



# GROW Quarterly Newsletter

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

Volume 6 Issue 1

October-November-December 2006

## Message from the President

The 36th Annual 2006 GRHS International Convention was more successful than any of us had dreamed. It all came together because a team of amateurs worked together as professionals. We desired to have our guests become acquainted with our friendly GROW family with royal purple vests and GROW Logos. The Conventioneers had fun, learning much new information plus being pleasantly entertained.

Almost 700 guests enjoyed one or more of the 56 videotaped sessions. Over \$14,000.00 books, tapes, etc. were sold in the Library. The Youth Booth in the Atrium grossed \$2,653.00 and garnered a net of \$1,796.00.

The Convention Chairs not only had met twelve times in two years, but donated hundreds of dollars and untold hours to provide the largest and varied program, with the finest hospitality in our 36 year GRHS history.

More than \$2,000.00 worth of material and labor went into the FREE Cloth/Vinyl Handbags as an example to welcome our Conventioneer friends. This was done by Maxine Daily, Alice Summers, and Arlene Maston. Kelly Garey provided the technical computer help. Likewise, Jan Prunier assisted and was there on every turn with Graphic Arts. Alice Summers made and provided the Quilt for the Quilt Raffle that garnered several hundred dollars.

As a result, more than \$40,000 was paid out to the Holiday Inn Hotel for food and beverages. GROW gifted about \$6,000.00 in complimentary lunches, free registration and small stipends as tokens of our appreciation to our speakers, entertainers, and others for giving of their time, their expense in travel, housing, etc. With all the volunteering of equipment, and printing our meal tickets, programs, much out-of-pocket was saved by GROW members.

What GROW netted following paying its bills reflected that. From the proceeds, the GROW Board will be gifting



**Roger Haas, President**

to the GRHS Futures Fund which is invested by the Heritage Foundation for Germans from Russia (HFGR). The interest earnings can be used by the GRHS as their need arises. It will gift to the HFGR Operating Fund, also designating that only the interest earnings can be made available for future applications from GRHS, for Scholarships, special projects, etc.

It is planned to gift some money for Librarian, Rachel Schmidt's office as an expression of appreciation to bringing the GRHS Library to Portland. There is a lot of work in boxing up books, hauling, setting up, tearing down, re-boxing taking them to Bismarck and re-shelving them again.

We had extra amenities in this 36th annual festival/cel- ebration which were new or different to cause Conventioneers to give the great accolades via their evaluations

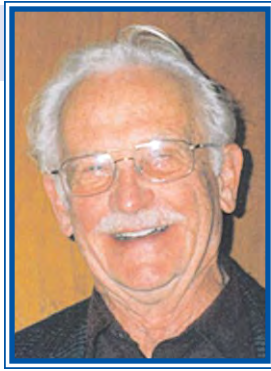
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## Ed's Corner

The 2006 National GRHS Convention is now history and I just came from the GROW Chapter's 2006 Convention Wrap-Up Rally. There were 625 Convention Attendees and the following comment was passed on to the GROW Chapter as Hosts to the Convention: "You have done a most magnificent job as a GROW Team skillfully crafting and putting together a historical convention that will long be remembered and talked about by all GRHS."



Ed Weber

One suggestion was made to improve the Conventions of the future to be appealing to younger generations of our children. As one of the senior, age 80+, member of GROW, I'm devoting this *Ed's Corner* to an appeal to our younger generations to look on us "older folks" as pioneers witnessing to what we have seen and heard during the changes in life style and the world in the last 60 years.

As readers of *Ed's Corner* know what a stoneboat is, now let's throw in another item, the telephone. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1875 but in my youth it was a very modern communication device.

In "ancient times" when I was attending grade school in Isabel, South Dakota, 1920-1930s we did have the use of a telephone. The telephone system in Isabel had about 20 subscribers in Isabel and about five rural lines with the "party lines" that had up to 10 phones. There was one telephone switchboard, located in the living room of a family in town who was on duty on a 24 hour a day basis. The phone was mounted on the wall and you turned a crank to get the operator or a special ring on the party lines to summon the people you wanted to contact.

I had seen enough motion pictures to know all about dial telephones and in 1936 my parents moved the family to Washington state and nearly all of our new neighbors had dial telephones. For the next 50 years I grew up knowing how to utilize our modern telephone systems and became proficient in using the telephones as well as a lot of other things that certainly were not present in rural Dakota of 1930: refrigerators, air conditioning, television and personal computers.

What amazes me is the invention and use of cell phones. Ten years ago I purchased a cell phone that was kept in the car to use in case of an emergency. Last week the phone company providing the service to my cell phone informed me to get a new cell phone because mine was obsolete and they could no longer service it.

The new cell phone offers more service options than my computer. Back in the 1930s I used to follow Dick Tracy in the comics. He had wrist telephones that were also used to take pictures and allowed Dick Tracy to see the person he was calling. Some other fantasy items in ancient times were space travel to the moon, penicillin, jet airplanes and wireless communication. To me this was pure fantasy that is now a part of the 21st Century.

That's it from Ed's corner.

## Unknown Photographs at the Convention

by Lorraine Werner

[lorraine@harboret.com](mailto:lorraine@harboret.com)

Most avid genealogists have old photographs in their collections that include people that they have not been able to identify.

I was hosting a table on which convention attendees could display photocopies or reprints of old photographs that include people of German Russian ancestry so that other people could look at them during the convention and hopefully help identify the people in the photographs.

A large area was set up in the Willamette Room with wall space and tables and we could tack up some of the photos or lay them on the table. I had a few pictures of my own, some from a friend and some from one of my nieces.

People wrote as much as they could identify about the picture and anyone who recognized it left their information. It was a nice start for people to see what the purpose of this project was.

On Friday many more photos were brought and by evening there were at least 40 being displayed. There were some family history books, other small books, and one person displayed papers about the travels of a family and then coming to the USA.

Some people reclaimed their pictures on Sunday and the others I have and will soon give to Dale Wahl. In the near future he will put copies of them in the GRHS newsletters and other publications so that more folks can see them and hopefully help to identify them.

## President's Message, cont.

and verbal responses. Most obvious, the Convention had double the number of workshop Presenters, followed by hosts concerned to accommodate audiences, speakers and create a superior environment. We did not succeed in this area 100 percent.

We had an Ancestral Village Banquet Night with Village Coordinators making their Villages come more alive with perhaps new information. Our entertainers and Polka Beat Band rank among the best. Then, of course, all the videotaping made it memorable and of much greater value.

We promised the Conventioneers their money's worth and overall, I know of no one who did not feel well served. I want to especially thank Program Chair, Lola Weber, for keeping us on track and focusing on superior goals.

Roger Haas

## Convention 2006 - Roger's Wrap-Up Report

Our Convention theme was *The Germans from Russia* Welcome YOU to the Pacific Northwest. More than 675 Conventioneers decided to accept our welcome and attend the 2006 GRHS 36th Annual International Convention at the Portland Airport Holiday Inn, Portland Oregon. 12-16 July 2006.

Upon detailed analysis our earlier figures turned out to be in error. It was learned that some attendees were not recorded and others attended at least one event but did not register. Of the known attendees, at least 192 were Oregonians, 171 were Washingtonians and 86 were GROW families (including one or more members) who enjoyed the 50 plus presenters. The balance were non-GROW members from Oregon & Washington participating in the informative, entertaining gathering of Germans from Russia with their friends.

All attendees are being given an invite to be part of the GROW family. The registrations revealed that California ranked next with 66 registrants; fourth was North Dakota with 36, followed by Arizona with 26 and South Dakota with 25. The provinces of Alberta had 12 attendees, British Columbia had 11 and Saskatchewan had 6 attendees. Altogether, 32 states had representation at our first GRHS Annual Convention in the Northwest.

Upon further review of the 108 tallied evaluations turned in by the Conventioneers revealed that they were most impressed with the registration accommodations, followed by the bookstore and library. The other outstanding referenced programs were the Opening Welcoming Celebration followed by Dr. Larry Metzler's Friday night's banquet speech and Art Flegel's awesome singing.

Additional comments on the Evaluation sheets revealed repeated compliments for GROW's good organization, planning, besides being helpful and friendly: numerous comments such as "Best convention attended", "Best ever", "Fantastic", "Prima", etc. More specifically referenced as positive was the Friday Night Ancestral Village Night with the Village Coordinators and the many references to the enjoyable Master of Ceremonies, Brady Adams.

The majority of the comments spoke very highly of having the great variety and quality of speakers, but a very few would have desired less choices with repeat sessions by certain presenters. Having had the synopses of the speakers' topics on the Website with the available hard copies at the registration table seemed to be appreciated by some.

The ability to order the videotaping of all the events and specific presentations seemed to satisfy those eager to take in all the sessions. The ordering of those tapes can still be done by calling 503-659-8248 or rahaas@haas-family.us.

There was high praise for the excellent tour guides, gardens were "breathtaking", but the Oregon mist on tour day did dampen the full benefits. There was repeated praise for the receipt of the registration FREE gift bag. The spirited Polka Beat Band was enjoyed immensely, although a little loud for some. It was requested that the Sing-a-Long music be extended to also include Thursday.

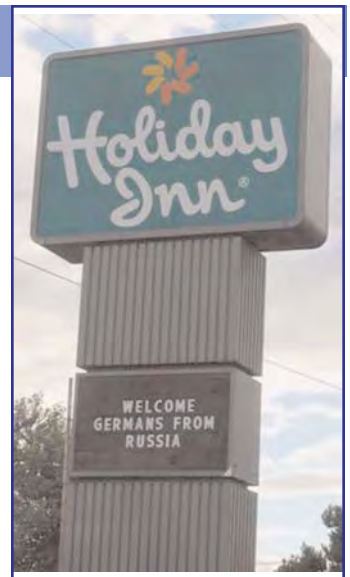
The distance of the Library/Book Store from the Ballrooms was referenced as cutting in time on the breaks. Grandma's Käse Knepfle made a good hit along with the Opera Soprano Singer Johanna Oh singing several selections including "I could have danced all night..." and spontaneously leading Roger around on the floor below the podium.

Overall, the food was considered very good, but the portions were mentioned by some as being too large. Moreover, the PA system could have been updated with the room temperatures adjusted somewhat more evenly.

Some suggested for future Convention Speakers to be considered were: Dave Obe's *Stalin's Secret File*; Ugo Perego's *DNA program*; Tom Stangl; Roger Ehrlich; and a longer session for the *Cyrillic Presentation*.

Some references were made to RIGs "being exclusionary", some lacked a clear understanding of who the RIGs are, how they got organized, their purposes, etc. Some raised questions as to what EWZ is, its significance, etc.

Wireless connections supposedly were not consistent in each of the ballrooms. The banquet nights, particularly Saturday evening, had too much packed into the program. All in all, not perfect, simply very good. Thanks for attending.



**Hotel marquee welcomes Convention attendees.**

## Convention 2006— Thank You to All!

*By Lola M. Weber*

We did it! I think that we gave the attendees a real warm "Welcome to the Pacific Northwest!" I know that I didn't get to meet as many as I would have liked—I ran out of time and energy each day. I must admit, it did feel like we ran a marathon—and won the gold ring.

It took ALL of us supporting the convention. I loved the variety of topics presented. Thanks so very much for your presence, flexibility and endurance

When we reviewed the overall convention, we were very pleased with the results. We do realize that an increase is needed in technology sources as well as more people to work them and will be passing some suggestions on for the next convention committee.

Equipment for presenters: Needs better coordination with hotel; needs more people helping in this area; and more trouble shooting of equipment problems.



## Convention Session Videos Available

Dianna and Ernie Moran are professional photographers via vocation. They wanted the 2006 GRHS Convention, the first ever in the Pacific Northwest, to be a success. Dianna inquired as to whether they could videotape any part of the Convention?? She offered her and Ernie's expertise, professional equipment, time and money.

This was something that GROW was hoping to do, but her offer was seemingly a God-send offer. Little by little, other people and offers came in: Dr. Tim Janzen offering to videotape all sessions that he desired to attend; Dr Harley Miller offering to provide his digital camcorder to be operated by a volunteer; and Roger's German American Society new member enrollee and professional Videographer, Dan Ness offering to do two out the three days. They became the Videography Team.

Again, Ernie & Dianna were willing to lead in the coordinating of the Team taping, creating the order forms, and reproducing the orders for FREE! How many people do



**Ernie and Dianna  
Moran**

you know who are that magnanimous?

There were 67 tapes of the different aspects of the Convention were taped. As of mid-August, 57 individuals have ordered DVD tapes of which eight have ordered the complete set of 67 tapes for \$100.00. The remaining people have ordered four workshop sessions (as it advertised four sessions for \$10.00) up to 28 sessions for \$70. Orders continue to come in.

Ernie and Dianna are reproducing these at their leisure, each session being one hour. It may be October before they will complete the present orders. Can you imagine giving of your time for such benevolence and for the joy of the Conventioneer to be able view the sessions that he/she missed or would like to see again?

Dianna and Ernie claim to be retired or becoming retired, but doing the above must be a missionary minded type of retirement; what do you think? Dianna enjoys genealogy and learning about her heritage. They live in Brewster, Washington, have two children and raised Dianna's niece. They enjoy traveling with their RV, when the fuel prices are not too high, enjoying family reunions and reproducing our tapes. They blame their successes to Jesus Christ. What a testimony! Please give them a letter of thanks at [diannamm@verizon.net](mailto:diannamm@verizon.net) or calling them 509-429-0559 to express your gratitude and appreciation.

## Quilt Raffle Winner is.... Vi Szepesi

Hello Alice:

My name is Vi Szepesi and I was the lucky winner of the wonderful quilt draw at the Portland GRHS convention in July. I just wanted to let you know how much I love the quilt. It looks just wonderful on our bed - the thing about it is that you have made it in such a way that no matter which bedroom I put it in, it looks great - I think because the background color is a cream color. So in every room it just looks great.

A couple of questions - I know you mentioned that you had bought some of the material at an estate sale. Can you tell me a little more about that? I told you I love antiques etc. and so I am so happy that some of the material is from a bygone era. And how did you arrive at the pattern?

My sister (who has now passed on) used to make quilts and she was also very good at it. I think she was born with a needle in her hand. At her funeral they displayed some of her quilts throughout the church and it was very beautiful.

I must close now. Again, thank you so much and I'm so very privileged to be the owner of that quilt. What a wonderful idea to raffle it. I hope it made a lot of money for your chapter.

Vi Szepesi  
Calgary, Alberta  
[vjszepo@shaw.ca](mailto:vjszepo@shaw.ca)



*Twin quilt was originally designed and quilted by Alice Summers, (shown) who donated it to GROW for Raffle at the Convention.*

## Convention Photos



**Val and Joan Wrangler, Rev. Clarence Knoepfle, Duane Stabler, Brady Adams at the head table.**



**Art Flegel presents a German rendition of *Old Man River*.**



**Walter Emter, Sally Irish, David Emter and James Emter entertain at Thursday's Buffet.**



**Johanna Oh and Roger Haas seem to be enjoying the waltz.**



**Jerry Siebert, Val Ingram, Brad, Arlene Maston at the Saturday banquet.**





Gerald Lauzon's presentation was on the German immigration and development of Mt. Angel, Oregon.

**GROW Chapter's registration team.**  
From right,  
Hilde Burghardt,  
Willy Horner,  
Jane Radtke,  
Geri Gander,  
Alice Summers,  
Betty Thatcher



## 2006 GRHS Convention



**Del Beck and Mabel Kusler lead the Friday Sing-a-Long.**



**Roberta Haas, Oscar Geiszler, Maxine Daily, Roger Haas, Alice Summers at Friday lunch.**



**Paul and Tim Janzen entertain at the Friday banquet.**



**Vic Jacobs shares some of his research with Karla Cook.**



The Portland Liedertafel Harmonie Choir share their music Saturday evening.



Dr. William West discussed a visit to the Mennonite Germans in South America.

## South Dakota School Days and Beyond

by Del Usselman

*Continued from July, August, September issue*

### Life on the farm in South Dakota

Riding horseback was a way of life when we were kids in the open prairies of South Dakota. I have fond memories of my horses, I was three years old when Mom took a picture of me on my horse. I remember my world coming to an end when Dad sold that one. There were many more after that one and I became very good at riding. I remember when Dad had a flock of sheep and it was my job to round them up when they got out of the fence. At that time I was still very young and I rode a little shelten pony. Well there were many times I came home crying, my pony had a very stubborn streak and if she decided she had enough she would suddenly stop and I would slide right over her head. She always waited for me to get back on so I never had to chase after her. As I said that pony had a mind of her own and many times she would just stop, letting the sheep go all directions.

One of my fondest memories was when Dad had to ride his saddle horse to a farm quite some distance from home (an all day ride), I insisted on going along on my pony. It was getting late that afternoon and Mom began to worry about me. Thinking about me becoming tired riding that distance she came looking for us. She tried to talk me into letting Dad lead my pony and my riding home in the car. Well I wouldn't hear of it and remember Dad saying he's a chip off the old block. Boy did that make me feel great.

Now I could go on for hours about trying to be a cow-



Del Usselman

boy but I'll only list a few. In my mid-teens I became good enough to break wild mustangs into cow ponies. I was paid \$30.00 per horse and considered this big money. I also had some unplanned experiences as bringing in a herd of horses from the pasture. The ponies I was riding knew how to drive the herd home (I was just long for the ride). Well we were chasing the horses through a grove of trees, the horses suddenly turned as did my pony but I continued straight ahead sliding on my back, striking my head into a tree. Guess what my pony brought the herd home without me and Dad found me laying against the tree.

Probably my most embarrassing moment was one winter after a heavy snow fall the mailman called Dad to tell him he could come only as far as the highway as the side roads were blocked. Dad agreed to meet him and deliver the mail in our area by horseback. I jumped at the chance to show off. I saddled up my young stallion and rode off ready to take on the world. Well I got the mail delivered and heading home I passed a neighboring farm, this neighbor had a daughter I felt I should impress so I opened up my stallion to a full gallop. As I passed the farm a piece of paper flew across the road startling my horse, he shied to the left and I flew over his head into a ditch full of snow head first. My horse waited for me to get back on feeling less the cowboy I thought I was.



Del, the cowboy.



## October is Family History Month

October is designated in the United States as "Family History Month." In an article by Kimberly Powell, she estimates more than 80 million Americans are believed to be actively searching for more information about their ancestors.

This explosion of interest in family history is due, in part, to the advent of the Internet. It is estimated that more than two million separate Web sites are devoted to genealogy. No matter how busy you are, make some time this month to enjoy your family and heritage!

She offered the following suggestions:

### 1. *Get Started Tracing Your Family Tree*

If you have been curious about your family tree but just weren't sure where to start then you don't have any more excuses.

### 2. *Create a Family Cookbook*

Contact your parents, grandparents, and other relatives and ask them to send you a few of their favorite family recipes. Have them include a story about each dish, where or who it was handed down from, why it is a family favorite, and when it was traditionally eaten

### 3. *Record Family Stories*

Every family has its own history - the events, personalities, and traditions that make the family unique - and collecting these singular stories and memories is one of the most meaningful ways you and your family can honor your older relatives and preserve family traditions. Recording family stories on audiotape, videotape, or in legacy journals, brings family members closer together, bridges generation gaps, and ensures that your family stories will be preserved for future generations.

### 4. *Uncover Your Family Health History*

Experts state that about 3000 of the 10,000 known diseases have genetic links, and that many diseases "run in families," including colon cancer, heart disease, alcoholism, and high blood pressure.

### 5. *Scrapbook Your Family History*

The perfect place to showcase and protect your precious family photos, heirlooms, and memories, a heritage scrapbook album is wonderful way to document your family's history and create a lasting gift for future generations.

### 6. *Take A Trip Back in Time*

Grab a map, and hop in the car for a family adventure! A fun way to celebrate your family history is to visit sites of importance to your family - the old family homestead, the house where you were born, the country from which your ancestors migrated, the hillside where you played as a child, or the cemetery where great-grandpa is buried. If none of these locations is near to your home, then consider a trip to a historical museum, battlefield, or re-enactment event that relates to the history of your family.

### 7. *Play Detective*

Most children will learn to appreciate their family history if you turn it into a detective game. Start your children or grandchildren on a lifelong journey of discovery by introducing them to genealogy.

### 8. *Craft a Heritage Gift*

From picture frame Christmas ornaments to heritage quilts, your family history makes a great gift!

## 2006-07 GROW Board of Directors

### Roger Haas, President/Liaison

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Term ends: 2007

### Jan Haberman, Vice President

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Term ends: 2008

### Maxine Daily, Secretary

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Term ends: 2009

### Alice Summers, Treasurer

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### Geraldine Gander, Membership

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### Arlene Maston, Membership Assist

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### Oscar Geiszler, Fundraising

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### Kurt Radtke, Member at Large, Programs

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### Jenice Gibson

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Term ends: 2008

### Ell Schiermeister, 1st Alternate

12010 SE McGillivray 360-253-2499  
Vancouver, WA 98683

### Leona Koth Hix, 2nd Alternate

2704 Haworth Ave. 503-538-4508  
Newberg, OR 97132-1918 JWHIX@comcast.net

### 9. *A Year of Family Pictures*

Family photo calendars make wonderful gifts. You can make it a current family calendar to help far-flung family keep in touch with family photos, birthdays and anniversaries. Or you can create a calendar that commemorates your ancestors with old photos and your ancestor's birthdays, marriage dates, etc.

### 10. *Start a Family Web Site*

If your extended family relies on email to stay in touch, then a family Web site may be for you. A digital scrapbook and meeting spot, a family web site allows you and your kids to share family photos, favorite recipes, funny stories, and even your family tree research.



# 2006 GRHS Convention Evaluation Form Final Results

Your convention planning committee is interested in your evaluation of this year's convention. As you participate in various workshops during the conference, please take a moment to evaluate those experiences. Your input and further suggestions will be taken into consideration to

help improve future conventions. Please mark each presentation with a checkmark, rating each presentation on a 1 to 5 scale, with 5 being the best possible score and with 1 being the worst possible score.

	5	4	3	2	1
Registration	71	16	5	2	2
Bookstore	58	24	3	1	0
Library	54	24	3	3	0
Tour 1: Columbia Gorge	2	0	0	0	0
Tour 2: Portland City with three Gardens	4	2	4	0	0
Tour 3: Mt. St. Helens	5	0	0	0	0
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Beresan District Odessa (BDO)	8	3	0	0	2
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Bessarabia	12	6	0	0	2
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Crimea	5	2	0	0	1
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Germany to Prussia-Poland to Russia (GP-PR)	9	2	1	1	3
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Grossliebental (GDO)	6	2	0	1	2
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Hoffnungstal	4	3	0	0	3
RIG (Regional Interest Group) Annual Meeting of Kutschurgan	7	3	2	1	1
Annual Meeting of Glückstalers (GCRA)	13	7	2	0	0
A Brief History of Germans in Bessarabia	4	6	2	0	0
An Illustrated History of West Prussia	10	2	0	0	0
An Overview to Estate Planning & Asset Management	3	2	1	0	0
A Tale of Two Anabaptist Families	4	3	3	0	0
Awards: Joseph Height Literary	6	4	5	0	4
Awards: Lane Alton Nusz	9	4	2	1	0
Awards: Life Membership	8	5	3	2	0
Awards: New Chapter/RIGS	9	3	3	1	2
Awards: Pride in Your Heritage Youth Essay Contest	20	7	2	1	0
Banquet Speech: Friday Night~Reach Out and Touch	46	12	7	6	5
Banquet Speech: Saturday Night~Germans from Russia in W. Canada-Preserving the Culture	19	16	2	5	1
BDC/EWZ: What is it? What can be Found There?	16	6	4	1	0
Boosting our Membership/New Chapters	7	6	3	3	0
Business Meeting GRHS Annual	21	14	12	0	0
Business Meeting GRHS Quarterly	8	2	1	0	0
Chapter Officer's Breakfast Meeting	12	4	2	2	2
Convention Opening Welcoming Ceremony;	48	19	8	0	1
Did They Come Here Through a Canadian Port?	7	7	2	1	0
DNA and Family History: Synergy at Work	20	5	0	1	2
Entertainment: Emter Family Accordionists	40	11	1	1	0
Entertainment: Janzen Family Ensemble	31	14	11	2	0
Entertainment: Oregon Polka Beats Dance Band	20	4	1	0	1
Escape and Survival: The Last Train out	34	9	0	0	1
EWZ Records Extraction Project	13	5	3	2	0
Family Photos Restored Using Your Computer	12	6	2	3	0
Family Tree Maker 2006, advanced	3	3	3	1	1
Family Tree Maker 2006, basic	11	4	5	0	1
Flemmer Family Saga: Moldova to North Dakota and Siberia	15	4	0	0	0
From Ukraine to Spokane [Washington]: Three Ways of Telling a Family History	12	1	2	0	0
German American Golden Oldies Tunes	10	4	2	1	1
Germany to Hungary to Russia	8	10	2	0	0
German Immigration & Development of Mt Angel, Oregon	6	4	2	0	0
German Migration Motives from 1700 through 1900	3	5	4	6	4
Grandma's Käse Knepfle	27	8	5	1	1
GRHS Clearing House/Town Meeting	7	3	1	2	0
GRHS/RIG Webpage Show and Tell	7	6	2	1	2
HFGR (Heritage Foundation for Germans from Russia) Annual Business Meeting	7	4	1	0	1
How to Understand the Characteristics of a German from Russia	7	4	7	0	1
I dream of you so often... Ethnic Germans in Russia write their American Relatives	12	5	1	0	0
Master of Ceremonies: Brady Adams & Del Beck	53	9	4	0	1
Miracle Town: Leavenworth (Washington)	8	3	0	0	0
Microfilm Acquisitions from the Odessa Archives and Related Mennonite Research	6	3	1	0	0
Movie: ...and When they shall Ask: A Docu-Drama... of the Russian Mennonite Experience	7	2	0	0	0
Movie: A Soulful Sound: Music of the Germans from Russia	15	8	2	0	1
Movie: From the Russia Steppe to the Pacific NW: The Germans from Russia	7	5	2	0	0

Continued on back cover.

# GROW 2006 Quarterly Calendar

O C T O B E R 2 0 0 6						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Board Meeting	19	20	21
22 Chapter Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				
N O V E M B E R 2 0 0 6						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Veterans Day	11
12	13	14	15 Board Meeting	16	17	18
19 Chapter Meeting	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
D E C E M B E R 2 0 0 6						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 Newsletter Deadline	2
3	4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas Day	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

**24 Sept. 2006** Recollections of the 2006 GRHS Convention.

**22 October 2006** Family History Month, presentation by Lola Weber

**19 November 2006** Humorist & Historian Ell Schiermeister who will honor us with his self-deprecating wit.

**December 2006** No Chapter Meeting scheduled at this time.

**28 January 2007** Pastor Leroy Kimele.

## 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.



# Grandma's Apron

The principal use of grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears. From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the

kitchen in that apron.

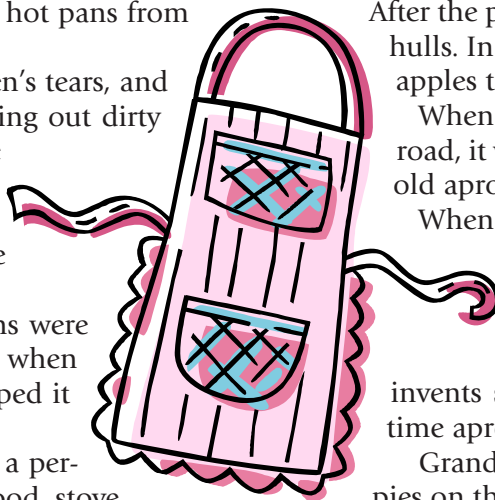
From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the windowsill to cool. Her granddaughters now set theirs on the windowsill to thaw.



## 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 December 1, 2006.**



## 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: Geri Gander, 14926 SE Lowell Lane, Sherwood, OR 97140-7014**

**Please send email updates and address corrections to Geri Gander - neatfamily@verizon.net**

### 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: [janice.prunier@verizon.net](mailto:janice.prunier@verizon.net) or by mail at 1218 Pacific Ave., Everett, WA 98201

	5	4	3	2	1
Movie: Prairie Crosses Prairie Voices ~ Iron Crosses of the Great Plains	na	na	na	na	na
Movie: You, Land of My Forefathers' Choice ~ Bessarabia Story	19	6	1	1	0
Non-denominational Memorial Service	12	6	4	1	0
Odessa, Washington: Deutschesfest	7	2	2	0	0
Organizing and Creating a Genealogy Treasure Book	10	4	0	0	0
Our visit to the Mennonite Germans from Russia in S. America: Paraguay & Brazil	9	1	0	10	0
Prussia to Oregon by Way of Russia	8	5	3	0	0
Reading Cyrillic Script	14	9	1	0	1
Russia to China: The Way Around	4	4	3	2	0
Shortcuts to Reading Russian Census Documents Yourself	2	3	0	0	0
Sing-A-Long – Friday	28	4	1	0	0
Sing-A-Long – Saturday	24	3	0	0	0
Singing by Art Flegel Welcoming Ceremony, "Old Man River" & Memorial Service	40	12	3	1	2
Singing by Johann OH, International Opera Soprano Soloist	28	12	3	0	2
Singing by Liedertafel Harmonie Portland Choir	31	11	1	0	0
Stalin's Secret Files	21	4	0	0	0
The Works and Projects of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection	5	8	2	0	0
Two Dozen (or more) Ways to Research Germans from Russia	5	6	1	0	0
Use of the Computer for Genealogical Research	1	1	0	0	0
Visiting the Land of Our Forefathers	8	6	7	0	0
Voices of the Future, Reading from this year's Winning Youth Essays	4	2	1	0	0
What is Behind the names	5	8	3	0	0
Hotel Accommodations: temperature; parking; site map; session seating; site map, etc.	19	25	15	7	0
Food: (quality and quantity)					
Fresh Cobbler Breaks accompanying the Emter Accordionists	23	11	3	2	2
Thursday Barbeque Buffet	20	20	14	1	0
Friday Luncheon	21	21	10	6	4
Friday Banquet	31	25	12	1	1
Saturday Officers' Breakfast	7	6	3	1	6
Saturday Luncheon	20	19	6	2	1
Saturday Banquet	28	21	3	1	0
Comments:					
Suggested Future Workshop Presenters:					



Germans from Russia Heritage Society

### GROW Chapter

8618 SE 36th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97222