

NORTH STAR CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 2005

[HTTP://WWW.NORTHSTARCHAPTER.ORG](http://www.northstarchapter.org)

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 4

Genealogy Workshop

Saturday, November 5, 2005, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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

Our bi-annual genealogy day is packed with helpful, interesting information and workshop opportunities for all levels of genealogist. We'll begin at 10:00 with a presentation from chapter librarian Bernie Becker and chapter historian Ardella Bennett. Bernie and Ardella will guide us through the material in the chapter library and archives to help members make the best use of one of the most well-stocked chapter libraries in the country.

At 11:00, Cynthia Miller will present ideas for adding visuals to family tree information to make unique family heritage books. Members are encouraged to bring their own family information and materials to share. We'll break for lunch on your own at noon. At 1:00, the library will be open and members are welcome to work on their own research. Duane Stabler will be available to demonstrate genealogy software on his computer and Cindy Miller will have family book samples and be able to offer suggestions if you are working on a book of your own.

Whether you're thinking of beginning a genealogy project or looking for new ways to guide your research, you'll get new energy for your work by attending this event. Please take advantage of our great library and members willing to help by taking part in our genealogy workshop day.

Weinachtsfest

Saturday, December 3, 2005, 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

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

If you don't take the time to celebrate Christmas with your friends from the North Star Chapter, you're missing one of the best parties of the year! We'll never forget the look on everyone's faces last year when Santa's elves surprised us by bringing in goodie bags filled with fruit, nuts, and candies...just like you used to get at church on Christmas Eve.

This year's party will again feature great food, music, socializing, and if you're on the "Nice" list, maybe a surprise or two! Please bring a dish to share; plates, utensils, and drinks will be provided. Volunteers are also welcome to help decorate, set up, and clean up. Please let Bob Gies know if you would be available.

President's Corner by Duane Stabler

Now that the summer of 2005 is gone, school is started and all the Germans from Russia conventions are over, it's time to get back to the routine at the North Star Chapter. By the time you read this, our October meeting, along with the election of officers, will be completed. We'll have the November Genealogy Workshop and the Weinachtsfest in December and then a fresh new start in 2006.

This also marks my last President's Corner since the next newsletter will be printed after the newly elected president takes office. It's my last opportunity to publicly thank all the volunteers that make the North Star Chapter a chapter that many others admire. After all, we have a great library, terrific newsletter, and a website that is read by many outside of the area. We also have a wonderful pool of people who support the organization.

The North Star Chapter isn't unique when it comes to non-profit organizations. What I've seen and heard about organizations such as ours seems to be true for us, too. One common thread among all is that they have difficulty getting volunteers, especially officers. People like the organization, for whatever reasons, but don't want to get too involved or they don't feel comfortable in front of a group of people. As a result, a few members that are very active tend to simply swap jobs to keep things going. This often results in burn-out and it's not uncommon for some very active people to simply drop out in order to recover. It's an unfortunate fact that tends to exist regardless of the non-profit groups. I don't like to see the burn-out occur and I'm sure all of you feel the same way.

It does take a great deal of effort and planning to make things run smooth; but if we have enough active volunteers most tasks aren't overwhelming. So as 2006 approaches, and if you can help when needs arise, I would appreciate it if you could help the new president and officers as they pick up where our 2005 officers and volunteers leave off. I don't know what positions will be vacated but I'm sure there will be some for various reasons.

As for me, well, I'll be around! I hope to maybe sit back and enjoy the group in different ways, perhaps have time for more conversation which I sometimes don't get to do during the events or programs. I also look forward to helping the new officers in ways that help them succeed. I know that 2006 will be an exciting year for our North Star Chapter of Germans from Russia and, I hope to get back to more genealogy research that I've been putting off for a number of years.

Thank you for confidence and support that you've given the officers and volunteers in 2005!

Oh, and let me be the first to wish you a Merry Christmas in 2005!

North Star Chapter to Vote on Adding Affiliation with GRHS

By Duane Stabler

During the October 15 business meeting, a new item of business presented was the possibility of becoming affiliated with the Germans from Russia Heritage Society. This would be an additional affiliation which would make the North Star Chapter only the second Germans from Russia Chapter to have dual affiliation. After the discussion, a petition for recognition was signed by a sufficient number of North Star Chapter members which triggered the need to take some action by the Executive Board of the North Star Chapter. That petition will be forwarded to GRHS but in order to complete the affiliation, a two thirds majority is needed at the next general business meeting.

What makes the affiliation possible? This opportunity is a result of the recent decision by the Black Sea German Heritage Group to either dissolve or to merge with the North Star Chapter. It is recognized that numerous members of the Black Sea German Heritage Group were also members of the North Star Chapter and that the

logical decision was to recognize only one group in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area as a Germans from Russia affiliate.

What would a dual affiliation mean to the North Star Chapter?

There is no negative impact and the positive impact would be the possibility to gain a few members of the Black Sea German Heritage Group that have previously joined the North Star Chapter. The affiliation does allow the North Star Chapter and its members, who are GRHS national members, to be recognized for their efforts to support GRHS. It should be noted that numerous North Star Chapter members have been very active in GRHS but have not been active with the Black Sea German Heritage Group.

What changes and actions would be needed?

The North Star Chapter By-Laws currently list only AHSGR as the affiliate. An amendment to the By-Laws would be needed to recognize GRHS in the By-Laws. Specifically, Amendment VII would be ap-

proved to add GRHS to Article I and Amendment VIII would be approved to add GRHS to Article VIII. No further action would be required on North Star Chapter's part.

What else is required of the North Star Chapter?

The North Star Chapter would be able to have one member sit on the Board of Directors at GRHS but if we would not have a volunteer available, it would not be an issue. No additional financial obligations or requirements would be anticipated coming from GRHS; this simply would be a way of having GRHS representation in Minnesota. The North Star Chapter would be the only GRHS chapter in Minnesota and would be the largest chapter to have dual affiliation in the USA.

You are welcome to contact Duane Stabler with questions via his email address (dstabler@bigfoot.com) during the next two months. The vote on January 14 will follow a discussion as needed.

North Star Chapter 2005 Officers

President
Duane Stabler
952-477-8654
dstabler@integraonline.com

1st VP/Program Chair
Bob Gies
651-994-7237
RYGIES@aol.com

2nd VP/Membership Chair
Helen Kleingartner
763-205-2297
hmkleingartner@comcast.net

Treasurer
Jorgiann Waltner
763-533-4090
jwaltner@qconsult.com

Secretary
Gwen Schock Cowherd
651-426-0117
fairrose@gbronline.com

Faith in Dark Times By Cynthia Miller

I learned recently that a 116-year-old prairie Lutheran church in my home county has been added to the National Register of Historic Places. I first visited this church in 1989 as a young reporter doing a story on the church's centennial celebration. But I had heard about it long before that. It was the church where my grandmother was confirmed in the mid-30s.

That in itself isn't very interesting (although I've noticed that many German-Russians know the date of their confirmation as well as their own birthdays and anniversaries). The interesting part is that some time later, the parsonage, located a few yards from the church, burned to the ground one August night. The tragedy was that a young woman who had been in my grandma's confirmation class and who lived with the pastor and his family as their housekeeper had been in her basement room and perished in the fire.

But that isn't the end of the story. This woman had been several months pregnant and the father of her baby was the middle-aged minister. He had poisoned her, and when she didn't die, he set the house on fire to destroy the body. It came out at trial that he had been present at the shady deaths of one or two other young women in his previous residences. He spent the rest of his life in the state pen, but my grandma said that for some time after, she was scared to be in the house alone for fear that he would escape and come after her.

This story has fascinated me my whole life. It's not the details that interest me; they sound like the stuff of dime novels. I've always wondered at the effect this crime had on the close-knit German-Russian community in Mercer County, North Dakota. It also made me think about the role religion played in our ancestors' lives, and what happens when that faith is tested not necessarily through adversity, but through realization that the men of God who were so revered could be sinful and flawed.

In a way, I experienced this myself several years later. The pastor who confirmed me was removed from the ministry after being arrested several times for window-peeping. I couldn't really be angry; I always thought he was a nice person and he sang "How Great Thou Art" at my grandfather's funeral in a way that brings tears to my eyes 18 years later. He was a man with problems like any of us, and I'm happy to say I'm still a good Lutheran.

It is not unusual that places of quiet beauty, places that are centers of our history and memory, can have dark sides. But I find that the things people least like to talk about are often things that can help us learn the most. I'm glad I know the story of my grandma's pastor and I'm proud of the little church on the prairie. The dark things cannot break us if we keep our faith and choose to look ahead as our grandparents tried to do.

Directions to Berea Lutheran Church

7538 Emerson Ave. S., Minneapolis

From the intersection of 494 and Lyndale Ave., go north on Lyndale. Take a left on 76th St. (there is a service station on the NW corner of this intersection) and continue down 76th going west. Turn right on Emerson Ave. The church and parking lot is on the immediate left with the parking lot behind (north side of the church). We will meet downstairs. All meetings are held at this location unless otherwise noted.

2005 AHSGR Convention Report by Mayo Flegel

The gas prices were at nearly an all-time high, but that didn't deter the attendees at the AHSGR convention in Oklahoma City, OK, from being treated to a marvelous convention. It was chaired by North Dakota native Marianne Long; she and her committee are to be commended for a truly outstanding convention. Marianne had co-chaired the 1986 Oklahoma City Convention.

The tours were very interesting, including the old Mennonite Settlement in Corn, OK, a tour of Oklahoma City, and a tour to Guthrie, OK, the site of the territorial capital of Oklahoma.

The program was a mixture of information on genealogy, culture of the Germans in Russia and their early days in America and Canada, what's going on in Russia today, etc. There were so many good presentations that I could not do justice to them without making this a very, very lengthy article. The convention-

eers got to sample the early results of the SOAR project, as it moves towards completion.

My favorite part has always been the storytelling contest, which, again, lived up to expectations, but this year's presentation on their trip to Russia by Nick Bretz and Jerry Siebert was also a "don't miss" event. They, along with Ed Hoak, had traveled to Russia this spring. They reported on new contacts and sources of obtaining information from almost all parts of the former Soviet Union. Many good things will come out of that trip, which will help all of us.

The Boards and volunteers enjoyed the canal ride through Oklahoma City as well as the dinner at the Bricktown Brewery. A very enjoyable Welcome Night was attended by most of the conventioners, which was held at the National Cowboy and Heritage Museum, with a very knowledgeable speaker, Dr. Bobby Weaver, speaking on "Riding the Brand." We also toured the

museum and saw many paintings by western artists such as Remington and Russell.

Perhaps the highlight of the convention was the trip to the Oklahoma City National Memorial, which was very emotional. Seeing the 168 chairs of the victims of the bombing, especially the smaller children's chairs, brought a tear to many attendees' eyes. As part of the ceremony, 168 names of Germans who had perished in Russia under the severe strains of Stalin's reign were read. This was moderated by Susan Orbach, an OKC bombing survivor. Inna Stryukova, of the Ukraine, spoke on "Memorial: What does it mean in the Ukraine."

The Foundation

Spellbound

I have a spelling checker,

It came with my PC.

It plainly marks four my revue

Miss steaks I cannot sea.

I've run this poem threw it,

I'm sure your please too no,

Its letter perfect in it's weigh,

My checker tolled me sew.

honored six families who had donated \$5,000 or more and four families who had donated \$2,000 or more to the first year of the current Bridge Builder campaign. A total of 240 families or individuals were recognized for donating \$100 or more, as this two-year campaign is off to a good start. It was a pleasure for me, as my last term as President of the Foundation, to show appreciation to so many people. The North Star chapter was honored with a certificate for their contribution.

All in all, this was a great convention for information, socializing, learning more about both the German Russian story and Oklahoma, as well as just plain having fun.

Festival for Germans from Russia Convention– Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada by Duane Stabler

This was the year that Dorothy and I decided to make the trip to Medicine Hat, Alberta, to take in the Festival for Germans from Russia and to visit a few of my relatives. This was the second time that Medicine Hat has hosted this event and they anticipate doing it every other year, alternating with the event which is held in Leader, Saskatchewan.

The event started on Friday evening, September 23, with an opening ceremony and a keynote speaker, Dr Peter Penner. Dr Penner's presentation was titled "Centennial Celebrations and their Contradictions for Germans from Russia." This was a fitting topic since Saskatchewan and Alberta celebrated their centennials this year. One point that I took away from the presentation was that regardless of whether it was Catherine the Great, Alexander I or the governments of the USA or Canada, the reason to invite settlers, in this case Germans or Germans from Russia, was for the betterment of the government, not necessarily for other reasons. They offered something that these settlers wanted, such as land, and people came. I found this to be a thread that I heard in several other presentations on Saturday.

Other speakers included George Dorschner, David J Carter, Jerry Frank, Dr Elvire Necker-Eberhardt, Dwayne Janke, and the banquet speaker, Dr. Gordon Elhardt. Although I didn't have time to partake in every presentation, those I heard were very academic in nature and very structured since all the speakers were past teachers or professors. Dr Elhardt's delivery was very good; he's won several educator awards in the Calgary area and really had those in attendance paying close attention.

The event included several meals but I'll remember the wurst which tasted much like that made in Eureka, South Dakota, or Wishek, North Dakota, and the homemade spatzel was a treat.

The Germans from Russia Heritage Society was represented by President Val Wangler; the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia was represented by President Ed Hoak, and the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection was represented by Michael Miller. Michael's table showing several types of books seemed to always be buzzing with people as was the library and map area which had many AHSGR and GRHS published books for review. Personally, I found the books with Medicine Hat obituaries of great interest. I found several relatives in it and saw others that would probably have been of interest to people I know.

People traveled some distance to take in the event. I recall people from Oregon, Arizona and Illinois (and of course Minnesota) in attendance but most were from the two Canadian provinces. I never heard the final attendance count but it was something greater than 550 people.

Most Germans from Russia settled the area when Canada opened up the land for settlement shortly after becoming provinces. Some traveled through the USA, in particular the Dakotas, but a few did arrive directly from Russia and settled because the land was available. The names I saw were Black Sea names so there are many cousins that those of us from the Dakotas may have that we've
(continued on page 7)

Program Roundup By Bob Gies

What a super turnout for the fall get-together to start the new year of the North Star Chapter. There were 41 hungry-for-German-food attendees at our Glockenspiel meeting. As much interest as was shown in this activity we may want to continue this as an annual outing. The food was great, the day was great, the company was great, and overall this has to be deemed a big success.

The array of German foods was outstanding. The menu included wienerschnitzle, a great variety of sausages, spargle toast, and many other delicacies. This could be topped off with a lip-smacking good apple streusel. What a gastronomic delight. These treats, along with the renewing of commitment to friends and the success of the North Star chapter, made this event memorable. Thanks to all who participated and took part.

Our November program will begin at 1:00 PM on November 5 at Berea Lutheran Church. Bonnie Anderson, our scheduled presenter, cancelled her presentation as a result of a heavy work schedule. We hope to have her present in the spring of 2006. Our own Cynthia Miller has stepped forward with a presentation showing how scrapbook and art techniques can be utilized to preserve our heritage along with demonstration of other ways of recording our history that can be effective.

Plans for Weinachtsfest have started and we have a list of volunteers ready to help, but we can always use more. I think of this event as one of the highlights of the year with all the wonderful foods prepared with the heritage of our ancestors built into the recipes. What a treat. Mark you calendars for December 3 of this year and plan to bring guests to share our bounty.

The meeting dates for early next year have been set, although we do not have solid program commitments just yet.

The dates of our meetings are: January 14, 2006; February 11, 2006; March 11, 2006; April 22, 2006.

If you have special subjects of interest to you, please let me know and we will work to have programs presented for those subjects.

Festival for Germans from Russia Convention– Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada by Duane Stabler (continued from page 6)

yet to discover. In my case, I've discovered a few and it was yet another good reason to attend this convention. The festival concluded with a very nice interdenominational church service conducted by Rev. Blaine Schaufele, another descendent of German Russian parents who settled in Canada.

A brief history of the Festival for Germans from Russia

In early 2003, Otto Gross called together five or six Germans from Russia Canadians to meet at Elvire Necker's home to discuss having a gathering of Germans from Russia, thereby cultivating an interest in our history, culture, and common heritage in Western Europe, Russia and Canada. This meeting grew into the first festival which took place in 2003. It is the Festival for Germans from Russia Committee's intention to continue holding events, likely every two years alternating with Leader, Saskatchewan cultural events.

Schmeckfest: Freeman, South Dakota-style

By Jorgiann Waltner

Schmeckfest has been an annual festival in Freeman, South Dakota, for the last 47 years. It began as a "Tasting Festival" but has evolved to become more than that. Schmeckfest began as and continues to be a fundraiser for the Freeman Academy, a Mennonite middle and high school. Much of the food is donated and many volunteers are required for the event.

The primary feature is the dinner held each evening. The menu includes Noodle Soup (with homemade noodles), Green String Bean Soup, Lettuce Salad with Sour Cream Dressing, Dampffleisch (Stewed Beef), Sauerkraut, Käse mit Knöpf (Cheese Buttons), homemade Pork Sausage, Getrante Kartoffeln (German Fried Potatoes), and Zwieback (Twin Buns). Dessert consists of Pluma Moos (Dried Fruit Soup), Mak Kuchen (Poppyseed Roll), Kröfflen (Fruit Pockets) and various Kuchen. All courses are served family style and the diner can choose what and how much to eat.

These foods might not be familiar to all of us. There are three Mennonite groups that settled in the Freeman area and each brought their own German dialect and traditions. Zwieback and Green String Bean Soup are specialties of the Low Germans. Dampffleisch and the Sauerkraut as served at Schmeckfest (sweetened with sugar and prepared with a brown sauce) are most familiar to the Prairie Leute. Käse mit Knöpf and Mak Kuchen are favorites of the Schweitzers. All of these groups are Germans from Russia. The Swiss Mennonites (Schweitzers) migrated through and settled in Germanic regions and Volhynia. The Low Germans migrated from South Russia and Volhynia. The Prairie Leute were part of the Hutterite group that came from South Russia. In Russia, immediately before coming to the Dakotas, the group was not living a communal lifestyle. On arrival in the Dakotas, some chose to live on individual homesteads on the prairie and are now called Prairie Leute (or Hutterers). Others who chose to live in colonies continue to be called Hutterites. There are also many Germans from Russia of other religions and traditions in the Freeman Community.

The second most popular Schmeckfest event is the nightly musical production. The local community puts on the production and the quality is excellent. Past productions include "Guys and Dolls," "The Secret Garden," "Oliver," "Carousel," and "The Sound of Music." The sets and music is always superb.

There are many other events to fill the day including a visit to the local museum and archives. Attractions at the museum include a 1902 rural schoolhouse, two historic church buildings, and an 1879 pioneer home with a Russian oven. There are musical presentations by students of Freeman Academy and speeches by local historians held in one of the historic church buildings.

There are demonstrations on making Pork Sausage, Portzilke (New Years Cookies), Fruit Pockets, Mak Kuchen, Pfeffernüsse (Peppernuts), and other traditional foods. Foods made at the demonstrations are available for purchase. These items and others are also available at the bake sale held in conjunction with the event. Homemade noodles, horseradish, jelly, and various baked goods are examples of what is donated for the sale. There are demonstrations that are not food-oriented such as spinning, quilting, rug making, basket weaving, woodworking, and other handicrafts.

(continued on page 11)

Member News

Alaina Marie Fish was born September 27, 2005. Her parents are Myia and Dan Fish of Blaine, MN. Ali is the granddaughter of Julie (Ward) and Craig LaBelle and the great-granddaughter of Lil and Dayton Ward. Congratulations to the Fish, LaBelle, and Ward families.

Condolences to Pete and Sharon Kleingartner on the passing of Pete's mother, Martha Kleingartner, on May 22,

2005.

Alice Winchester and Harold Rutzen were married on September 24, 2005, at Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale, where they first met at age 13 and were confirmed together in 1947. They went their separate ways after high school with Harold being in the Air Force for 21 years and living in Texas for the last 50 years. They renewed their acquaintance this

past winter when Harold came back to Minnesota to visit his brothers and sister. Harold visited the church where he and Alice first met and Alice still attends. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

Congratulations to the following North Star members who received 2005 Certificates of Appreciation from the Germans from Russia Heritage Society: Gary Betcher, Pat Current, Jim Gessele, Al Oster, Ray-

mond Reinhardt, Curt Renz, and Ed Schultz. Thank you to these hard-working volunteers.

We would like to welcome the following new members of the North Star Chapter: Janet Fitzpatrick, Rochester; Ron & Glorian Anderson, Crystal; Steve & Pat Monson, Burnsville; Thomas & Kathleen Keane, White Bear Lake; Inez Dockter, Brooklyn Park; Matthew Klee, Hastings

Please Take Note

Thank you to Bill Brooks for assuming lay-out duties for this issue of the newsletter. Gwen Schock Cowherd did the layout this year but she is going to be using her talents and energy in other areas of our chapter. Thank you to her for her efforts, and to her and her husband Phil for arranging the printing of the newsletter this year.

If your church, school, library, or other organization is having a

festival, please let a chapter officer know about it. We may be able to send a representative and/or information to let people know who we are and what an interesting, active organization we have.

New officers for 2006 were elected at the October 15 meeting. They are Lil Ward, President; Bob Gies, 1st VP/Program Chair; Jorgiann Waltner, 2nd VP/

Membership Chair; Jaci Williams, Treasurer; Bernie Becker, Secretary. Thank you to Duane Stabler and Gwen Schock Cowherd for serving on the nominating committee.

If you have a joke, essay, recipe, genealogy tip, personal news, or any other interesting item, please contact Cindy Miller to share with members in our newsletter.

Upcoming Events

Save these dates for 2006 programs

January 14

**February 11
(Genealogy Workshop)**

March 11

April 22 (Spring Banquet).

Library Corner

By Bernie Becker

I haven't heard anyone use the expression KISS (Keep it simple, stupid) of late, but if you checked out our library lately, that's what we tried to do when we classified our books. Why not the Dewey Decimal System, you might ask. I checked into doing that, but found it too complicated for a library of our size. So I resorted to a simple A, B, C system.

I explained it at the March meeting, but if you were not there, or if you have not been at a meeting since then, you might like to know which books are where. Following is a list. This list is also in a frame on the library table at our meetings.

Books found under:

- A Autobiography & Memoir
- A-1 Biography
- C Immigrant Stories
- D Survival Stories (of those left in Russia)
- E Healing & Old Fashioned Remedies – Brauche
- F Cookbooks
- G Humor
- H-1 Fairy Tales & Myths
- H-2 Poetry
- I Genealogy "How To"
 - Catalogs of surnames, microfilms, etc.
 - Dictionaries
 - Computer know-how
 - Family Reunion
- J Reference & Resource
- J-1 Census, Birth, Death & Marriage Records, Surname Lists
- J-2 G/R in Russia
- J-3 Russia
- J-4 G/R in United States, & other US information
- J-5 Volga & Volhynia
- J-6 Heimat Books
- K Religion
- L Maps

(Continued on Page 11)

Library Corner By Bernie Becker (continued from page 10)

I'm still struggling with a stack of old periodicals, etc. and a shopping bag of German books and Bibles. I would appreciate knowing who in our membership still reads German, and I need input as to what to keep and what to eliminate. We do have a space problem, and much of this material has not been looked at for many years. Please give me your input about this at our meetings.

Following is a list of our Library Rules, and they too are in a frame on the library desk.

1. You must be a current member to check out books.
2. To check out a book, fill out card from back cover of book. Leave card with librarian.
3. To check out journals, magazines, and other materials that don't have a card, fill out form on clipboard.
4. When you return books, give them to librarian on duty to replace the card and return books to carts.
5. When you return journals, magazines, etc. cross your name off on the clipboard, putting in the date material was returned. Leave material with librarian on duty to replace to carts.
6. Please also make an effort to return materials you borrow within a month, or at the most, by the second month after checking them out. This makes the material available to other members.

Thank you for your cooperation. It is your library, and we want your suggestions and ideas.

Schmeckfest: Freeman, South Dakota-style

(Continued from page 8)

These are some personal highlights from recent Schmeckfests. I heard a very interesting talk by a local historian on hay mows and pumphouses. At every opportunity, I visit the Freeman Archives and have found treasures in the used books they have for sale. Purchasing homemade Pork Sausage, Pfefferküsse, Fruit Pockets, and Mak Kuchen at the bake sale or demonstrations is a must. Last year the guest speaker was the author of "The Children's Blizzard," a book about the blizzard of 1888 that devastated many German Russian communities and was responsible for the death of five schoolchildren in the Freeman/Marion area.

To participate in the meal or attend the musical, advance tickets are required. In 2006, Schmeckfest will be held on March 24, 25, 31 and April 1. Tickets will go on sale in fall 2005. The planned musical production is "Cinderella." There is a website with information on ordering tickets at www.freemansd.com/schmeckfest. Hope to see you there!

North Star Chapter

Newsletter Staff

Cynthia Miller

612-386-1436

cynmillbea@hotmail.com

Bill Brooks

651-774-7903

UserBill8285@cs.com

Ardella Bennett

952-884-4241

ajbennett@worldnet.att.net

Website

www.NorthStarChapter.org

Web Master

Duane Stabler

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Minneapolis, MN
Permit No. 18513

Return Service Requested

American Historical Society
Of Germans From Russia
North Star Chapter
Of Minnesota
Non-Profit Organization
P.O. Box 583642
Minneapolis, MN 55458-3642

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

- ☐ Genealogy
☐ Publicity
☐ Library
☐ Refreshments
☐ History
☐ Sunshine
☐ Ways & Means
☐ Hospitality
☐ Other (please list)

YEAR 2006 MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Individual ☐ Family

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone No. _____

Email _____

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 Street, NE, Blaine, MN 55434

Any questions? Call Helen at 763-205-2297

Or email at: hmkleingartner@comcast.net