

Notes From The Farm

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADIRONDACK MENNONITE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Vol. 5, No. 1

Spring 1995

f ALL FOLIAGE TOUR

This year the Mennonite Heritage Farm was included on the Fall Foliage Tour of Lewis County. It turned out to be a very busy day for us. We were hosts to approximately 500 people. A worship service in the parlor on the original Moser benches was shared by those who cared to join in. The noon lunch was homemade bread and butter served with coffee. Later on in the day, popcorn made on the wood stove in the kitchen was a welcome treat and the smell filled the crisp fall air.



Our guests, who came from many towns and cities like Syracuse, Utica, Fayetteville, and Massena, seemed enthusiastic about AMHA's conservation/restoration project. Visitors were also interested to hear about Zwanzigstein Fest held annually on the Fourth of July weekend.

Obviously, we were pleased with the response and encouragement we received. It was a good day.

Phyllis Lyndaker

1995 Calendar

Annual Meeting.....	April 4
Amish Dinner.....	Spring *
Z-Fest.....	July 1
Work Day.....	May *

(* watch for date)



A NNUAL MEETING

The 1994 annual meeting was held April 26 at Naumburg Mennonite Church. Several of our elder ministers shared reflections on their calling and years of ministry. Those Who spoke included, Richard Zehr, Vernon Zehr and Joe Nafziger.

After the program, sugar on snow was served for refreshment.

\$ Business Brief ~

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JANUARY 1, 1994 - DECEMBER 31, 1994

Balance January 1, 1994

\$ 7,340.53

Receipts:

Donations	\$ 7,745.00
Bake Sales	507.75
Land Rent	350.00
Zwanzigstein Fest	4,783.58
Craft shows	433.25
Foliage Tour	269.70
Garden	<u>77.00</u>

\$ 14,166.28
\$ 21,706.81

Disbursements:

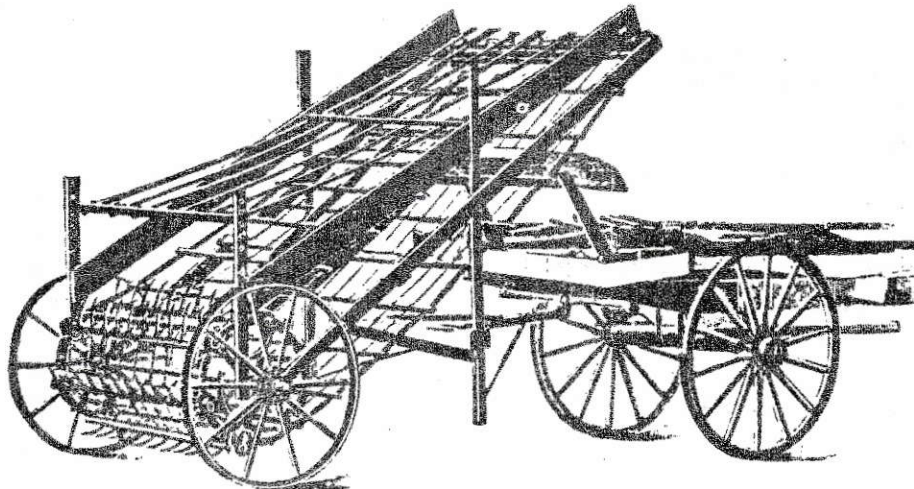
Mennonite Mutual Aid	\$ 3,648.00
Taxes	1,049.46
Niagara Mohawk	200.30
Telephone	243.03
Insurance	118.79
Repairs	1,581.51
Zwanzigstein Fest	2,105.05
Gift to Hospice	100.00
Supplies	13.80
Transfer of Deed fee	<u>63.50</u>

\$ 9,123.44

Balance December 31, 1994

\$ 12,583.37

Indebtness as of December 31, 1994 is \$18,391.84 at 8%.



BOOK REVIEW

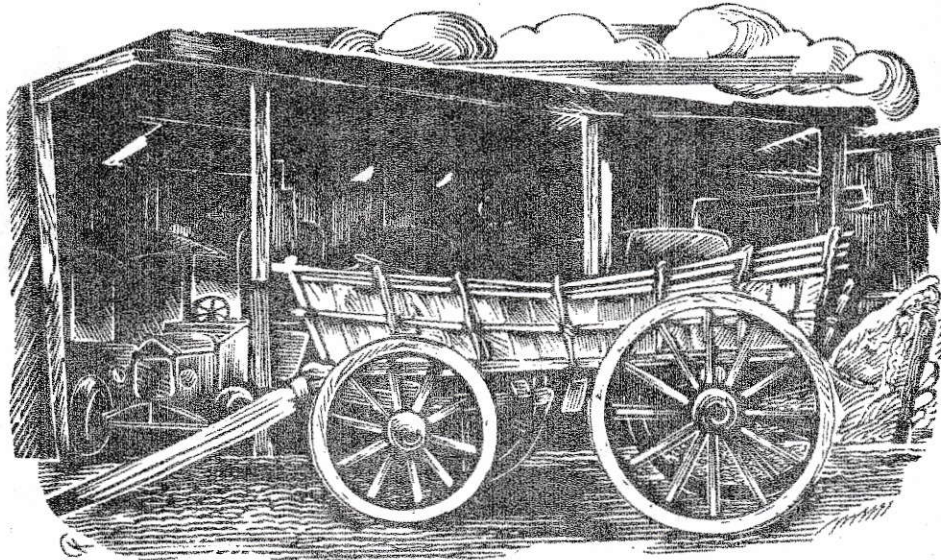
The Wheelwright's Shop by George Sturt, Cambridge University Press, 32 East 57th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022, 1988. Paperback; 236 pp.

First published in 1923, The Wheelwright's Shop by George Sturt is a window to a world now passed. Sturt took over the shop (his grandfather had purchased in 1810) from his ailing father in 1884. The waning 19th century world was on the edge of momentous changes,

By the time Sturt was forced to sell his shop for health reasons at the end of WWI, the world had changed. Motor coaches were the order of the new day. Overnight, the art of a traditional trade and way of life as old as the wheel itself, vanished into the mists of time.

The Wheelwright's Shop is now in its 12th printing. George Sturt, whose lifelong ambition was to be not a wheelwright but a writer, has left us with a unique legacy by, in the end, being both.

Norman Moshier



and as Sturt reveals the esoteric art of old world waggon making as practiced in rural England, the reader can sense a new order impinging.

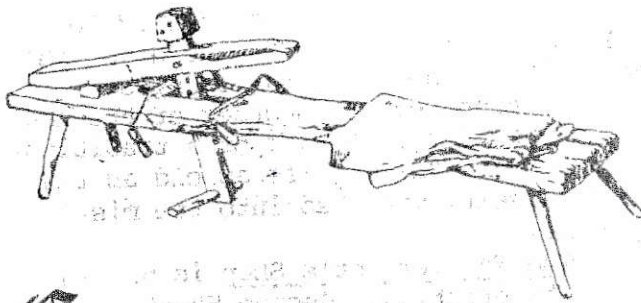
Although Sturt leads us with moderate technical detail through the process of building waggons and carts, (mostly for farm use) he does not lose our interest in "shop talk" that might quicken the heart of only another waggon maker. Instead, our interest is held by the picture Sturt paints of the rural community he lived and worked in; specifically, the fascinating interconnectedness of all the elements of country life that flowed together to make a functioning community in a specific time and place. One might wonder, for example, why all the waggons in a given locale must necessarily be built so their wheels tracked within an inch, or at worst two inches, of each other. The answer can easily be deduced by watching a horse draw a waggon down a muddy country road.

UMBERJACK FESTIVAL CRAFT SALE

Again this year we were invited to have a craft sale at the annual Lumberjack festival in September. We used the remainder of crafts left over from the Z-fest. \$124.00 was the proceeds made from this sale. Several inquired about the Heritage Farm and were eager to have it restored.

Pearl Zehr





COLLECTIONS * * *

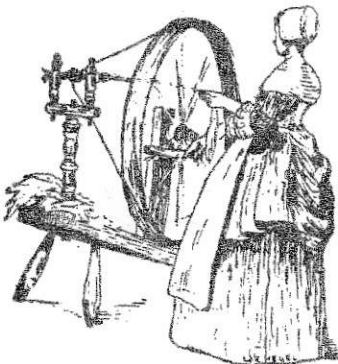
During the past year we have received several donated items to add to our collections. Included among these gifts are a first edition of Hough's History Of Lewis County and a treadle sewing machine.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ZWANZIGSTEIN FEST PROJECTS

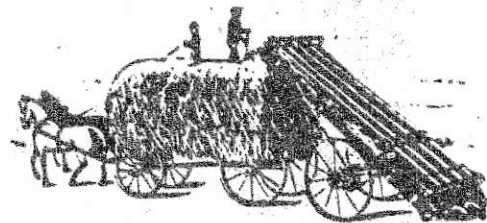
The Z-Fest committee is looking for persons to piece tops to sell at our July 4th festival. We would like some in random pieced cotton squares (no pattern) and also some pieced in a pattern of some kind. If you need fabric, contact Phyllis Lyndaker (376-8502). At a later date we hope to have a get-together to tie the quilts. Thanks for your help.

Also, we think there might be some men who would like to make wooden toys, refinish old furniture, etc, for our Z-Fest this year. We can pay for materials. If interested, contact Phyllis Lyndaker. You may also have some other great ideas. Thank you.



SPRING WORK DAY

Our 1995 spring work day was held in May. General house cleaning and yard work were done. The old page wire fence around the garden was removed and some of the brush and plum trees were removed. New cedar stakes were set to replace the old ones. The page wire will be replaced at a later date. Thank you to all who helped scrub, dig, peel and rake.



ZWANZIGSTEIN FEST '94

Some 900 people enjoyed the day. They came early to look, listen and learn.

The children popped corn, kneaded bread, played mill, blew bubbles, rode in the wagon, touched the sheep, watched soap making, washing clothes by hand, and wool being spun. Others tried to cut a log with a crosscut saw, learn about trapping, quilting, chair caning, or observed shingle making, baking bread and making sugar cakes. On display were farm and house hold tools as well as craft items and baked goods for sale. We learned about Anabaptist history, sang and listened to stories of old. Of course we ate; rice soup, ham sandwiches and fresh strawberry shortcake and homemade ice cream for desert.

The day of excitement ended a little early with a drenching rain. But what a day! Our thanks and praise are given to God.

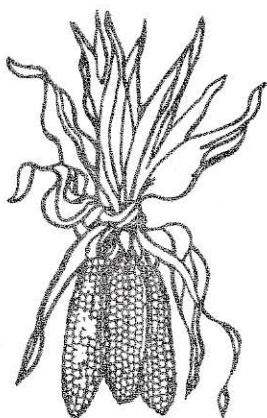
Many thanks to each committee member and each worker. We netted approximately \$2700.

Carolyn Henry

GARDEN PRODUCE

This was our second year to plant garden. We planted mostly pumpkins, squash and potatoes. Most of the produce was sold. Patricia Falton also planted herbs and vegetables. The garden yielded very well after it had been barren for several years. The prune trees and roses continue to grow adding beauty to the garden border. A new fence is being constructed around the garden.

Pearl Zehr



Vintage



Recipes

SPRING TONIC

Disolve 1 oz. Rochelle and 1 oz. cream of tartar in 1 pt. boiling water.

Put into a bottle and take a wine glass full each morning.

Katherine Roggie Moshier

---from a collection of folk
medicine recipes by Luella R.
Moshier.

Membership Items

-Anyone interested in AMHA is welcomed to become a member; this includes children.

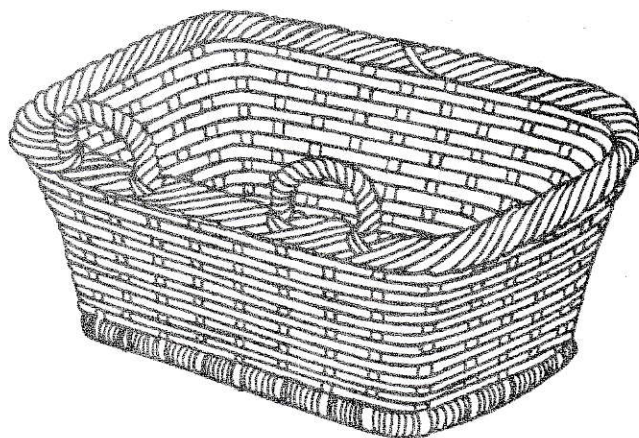
-Donations have made up a large part of the revenue available to AMHA. We appreciate the generosity of members and friends of AMHA. Again this year we are asking for a \$10 gift from each member who is able (do it now while its fresh in your mind and drop it in the church mailbox of any board member listed below, or mail to the address on the back page of this newsletter). Large and small donations are important to meet ongoing expenses; some of you may wish to make an interest payment (\$167) or a mortgage payment (\$304).

-Current Board members are:

Carolyn Henry, Eunice Jantzi, Pearl Zehr, David Norris, Phyllis Lyndaker, Nelson Moser, Norman Moshier, Luella Moshier, Donald Henry.

NEW MEMBERS * * *

Charmaine Campany



It's a stair- This tool is a stair- and was used by stairmakers to cut the slots in the stringers which the ends of the stair treads were slid into and were then wedged tight. The short blade in the bottom protruded about 1 inch and could be adjusted up or down to the desired depth of cut.

"What's It"

This specialized tool belonging to one of the building related trades is not commonly seen. Made with a wooden body to which teeth were fitted along the bottom edge, they were usually 10-12 inches long and sometimes were quite ornate. Its work helped to ease



our grandparents ascent on their way to bed each night. Do you know what it is?

Answer: page 5

AMHA
% N. Moshier
PO Box 28
Martinsburg, NY 13404

MISCELLANEOUS * * *

The garage roof which had been leaking, was resingled in October.

*

Invitation: We encourage our readers to submit original research and essays relating to local Mennonite history (300-500 words). Mail to address on the back page of the newsletter.

GIFT * * *

Each year AMHA gives a gift from the proceeds of Z-Fest. This year, (1994) \$100.00 was given to Lewis County Hospice.

MAIL TO: