



North Star Chapter

American Historical Society of Germans From Russia, International Headquarters: Lincoln, Nebraska

March 2005

<http://www.NorthStarChapter.org>

Volume 30, No. 2

Fighting for Hitler:

A Former German Soldier's Story

Saturday, March 19, 2005, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Berea Lutheran Church, 7538 Emerson Ave. S, Mpls., MN

Join us at our March meeting for a fascinating story of a side of World War II that is seldom told. Twin Cities resident Joachim Pusch will tell his story of growing up in Nazi Germany, fighting in the Wehrmacht in World War II, and coming to America. At the end of the war in 1945, Mr. Pusch took refuge in a mountain lodge and hid in the wine cellar. The next day he and some fellow soldiers walked with a white flag to a nearby village and surrendered.

Mr. Pusch has lived in America for over 50 years, but it was only recently that he gave a presentation at Fort Snelling, standing in front of former U.S. soldiers for the first time and telling what it was like to fight in Hitler's war machine. Don't miss the chance to hear this rare perspective from someone who was there.

This is your first chance to see our new meeting location. We are pleased to welcome you and Mr. Pusch for an afternoon of interesting discussion.

Spring Potluck Banquet

Saturday, April 30, 2005, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Berea Lutheran Church, 7538 Emerson Ave. S., Mpls., MN

The end of our program year is almost here, and it's time to celebrate with our annual spring banquet. Our Weinachtsfest party potluck was such a success that members suggested that we do it again. Doors will open at 5:00 and the meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your own dishes, cups, utensils, as well as a food item to share. Coffee/punch will be provided.

After the meal we will be treated to a presentation by Carol and Art Stabner. The Stabners visited the Ukraine in September 2004 to do some research on Art's ancestral villages of Beresowo Hat and Nikolajewka. They did some research and went sightseeing in Odessa and Kiev.

The Stabners, North Star Chapter members, have a Powerpoint presentation of photographs they took during their trip, as well as items they purchased on their travels. Join us for food and friends with a wonderful virtual trip to the homeland.

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Special points of interest:

- *North Star Chapter moves to new location. Map enclosed.*
- *FEEFHS August 2005 Conference planning continues.*
- *Spring "Banquet" replaced with a member contributing "potluck."*
- *Library Revamped. Hunt is on for missing books.*
- *Channel 2 Promo sells over 100 cookbooks.*
- *North Star invited to a wedding reception.*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Duane Stabler



The North Star Chapter Board of Directors and Chairpersons

have decided to move the regular meeting place to a new location.

As of the March 19 meeting, we will meet at Berea Lutheran Church, 7538 Emerson Avenue South, Minneapolis.

Why are we moving? First, a history lesson: Back when we met in the Southdale Library, we had many problems with space, food and scheduling. When two of our past members offered to approach the United Methodist Church of Peace (UMCP) as a meeting place, we jumped at the opportunity. Orv and Evelyn Edmonson were active in the North Star Chapter and in UMCP. They had the “pull” that is sometimes required to make things possible. Evelyn had been a past president and knew what we needed — a place to meet and to leave the library as we had been carrying the books in and out of the Southdale Library and it was simply too much to continue. That was September, 1990 and over the years, both Evelyn and Orv have passed on and we have lost the attention of the UMCP. Nothing lasts forever so the Board had been thinking about

a move for more than a year. There are two key reasons that prompted this thinking:

- (1) *We found that the meeting room was getting too small. This prohibited our ability to display our library so that the membership could see what we have to offer and to do research during the meetings.*
- (2) *The UMCP requested an increase in price for use of the meeting room and kitchen. We budgeted for this increase but we were uncomfortable with the significant increase.*

Additionally, a priority was to make sure that the new facility was handicap accessible.

How did this opportunity come to us? Much like what happened with our move to UMCP, one of our members is a member of Berea Lutheran. John Hafner approached the Board with this opportunity in January and we agreed to investigate. John’s father was the first pastor of Berea, Rev. Herbert Hafner,

and John’s mother, Margaret, is also a member of the North Star Chapter and Berea. John is active in the church and knows it well. After several of us toured the church, we had an “internet discussion” and made the decision to “go for it.” Thanks, John!

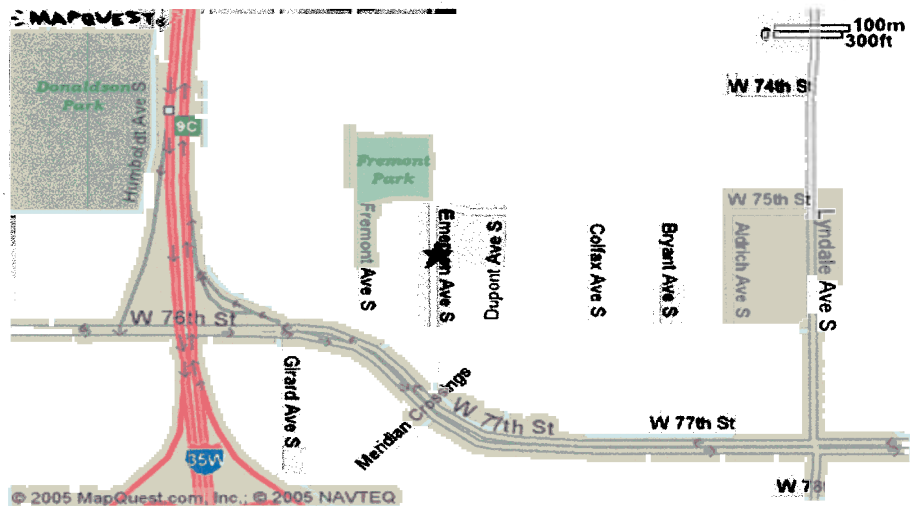
By the time you read this, our library will be moved and all our other supplies will be housed at Berea. We will hold our first meeting there on March 19, 2005 followed by our spring potluck on April 30.

Directions to:

Berea Lutheran

7538 Emerson Ave. So., Mpls.

From the intersection of 494 & Lyndale Ave, go North on Lyndale. Take a left on 76th St. (there is a service station on the NW corner of this intersection) & continue down 76th (going west). Turn right onto Emerson Ave. & go about 1/2 block North. The parking lot is on the immediate left (north side of church). We will meet downstairs as at UMCP.



Please Take Note:

Bernie Becker and Jaci Williams are reorganizing the whole library as we prepare to move to our new location. They noticed that several items are checked out and presumed missing. Please check your shelves for these lost items; every volume is valuable to us. A complete list of missing items is in Bernie's Library Corner article. Thank you.

A Hochzeit ! for Mayo and Janet

Be sure to mark your calendars for May 7, 2005 for a wedding reception. Mayo Flegel will be marrying Janet Lohberger at a private ceremony on May 6. They are hosting an informal wedding reception at Shoreland Country Club near St. Peter, MN, on Saturday, May 7 from 2 to 5 p.m., and are inviting all of their friends. Shoreland Country Club is located just east of St. Peter. To get there just turn east off of Hwy. 169 onto Hwy. 99 and go about 2 miles, then turn south on the first road near the top of the hill and follow the signs leading to the Country Club, which will be on the left side of the road. Mayo and Janet are combining two households and they request that you don't bring gifts. Your presence will be your gift to them.

GREAT IDEA AWARD



Cynthia Miller recently conveyed that she heard from a chapter in California that had about a dozen Girl Scouts successfully complete a Germans from Russia Heritage badge. If you have a daughter or granddaughter who is a Girl Scout and might be interested in this, Cindy Miller has volunteered to arrange something with the regional Girl Scout Council. Now, don't you think that is a great idea! Thank you, Cindy.

Gwen Schock Cowherd

MEMBER NEWS

If you have or know of someone who has a special birthday coming up, anniversary or other occasion to share, please let the newsletter staff know. We love to spread good news!

Sometimes news is not always happy news. Please let us know your sorrows and trying times. We want to be there for you to help in any way that we can.

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2005 FEEFHS International Convention to be Held in St. Paul

Nancy Gertner

The 2005 Int'l Convention of the Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS) will be co-sponsored by the Minnesota-based Germanic Genealogy Society (GGS) and the Canadian-based Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe (SGGEE). It will be held at the Four Points by Sheraton St. Paul-Capitol at 400 North Hamline Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104, on **August 19-21, 2005**. The convention will feature multiple ethnic groups.

FEEFHS is a major int'l genealogical federation consisting of many societies and individuals interested in central and east European genealogy. This year's event will also incorporate the silver anniversary conference of the Germanic Genealogy Society and the international convention of the Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe, which concentrates on Germans in Volhynia and Russian Poland.

Other participating societies include the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society Int'l (CGSI), the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota (PGS-MN), the German-Bohemian Heri-

tage Society, the Pommern Regional Group, the Finnish Genealogy Group, the Minnesota Rusin Association, and the North Star Chapter of Germans from Russia. The Minnesota Genealogical Society, comprised chiefly of ethnic branches, is also participating. Presentations are geared toward genealogists at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced level.

Historical, heritage and cultural groups representing Bukovina Germans, Belarussians, East Frisians, Galician Germans, German Bohemians, Germans from Russia, Greeks, Hungarians, Kashubes/Kaszubs, Latvians, Romanians, Rusins/Rusyns, Russian, Ukrainians, and religious-identity groups like Jews and Mennonites, are also participating. Additional programs will cover Baltic and Balkan genealogy, as well as topics relevant for those with ancestors from the German, Russian and Austro-Hungarian Empires.

A panel sponsored by the Bukovina Society of America is relevant for all Germans from the East who were evacuated in 1939-40, fled from the advancing Soviet Army in 1944-45, or

were expelled from most east central and southeastern European countries after the war. Many other ethnic groups experienced involuntary migration during this period. Relocation experiences of Poles, Balts, and Romanians were similar.

The Immigration History Research Center (IHRC), located in the Elmer L. Anderson Library on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota, is one of only two such archives in the U.S. specializing in immigration research, with extensive holdings for most groups from east central, southeastern and eastern Europe, including foreign-language newspapers from other states. IHRC will provide institutional support, as will the Minnesota Historical Society, which has many historical foreign-language newspapers published in the state, and the Family History Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS).

The FEEFHS banquet will be Friday, August 19. The Germanic Genealogy Society will hold its silver anniversary banquet on Saturday, August 20, with members of all ethnic groups welcome to attend.

Convention information and updates may be checked at the GGS website at:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnggs/FEEFHS.html>

Or at the FEEFHS website at: **<http://www.feefhs.org>**

Or the SGGEE website at: **<https://www.sggee.org/ConventionNews.html>**

Library Corner

Bernie Becker



Library excitement—we have a new home!

Along with the new home, we have a new look. Take time at the March meeting to peruse the carts. You will find them less crowded and more organized. How can that be?

Jaci Williams and I looked at and evaluated every book, magazine, leaflet, etc. on our book carts. Some books no one has checked out for several years were removed. A list of those books is available at the desk. If you want to see a book on that list, request it on a separate sign-up sheet and we will provide it.

We hope organizing the books will increase the value of our library to you. Please take advantage of our new look and search for books, new and old, that you might have missed in the past because they were hard to find on the tightly stuffed shelves.

A new purchase is “Heart and Hands,” a collection of recipes from the Groh family in celebration of their 50th Reunion on June 27, 2004. If you have Volga background, especially Grimm village, you will enjoy

the pictures on the dividers. There are also several pictures from Saratov Museum. Not all the recipes are from the past, but there are bits and pieces of history throughout. And what other cookbook have you ever seen with a section labeled, “Delicious Dumplings, & Oodles of Noodles,” certainly not in “Betty Crocker” or “Better Homes & Gardens.” Check it out. Jim Gessele donated “Heimatbuch der Bessarabiendeutschen.” These Heimatbauchs have lists of names that might interest you. In the back is a list of WWI and WWII soldiers from Bessarabia.

By the way, sorting the books has been great fun. You have absolutely no idea what a treasure we have unless you spend time like we did. For instance, for years I’ve wondered about something my mother used to feed me when I was a small child—or was it something she fed my baby brother and I managed to snatch some of it? At any rate, I always thought of it as “britz.” Imagine my surprise at seeing a recipe labeled “Kinder Brei (Children Custard)” on page 225 of one of our cookbooks, “Das Essen Unsrer Leute.” Don’t ask me what that means, but inside the cover it states it is a collection of folk recipes dedicated to Volga Ger-

mans in Kansas. On page 235, you will find a recipe for your own lunch meat—wouldn’t that be fun to try? You bake the mix in a Crisco can to mold it. Why not make some and try it on our members at the spring potluck?

Important Message

Please check your coffee tables, book nooks, shelves, and bedside tables. Do you have some of our books hidden away and/or forgotten? **Books should be returned within two to three months after checking them out if at all possible.** We have books listed that were checked out two years ago or more. This denies their use to anyone else. Please return them at the March meeting or May spring potluck. Thank you in advance for your cooperation:

Some missing books are:

- ♦ *Brothers in Deed to Brothers in Need*
- ♦ *Einwanderung in da Wolgaebiet 1764-1767 Vol. 2-Pleve*
- ♦ *Glueckstal Colonies Births & Marriages*
- ♦ *Glueckstal Colonies Deaths*
- ♦ *I remember That Good Yet—Edward Rast, a Russian Immigrant to Idaho*

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GRHS Youth Essay Contest Cynthia Miller

The Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) is sponsoring its annual Youth Essay Contest. The theme is "Germany/Russia/Americas—Giant Steppes toward Freedom."

The GRHS is encouraging students to participate in the GRHS Youth Essay Contest. The contest promotes the goals of the GRHS by encouraging young people to learn about the history of the German Russians. Genealogy is a rapidly growing interest in our society; exposure to the study of family heritage and to the history of the German Russians helps to stimulate a lifelong interest in family and ethnic history. The winning essays will be announced at the 2005 GRHS Convention, which will be held in Pierre, SD on 14-17 July 2005.

ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to all students in public, private, parochial or home schools and universities, subject to the age categories below. The subject of the paper must be related to the German-Russian Heritage and must be the contestant's original work; however, the student does not need to be of German-Russian heritage to enter the contest.

CATEGORIES: International winners will be chosen in each of the following categories.

- I. *Middle School 6th thru 8th grade*
- II. *High School 9th thru 12th grade*
- III. *University or College Undergraduate*

TOPICS: Topics may include any and all aspects of German Russia heritage, including: Cultural anthropology of the German Russians, historical analysis of the reasons for the diaspora of the German Russians, German-Russian history in the Americas, German-Russian history in Russia, personal family history.

FORMAT: Format for the paper may include: Creative writing, including short stories, fictional diaries, plays, poetry, historical fiction, and descriptive prose (example: prose concerning visits with family members or travel to places with historical significance to the family); genealogical history of a particular family, including individual histories of ancestors; research papers, including argumentative and/or historical analysis.

Trophies, cash awards, and scholarships will be awarded to Youth Essay Contest winners. For information and an entry form, go to:

<http://www.grhs.org/docs/essay.html>

LIBRARY CORNER con't

More missing books. Please check your shelves. Thank you.

- ♦ *From Catherine to Khrushchev*
- ♦ *Banished for Faith* by Emil Waltner
- ♦ *The Germans by the Black Sea Between the Bug & Dniester Rivers*
- ♦ *The German Russians* by Dr. Karl Stumpp
- ♦ *Homeland Book of Bessarabian Germans*
- ♦ *Pioneers and Their Sons*
- ♦ *Russian Diary* by Charlotte Salesbury
- ♦ *The Volga Germans in Russia & Americas 1763 to Present*

Please feel free to give us suggestions for books you've heard about that might be useful for our library.

Who Should Make the Coffee?

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee."

The husband said, "You are in charge of the cooking around here so you should do it, because that is your job and I can just wait for my coffee!"

Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides it says in the Bible that the man should do the coffee!"

Husband replies, "I don't believe that! Show me!"

So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him that at the top of several pages it indeed stated, "**HEBREWS.**"

Spend a Bit of Your Summer in the Past

Cynthia Miller

It's not too early to be thinking of summer plans, and I've been hearing from lots of folks that reunions, centennials, and all manner of special events are already being planned. In July, I plan to go back to my hometown of Beulah, ND, for the all-school reunion and to my husband's grandma's hometown of Lankin, ND, to take her and her sister-in-law to their school reunion.

My parents, my brothers, all of my aunts and uncles, and three cousins all graduated from the same school, so class reunions end up being family reunions as well. I'm sure many of you can relate. While you celebrate how far you've come, why not also take some time to dig into your past. Bring those cameras, tape recorders, notebooks, and photos and get everyone talking. It's never too late to hear new stories and you never know what might prompt someone to surprise you with a tale you've never heard.

Don't forget that your own history is important as well. Getting the great-grandparents' information is great, but remember to take note of your own memories. School reunions are great for that; even if you are second-or third-generation Americans, many of you grew up

and attended school in heavily German-Russian areas. Do you remember the teacher slapping your hand with a ruler if you used German in school? Do you remember speaking English so some of the old folks wouldn't know what you were up to? The stories from the 40s, 50s, and 60s are just as important as those from the Old Country.

Even many small towns have local or county historical museums. My husband and I received a private tour of the Mercer County (ND) Historical Society at Thanksgiving and we were astounded by how much was there and how eager the caretakers were to share the items with us. We see a lot of museums, but it was one of the most impressive we can remember. Local libraries have copies of newspapers just waiting for you to scan over. Don't forget the cemeteries! Carol Just, North Star Chapter member, will be leading cemetery tours in her home county, and says that cemeteries tell more than just who is dead and buried. They often contain the history of the area if you look just a bit deeper.

It's also important to talk to your German-Russian friends and family members about becoming active in heritage or-

ganizations and opportunities. We all know how vital it is to get younger people involved. You may feel as if you're talking to a wall, but keep trying. The fifty-first time you suggest to your kids that they join a local chapter might be the time they finally listen! If you would like information to take along to reunions and events, let your chapter officers know.

Have a safe, enjoyable, and happy summer. We look forward to seeing you in the fall and your sharing of summer stories and memories.



National Conventions

Make your plans now to attend the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS) and American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR) national conventions this summer. GRHS's convention will take place July 14-17, 2005, in Pierre, SD. Find out more at <http://www.grhs.com>.

The AHSGR convention is August 14-24, 2005 in Oklahoma City, OK.

Registration information can be found at :

<http://www.ahsgr.org>.

Family Reunion German Russian Style Nancy Gertner

John and Sara Sue Groh spoke to the North Star Chapter in February about organizing a family reunion in German Russian style. John conducted extensive research while planning the 2004 Groh Family Reunion to make a special celebration for the 50th anniversary reunion.

John began by sharing some family history he learned and documented in his many months of research and preparation. Six of ten Groh siblings immigrated in the years 1907-1912. None traveled through Ellis Island, but all traveled through Cincinnati, where a sponsoring sibling lived, then moved on to Illinois and Iowa, where they worked in the sugar beet industry and agriculture. In 1933, they last heard from a sibling left in Russia, who stayed with grandparents because an eye infection kept him from boarding the ship.

The first Groh Family Reunion was held in 1954 with the death of the last uncle, and attendance was 132. While the family flourished in numbers in the following years, the reunion did not, and attendance had dwindled to 43 in the 49th year, 2003. To achieve his goal of having representatives from all of the siblings at the 50th reunion,

John conducted research to track down the missing members. Internet research facilitated being able to expand the mailing list from 101 to 163 addresses, with the final reunion attendance being 201. John



mailed to everyone he had an address for, not just the designated matriarch or patriarch of a family branch.

John compiled notebooks containing his research and visited over a dozen cousins in Iowa to interview them and search for vintage family photos. He discovered the oldest and youngest members in the families generally had the best photo collections. Some of this pattern can be attributed to the German Russian custom of the youngest son taking over the

farm, which often continued in the New World for several generations. John interviewed cousins from out-of-state via phone conversations.

The collective family photos were organized by a sibling. John compiled a notebook for each family branch, organizing the photos in chronological order, and displaying the earliest photo on the front cover of the notebook. Other contents included biographies and obituaries. Additional notebooks contained family reunion photos.

John took his favorite photos and made family heritage calendars using the vintage photos. These were sold at the reunion for \$25 each. A family cookbook was compiled with family recipes. Jumbo Jacks printed 385 books, which were also sold at the family reunion. The cover photos was of a quilt made by one of the family.

The reunion was held at church. Memorabilia brought by the family was displayed in three Sunday School rooms. A potluck meal was served, with catered food brought in for the out-of-town families. Mood music came from a CD that John acquired from Salem Congregational Church in

Continued on page 9

Family Reunion German Russian Style *continued*

Scotts Bluff, Iowa, and the tall black boots were obtained through an internet shopping excursion. Sue's black pleated blouse was procured at a local department store, and a women in their church made her black scarf and skirt. The pin tucked vintage white apron was acquired from a California chapter of Germans from Russia.

A photographer from the local

newspaper took Reunion photos. The photos were sold to family members for \$4 and also posted on the internet. Storytelling was part of the memory sharing experiences during the reunion and John shared his two favorite stories, one from the Old World and one from the New World.

Thanks to John and Sara for sharing their reunion experience with us. We learned that

reunions can involve extensive research, planning and preparation. The results can be a time of great fellowship, sharing and making new memories while celebrating family heritage and paying tribute to the ancestors that endured hardship and sacrifice to bring families to a New World.



We Love Our Volunteers!

You see the chapter officers listed in each newsletter and we are very grateful for their hard work and service all year. But there are several other unsung volunteers who work hard to keep our meetings and organization running smoothly. Please take a moment to look at these volunteers and thank them for helping to make our chapter one of the best! If anyone was not on the list, let an officer or newsletter staff member know so we can thank them.

Sunshine Committee: Elvera Hofmann

Library: Bernie Becker and Paul Oberlander

Representative to FEEFHS: Nancy Gertner

Newsletter Helpers: Gwen & Phil Cowherd

Newsletter Mailing: Ardella Bennett

Cinematography: Marv Geske

Publicity: Nancy Gertner

Historian: Ardella Bennett

Registration: Pat & Roy Current

Sound System: John Hafner & Paul Winter

Newsletter Editor: Cynthia Miller

Genealogy: Al Oster

Web page: Duane Stabler

Refreshments: All Chapter Members

Cookbook Sales: Jaci Williams, Bill Brooks and Sam Brungardt

In addition, a special **big thank you** to Becky Siekmeier, who published the content of the newsletter for too many years to count! Becky was integral to providing us with a newsletter we can all be proud of. Paulette Tobin, a reporter for the Grand Forks Herald, recently emailed to say that she looks forward to our newsletter because it always brightens her day. Becky deserves a lot of credit for that and we hope to continue in her footsteps. We **truly appreciate** all the hours you have put in.

Also, **Thank You** to Paul Magetti, who injured himself in the line of duty while helping out during Weinachtsfest. Thanks, Paul, and sorry to hear about your foot—we are glad you bounced back.

<http://www.NorthStarChapter.org>

The Year 1904

Perhaps this will jolt your mind: consider the year 1904, 101 years ago. What a difference a century makes!

The average life expectancy in the U.S. was 47 years.

Only 14 percent of the homes in the U.S. had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

A three-minute phone call Den-

ver to New York City cost \$11.00.

There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S. and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California.

Two of 10 U.S. adults couldn't

read or write.

The average wage in the U.S. was 22 cents an hour.

Sugar cost four cents a pound

Eggs were 14¢ a dozen and coffee 15¢ a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Only 7% of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Do You Have a Family Recipe to Share?

This will be our last newsletter until Fall 2005—a long time away but the last chance to publish a German-Russian pickle recipe before pickling season. There are as many variations on how to make pickles as there are German-Russian households. This recipe is from the Eureka, SD *German-Russian Pioneer Cook Book*.

Dill Pickles

Put small fresh cucumbers in a sterilized quart jar. Add one red pepper (if they are big, break in half), one or two cloves of garlic, one level Tablespoon uniodized salt, fresh dill, and 1/8 tsp. of alum. Optional is one tsp. pickling spices. Fill jar with boiling water. Carrot or green pepper slice may be added for color. Seal with sterilized lids. Store in cool place after sealed.

SEI UNSER GAST

Cookbook Order Form

To order, fill out the information below and mail with your check to North Star Chapter of Minnesota, P.O. Box 583642, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3642, USA.

Please make your check (US funds) out to the North Star Chapter.

The cost for each book is \$11.95 for orders of 1-4 copies, \$10.95 each for orders of 5-9 copies, and only \$9.95 for orders of 10 or more. If you are not going to pick these up at a Chapter event, add these shipping and handling charges to the price of each book in your order – one mailing per order:

1 to 4 books: \$1.75 each shipping (\$3.88 each Canada)

5 to 9 books: \$1.25 each shipping (\$2.75 each Canada)

10 or more books: \$1.00 each shipping (\$2.25 each Canada)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

of Books _____ Total Cost of Books _____

Postage & Handling (see above) _____

Mar 05 Thank you for your order! Total Enclosed _____

Germans from Russia Vocabulary Review-Part 2 Gwen Schock Cowherd

In the January 2004 North Star Chapter newsletter, I shared with you a listing of familiar Germans from Russia words. This is a continuation which includes phrases gleaned from Ron Vossler's "*Dakota Kraut*". Enjoy remembering.

Kansch du a bissel Deutsch verzahle? – Can you speak a little German?

"Gott ist die Liebe" – Song – "God is the Loved One" – deathbed song of the Black Sea Germans

Sehnsucht – a deep longing for something that is beyond reach

Ay, Jammer and Elend – oh, sorrow and misery

Hohlweg – lonely prairie paths which I earlier days connected the farmsteads

Die juengsht – the youngest of a large Black Sea German family

Grottla – crawling things like snakes and lizards

Gott im Himmel – God in Heaven

Yah, Kinder, kumm end ess – come children and eat

Waschspritz – tool to grind meat into sausage casings

"Es bist sat" – eat until you are full

iggled – feeling like shudders going up your back

Das Schwarze Meer – The Black Sea

Bakschuessel – large round baking pan

Hoena schlachta – chicken butchering

Baschtan – vine patch (melons, cucumbers)

Luftmensch – illustrate the gulf between certainty and dreaminess

Yah unkraut vergeht nicht – weeds don't die

Es steht im Bibel – it says in the Bible

Hanno yo , du hash es recht gsagt – You sure got that right

fahr a bissel um die Stadt – driving around town on a Saturday evening

Komm geh wir los – Germanic equivalent of "let's blow this pop stand"

Pass auf, oder du kriegsch es noch ein mal – watch out or you'll get more where that came from

Da ham in Russland – back in Russia

Du hash recht – you are right

Vorne, whooiee; hinter, pfooiesse – no matter how good you look on the surface, you can't escape the realities; the stink of life

Shamt dich numma – have you no shame

eina von unsera Leuta – one of his own people

Hocha dich anna – sit down

Tief-tauchers – toilet swimmers

Arbuse-arsches – watermelon butts

verdammta Schtetlers – damned city slickers

Besser dich, oder du bleibst so – improve yourself, or you'll stay that way

Ganz verruckt – questionable sanity

Oh mein Kreuz tut weh – Oh, my back really hurts

Have you ever been called a **Ruttsnass**, **Hosseschissa**, **Schlofbetsi**, **Arschkarps**,
Suessgusch or **Vergrupta Apf**? Oh, my goodness!



Carol Just, Ann Braaten and Cindy Miller sharing Cindy's grandmother's blanket throw during the Germans from Russia textiles program.



Ann Braaten, January speaker from North Dakota State University, and member Sharon McCarty displaying Sharon's beautiful heirloom family scarf. See the North Star web page for more pictures of North Star members & their treasures.





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Of Germans From Russia
North Star Chapter
Of Minnesota

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I would like to volunteer.
Please check all that apply:

- ☐ Genealogy
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2005 Membership Form

☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Individual ☐ Family

Name(s) _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

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Local dues are \$12.00 per year per family plus membership in an approved national Germans from Russia organization such as AHSGR or GRHS. **AHSGR members please submit \$62** (\$50 for AHSGR, \$12 for North Star Chapter membership). **GRHS members please submit \$52** (\$40 for GRHS and \$12 for North Star Chapter membership).

Please make your check payable to the **North Star Chapter** and mail it to:

Helen Kleingartner, 9513 Pierce St. NE, Blaine, MN 55434