



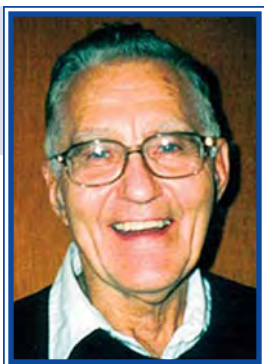
# GROW Quarterly Newsletter

Area Chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)

Volume 6 Issue 2

January - February - March 2007

## Message from the President



**Roger Haas, President**

The new year is coming and bringing new opportunities! GROW will want to continue to build on the successes of 2006. A project such as hosting the Annual GRHS Convention may only be a once-in-a-lifetime challenge, but other projects and/or endeavors need to be considered and put on the front burner to provide a service to GROW's members and stimulate a continued productive chapter life. What do you see as a worthy activity in which you would like to participate?

Certainly, one of the most difficult, but also worthy of consideration, should be the involvement of our youth and the younger generation. It will mean trying to turn around some of life's goals of our children and grandchildren. We need to emphasize our ethnic values, the contributions recorded by our ancestors and our present Germans from Russia members as an inspiration for them, the younger generations, to emulate and help to continue to preserve our heritage. To do otherwise is not making our pursuits and accomplishments worthy of recounting and promoting. It is for the younger and future generations that we are collecting, archiving, putting our family histories together, etc. It would seem that GROW will have to be innovative, positive, and rewarding above the normal measure of what can be realized in our everyday world. Let us be up, doing, and inviting our families to get involved. Are we up to the task? You have done a magnificent job with the Convention in the two-year's planning and doing. Can we undertake this long-term, daunting challenge?

As we wish you all ein Fröhliches Weihnachten und Glückliches Neues Jahr (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year), we want to note some events out-

side of GROW's successful hosting of the Annual 2006 GRHS Convention.

We sustained the loss of GROW Members, Del Usselman, 8 March 2006, Clarence Gramm, 21 August 2006, and Amelia Lybarger, our former cheerful Sunshine Lady, 6 October 2006.

We also want to say a prayer for those GROW Members who claimed some health improvements in the year of 2006, namely Roberta Haas, Helen Majhors, and Paul Voeller. Secretary Maxine Daily has been ailing with poor health and has resigned as a GROW Director. Emeritus Membership Chair and former Oregon AHSGR President, Cliff Haberman is not doing very well. He is approaching his 90th birthday. We want to remember the families of these referenced above during this Christmas season and also as we step into the New Year.

Looking at the brighter side, on the 18 October

*Continued on page 3.*

## Inside This Issue

<i>Ed's Corner</i> .....	2
<i>Sunshine News</i> .....	2
<i>Association of Personal Historians</i> .....	3
<i>Researching Close to Home</i> .....	3
<i>Germans from Russia Convention, Canada</i> .....	4
<i>Conventioneers Appreciate Taping</i> .....	4-5
<i>Additional Convention Highlights</i> .....	5-6
<i>Ways to Nurture Family</i> .....	7
<i>Chapter Meeting Summary, 19 Nov 2006</i> .....	8-9
<i>In Remembrance, Amelia Horst Lybarger</i> .....	9
<i>Calendar</i> .....	10

## Ed's Corner

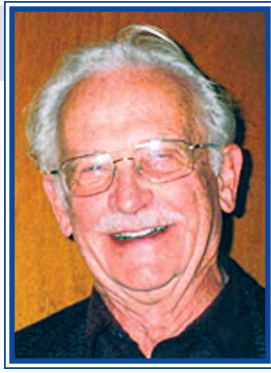
I have just come from the November GROW Chapter meeting where we sang some Christmas Carols in German and closed the meeting with a Thanksgiving theme potluck. My thoughts went back to the 1930s and what Thanksgiving Day was like in the predominantly German Community of Isabel, SD. In 1933 the entire United States was in the middle of an economic depression that was coupled with being on the edge of the dust bowl drought. Fortunately my father, Jacob Weber, was employed as a cream buyer for the farmer's Co-op, Aberdeen Equity Exchange. Dad was on a monthly salary that helped the Webers get through the depression, however in 1934 he had to take a 25% reduction in his pay.

One of the requirements of the job for buying cream from the farmers was to steam clean the empty containers (usually metal milk cans) after the purchase. Dad's Cream Station had a small coal fired boiler to provide the steam for cleaning the cans. The steam was piped to a special sink where the empty cans were cleaned. I learned the cleaning process because at age ten one of my chores for Saturday was to come to Dad's Station and steam clean the cans. In November the steam was used for another purpose and this was to process turkeys the Farmers Co-op bought from farmers in the Isabel area for the Thanksgiving and Christmas sales.

In the early 1930s you couldn't go to the nearest supermarket and select a nicely plastic wrapped fresh or frozen turkey to use for your Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner. After the turkeys were bought from the farmers in Isabel they were killed and brought to Dad's Cream station where they were subjected to a steam treatment to assist in removing the feathers. They were then packed in a large 50-gallon wooden drums and shipped to Aberdeen where the co-op would sell them to grocery and meat markets.

Thanksgiving Day in the Isabel area was celebrated with a turkey dinner and Pumpkin Pie. In 1934 Dad bought the Webers a radio and I listened to WLS radio Chicago to a broadcast of a Thanksgiving Football game. In October 1936 the Webers moved from the dust bowl area to Western Washington State to the farm near Sultan. What a change for the Webers as we moved from the wide-open drought stricken prairie to a small dairy farm. The first task was to harvest three cords of firewood to heat the house for the oncoming winter.

Thanksgiving Day arrived and we had much to be thankful about. We had a traditional turkey dinner;



Ed Weber

cranberry sauce made from fresh Washington grown berries and pumpkin pie made from a pumpkin harvested from the garden on the farm. The dinner was shared with an Uncle and his family who lived in an adjoining farm. We didn't listen to the traditional football game due to the fact the farm did not have any electrical power for our radio.

When Dad and I went out to do the milking we discovered that about a half-inch of snow had fallen during the night. The plans for the day called for a harvest of a quarter-acre of carrots the former owner of the farm had planted. In South Dakota at this time of the year and with snow on the ground the ground would have been frozen hard. I assumed our carrot harvest would be called off, but that was not to be. The snow melted before we got through with the harvest and the ground was not frozen.

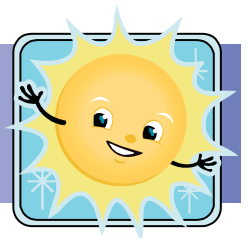
After breakfast Dad hitched our horse to a stoneboat and we traveled through the mud and snow to the carrot field. In our Isabel garden we had carrots that were pencil thin and about four inches long and they lasted about two days before they were consumed. The ones we harvested on Thanksgiving Day were large. They were about 2 inches in diameter and about 12 inches long. Before dinner we took about four stoneboat loads of carrots to deposit them in a large storage box in the barn. The carrots were not for human consumption but for our dairy cows. They were chopped up in a special machine and fed to the cows at milking time instead of silage.

The farm did not have any electricity, so the carrot-chopping machine was boy powered. In addition to the milk, pumpkins, firewood and carrots we had an additional farm harvest for which we were thankful. The farm was going to get electric service shortly after Christmas. Before Puget Sound Power and Light would bring power to the farm we had to provide three power poles to bring the power to the house and barn. We had to go a short distance from the carrot field, cut down three cedar trees, trim and debark them. The power poles were in the yard and were ready to be installed.

I hope you all had a joyful Thanksgiving and Christmas. That's it from Ed's Corner.

## Sunshine News

by Jan Haberman



Our prayers and best wishes go out to all those who have had recent surgery.

Ed Goehring, by-pass surgery; Joe Gender, knee surgery; Paul Nessel, hip surgery; and Gene Magee, triple by-pass surgery.

The GROW family wishes all of you good health and happiness in the new year.

## Association of Personal Historians - 12th Annual Conference

By Lola M Weber

This group “brings together people who share a common passion for preserving histories, life stories and memories of individuals, organizations and communities.”

*Celebrating stories: Passage to the past, flowing to the future* was the theme that intrigued me. They had opened up a free town meeting time for one Saturday afternoon in Portland where we could browse and visit with a good number of vendors. The vendors are there to sell their product and services so it was fun to talk with several of them.

I was particularly interested in finding a way to document family heirlooms. Some people may wonder why

this is important and I found a good answer: **“More than any monetary amount we could ever place on them, our heirlooms are most valuable because they remind us of the family members who obtained them, treasured them, and then, ever so thoughtfully, passed them along to us.”**

I met Patricia Kuentz, who had the vehicle “Our Family Heirlooms and Their Stories” which includes a format for photos, stories and information about how the heirloom was obtained, by whom and possibly when.

There were four interesting speakers on the subjects of the power of life stories, creating ethical wills, genealogical resources on the internet and preserving family heirlooms.

[www.personalhistorians.org](http://www.personalhistorians.org)

## Researching Close to Home — The Dalles, Oregon

By Lola M Weber

Sometimes we work at researching our families and don't do what we can near home. That was my case this past fall. I had discovered, after digging into information that I already had, that my ancestor had come out from Iowa on the Oregon Trail (late about 1869-1870) and according the family lore had “wintered over” in The Dalles before traveling on to Josephine County, Oregon near the California border.

Although I knew that I probably wouldn't find my family “names” in The Dalles, what I did find helps paint a picture of their lives. I was looking for histo-

ry and photos of life in the area around that time. The Fort Dalles Museum, Klindt's Book Store (the oldest in Oregon), The Dalles-Wasco County Library and The Dalles Murals depicting the “end of the Oregon Trail” all proved to be very helpful in gathering information. I also received the name of a lady from the Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society who is helping me understand what “wintering over” involved at that time. It's amazing what you can find -close to home.

Next fall, I am hoping to pickup the Oregon Trail in Nebraska and follow it back out here to Washington. It's fun to revisit history.

## President's Message, cont.

2006, GROW was favored by the German American Society to become an affiliated club member with five other clubs: a singing club called Liedertafel Harmonie, a entertaining card club called Unterhaltungsverein or Skat, Austrian American Club, a German Ladies' Aid Society called Deutscher Frauen-Hilfverein and a Sport club Germania. GROW was fortunate to have been privileged to use the beautiful facilities for two prior years, but realized its status was tenuous until the vote for lifting the moratorium by German American Society. Along with the accommodating facilities, we have been offered the inclusion of our Chapter mailings with the German American bulk mailing privileges, website opportunities, and a participation in sharing GROW articles in the German American Journal (GAJ) as well as providing a free quarterly GAJ to all GROW members. Website: <http://germanamerica.org>

With an invitation, GROW participated in its first German American celebration with its affiliated clubs in an Open House, which also included the

Saturday German School whose enrollment is approximately 125 students from ages four years to two adult classes. The Society also hosted an Oktoberfest, invites members and friends to a monthly German Film Abend, features a German Library, provides a 3-acre facility with tents and barbecue for an August Annual Picnic, etc. We are indeed grateful for such thoughtfulness by this renowned German Society which has existed since 1872. Your annual membership for \$25 is invited. Call or write to me as its Membership Chair [rahaas@haasfamily.us](mailto:rahaas@haasfamily.us) or 503-659-8248.

Looking back tells where we have been and where we came from, but looking ahead and planning is how we are going to shape tomorrow and the future. Let us plan BIG dreams and then put ourselves to the wheel of a forward motion. Life is what you make it, so let us see what we can do good to have GROW serve its family and those who will join, to be well rewarded. Thank you. GOTT SEGENE EUCH (GOD BLESS YOU). Alles Gute!  
Roger Haas



## Conventioneers Appreciate Taping

**F**ifty-eight attendees of the 2006 GRHS Convention ordered 1,003 DVD recordings of the various 67 Presenters and Programs. This is to say a Big Thank You to the Videographers who volunteered their time and their digital camcorder equipment namely: Earnie & Dianna Moran, Dr. Tim Janzen, Dr. Harley Miller and Dan Ness.

In March 2006, GROW Program Director, Lola Weber, had asked written authorization of all program presenters to tape their presentation. All granted permission to tape with the exception of Wanda Hopkins. At the time of the actual taping Roger Ehrich objected and his presentation was also not recorded.

Four or more concurrent presentations were given each hour for the three days: July 13, 14, 15, but attendees needed to select one session to view, although they may have wished to see all four sessions each hour. It became apparent, for memory's sake as well as the inability of viewing those other presentations, that an option be given. Videographer Co-Chairs, Earnie and Dianna volunteered to take on the responsibility of making those presentations available to the conventioneers at their cost. They purchased a low priced machine to transfer the camcorder tapes into a master DVD to create the requested tapes. The Morans never anticipated the large volume of tapes requested and consequently have given in excess of a thousand hours to complete the 600 DVDs that have been produced and shipped to conventioneers who had ordered on the 15 July.

All was proceeding as planned until October 7 2006, when the GRHS Board of Directors, at their Fall Quarterly Meeting, decided that the permission to tape was not adequate as was given first by the presenters. Additional permission requesting their copyright ownership and permission to distribute was requested to avoid any potential liability to GROW or GRHS. GRHS demanded that GROW either refund the DVD purchasers' money and/or obtain the additional permission from all the presenters.

To accommodate the DVD purchasers and not to jeopardize the hundreds of dollars and hundreds of hours in producing the created DVDs by the Morans, GROW Program Director, Lola Weber, again sent out to all the presenters, with the exception of Wanda Hopkins and Roger Ehrich, the second request for the additional information of their copyright ownership of their presentation and permission to distribute their presentation. Most presenters responded promptly and positively; however a few, who primarily were responsible for the additional GRHS demand for the second authorization, were tragically the ones who either replied negatively or didn't reply at all to the second permission requested of the



**Ernie Moran talks about the Convention DVDs.**

presenters. What was further interesting was that most of these objecting to give permission were presenters who were GRHS Board Members and who were also RIG (Promoters and/or Regional Interest Group) spokespersons, namely Valrie Ingram, Gayla Gray, David Kilwien, Wanda Hopkins, Margaret Rehwalt, Dennis Roth and Dale Wahl. What was sad, was that GROW gave some of these presenters, namely Dale Wahl, Valerie Ingram and David Kilwien, the opportunity to give several presentations on different or sequential subjects, which ended up with more DVDs held hostage.

Coupled with the above episode, was the fact that many of the DVDs were personalized with four presenters on one DVD. When one presenter had not given authorization to distribute, it would make the other three presenters hostage and GROW could not send out that DVD. As a result of that caveat, out of the 58 DVD orders placed for the 600 Convention DVDs requested and have been sent, 40 persons have received partial orders, six received NO deliveries and six received their complete order. Some purchasers have written to the objecting presenters to give authorization without avail.

With the remaining 400 DVDs, yet being produced, those objecting presenters to distribute will be purged not causing other presenters to be held hostage. The remaining purchasers will receive more of their requested DVDs. Because of the objecting presenters not giving their second authorization, the GROW Board has recommended to the GRHS Board and GRHS Convention Committee that presenters not giving advance written permission to distribute and/or publish, not be allowed to speak at any future Annual GRHS Convention. Also, the Convention

*Continued on page 5.*

## Conventioneers Appreciate Taping, cont.

Committee may wish to note that when one presenter has more than one presentation, it can add to the problems such as GROW, the convention host, experienced in trying to provide the purchaser their orders.

In spite of the above disappointments of those not receiving their orders and/or only partial orders, all, except one having written or called, were pleased for what DVDs they had received. Also, they were glad that GROW made the effort of recording. Again, all accolades should particularly go to Earnie and Dianna Moran who gave so unselfishly for what will probably turn out to be a couple of thousand hours of volunteer time when all is said and done. Please share your appreciation with them at [diannamm@verizon.net](mailto:diannamm@verizon.net) or call at 509-689-2768. They are VERY SPECIAL FOLKS who made these DVD recordings come together. Thank you again, Earnie and Dianna!

### Food For Thought

*Are you an active member,  
the kind whose absence would be missed.  
Or are you one that is just content to  
have your name upon the list?*

*Do you attend the monthly meetings,  
and mingle with the flock,  
Or do you more often stay at home,  
and criticize and knock?*

*Do you ever work on committees,  
To see there are no tricks?  
Or do you leave the work to just a few,  
And talk about the cliques?*

*If so, go to meetings often,  
And help with hand and heart—  
Don't just be a member, only,  
but take an active part.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

GRHS was founded on January 9, 1971 at Bismarck, ND under the name of North Dakota Historical Society of Germans from Russia (NDHSGR) and changed its name by popular vote on 14 July 1979 to Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS)

GRHS functions as a non-profit, nondenominational organization and was incorporated under the laws of the State of North Dakota.

GRHS aims are educational and social. It is the leading research center for Black Sea Germans from Russia in the U.S. and Canada

GRHS has members from 48 states, five Canadian Provinces, Germany & other countries.

# 2006 GRHS Convention Photos



**Registration Chairperson Alice Summers (left) and Convention Chairman Roger Haas in the Atrium at Holiday Inn during the 2006 GRHS Convention.**



**Back Row, L to R: Lola Weber, Program Chair; Harley Miller: Memorial Service Chair; Kurt Radtke, Co-Food Chair; Bob Majhors, Co-Facilities Chair; Roger Haas, Convention Chair; Bob Schauer, Library & Hi tech; Rachel Janzen, Entertainment; Tim Janzen, Ancestral Village, et.al**

**Front Row, L to R: Alice Summers, Registration Chair, Welcoming Bags; Willy Horner, Registration; Vivian Messenger, Pianist, Entertainment Chair; Joanne Pfau, Banner/Flag/Scrapbook Chair; Maxine Daily, Publicity, Raffle Sales, Welcoming Bags; Pat Schauer, Hospitality Chair; Arlene Maston, Tours, Registration**

**Persons not present: Steve Geiszler, Copier/Security Chair; Glen Gumeringer, Co-Entertainment; Ell Schiermeister, Honor Guard, Chair; Kelly Garey, Registration Set-up, Registration; Jan Prunier, Graphic Arts/Design, Registration; Geri Gander, Signage Chair; Jenice Gibson, Tours Chair; Karen Rochon, Tours, Vendors; Betty Thatcher, Treasurer; Susan Baird, Vendors Chair; Rich Aspenleiter, Webmaster; Joni Jundt, Volunteers Chair; Dee Burghardt, Registration; Hilde Archer, Registration; Jane Radtke, Registration; Ron Schauer, Handbook, Chair**



# Additional Highlights from Convention



Speaker Horst Gutsche (left) presents a gift to Roger Haas.



Dr. Harley Miller gives introductory remarks.



Alice Summers (at microphone) tells the story of the raffle quilt while Brady Adams shows it off.



Vivian Messenger on piano and trombonists Bob Wohlers and Terry Leno accompany the choir.



Vic Jacobs (right) of Tillamook and four of his sisters at 2006 GRHS Convention. Elaine, Covington, WA; Barb, Vancouver, WA; Carol, Tillamook, OR and seated Therese, Portland, OR. This picture represents one-third of the Jacobs siblings (14 still living-16 total). Vic attended all four days of convention, two sisters were there two days and two sisters were there on Saturday.



Lola Weber (left) and Jean Aberle set up the photo identification table.



Roberta Haas reads the bios of the departed.



Vic Jacobs (left) and Maxine Daily at 2006 GRHS Convention.

## Ways to Nurture Family

22 October 2006

by Susan Baird

*We all have busy lives.  
Family members live near and far.  
We share a history and a bond....our choices either  
strengthen or weaken the family.*

### Create a calendar

Use PAF, Calendar Creator, or some other software  
Add birthdays, anniversaries, pictures (may want  
to include ancestors)

### Create a family newsletter

Publish monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, semi-  
annually

Items to include: Upcoming events, birthdays,  
anniversaries, awards received by family members,  
pictures, recipes, family historical moments, words  
of wisdom from older family members, etc

### Create a Christmas letter

Annually  
Update extended family on your doings for the  
year

### Create a family website

(do a google search "family web site"+free)

Sites that cost - [www.MyFamily.com](http://www.MyFamily.com)

Sites that are free - [www.comehome.net](http://www.comehome.net)

### Write a "Round Robin Letter"

Email or Snail mail

One person begins the letter and sends it to another household of the family. That family reads and adds to the letter and sends it to the next household....this continues until it returns to original sender where only the part of the letter everyone has read is then deleted and then is continued to be added to and sent forth again.

### Annual Gathering

A day or more than one day  
Choose a location that will accommodate all who  
would attend

Potluck or have catered

Share genealogical research

Share stories

Catch up with each other's lives

Take pictures...lots of them

### Annual Camping Trip

Music, Games, Campfires, Stories, Crafts, Food,  
Pictures, Family flag, Skits, Talent show, Fishing, Hiking,  
Swimming, Service project

A time where the older members of the family can  
really shine

Make it wonderful for the kids

## 2006-07 GROW Board of Directors

### Roger Haas, President/Liaison

8618 SE 36th Ave. (503) 659-8248

Portland, OR 97222 rahaas@haasfamily.us

Term ends: 2007

### Jan Haberman, Vice President

8110 SE Madison (503) 252-5480

Portland, OR 97215 haberman988@msn.com

Term ends: 2008

### Secretary

OPEN POSITION

Term ends: 2009

### Alice Summers, Treasurer

130 SE 155th Place (503) 775-9929

Portland, OR 97233 sewsum4u@msn.com

Term ends: 2008

### Geraldine Gander, Obituaries

14926 SE Lowell Lane (503) 625-3070

Sherwood, OR 97140-7014 neatfamily@verizon.net

Term ends: 2007

### Arlene Maston, Membership

8202 NE Going St. (503) 255-5493

Portland, OR 97220-4860 amaston@aol.com

Term ends: 2009

### Oscar Geiszler, Fundraising

803 5th Ave (503) 656-1802

Oregon City, OR 97045 oscarandlorraine@msn.com

Term ends: 2007

### Kurt Radtke, Member at Large, Programs

20023 Quinalt Dr. 503-518-8181

Oregon City, OR 970458

Term ends: 2009

### Ell Schiermeister

12010 SE McGillivray 360-253-2499

Vancouver, WA 98683

### Leona Koth Hix, 1st Alternate

2704 Haworth Ave. 503-538-4508

Newberg, OR 97132-1918 JWHIX@comcast.net



**Maxine Daily, Director Emeritus**

**Clifford Haberman, Director Emeritus**

**Robert Majhor, Director Emeritus**

**Ed Weber, Director Emeritus**



## GROW Chapter Meeting Summary - 19 November 2006

This meeting was a ray of sunshine for those traveling as far as Medford in our "Oregon sunshine" called rain. This meeting turned out to be a first in GROW's five year history with its first German Potluck Dinner, more members traveling longer distances, and a magnificent speaker, namely Kurt Radtke. He has first hand experiences of the ravages of war, being shoved about by dictators, subsisting in all kinds of conditions, coming to America in 1951, becoming a successful businessman and twice Past President of the German American Society and currently a GROW Director.

Kurt Radtke took us through the German Empires in his many travels to his former residences in Germany, Poland, Latvia, etc. He shared the conditions, political climates, philosophies provided us with maps, brochures, etc., including a new 3 ft by 5 ft new German Flag for our Library and display. He answered numerous queries by Chapter Members. Lola Weber has taken the German Flag and GROW's Banner to exhibit at a Historical Genealogy Seminar in which she will be involved.

Lola Weber also was the architect of the Harvest/Christmas Season festive aura, initiating it with the thought of getting new German recipes of the Seasons. Passing on Lola's query stimulated the brain of Arlene Maston, who along with Alice Summers, became engaged and executed the largest array of assorted potluck German dishes that I have seen in a long long time. About 20 different dishes provided more food than one could sample.

Bringing some of those delicacies were: Alice Summers – hot wassail and plachinta; Marcine Herinck brought potatoes, gravy, cranberries, pumpkin pie and Cool Whip; Carol Kolson – German bread, assorted German meats and pickles; Ann Gumeringer brought two pumpkin pies with Cool Whip; Glen Gumeringer made the coffee; Arlene Maston brought red and green festive cookies, cranberry/nut marshmallow salad, a 16 lb turkey baked and cut up, and Christmas napkins.

By the way, it was Arlene mainly who made our gathering so festive: her own decorations plus poinsettias courtesy by the German American Society as table centerpieces. Also, did you enjoy her lighted Christmas tree at the front of the room and Santa playing songs on the piano? Jan Haberman brought fruit salad; Pat Schauer brought German potato salad and Bavarian apple torte; Lorraine Geiszler – mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls; Geri Gander – halupsie and Christmas tablecloths; Betty Thatcher – stollen; Dennis Levi – Tortilla chips; Leona Hix – halupsie; Anita Weber – slumgullion; Jenice Gibson – fruit salad with slices of pineapple, melons, grapes, etc; Donna Wallender – assorted cut fruit; Susan/Jim Baird – lentil

soup; Darwin Weber – knepfla and Roberta Haas – German potato salad, German honey & gingerbread cookies. We hope that we haven't overlooked someone who brought food, etc. Please let me know if you indeed brought something that I omitted. The kitchen was a busy place and Darwin Weber, thank you for your excellent help on the clean-up/washing the dishes and other detail!

Those German Recipe cookbooks come in handy, especially if you are not a German and/or were not brought up in a German household.

Our program was revised and ordered for the Season to accommodate our program speaker to come at 3PM who had his 24 member family at his house for an early Thanksgiving dinner. That allowed their families to see their in-laws for the Thanksgiving weekend. It all worked out beautifully, with Song Leader, Ed Weber, leading us in the favorite Weinachten Lieder (Christmas Songs): O Tannen Baum, O du Fröhliche, and Stille Nacht (also in English). Ed remarked that the audience not only sang well, but he was hearing good part harmony singing. I think he was particularly looking in the direction of Donald Geiszler, from Myrtle Point, OR with that beautiful harmonizing singing voice. Knowing Ed, he always has the most appropriate prelude remarks to accompany the singing. This was another first and a highlight of the day. Thank you, Ed, pianist Vivian Messenger, and all you song birds for filling the atmosphere with cheer and the holiday spirit.

Our November birthdays recognized were two wonderful happy gals: namely Marcine Herinck and Kay Carey. Thank you for honoring us with knowledge of your having had reached another birthday and allowing us to recognize your special event in song. We wish you many good years. When life can be short, every year needs to be treasured and celebrated.

We enjoyed again the raffling of the door prize and other raffles. The gifts were donated by GROW and the winner of the door prize was Donna Wallender from Medford. Paul Voeller, having returned following illness was a raffle winner, Geri Gander another who deferred to (can't recall the name) ...etc. It was a delightful time as a prelude into our potluck and our gemütlichkeit (visiting) und Maistub. In the middle of our eating, Lola Weber favored us with comments and readings from our famous German Cookbook regarding the Holiday Season. Thank you, Lola.

Because of a potluck, we were privileged to use the German American Society's real ceramic plates, cutlery, and of course, their lovely kitchen facility, including the warming/heating ovens and dishwasher.

---

*Continued on page 9.*



## GROW Chapter Meeting Summary - 19 November 2006, cont.

er. Darwin Weber was the Volunteer head honcho. Wow, we don't appreciate people enough who step in and don't have to be asked. Along with Darwin and other volunteers, two who deserved SPECIAL RECOGNITION were Glen and Ann Gumeringer. They have been early to every meeting since 2001, Glen has opened the library, made insert cards, organized books and you name it; he did most of the work with the title as Assistant Library. Also he made MJB coffee, other drinks and Ann has helped in the kitchen non-stop. Please share your thanks via [amgggum@aol.com](mailto:amgggum@aol.com) or call them at 360-573-6453 and offer your help (to fill their BIG, BIG shoes). They just don't come any better and they deserve to be able to come a little later than 12 noon on Chapter Meeting days and sit in the audience with other attendees. Please share your desire to help in the Library with our gracious Head Librarian Vivian Messenger via: [cvmesseng@hotmail.com](mailto:cvmesseng@hotmail.com) or call her at 503-574-2271 of your willingness to help (in the Library). While we are speaking of the Library, we had, again, a nice donation of books from Sharon & Paul Voeller; these need to be catalogued with insert cards, ready to be checked out. We need help here as Glen retires from all of his jobs. Thank You, Sharon and Paul, for your thoughtfulness in donating to our GROW expanding Library.

Roberta Haas has also been in the kitchen since the beginning of GROW. Ann Gumeringer has been at her side since that first GROW debut. Many ladies have been assisting, and Roberta will carry on, but she desires faithful help to regularly assist in preparation and setting out those most excellent delicious refreshments put together and enjoyed over the years. Again, please share your eagerness to aid Roberta by writing to her at [rahaas@haasfamily.us](mailto:rahaas@haasfamily.us) or calling 503-659-8248. Thank you.

We were pleased to issue the 2006 GRHS Convention Program DVDs that some members had ordered. Catherine Lobb was one of those members who received her DVDs and was helping Geri Gander in the fund raising table, while Joe Gander was home nursing his knee surgery. Thank you Catherine and we have missed you, at our Chapter meetings, but sure happy you enjoyed the Convention. Also Katherine Bell from Eugene, OR, a Convention attendee, enjoyed our Chapter meeting and joined our GROW family for 2006 making a total of 173 and also paid for the year of 2007 giving us a total of 99. Thank you for becoming a part of us. Altogether we had 45 in attendance, a very cozy family, with an unusually good celebration. No one went home hungry and/or needed a supper with the scrumptious meal and food left over to be taken home.

Some announcements were made that you may wish to take advantage of as follows:

- **Weihnachtsmarkt:** 2 & 3 Dec, German Am Sch, 3900 SW Murray Blvd, 10-7PM on 2nd and 10-4PM on 3rd
- **Weihnachtskonzert:** 10 Dec, 3PM, Liedertafel Harmonie, Portland Zion Lutheran Ch SW 18 Salmon AHSGR Weihnacht (Christmas) Program: 16 Dec, 2PM, 3201 NE 148th, Portland Rivercrest Church
- **New Year's Eve Dinner:** 8PM and Dance 9PM-1AM, 7901 SE Division. Call 503-244-5736, reservations needed

There will NOT be a GROW Chapter Meeting in December and so we want you to calendar our next Chapter program for 28 January 2007 with German Chaplain/Pastor LeRoy Kiemele as our Program Presenter.

Haben eine Fröhliche Weihnachten und Glückliches Neues Jahr (Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year).

Roger

### In Remembrance

#### Amelia Horst Lybarger

September 3, 1936 - October 6, 2006

Private memorial services were held October 14, 2006 for Amelia Irene Lybarger, who died October 6 in Seattle, WA after a courageous battle of cancer.

Amelia was born Sept. 3, 1936 to Herbert and Irene Horst in Grand Junction, CO. The family included a younger sister Rosemarie. They eventually settled in the Portland area where Amelia graduated from Hillsboro High School.

While working in Portland, Amelia met and married Paul Lybarger and the couple had three children. Living throughout the area, Amelia continued to work and care for her family, even after the unexpected loss of her husband in 1987.

She was a happy, joyful woman, who despite suffering from cerebral palsy, was never too busy to help out when she could. She tutored adults who could not read and comforted house-bound seniors. She dearly loved attending her church where she had many friends.

We'll all miss Amelia's endless joy, her faith-filled spirit and her smile. She was preceded in death by her husband Paul; her father Herbert; and her sister Rosemarie. She is survived by her mother Irene; daughter Pauline of Seattle; and sons, Herbert of Portland and Sean of Forest Grove.

Remembrances can be made to the American Cancer Society.

# GROW 2007 Quarterly Calendar

## JANUARY 2007

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17 Board Meeting	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Chapter Meeting	29	30	31			

## FEBRUARY 2007

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17
18	19 Washington's Birthday	20	21 Board Meeting	22	23	24
25 Chapter Meeting	26	27	28			

## MARCH 2007

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Newsletter Deadline	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Board Meeting	22	23	24
25 Chapter Meeting	26	27	28	29	30	31



**Chapter Meetings are held at:  
Deutches Haus**

**7901 SE Division, Portland, OR  
Doors open at 1:00 pm**

**Meeting starts at 2:00 pm until about 5:00 pm**

**Coming from I-205 South take Exit 19 Ramp and turn West on Powell Blvd to 82nd Ave.**

**Go .5 mile North to Division St., then turn left and go to 7901.**

**Coming from I-205 North take Exit 19 Ramp onto Division St. Go West on Division to 7901.**

## Chapter Meetings

**December 2006** No Chapter Meeting.

**28 January 2007** Pastor Leroy Kimele.

**25 February 2007** Genealogist - Susan Baird

**25 March 2007** Dr. Steve Fuller, PSU German Professor

## Fundraising Opportunities— At No Cost To You!!

- Electronic Newsletters. Receive your newsletters via email, and save GROW in postage costs. Thank You!
- Albertson's Scan Cards - Contact **Roger Haas** for your card if you don't already have one. Thank You!

### Other Opportunities to Help...

- **Oscar Geiszler** is recycling inkjet and laser cartridges. Bring your empty cartridges to Chapter Meetings or contact Oscar directly. He can also help you receive approximately 50% discount on refilled cartridges.
- Visit **Joe and Geri Gander** before/after the Chapter Meetings to view the fascinating collection of books, audio CDs, videos, etc. that are available for sale. Also take a look at the tote bags, key chains and magnets, all with GROW logo.

# Focused Activity for 2007 in Planning Stages

By Arlene Maston

The members of the Board met on Wednesday, December 6, to discuss the various opportunities we will have available to us to choose a focused activity. 2007 should be a banner year for GROW. We feel our successful convention in July 2006 can be the impetus for undertaking another challenging project.

We brainstormed for a couple of hours, and it was apparent there were two areas on which we could concentrate that go hand in hand. We discussed the need to involve our children, grandchildren or friends' or neighbors' children or grandchildren in our Mission. Although our Mission Statement is not yet complete, it is "under construction."

I will give you a hint: Getting our youth interested in genealogy and hopefully getting them aware of how really exciting and rewarding ancestry searches can be.

GROW became particularly aware that the predominant interest of both old and new GRHS and GROW members was working on their genealogy. The statistics are very impressive as to how just in the

last few years almost every home has a computer and how many more people are finding genealogy not only fun, but infectious.

The GROW board discussed adding more research books, maps, etc. to our library, most of which could be checked out for home use. We are also considering a plan to have library space available once or twice a month (or more, if needed) which will be staffed by a volunteer genealogist (who will undoubtedly be a GROW member) to assist anyone who has questions.

Needless to say, we are very excited about getting this program in motion as soon as we work out the details.

We have created a great deal of interest among the board members but would be appreciative of your input as well.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS WELCOMED!

Please send articles, photos, stories, anecdotes, recipes, etc. to: Janice Prunier, Editor, 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201 • [jcprunier@comcast.net](mailto:jcprunier@comcast.net)  
Deadline for next issue is March 1, 2007.



## GROW Membership Application

### Germans from Russia Oregon and Washington



Years of Membership \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

Birth Month (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Month (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of ancestral village(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Family surnames \_\_\_\_\_

Names of adults in household desiring membership cards \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my remittance of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Membership fees are due annually on January 1.

### GROW Newsletter/Operation Donation (minimum \$5.00)

GRHS Membership \$40.00 • GRHS Lifetime Membership \$650.00 (\$130.00 per year)

**Make checks payable to GROW - US Currency Only • Mail to: Arlene Maston, 8202 NE Going St., Portland, OR 97220-4860**

**Please send email updates and address corrections to Arlene Maston - [amaston@aol.com](mailto:amaston@aol.com)**

### GROW Quarterly Newsletter Deadlines: September 1 • December 1 • March 1 • June 1

All submissions are welcome. If you would like any materials returned, please include a SASE.

Send articles to: [jcprunier@comcast.net](mailto:jcprunier@comcast.net) or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201



# *Fröhliche Weihnachten*



*und Glückliches Neues Jahr*

---



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

**GROW Chapter**

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222