lorenz Beilman. She has been a woman who, so to say, lived only for others. She let never a poor one go away without any consolation if ever she could help it.

She visited the sick of the parish and was always at their deathbeds and prayed with them till they died.

She went to the sick at day and at night, whenever she was called, not minding rain or snow, no trouble was too much for her, especially helpful was to the women in labor. Therefore, everybody loved and honored her like a mother.

She has been, almost uninterruptedly, the president of the Christian Mothers for the nineteen years she belonged to it. When the priest needed some money for the church, to buy something new, he only needed to go to the president and she got the necessary money together with her women.

No need to care about the children at home. She taught them to pray and prayed with them, helped with the lessons in the catechism, with the Mass prayers for the altar boys, in a word cared for everything.

Furthermore, she had had a good schooling, and was especially a good singer. She knew all the songs by heart for the different feasts of the church year. No need to say that she had been pious and prayed a lot. That is for sure. She had been the first member of the Third Order and had remained a faithful member up to her death, for 26 years. She wanted to be buried next to our father; that was done, of course.

Letters from Russia to Ellis County

by Kevin Rupp

The Ellis County News does not list the Russian village where this letter came from, but it is known that Alexander Schmidt was born in Preuss, Russia, and that he and his brother Adolf later settled in Schoenchen, Kansas. Alexander Schmidt was married to Josephine Werth and then to Elizabeth (Rhinehart) Meringer-Milberger.

November 26, 1921

'WE ARE NEITHER LIVING NOR DEAD.'

Dearly beloved children of the Adolf and Alexander families:

It would be a source of the greatest pleasure if you and your families were all well. Your father and mother as well as your family are well and wish you the best of health.

Your brother John, your sister Maria Anna, and her husband Henry, as well as your sister Julitha and her husband Andrew with their families, are all well and wish you the same.

'IF ONLY, DEAR CHILDREN, I COULD WRITE ALL.'

Now, dear children, we wish to inform you how we are living in Russia. We are neither living nor dead. You will probably say what is meant by that. I will explain it in a few words. When a person has nothing to eat, he is not alive nor is he dead. If only, dear children, I could write all, how conditions are here with us. If you see a person walk along the street, he seems so weak that you momentarily expect to see him fall over dead. In such weakened conditions are the entire public.

I will now inform you about how I live with my family. On the 1st of February, 1921, we ate our last bread--that is, our own bread. Since that time, if we wished to eat bread, we had to buy it. We would gladly buy bread if we could earn money enough to buy at least one pound per day for five persons, but we cannot even buy a pound a week because it is high-priced. One pound of bread costs 8000 to 10,000 rubles. You can well imagine that we cannot live.

'BREAD COSTS 8000-10.000 RUBLES.'

Dear children--Adolf and Alexander and families--we all pray that you come to our assistance that we many not perish of hunger. Help us in one way or another for here we must surely die of hunger.

Dear children, you undoubtedly have heard of the conditions here in Russia. Write to us and let us know about yourselves for we have not heard from you for so many years; we do not know whether or not you are alive. If alive, please, oh please help us out of this valley of tears.

Your loving Father and Mother Schmidt.



AND NOW FOR A WORD FROM OUR TREASURER



As you all should be aware, it is time to renew your AHSGR membership at both the national and local levels. **I am going to ask EVERYONE to fill out the form below and return it to me with your dues.** If you have already paid your dues, please fill out the form, anyway, and send it to me.

I am in the process of building a database for the chapter to use, and I need to verify the information I have and fill in the blanks for missing data.

Updates on your telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are important to us. There are times when we need to communicate with members on short notice. Telephone and e-mail are the quickest methods available to us.

I am asking for your birthday so that we might send you a card. Please give at least the month and day.

Please complete and send this form to:

Robert C Taubert
1908 Walnut Street
Ellis, KS 67637-1911

Telephone: (785) 639-1791
E-mail: rctaubert@eaglecom.net

(NOTE: You **MUST** be a member of the international society in order to become a local member.)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION for 2010 International Historical Society of Germans from Russia Sunflower Chapter



PRIVACY OPTION: Check here if you do NOT want your information published to others in the society.

MEMBERSHIP: New Renewal

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____ National \$ _____ Local
(National dues are \$50 and local dues are \$10. If you are a paid lifetime member of AHSGR, please put "Life" in the slot for the national dues.)

MEMBER INFORMATION:

Your First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Your Birth Month _____ Day _____ Year (optional) _____

German-Russian Heritage Yes No

Your Ancestral Names _____

Your Ancestral Villages _____

Your Spouse's First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Your Spouse's Birth Month _____ Day _____ Year (optional) _____

German-Russian Heritage: Yes No

Your Spouse's Ancestral Names _____

Your Spouse's Ancestral Villages _____

Your Street Address _____

Your City, State, Zip _____

Your Telephone Number _____ Your E-mail Address _____

Your Newsletter Delivery Preference By E-mail By Postal Mail Both

MESSAGE FROM CHAPTER BOARD

Plans are afoot to make 2010 the biggest and best year yet for membership in the AHSGR and the Sunflower Chapter. To help you keep track of all the events planned, a separate sheet listing key information is included with this newsletter. Hang it up wherever you post important reminders in your home or office.

Throughout 2010 we hope to offer you lots of help with compiling your genealogy. Included in this effort will

be the establishment of a chapter library, with books you can examine before and after chapter meetings, as well as check out to take home with you. Shirley Brungardt, Chapter Historian, is graciously co-ordinating this effort.

Our 30th Anniversary Bash will go from noon to midnight on May 28. AHSGR members will get a price break, but others will pay full admission. See the enclosure for more info, and don't miss this rare event!

Next Meeting

DEC. 6



SOCIAL...11:15
POTLUCK...12:00
PROGRAM...1:30

It's time for our Christmas potluck! Please bring a dish to share. The program will include a presentation by Kevin Rupp on his recent trip to Russia, the story of Christmas told in German by Leona W. Pfeifer, and a Christmas carol sing-along led by LeRoy Herrman and Kevin. There will also be door prizes. RSVP by calling Wilma and Jerry (625-3587), Dolores (625-6452), Betty (625-6441) or Mary (726-2504). Thanks and see you all there!

The December meeting will be a good time to pay your dues. Please fill out the form on p. 7 and bring it with you to the meeting, or else mail everything directly to Robert C. Taubert by Dec. 6.

Coming in 2010

Feb.14 FASENACHT Munjor
Apr.11 SPRING MEETING Munjor
May 28 30th ANNIVERSARY BASH Fairgrounds
Jul. 11 SUMMER PICNIC Munjor
Aug. 1-8 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Lincoln
Sept. 12 VFW BREAKFAST Hays
Oct. 3 GERMAN BANQUET Munjor
TBA KANSAS ROUND-UP of CHAPTERS Hays
Dec. 12 CHRISTMAS POTLUCK Munjor



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Inside THIS NEWSLETTER

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What a deal!

Renewing your AHSGR & Sunflower Chapter dues will bring you a bigger-than-ever bang for your buck! Check out this exciting list of events and opportunities planned for 2010.



- FEB. 14** **FASENACHT (MUNJOR)** Celebrate with your chapter friends the German version of Mardi Gras. Learn more about your heritage while enjoying a traditional Lenten "feast before the fast."
- APR. 11** **SPRING MEETING (MUNJOR)** Chase the winter blues away with our annual springtime gathering.
- MAY 28** **30TH ANNIVERSARY BASH (ELLIS CO. FAIRGROUNDS)** Our chapter turns 30 this year and we plan to make a big deal out of it! The public will be invited to a day of German music, food, dancing, and who knows what else?! The festivities will last from noon to midnight, and your membership will qualify you for admission at a reduced rate.
- JUL. 11** **SUMMER PICNIC (MUNJOR)** Come hungry because there will be plenty of fried chicken, homemade pie, and homemade ice cream to tickle your tastebuds.
- AUG. 1-8** **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION (LINCOLN)** With Nebraska within easy driving distance, plenty of us will be headed north for this one-of-a-kind annual event. How else can you meet fellow Russian Germans from all across North America, South America, and Europe?
- SEPT. 12** **VFW BREAKFAST (HAYS)** This annual event has become as much fun for those who serve the food as it is for those who eat it--and fund-raisers like this one also keep our society healthy and growing.
- OCT. 3** **GERMAN BANQUET (MUNJOR)** Homemade food from our German cooks, along with a prize drawing and topnotch entertainment, always fill up this fine fall day.
- TBA** **KANSAS ROUND-UP OF CHAPTERS (HAYS)** Like an international convention in miniature, this event brings together AHSGR members from all over Kansas--and sometimes introduces you to relatives you never knew you had.
- DEC. 12** **CHRISTMAS POTLUCK (Munjor)** From its decorated trees to visits from Santa Claus, the *Christkind*, and the *Belznickel*, no holiday is more German than Christmas. So come join your friends for a day of feasting, storytelling, Christmas caroling, and more!

ALL YEAR LONG, there will be a special focus on helping you compile your genealogy (Kevin Rupp has lots of ideas for this) and letting you examine and check out a wide variety of materials from our soon-to-be-established chapter library.

IDEAS? QUESTIONS? Contact a board member.



SUNFLOWER CHAPTER BOARD

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