

The Pennsylvania German Heritage Center Association



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Kutztown University
PO Box 306
Kutztown, PA 19530

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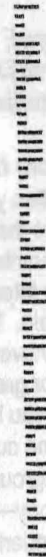
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Kutztown, PA 19530

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Heritage Center News

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

Number 27

Spring--2004

Newsletter edited by Mary K. Henry
Administrative Assistant

Slate of Events - 2004

February 9	PA German classes start
March 27-28	Reading-Berks Guild Craft Show
April 3	Easter on the Farm
April 17-18	Old Time Plow Boys plowing show
May 21-31	Heritage Hostel trip to Germany
June 26-July 4	Kutztown PA German Festival
July 26-29	Children's Cultural Camp
August 14-15	Old Time Plow Boys plowing show
September 19	Introduction to genealogy seminar
October 16-17	Harvest Festival
December 4	Christmas on the Farm

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

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This will probably be one of the last official communiqués you will receive from me as executive director of the Heritage Center. In January, I retired from teaching but still remain as executive director until a new Freyberger Professor is selected. A new person should be on board by Fall 2004. I will still remain closely involved in the PA German culture and heritage by working closely with Dave Fooks and the Kutztown PA German Festival acting as consultant and serving as director of the Pennsylvania German Folklife Association whose purpose is to concentrate on the folkways and art of the culture. The goal will be to publish an annual monograph dealing with some aspect of the culture, as well as to sponsor trips to Germany or sites relevant in the U.S. In addition, I will be assisting Dr. Robert Kline and the PA German Society serving as acting executive director of the Society for the foreseeable future. I also am on the board of the Deutsch-Pennsylvanisch Arbeits Kreis (DPAK), an organization founded in Germany to promote the further understanding of German-Pennsylvania German literature, language, culture, etc. working with Dr. Michael Werner, Dr. Walter Sauer, Dr. Helmut Schmahl, and Dr. Frank Kessler who have created the organization. Feel free to contact me for membership details in any of these organizations.

The Heritage Center is involved in developing a Pennsylvania German minor to be taught as part of the curriculum at Kutztown University. The second log cabin will house the headquarters of the Reading Berks Guild of Craftsmen and should be completed very soon. The background work for the extension to the Heritage Center Library continues to progress. Lucy Kern is to be commended for her diligent work in developing the library holdings, and the Library has become one of the go-to spots for study of history and/or genealogy of the Pennsylvania Germans.

The cultural/educational programs are expanding as well. Field trips to the one-room school continue to grow. Programs such as Easter on the Farm (April 3) have expanded in the explanation of folkways of the culture, and Darlene Moyer along with her fine staff have done a magnificent job with the assets available. I would name all the wonderful volunteers, but am reluctant so as not to offend someone who would be

overlooked. Volunteers are always welcome, and if you would like to be a part of the team, please contact Anna Stein and she will be happy to get you involved. I would be remiss if I did not mention the fine work of Mary Henry, who has helped keep the Center focused on our mission. Also supportive is Professor William Donner without whose help many of the Center's accomplishments would not have been possible. The book *Damn Dutch: Pennsylvania Germans at Gettysburg* which I co-authored is now available at the Heritage Center bookstore.

I want to thank all of you for your unstinting support over the last 10 years. Your suggestions and kind words have enabled us to grow and correctly preserve the culture. I will continue to be on board, and I hope you will feel free to say, "Wie bischt?" so we can chat. Danki!

Mach's gut!

David L. Valuska, Executive Director & Freyberger Professor of PA German Studies

News from the Farm

Have the winter doldrums gotten you down? Retirement boring you? Lonely? We have the perfect solution to those problems. The Pennsylvania German Heritage Center farm has several really interesting events planned for 2004, and we need your help. We guarantee you fun, new ideas, camaraderie, with never a dull moment. You might wish to be a docent, door greeter, demonstrator of home-arts, gardener, etc. Do you have a skill demonstrating or teaching some custom or tradition from your Pennsylvania Dutch background? The benefits of volunteering far outweigh the pay—nothing; but a good time with friendly people in wonderfully surroundings. Call us—we promise to call you back and invite you to the fun. Call Ruth at 570-366-6361 or emmertruthie@aol.com or email Darlene at darmoyer@hometownu.com. or call her at 610-683-1589.

I would encourage those of you who **have not yet** become members to consider joining the Association for fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005. Information is listed in the column to the right. Simply cut off the panel, fill out the reverse side, and mail it with your check. Members now receive the acclaimed semi-annual *Pennsylvania German Review* and will have a yearly journal/yearbook made available to them as well. We look forward to seeing your name listed on our membership list.

Association Membership

Category	Membership Gift
<i>(All members may tour the buildings at the site free)</i>	
Paerson (individual).....	\$25-\$49
<i>Use of library, Harvest Festival, publications—free</i>	
Familye (Family—children under 18).....	\$50-\$599
<i>Use of library, Harvest Festival, publications—free</i>	
Hunnert Daaler Helfer (\$100 Helper).....	\$100-\$249
<i>All of above plus 10% discount on items offered for sale at the Center's gift shop</i>	
Gross Helfer (Big Helper).....	\$250-\$499
<i>All of above plus priority participation in trip to Germany</i>	
Bresident Glieder (President Member)...	\$500-\$999
<i>All of above plus free dinner at Glieder Fescht</i>	
Hoch Gewwe Glieder (Top Giver)....	\$1,000-\$2,499
<i>All of above plus large unframed school print</i>	
<i>(The amounts listed above are annual fees)</i>	
Leweszeit Glieder (Lifetime Member).....	\$2,500+
<i>All of above plus large framed school print</i>	

- Please send me information to include the Heritage Center in my estate planning.

Mission of the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center

The mission of the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Kutztown University is to gather, preserve, and disseminate knowledge of Pennsylvania German rural life in southeastern Pennsylvania. The primary functions of the Center are educational and archival. Our mission is achieved by programs and collections which authentically portray Pennsylvania German life. Examples of programs are lectures, musical events, reenactments, folklife festivals, and courses in folklore, history, and the Pennsylvania German dialect. Collections include the Center's buildings and artifacts, literature, historical and genealogical records representing the spectrum of activity in rural life of the period. The Center is part of the educational program at Kutztown University as well as a public resource. The Center seeks the participation and support of individuals and organizations in fulfilling its mission.