



Notes From The Farm

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADIRONDACK MENNONITE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Volume 10, Issue 1

Fall of 2000

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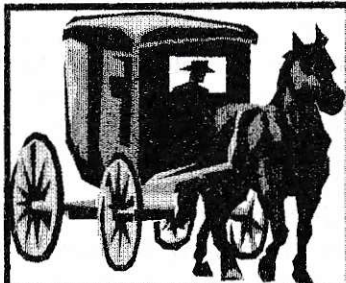
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Mennonite Heritage Farm—A "Time Out" Setting

By Norman Lyndaker

In his gospel, Mark says that so many people kept coming to Jesus that He and the disciples needed to take time out for eating and relaxing in "the solitude of the open country." (Mark 6:31, RIEV) Even though we live in a rural area, Jesus' words and example are relevant for us since we are affected by the 'fast lane' style of life. It seems we are in a race with time and technology. We want to keep on the cutting edge of progress and production, and be knowledgeable about consumer buying; for these 'new things' assure us of a better life—so we are told. Consequently, we can be "squeezed into the world's mold" (Rom. 12:2) in the pursuit of education, achievement, prestige, position, production, and winning at all costs. Thus, we can unwittingly be consumed mentally and emotionally. This kind of living tends to lead to inner soul emptiness.

The pressure is on regardless of where we live. That is, the inner dynamics of stress and strain are about the same whether one follows seven lanes of vehicle tail lights on the Los Angeles Ex-

pressway or follows a motorist that makes a U-turn on Main Street in Croghan (probably forgot his Croghan Bologna)!

Time Out! Stop and smell the roses, look into the starry skies, look into the eyes of people and communicate with them from the heart; above all, look into the Biblical revelation and see yourself.

The Mennonite Heritage Farm is a unique place to step back and reflect on life's journey, noting where we have come and where we are headed. Learning from the past gives insight of why we are who we are now. As we view history, let us emphasize positive traits. (See Philipians 4:8) Glean such virtues, incorporate them, and pursue them. On the other hand, we can learn from mistakes of the past. Time has a way of bringing perspective to those values that are primary and those that are secondary.

Remember, we are not locked into history. Rather, we are linked to our past which is a living dynamic, inspiring us
Continued on page 2 ...

2000 - A Milestone... by Carolyn Henry

As the new year approached, the Board noticed that the mortgage on the Farm could be paid off in the year 2000. So in February 2000, we paid the remaining balance. It was officially announced at our annual meeting that the mortgage had been paid in its entirety.



This new year—2000, also marked our hosting the 10th Zwanzigstien Festival.

With these two exciting milestones accomplished, the July 9th Hymn Sing was planned to properly celebrate the Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association's achievements.

...A "Time Out" Setting....continued from page 1

...today to worship and serve God even as we are inspired by the living faith of the 2 young Moser brothers (first occupants of Moser Homestead) and other families who came to America. They and succeeding generations aimed to please Jesus, exemplifying "love, joy peace..." (Gal. 5:22), kindness, fairness and humility (Micah 6:8). History is alive which means we have an ongoing story to tell to future generations. And so do the many non-Mennonites who come to the farm. By sharing our histories we come to better understand each other. This awareness of our commonality bonds people with diverse backgrounds into "community" which is advantageous to the work of God's Spirit.

It has been observed when people gather at the Farm there is a genuine spirit of community. Conversation flows freely with old and new friends regardless of age, background or other differences. People are open to engage in a wide range of subjects including matters of faith. The Farm appears to be a setting that fosters togetherness. Here the "soul" of life and the Spirit of the Lord are evident and materialism and secularism subdued. This kind of community experience cannot be duplicated by the world's entertainment.



RECIPES And REMEDIES... from Luella R. Moshier

MUSTARD POULTICE

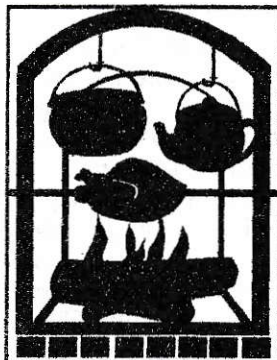
Mustard—1 Tablespoonful

Flour—3 Tablespoonful

Glycerin—1 Tablespoonful

Baking Soda—1 Tablespoonful dissolved in hot water.

Beat well and spread between two layers of muslin or soft linen. Apply from 15 to 30 minutes on chest for congestion of the lungs. (Glycerin lessens the danger of burning.)



FLY KILLER

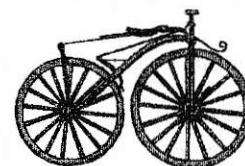
Fill a glass tumbler half full of strong, warm soap suds, and after the flies have gone to roost on the ceiling, it is an easy matter to catch them by placing the tumbler over them. They will fall into the suds and soon die. This takes but a short time each evening and keeps a house free from flies. (From an old newspaper clipping! Wanna try it?!) Early 1900's era.

RAG PUDDING

1 cup Maple Syrup (or amount desired)
1 prepared Baking Powder Biscuit Recipe
Place maple syrup in bottom of baking dish. Spread biscuit batter, or cut biscuits on top. Bake. Serve upside down with the sweetened whipped cream on top.

Pratt Northam Grant Summer 2000

Again this summer we received a grant for 300 hours of work from Pratt-Northam. We divided up the hours among three college students to accommodate their schedules. Troy Moser started with mowing the lawn and helping with the Zwanzigstein Festival preparation. In addition he did some interviewing among our senior citizens about remedies of old recipes and folklore. When he left for college, Eddie Mast took over the lawn care. After Nicole Moser's wedding she also did some interviewing and planned our annual bike tour. Unfortunately, due to the rain the bike tour was cancelled. Interviewing will continue and if you have some old remedies, recipes or stories to share, contact any of the board members. We truly appreciate this grant from the Pratt Northam Foundation.



Membership Dues ... A Reminder

Each year we ask each member to give \$10.00 or more to the Association. A few of you have already done this in 2000. If you have not, please send a check payable to AMHA to Carolyn Henry, 4348 Saunders Road, Clinton, N.Y. 13323.

sing unto the hills *by Carolyn Henry*

Our 10th annual Zwanzigstein Festival was held July 8th and we were blessed with a nice day. About 500 people attended and enjoyed themselves. One family came at about 2 o'clock and said next year "we are coming at ten and staying all day." This family even helped us clean up! What a blessing! Someone else could not believe we were having our 10th one. He wondered how he missed the other nine festivals! He stated he will also be back. I also

overheard a man tell his wife that "each person should tie a knot in a quilt, let's go to the barn now and I'll let you tie the knot." Many enjoyed the singing that took place throughout the day. They were glad to participate, relax, and hear the music. As Lena took the admission fee, she asked if they had been here before, many stated that they had not. Each family received a pen with "Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association's Zwanzigstein Fest 10 Years," printed on it.

The food was excellent again. The pork was especially tasty. Pies, home-made ice cream, and strawberry shortcake were soon all gone. Children enjoyed the taffy pull, making butter, washing clothes by hand, making cookies, listening to stories, riding on the horse driven wagon, seeing the goats, making ice cream, watching the wood demonstration, spinning, bread making, noodle making, and tying a knot in the quilt for MCC. The baked goods and crafts booth were visited by many.

Thank you for all who attended, we needed each one of you. I especially want to thank those who worked at the Zwanzigstein Fest—shortly afterwards I

jotted down over 60 names of individuals who worked. Many have done it for ten years! A special thank you to the planning committee of Phyllis, Rosanna, Loretta, and Bernice.

Our profits amounted to over \$2,800. It is a joy to see Mennonites from our many various churches in Lewis and Jefferson counties, as well as our non-Mennonite friends and neighbors, working together and sharing our heritage. We do have a story to tell!

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS 2000

by Norm Lyndaker

Paint & Stain:

- Painted Garage Exterior, Painted Walls Inside Garage & Stained Windows. Painted & Stained Milkhouse Woodwork—Interior & Exterior. Stained side of Granary next to Garage.

Barn Bridge: Built a new Barn Bridge.

Hayloft: Washed down Hay Barn Loft.

Yard Work:

- Landscaped and seeded area where trailer stood and made available electricity & water on the grounds.
- Cleared Garden Fence Line.

- Removed brush & saplings that obstructed road visibilities as well as growth that was a potential hazard to the house wall.
- Flowers were planted.

Also, **General House Cleaning** was performed.

Any help you can give in labor or finances would be greatly appreciated.

For labor, contact: Norm Moshier, P.O. Box 28, Martinsburg, N.Y. 13404 Phone# 376-5959

For a financial contribution, send it to: Carolyn Henry, 4348 Saunders Road, Clinton, N.Y. 13323

Reminisce..... with LaVeda Taube

I am LaVeda M. Taube, daughter of Andrew M. and Nancy K. Leis Widrick, 1st daughter, 3rd child, born June 14, 1931 in Naumburg, New York.

I grew up on my parents farm in Naumburg on Rt. 126. I attended grade school in a country school in Naumburg and we were able to walk to school with the neighbors. I went to high school in Beaver Falls.

I learned the values of gardening as a young girl alongside my parents. My mother had a beautiful flower garden and we grew all of our own vegetables. I also learned all about canning produce. We picked apples, berries, cherries, and canned the same. We made sauerkraut in a large crock and canned it when it was ready.

About 1945 my Dad purchased a chest freezer from GLF and we froze meats, vegetables and fruits from then on, although we still canned our favorite foods. We had to decide...some foods are better canned, and some are better

frozen. I cherish my years of growing up on the farm with my parents. I grew up poor—my dad always struggled financially trying to make a living and a home on the farm for us.

My parents tried to instill in us the values of regular church attendance. We were taught to love the Lord. I dedicated my life and my heart to God when I was 16 years old. I can say its been a good life.

I feel it is important that we put God first in life—and always remember...What will it profit a man to gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?



Commemorative Service

by Bernice Zehr

Z-Fest theme this year was "...Let the hills sing for joy..." (Psalm 98:8) In keeping with this theme the Sunday evening service July 9, 2000 was tuned to commemorate our musical roots.

The design was to reflect the following transitions: German unison singing, the advent of English four-part harmony; and the beginning of choral music in the early 1950's.

Joe Nafziger at 101 years of age led us in an opening prayer followed by the congregation singing in German "Gott Ist die Liebe." We were assisted in this task by Lloyd Brugger, a long time German teacher, teaching us German pronunciation. He reflected on differences between high and low German attributing to comprehension difficulties.

Arlene Yousey gave an historical account of German usage and transition to English, and the transition of worship in homes to church worship. A recording of German sing-

ing from an earlier historical service was shared.

We acknowledged Laura Farney's contribution to our church with her gifted teaching of round notes. Around 1918 the youth began singing with four-part harmony in Eng-

lish which would later debut at church worship.

Abner Swartentruber reflected on the role of choristers and use of musical instruments at home. He played "Shall We Gather At The River" on his harmonica.

Congregational singing was directed by Simon Gingerich and Arnold Moshier selecting from congregation write-ins.

Lastly, Arnold Moshier brought back to us his choir members of the early '50's and provided a 50th reunion. With merely an afternoon of practice it was evident that determination and discipline prevail! Arnold and Maietta coordinated slides of the '50's with choraleer music while many of us truly reflected on history.

We hope to continue the historic tradition of recounting the '50's to the present. Keep In Touch!





Summer Hours Posted

By Carolyn Henry

During the months of July and August, Kathleen Monaghan from Long Island resided at the Homestead. Some of you know her as she taught at RMVS one year, attended Watertown Fellowship and helped at Beaver Camp while spending some time during the summer with Emanuel and Margaret Gingerich.

As a result of Kathleen being at the Homestead, regular hours were posted to have the Homestead open. Hours were from 10-5, Thursday through Saturday. Several tours were conducted. It was a first to

have regular hours and hopefully this can continue next summer.

While at the Homestead, Kathleen hosted the Lowville Mennonite Church Youth Group for one of their Bible Studies. She also had 6-8 year olds on Tuesday, July 18th and 9-12 year olds on July 25th. Each child brought a canned item for the Croghan Food Pantry. The afternoons were enjoyed by the children.

Kathleen is talented in art work so while she was there our posters received a new face lift. How attrac-

tive they look. Last year through the Pratt Northam Grant, Nicole documented our archives. This year Kathleen indexed them on 4x6 cards which gives us a copy to have at the Homestead and another copy elsewhere. This was very much appreciated.

While doing her shopping in the area, several times she was able to witness for the Lord and also talk about the Homestead and the Zwanzigstein Festival.

The Board appreciated her work this summer and felt it was a plus for our program. Thank You!



parlor chat

by Bernice Zehr



You're invited to join me in the parlor at the Edward E. Yancey home in Yanceyville "a city set on the hill" (Tug Hill). The time is April 30, 1932.

Treated to a family tradition of popcorn and apples, I am educated by how a family lives vitally in spite of, or in the midst of the Great Depression. The entertainment goes on as we reflect on farm life and what did it take to keep the unit going. Interspersed are the projects of raising rabbits,

inventing skipjacks to navigate that priceless snow, school days, courting days (daze!), and marriage with its resultant empty nest. There is the tragedy of T.B. and virtual loss of the herd.

God remained faithful to the city set on the hill and many of us have been energized by relating to this family. Join us this spring while we visit another family and share in their life experience.

Security System In Place... *submitted by Carolyn Henry*

As of September 27th the Homestead has a security system in place. The Board had discussed this possibility for some time but knew it would be expensive. This summer we investigated it more and checked with several companies. It still proved to be quite costly. One day Norm Moshier saw STAT on a window while in Croghan. So I decided to call and found out that there was a grant for churches and related organizations. We had a month to decide on whether to do the project. STAT came and looked at the premises. The Board decided to go ahead and install the system. As one Board member put it, "this was not coincidental, it was the leading of the Lord." Another Board member suggested we also need fire insurance, as the community entrusts the association with pieces of the past -we now have a responsibility to ensure there safety.

Remember -if you need to get into the house, or other buildings, you will need to contact a Board member. Our security system is now working!

The Fall Weekend *submitted by Carolyn Henry*

Our second Apple Fest was held Sept. 30th at the Homestead. Approximately fifty people came. It was nice to see Sunday School students with their teachers along with other visitors.

We picked and ground dry barley into flour. It would take a long time to make enough flour for bread. Making sauerkraut was interesting too along with grinding dry mint for tea. Kite flying no doubt was the most fun for some children. The wind was just right and the sky was so blue. What a picture with the colored leaves and the cows in the pasture. Along with activities for children we sold produce and crafts. The children also made applesauce.

We had hot dogs or soup, and cider. Desserts consisted of chocolate or molasses cookies, apple pie, or hot apple half moons with ice cream. How tasty! We did not count calories.

On Sunday we were stop #11 on the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce Fall Foliage Tour. A worship service was held by Norman Lyndaker on the Beatitudes followed by hot soup and bread.

At least 300 people stopped during the day. We were glad to see so many. Popcorn and cider were served. Many had not been there before and some will be back for our annual Zwanzigstein Fest.

Several people spoke of the beautiful colored leaves just across the road. It seemed this was the most colorful so far on the tour.

With the sun, dry weather and beautiful scenery, we enjoyed a weekend of God's nature and bounty.



Methodist Youth Volunteer Their Service

By Norman Lyndaker

We learned from Matthew & Angie (Moser) French about the Buffalo inner city high school students desiring a volunteer experience in a country setting. Part of the group would serve the Pine Grove Bible School and part would work at the Homestead.

The painting action began on June 27th when two vans rolled in at the farm and out bounded the kids and their sponsors—all eager to work, especially to wield a paint brush. They scraped, painted and assisted in tidying up the premises. By noon, June 29th, they terminated their service. Mission accomplished! On the last day, the group serving at Pine Grove Bible School brought pizza and cold drinks. The "farm" kids having expended much energy did not need a second call to join the party. In the context of work, food and fellowship, an amazing bonding transpired in so short a period of time.

Our time with this fine city group concluded with a service in the Homestead parlor where our ancestors worshipped. Participating in this informative and interesting service was Arlene Yousey, Richard Zehr, and Nathan Zehr. The group asked questions and expressed gratitude for the meeting and for the work experience they had. "We are coming back," they said!

ADIRONDACK MENNONITE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JANUARY 1, 1999 - DECEMBER 31, 1999

BALANCE: January 1, 1999 \$14,611.46

RECEIPTS:

Donations	\$ 4,854.00	
Land Rent	350.00	
Craft/Bake sale	325.20	
Zwanzigstein Fest	5,269.25	
Reimbursement on utilities	400.00	
Pratt Northam Internship	1,663.19	
Archival Grant	2,562.00	
Interest	489.29	
		<u>\$15,912.93</u>
		<u>\$30,524.39</u>

DISBURSEMENTS:

Mennonite Mutual Aid	\$ 3,648.00	
Niagara Mohawk	452.11	
Telephone	298.43	
Insurance	126.15	
Repairs	3,440.74	
Zwanzigstein Fest	1,269.38	
Supplies & Misc.	459.01	
Lawnmower	289.99	
Gift to Habitat for Humanity	100.00	
Internship	1,987.51	
Archival Grant	500.00	
		<u>\$12,571.32</u>
		<u>\$17,953.07</u>

BALANCE: December 31, 1999

Balance is as follows:

checking account	\$ 1,887.95
savings account	13,118.17
CD	2,946.95

Indebtedness as of December 31, 1999 is \$3,246.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Henry
Carolyn L. Henry, Treasurer

THE JEFF-LEWIS MENNONITE CHURCH COLLEGES
ALUMNI AND HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND*

January 1, 1999 - December 31, 1999

Balance Jan. 1, 1999 \$ 327.07

Receipts:

Contributions	\$ 2750.00	
Salad Smorgasbord May	290.00	
Soup & Salad Oct.	888.00	
Interest	31.94	
		<u>\$ 3959.94</u>
		<u>\$ 4287.01</u>

Disbursements:

9 scholarships @ \$350 3150.00

Balance Dec. 31, 1999

\$ 3150.00
\$ 1137.01

*The Jeff-Lewis Mennonite Church Colleges Alumni and Heritage Scholarship Fund Committee is administering this fund through the Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association & Historical Society,

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Henry
Carolyn L. Henry, Treasurer

Wish List...

Refrigerator with a freezer
large enough to hold a gallon &
a half container.

Cookie Sheets

Bread Pans

Paring Knives

Wooden Stomper



Cooking Pans

Large Mixing Bowls

Old Standing Cupboards
With Doors For Display

Picnic Tables



adirondack mennonite
heritage association
P.O. Box 368
Croghan, New York
13327

Stamp

to: