

Heritage Center News



Published regularly for the friends of the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Gettysburg University.

Number 24

FALL - '02



~From the Director's Corner

Greetings to all our members, and I want to thank all of you for a fantastic outpouring of support, as our membership renewals are at an all-time high. I would encourage those of you who have yet to renew your membership to please do so because your dollars are absolutely necessary for us to accomplish the many projects that are underway.

Among those projects is the completion of the 1737 log-cabin building, which will become a center for the development and understanding of the Grundsow Lodges and eventually will develop into an educational center for discussion to look at Pennsylvania German life on the frontier. We are very excited about that project.

Our library continues to expand at a steady pace. I am very comfortable with the work that Lucy Kern has done in our library, and it has become one of the bright spots in the research area at the Heritage Center. I encourage any of you who have family histories or any items related to Pennsylvania German genealogy or history to consider donating them to the library.

We are pleased to announce a special collection of early and rare books pertaining to Pennsylvania Dutch history, etc. on display at the Heritage Center Museum. The books are on loan from the Open Air Museum of Kommern due to the generosity of Dr. Dieter Pesch—director of the museum and the Landschaftsverband Rheinland. Curator Darlene Meyer was instrumental in

making arrangements for the books to come and in setting up the display. It is well worth the effort to see this superb collection. This collection is only a fraction of the material found at the museum in Kommern.

There has been a tremendous amount of interest in a trip to Germany, and we are planning a trip for next year. Details will be coming out shortly. Basically, we will be leaving at the end of May and the trip will last about 10 days. We will visit along the Rhine River, into the Cologne region, down into the Palatinate visiting Kaiserslautern, Enkenbach, Mohnbach, and the Pfalz as well as a visit with Roland Paul. Then into Saarbrücken, possibly over into the Alsace-Lorraine region, then into the southern areas of Baden Württemberg into Reutlingen and then into Bavaria. This will be a jam-packed trip and a trip that is geared to make you feel as if you are a part of the German people. If you are interested, please call 610-683-1330 and indicate your interest. We will mail a flyer to you as soon as they are prepared. As of right now, we have 10 people interested even before advertising the trip. Therefore, please indicate your interest now and you will have first priority.

As you know Dr. Ruth Freyberger has made a generous gift to both the University and the Heritage Center for the creation of a Freyberger Professor of Pennsylvania German Studies. I have been designated as the first Freyberger professor. It is a great honor to me, and it will set the pace and conditions in which the Freyberger professor will perform.

In conclusion, please continue to support the Center. See the slate of events listed in this newsletter, and come to Christmas on the farm, which is very enjoyable. Thank you, again.

~Mach's gut,
David L. Valuska

~Programs

The Program Committee of Pennsylvania

Dutch Folk Culture Society is continuously busy planning for future programs. Just a reminder—the purpose of this Society is to preserve the customs, traditions, and work ethics of our beloved Pennsylvania Dutch through programs and education.

The next event, which should be on your calendar, is **Christmas on the Farm-- December 7, 2002**. The committee is busily working to bring new and really exciting activities to this event. You will not want to miss this very special event, which is guaranteed to put you in the Christmas spirit.

Of course, none of the events at the Heritage Center could be held without the great work of our dedicated volunteers. There is always a need for new faces, fresh ideas, and a willingness both to learn and to help. We have the ideas and supplies for many more activities than we have been able to offer but need your help to implement these ideas. We guarantee a fun day, new friends, and the camaraderie of belonging to our wonderful group of volunteers.

There are many ways that you can get in touch with us: call the office at the Heritage Center at **610-683-1589** or E-mail us at **Emmetruthie@aol.com**. We will get back to you.

--Ruth Emmert

**~Workshop of Traditional
Christmas Crafts**

WHEN? ----Saturday, November
30, 2002, 10 a.m.-- 4p.m.

WHERE? --Pennsylvania
German Cultural
Heritage Center

This is an adults-only workshop, limited to 15 adults. The fee is \$5.00 for supplies. You will learn to make Scherenschnitte ornaments, German folded paper stars, and Christmas items constructed from old Christmas cards. Our leader will be Elaine Vardjan, talented artisan from the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Culture Society and juried member of the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. If interested, fill out the form below and return to the Pennsylvania German Heritage Center, P.O. Box 306, Kutztown, Pa. 19530 and enclose the \$5.00 non-refundable fee. Deadline for registration is November 10, 2002. Hurry to ensure your reservation! Lunch information will be included in your receipt for registration.

~NEW News

NEW in the HERITAGE CENTER LIBRARY through generous donations--- a Microfilm Reader, a 1960 Kutztown Festival issue of *Pennsylvania Folklife*, and the following books: *History of Borger and Allied Families, Leiby Genealogy, Litzenberger and Lizenberg: Origins of the Names and the Families, Smokestacks and Black Diamonds: A History of Carbon County, Pennsylvania.* We welcome additions of this nature to our collection of resources for historical and genealogical researchers.

--Lucy Kern

**~Upcoming Slate of Events for the
Heritage Center**

- ~November 30, 2002-Fun Crafts Day for Adults on the Farm
- ~December 7, 2002-Christmas on the Farm
- ~April 12, 2003-Easter time on the Farm
- ~May 12, 2003-Glieder Fescht for our donating members
- ~June 8, 2003-Picnic on the Farm sponsored by the Grundstow Lodges, Fersommings, and the Heritage Center
- ~June 28-July 6, 2003-Kutztown Pennsylvania German Festival
- ~July 28-31, 2003-Children's Cultural Camp at the Farm

Ongoing school tours are held throughout the year. The Center is opened for group tours by appointment. Individuals can tour the Center on Monday through Friday from 10a.m.-12p.m. and 1p.m.-4p.m. To schedule an appointment, please call 610-683-1330 or 610-683-1589.

Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center
P.O. Box 306
Kutztown, PA 19530

I wish to register for the Workshop of Traditional Christmas Crafts.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

Enclosed is a \$5.00 non-refundable fee for supplies.



--Newsletter developed by Christina
Glasser, 2002 intern for Heritage Center

