



# Notes From The Farm

Volume 16 Issue 1

Fall 2006

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*As always, new members are welcome to join AMHA. Your support and expertise will help fulfill the goals and purpose of AMHA. Contact any board member or mail in the one on the back page to Carolyn Henry*



## Board of Directors

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Phyllis Lyndaker (376-7643)

### **Vice President:**

Norman Moshier (376-5959)

### **Secretary:**

Bernice Zehr (376-2166)

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Carolyn Henry (853-6879)

Norman Lyndaker (376-7643)

Deborah Renaud (346-1068)

Tom Renaud (346-1068)

LaVeda Taube (493-3119)

Ralph Taube (493-3119)

## **The Work Project at the Mennonite Heritage Farm House**

By Norman Moshier

A major project is currently being done on the house at the Mennonite Heritage Farm. The work includes a new basement, heating system and handicap entry. The project was needed to repair extensive deterioration to the foundation, the sills and floor system, and the long term effects of an unheated unoccupied building. In making this decision the Board of Directors determined that if we were going to maintain the house for continued use we must act now. The time is right.

Many of our membership and friends are aware that this property is unique in New York State. Our purpose in doing this work remains the same as it has been. We are maintaining these buildings as a unique means of telling the story of our faith to our children and the larger community.

A few weeks ago while we were excavating and the house was balanced on temporary posts, two carloads of visitors stopped. A man approached me with a brochure of the Heritage Farm and asked if we were open. In the car was an extended family of Russian immigrants who live in New York City. I gave them an impromptu tour.....talking about the Reformation, Anabaptism, discipleship and the Mennonites in Lewis County. They were fascinated by the Ausbund, Martyrs Mirror and Family Bible. It was another reminder that the Heritage Farm gives us a unique way to plant seeds by telling the story of our faith.

In addition to this purpose, the new 1,100 square foot basement will be available to store archives of the Lewis County Mennonites and make them available for research.

We are grateful to all the friends of AMHA for their support. Feel free to stop and look. We anticipate that most of the work will be complete by next Z-Fest.



## **WISH LIST**

(Thank you for your past donations)

**Easels that Stand on the Floor**

**Mallet to pound in stakes**

**Cookie Sheets**

**Glass Cake Pan 9x13**



# **Z-FEST 2006**

By Carolyn L. Henry

Our 16th year was as wonderful as all the others. Many thanks to everyone who did something to make the day special for at least 500 visitors.

You may recall all the rain we had prior to Z-Fest, so a few changes had to be made. Our usual parking lot in the field could not be used; however, I did not hear any complaints about parking along the road and having to walk further. Thank you to our parking attendants. I had ordered two big tents but because of the flooding they were unable to be delivered. Thankfully we found one in its place.

Everyone enjoys the horse drawn wagon rides but this year one of the horses had a lame leg so we were not able to offer rides. We still had a beautiful, beautiful day in so many ways. We give God the praise.

The highlight of the day maybe was the quilt that the children made. Our theme was "Heart to Heart" so each block had a heart design painted by a child. What a great job they did. Mennonite Central Committee will see that some person gets it.

The food was extraordinary. What a great variety! The demonstrations, exhibits, house tours, silent auction, crafts, bake sale and other food items for sale, our sand box, taffy pull and other things were enjoyed by all.

This year almost all of the expenses were covered by donations of money, food and other items. These donations were given, thanks to the efforts of Janette Lyndaker, my co-chairman this year. We thank everyone for their assistance. Also, we had extra help setting up this year. Many, many thanks.

I took several pictures that day. When I had them printed, the first one was of the ice cream and shortcake stand with Richard and Eileen Zehr in the picture. I'm so glad I have this one.

When I asked someone to help sing, the comment was made, "Why do you sing?". I said we do it every year. I'm sure the person found out why. Praise God for our voices in song.

It is nice to have someone from the younger generation. We need you as we start passing the reins to you. Many, many thanks to each who had a part on July 1, 2006, or before. What a great day! May God get the praise!

## **REFLECTIONS OF Z-FEST 2006**

As I think of the Z-Fest, one of the first things that comes to my mind is the beauty of seeing the different generations working together to preserve our heritage and share it with the community. It was great to see so many persons of my generation involved. We need to be involved so we can pass this heritage down to our children, just as our parents did (and are doing) for us.

It was a pleasure working with Carolyn Henry. Her dedication and tireless efforts were visible at all times. We can learn much from her!

Let's continue to work together to share our faith with the community and to bless those we come in contact with as we plan Z-Fest 2007!

Janette Lyndaker





*The Adirondack Mennonite  
Heritage Association  
and Historical Society*

April 22, 2006

Members of AMHA,

In 2005, we put a new roof on the Heritage Farm house. Part of this process involved gaining access to the crawl space under the house in order to do necessary jacking before the roof could be done. Prior to this, we knew that the foundation of the back part of the house needed repair. From the inside we found extensive deterioration that would require more than just repair, and should not be postponed much longer.

Weighing all the costs, and especially the need for long-term care of the structure, the Board of Directors of AMHA plans to build a new foundation and basement under this part of the house. This will stabilize the structure for the long term and also allow us to add a heating system at some future date.

Included in this project will be the rebuilding of the north side entry in order to accommodate handicap access to the house. All work will be in keeping with its historic character.

We plan to begin this project in the summer of 2006. The cost is estimated at \$75,000 when complete. We need a minimum of \$45,000 in order to get the work enclosed by the end of the 2006 work season.

We are approaching our membership in order to give you first opportunity to fund this important project. We know that you are committed to the mission of the AMHA and we appreciate your many contributions in the past. We are seeking donations or loans in any amount in order to begin by mid-July 2006. There is currently \$10,000 committed to this project. Donations can be sent directly to: Carolyn Henry, 4348 Saunders Road, Clinton, NY 13323.

For more detailed information on loan money or specific information on the project contact:

Tom Renaud  
346-1068  
P.O. Box 533  
Croghan, NY 13327

Norm Moshier  
376-5959  
P.O. Box 28  
Martinsburg, NY 13404

Sincerely,  
AMHA Board of Directors



## Summer Days at the Farm

During July and August the Mennonite Heritage Farm was open Thursday, Friday and Saturday, from 11-4. Several people, including myself, served a host and hostess. We will share some experiences we had there.

I was always happy to see a car drive in when I was at the Homestead. One day shortly before four o'clock some one came. It was such a beautiful day so a couple from Rome, NY decided to go for a ride and ended up at the Mennonite Heritage Farm. The husband had been to Europe so he knew the Alsace-Lorraine area. Each building we went in and each story I told was of great interest to them. They asked many questions and surely enjoyed the tour. I, too, was blessed by their visit.

Another day a person whom I had not seen in years brought two people who were visiting from Pennsylvania. When I spoke of Alsace-Lorraine, the twelve year old son told me had done a report on France for a class in school. He maybe knew more than I did! I also asked about some Pennsylvania college acquaintances. What a wonderful visit we had. We all learned something that day.

Carolyn Henry

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Friday, August 11—Five adults from ARC with two personnel came by appointment. The tour demonstrated use of the kitchen woodstove, the butter churn, the large family Bible and backless church benches. Of special significance was a client named John Moser, a fifth generation descendant of Pioneer John Moser, the founder of the homestead. The ARC group showed interest and the personnel left a donation and helped the clients sign the guest book.

Saturday, August 12 —One couple from Canada had been referred by Croghan's Wishy's Store. Their time was so limited they rushed through too quickly to share much of our great heritage. Otherwise, we did cleaning and made preparation for the Moser reunion to be held on Sunday, of which we were in charge.

Ellen and Arlene Yousey

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The time went by so quickly as I sat studying my Sunday School lessons in the forenoon. What a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. Looking up the road I noticed a hen turkey with five little ones getting them safely across the road.

In the afternoon a man came with his mother from Canastota. He read an advertisement in the local paper and wanted to visit. It was a beautiful day so he decided to take his mother who was 89 years old for a ride to Croghan to see this farm and also get some Croghan Bologna. They both were very interested in old buildings and simple living. They commented on artifacts that reminded them of their growing up years.

Ralph Taube came to pick choke cherries so also visited with him. He was intrigued with the new barn wall. He asked questions about why these early settlers came to Kirschnerville, how old the buildings were and

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*Summer Days on the Farm*

Continued From Page 3

why they left Alsace-Lorraine to come across the ocean and settle here. It was a great opportunity to explain the history and faith journey of these ancestors.

When he was ready to leave he asked what events are held during the year and hopes to visit next year.

Pearl Zehr

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My time spent at the farm was relaxing and enjoyable. On one of my days I took our four granddaughters and Marcia with me. We had a picnic lunch on the front porch. While we ate I told stories of the "old " days (ancient to them) and clearly captivated their attention. We had made arrangements for their father to pick them up in the afternoon but they all protested and wanted to stay all day, especially if Grandma would tell them more stories. So we all stayed the whole day, and had a great time.

Another day I was honored to have as a guest a 7th generation child of pioneer Joe Moshier, who came here with his brother John from Alsace-Lorraine in Europe. It was a special feeling and blessing to think that he no doubt will be able to come to this homestead on his own and be inspired and encouraged knowing of the deep faith and courage of his great-great-great grandfather. What a precious gift of faith in God these brothers passed on to their descendents!

Phyllis Lyndaker

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Last year, when Ralph and I were at the farm one day, a couple of people stopped in. One was from Lyons Falls and her friend who was visiting from California. They were so interested in the home and all that we want to do. We had the gift shop open. They were interested in a cane seat chair. I wasn't sure of the price and said to her "If you live in California, how will you get the chair home?". She said she didn't care, "I want that chair!". So the next day she came back and bought the chair. A happy customer!

This past summer they all visited the farm again. They are so interested in our progress. They hope to come soon for Z-Fest.

Ralph and LeVeda Taube

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It was my day to be at the Heritage Farm and my privilege to welcome any visitors that might stop by. The couple that came this year seemed to relive their memories and appreciation of their grandparents.

Another day was quiet and it was myself who received the blessing of being able to make corn and pickle relishes in Grandma's kitchen. It reminded me of our ancestors' gratefulness to God for their food and shelter, however meager it might have been.

Joyce L. Moser

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Our day was Thursday, July 21, 2006, a sunny day after an early morning rain. We left a little early, so we would have time to walk around the grounds before any guests arrived. However, no one stopped by, so spent the forenoon putting ties in a quilt already set up in the dining room. The quilt was made from the "Heart to Heart" blocks that the children had painted at the Z-Fest about 2-3 weeks before.

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*Summer Days on the Farm*

Continued

In the afternoon, I cut out 51 8" blocks from recycled skirts and slacks (which cannot be sold) from the Agape Shoppe. Some of the blocks have been sewed into quilt tops for our Faithful Workers Sewing Circle and have been sent to MCC for distribution to needy families.

Reusing material that otherwise would be thrown away is something I felt could be done in memory of Grandpa and Grandma Moser (Philip and Kate (Roggie) Moser.

Gladys Nafziger



## 2006 FUNDRAISERS

By Carolyn Henry

Obviously, it takes money to maintain the Mennonite Heritage Farm. This money came in various forms. Some people have sent a donation to our treasurer, became a member and given a contribution, while others have paid a \$10 membership dues and a church included AMHA in their budget.

We also had a soup sale, bake sales and candy sale at the P&C and various other places. An Easter ham loaf sales by Joyce Moser and Colleen Moser, and pie and ice cream sale at Harvest of the Arts also provided us with income. This fall Joe and Julie Zehr graciously catered a meal at the Croghan Fie Hall along with many other volunteers. In November we expect to have a Thanksgiving Pie order sale. Your many and varied gifts of money and goods and time have been very much appreciated. Thank You! We are grateful for your support.

## MOM'S MOLASSES CAKE— Doris Steria

1/2 c. sugar	1 teasp cinnamon
1/2 c. oil	1/2 teasp cloves
1/2 c. molasses	1/2 teasp soda
1 egg	1/2 c. flour

3/4 c. boiling water—added last.  
Bake in an 8x8 pan.

When my Mom frosted this with chocolate frosting— it was my brother Garmon's favorite "chocolate" cake!

## ORANGE CAKE— Nelda Steria

1 c. brown sugar	1/2 c. butter
2 egg yolks	salt
1 t. baking powder	1/2 c. milk
2 c. flour	

Chop: Walnuts, 1 orange, 1 c. raisins  
Add to above.

Fold in egg whites.

Bake in loaf pan.

This is from Grandmother Moser.  
(Mrs. Philip Moser)





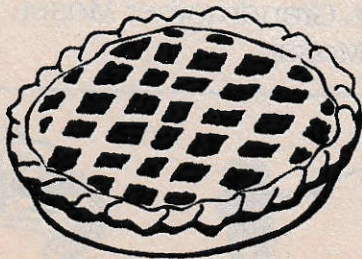
## WAYS YOU CAN HELP AMHA IN 2006-2007

Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association appreciates the help you have given as a volunteer in the past. We encourage you to take a look at some of the things we hope to do this year and next year and offer your services to the one that suits you best. We are sure there are people who would enjoy helping but we're not sure who you are. So please give any board member (see front page for names) a call after you have read the following list. We'll then call you after a date has been set.

- Bake for our **Bake Sales**, usually at the P&C
- Enjoy making pies? Help us fill orders for the **Thanksgiving Pie Order Sale** coming up shortly or order some for yourself.
- Offer your services for the **Amish Meal** being planned probably for late January or early February.
- Help is needed to assist in the **Easter Ham Loaf Sale**.
- Join us for a **Day Trip** to the Farmer Boys's Home near Malone, after Memorial Day.
- Another **Fund Raiser Meal** in early spring.
- Help is always needed at the **Z-Fest** in July. We need some younger legs than ours!!
- Also, we would appreciate **Small Antique Items** or **Collectibles** for the silent auction at Z-Fest.
- Your **Financial Donations** to underwrite the expenses for any fund raiser.
- **Spring Cleaning** at the Farm. There will be lots this year.
- **Yard Work** at the Farm. Again there will be lots to do.

For me it has been a blessing to be able to volunteer at the Mennonite Heritage Farm. I always want to remember with deep appreciation and thanks to the Lord the faith that was passed on to me through my ancestors who made great sacrifices for this to become a reality. I hope you consider it a privilege and blessing also. We'll all have a good time working together.

Phyllis Lyndaker





ADIRONDACK MENNONITE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

**Application**

To be completed by applicant:

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (M.I.)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Congregational affiliation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of the corporation is to (a) preserve our Mennonite Heritage (based in its Anabaptist origin of 1525), (b) share our unique Christian faith story with our world, and (c) keep in tact artifacts of the North Country Amish Mennonite Settlement.

Affirmation:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do affirm that I am in sympathy with and shall support the underlying Christian purpose of the Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Amount of donation \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association.

Mail check and application to:

Carolyn L. Henry  
4348 Saunders Rd.  
Clinton, NY 13323