



Notes from the Farm

Volume 36 Issue 1

May 2026

Board of Directors

Linda Deveines
President
315-376-3020

Edie Roggie
Vice President
315-681-0447

Charlene Moser
Treasurer
315-681-8933

Donald Roggie
Assistant Treasurer
315-376-3076

Lisa Schamback
Secretary
315-771-5390

Jake Krop
434-257-8492

Jim Rush
540-421-7890

Eric Schwartzentruber
315-376-8397

Hannah Schwartzentruber
315-376-8379

Marie Swartzentruber
315-874-5782

Rosanna M. Moser
Curator/Director of Operations
315-376-7822

Priscilla Lyndaker
Administrative Assistant

Norman Moshier
Facilities Consultant
315-486-9284

Email:
info@mennoniteheritagefarm.com
Website/Facebook

Activity Report

Linda Deveines

Introductory

AMHA had a challenging year in 2025 following the death of President Sam Gingerich. We need to acknowledge our board members, our staff, and the innumerable volunteers that are supporting the work of AMHA in the varied activities held throughout the season.

For the third year, AMHA employed Ella Barker under a grant from the Pratt-Northam Foundation. Her work in the archives and assistance with programming was invaluable. For the 2026 summer season, Isaiah Virkler, a senior at Beaver River Central School, is employed through Pratt-Northam Foundation as a docent and working in the archival office.

We hosted four Fests, which included the yearly Zwanzigstein Fest and Fiber Arts Fest in July, Children's Fest in August, and the Harvest Fest in October.

Facilities Work at the Farm

Reflecting our commitment to maintain and enhance the Farm's building and grounds, the following work was completed in 2025:

- Poured concrete floors for the pavilion and windmill.
- Installed the siding for the pavilion.
- Added the bump out area of pavilion for counter, appliances, and storage.
- Installed new plastic compass point signs for the Z Garten; new name sign stated "Nafziger/Noftsier."
- Painted the "AMHA" roadway signposts.
- Replaced clapboards and painted east end of the house.
- Completed the ceiling/wall renovations in the second-floor bedrooms and storage room plus wall papered or painted. Exception: children's room.
- Replaced and tapered some floorboards in the large bedroom.
- Caulked and sealed 75 percent of the house windows.
- Installed Lewis County map of cheese factories in the milkhouse.
- Relocated storage shed to accommodate the new horse/sheep building.
- Installed new furnace pump; replaced a radiator (used) in the dining room and purchased new one for the kitchen.
- Edged rose garden with brick and layered with landscape and stone.
- Placement of memorial plaque signs for sugar maple tree (Marilyn Z. Mayer), windmill, school bell, and pavilion (Ralph and LaVeda W. Taube), pine tree stump in Kirschnerville Cemetery (John Moser Jr.).

Plans—2026

1. Restoration of the front porch and the south porch that was awarded by a grant from the Northern New York Community Foundation under the Lewis County Historic Preservation Fund.

Plans—2026, cont.

2. Continue general restoration in the house with a focus of the ministers' room and painting the woodwork in the rooms upstairs and wallpaper the last bedroom on the 2nd floor.
3. Landscape the north and south entrances to the pavilion.
4. Start the sheep/horse barn and smokehouse foundations in the fall.
5. Continue work in fundraising and obtaining grants for the horse/sheep building.

Zwanzigstein Fests

For the 2026 season, the AMHA Board made the decision to have two Zwanzigstein Fests and to recognize a different family for each one. The Z Summer Fest theme will be "Freedom Reigns" in recognition for the 250th anniversary of our nation. Scripture text is John 8:32 - "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Each Fest will include varied demonstrations reflecting the season, children's passport (variety of hands-on activities), family stories and displays, presentation on "Freedom Reigns," Adirondack Community Chorus, music, plus tours of the house and archival area, barn, and granary, etc.

Z Summer Fest - Saturday, July 18, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. --- Rieffannacht/Riebenanacht
Z Harvest Fest - Saturday, September 12, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. --- Jantzi/Yancey

More details for each Fest will be published in church bulletins, posters, website, media, etc.



Annual Meeting

At the annual business meeting held in April, Charlene Moser was re-elected to the Board of Directors and new board members are Jake Krop and Lisa Schamback. Jacob Waugh and Bernice Zehr declined to serve another term. Appreciation is extended to the two individuals for their service to AMHA. A special note of thanks to Bernice Zehr for her 30 years of serving on the Board since 1996 and secretary from 2004 to 2026.

AMHA Members and Friends

Once again, AMHA received several significant donations during the year. We appreciate the generosity of members and friends. These gifts are allowing the Association to continue to stabilize and to build out the farm. We offer a heartfelt thank you to all who support with their time, money, and talents.

Note of Thanks

A tremendous improvement is very noticeable to the Kirschnerville Cemetery grave markers. The work continues at the Croghan Mennonite Cemetery. Thank you, Caroline Roes Virkler!

Who's That "R" Name in the Z Garten?

Neil Keib

When one visits the Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Farm and walks around the Z Garten, they see the names of the 20 original Mennonite families that came to America between 1833 and 1852 on the large stones. One of those names may stand out more than the rest due to how difficult it is to pronounce. That name is RIEFFANNACHT.

John Rieffannacht and four of his eight children immigrated to the United States from Germany in March of 1843 after the death of his first wife Magdalena Moser. Several years later, Magdalena's sister, Barbara Moser, immigrated to the United States and became John's second wife. Together, they had six children. Magdalena and Barbara were sisters to John and Joseph Moser, pioneer brothers who arrived in Lewis County in 1834. John Rieffannacht and Barbara Moser are my great, great-grandparents. Their daughter and her husband, Sarah and Jacob Roth are my great-grandparents. Sarah and Jacob's daughter Rose and her husband John Kieb are my grandparents. People often ask me about my Mennonite connection, and this is how I answer. As a young child of five years old, Grandfather Keib passed away in 1946. After his passing, Grandmother Keib moved to Oneida, NY, to live with her daughter Grace Sutphen, my aunt. My parents then bought my grandparent's home in 1947.



Every year, however, for the next several years, Grandma would come to Lowville and stay with us from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Grandma loved to knit and crochet, and she would do so on our open front porch. My father asked my sister and me if we could spend some time with her while she was knitting. She would teach us German and tell us stories of the old country, the Reformation, and about her father, Jacob Roth, who was from Bern, Switzerland. Grandma stayed with us from 1947 to 1954.

During this time, Dad would often take her to visit her relatives and friends in Croghan and New Bremen area, and my sister and I would tag along. Nearly all the places we stopped at were Mennonite farms. Grandma and Dad would go inside to visit while my sister and I would wait in the car. While my sister and I were waiting, we would question why are we at a Mennonite farm because Grandma goes to the Catholic church. We also took Grandma to several Mennonite cemeteries in the spring to place flowers on her relative's graves, but we still knew little about our Mennonite connection.

In 1960 Sylvania (Hoch) Foster, a family member and the Great-Granddaughter of John and Barbara, published the genealogy of the second family, "Rieffannacht – 1794 – 1960." Each family received a copy of it. I looked through it briefly, saw that John had come from Germany, and found my name. I was satisfied that Great-Great Grandfather came from Germany, but I still did not know my Mennonite connection.

Moving ahead to December of 2003, I attended a Saturday evening Christmas party at my niece's home in Baldwinsville, NY. During the evening, my niece's husband approached and asked me if I had ever seen the Mennonite book. I told him, "No, but what is the book about?" He said, "I don't know much about it, but Sarah thinks that your Great-Grandmother Sarah (Rieffannacht) Roth is mentioned in there."

He showed me the book, and it was Arlene Yousey's *Strangers and Pilgrims – History of Lewis County Mennonites*. I took that information down, and on Sunday I contacted Arlene, told her who I was, and requested three copies of the book. Driving to Lowville on Monday morning to purchase them, I was greeted at the door by Arlene. She told me, "I knew your Grandmother, we were cousins."

It was from this point forward that I began to search out my Mennonite connection. My first stop was to check out the Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Farm. I began to help out with different projects at the farm using my God-gifted talents. Then in 2010, I was informed of a Mennonite Heritage Tour to Europe, to which I accepted. One stop on the tour was at the former Moser farm. A field near the barn had recently been plowed, so I reached down and grabbed a handful of soil, squeezed it in my hand, and said to myself, "I'm here, Grandma."

In 2012 I was elected to the AMHA Board of Directors and served for the next 12 years in that capacity. I am still active at the farm and enjoy every moment there. I am very proud of my Mennonite Heritage.

Come to the Z Summer Fest on Saturday, July 18, and you will have an opportunity to meet Rieffannacht/Riebennacht descendants in Lewis County and other neighboring counties. You will hear stories, view displays, see demonstrations, and participate in varied activities at the farm.

FROM THE PAST

The following is from a notebook of late Arlene Yousey "Lewis County Mennonite Stories."

"A man was rich when he had three horses...a team for work day (tired when had been worked all week) and one for Sunday (ready to trot and got to church quickly)." Nelson Widrick, December 1991

FROM THE DESK OF THE CURATOR

Rosanna M. Moser

In the June 2025 *Notes from the Farm*, some individuals were inadvertently missed for the listing of "90 Years or Older in Lewis-Jefferson County Mennonite Community" (January 2024 to June 2, 2025, including out-of-county and state residents). They are as follows:

Loretta Lehman, Maietta (Lehman) Moshier (Sarasota, FL), Alta (Lyndaker) Noftsier, Betty (Freeman) Widrick (Gilbert), and Michael M. Zehr (Goshen, Indiana).



Congrats, Geneva, 2026 Randy D. Streeter Older Adult of the Year Award!

Geneva has wholeheartedly given her time with commitment, interest, and spirit of enthusiasm in varied community avenues. AMHA is honored to have Geneva earn this award. We appreciate the many hours that she devotes to researching and newspaper archiving.

"You can't say you are bored when there is so much to do"

<https://lewiscountyny.gov/departments/office-for-the-aging/>

Children's Faires

AMHA is pleased to receive the \$600 grant from Stewart's Shops to offer the children's activities again this summer. More information for the Fiber Arts (August 4) and Fine Arts (August 11) classes will be published in the church bulletins.

Gift Shop

The Virkler lettuce seed is available on a donation basis at the AMHA gift shop.

Two NEW booklets are also available upon request on a donation basis. A new booklet *Jacob Widrick Family Memories* of 68 pages compiled by Yvonne Yousey, Carol Moser Lehman, and Linda Widrick Noftsier has two parts: "Memories of Cousins" and "Memories of Family Life."

In addition, Jane Yousey and Yvonne Yousey have compiled a 91-page booklet on the *History of the Yousey Family, Lewis County, New York*. The booklet features the family of Joseph B. Yousey and Menno Yousey with contributions from the grandchildren of Menno Yousey family and photos.

A thumb drive is available upon request for the YouTube "History of the Lewis – Jefferson County Amish Mennonites" on a donation basis.

You may place an order at info@mennoniteheritagefarm.com or call the office at 315-346-1122.

Visit the Mennonite Heritage Farm

We encourage our Mennonite community to visit the Mennonite Heritage Farm. This is your heritage with many artifacts for viewing in the house, barn, and granary. Come and visit the state-of-the-art archival area. People often comment that they had no idea the farmhouse has a section to the home that is unique and unlike the house.

The Mennonite Heritage Farm is open to visitors in July and August on Monday and Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other dates to visit during the summer (June to October) may be made by appointment. To make an appointment, please email info@mennoniteheritagefarm.com or call 315-346-1122.

Acquisition Report Rosanna M. Moser

A total of 120 accessions was completed in 2025, which is an overall total of 3250 accessions; 4903 items since 2010. We are thankful to the many individuals for the historic artifacts that continue to help tell the story of our Anabaptist Mennonite faith throughout the house, barn, granary, and archival area.

NOTE: If you do not see an artifact listed that you donated, they are on the "hold" shelving to be catalogued. Here is a summary of the major artifacts accessioned over the past year:

Crofoot, Janice Lehman – Booklet "Barbara V. Bachman 104th Birthday December 15, 1981."

Croghan Mennonite Church historian – German Martin Luther *Holy Scripture* original to John B. and Mary Yousey Moser, *German Martin Luther Holy Scripture* original to Andrew and Anna Roggie Moser, and two vinyl shade maps of Croghan Mennonite Cemetery.

Herzig, Gary and Elsie Lehman – Framed photos of Joseph J. Virkler Riverside farm and Michael B. “Honey Man” Zehr with the bee hives (photo at right); and 1944 “Farney & Steiner” wall calendar.



Jantzi, Kathryn Zehr – Life story of Barbara Bush Jantzi (m. Howard R.).

Kennell, Mark – Ceramic cups (2) original to Andrew B. and Mary Moser Zehr and presumed given to son Andrew M. Zehr; sugar bowls (2) original to Beatrice Zehr Kennell (Azor).

Lehman, Gary and Alice – Magazine article “Life in the Sugar Bush” by Jim Lehman.

Lehman, Pauline Mayer – Magazine article “How to Handle a Handicap” by Mary Boshart Honer (written about Aaron Mayer).

Lehman, Paul – German hymnal *Ausbund* original to Mary Moser Zehr (Andrew B.).

Lyndaker, Bruce and Pamela Combs – CD - “The Lyndaker Family Sings.”

Lyndaker, Lois – School district souvenir card, photo collection, and *Holy Bible* original to Andrew and Inez Noftsier Lyndaker.

Lyndaker, Milford and Carolyn Zehr – Library collection of Sunday school junior booklets and books, attendance record, and scriptural plaque collection, doll dress, glass-framed print of Lehman & Zehr Lumber Co.

McVeigh, Frank and Susan Taube – Child-size skis, miniature iron, hoof trimmer, rule/level clapboard marker, pea sheller, wire fence winder, wire fence stretcher, homemade child’s wooden walker, 40th wedding anniversary quilt (estate of Ralph and LaVeda Widrick Taube).

Moser, Robert – Brace bit drill, forge tong, sheep shears (photo at right), T-handle auger, vinegar barrel spigot, irons (2), glass bowl, bud vase, and cruet vinegar pitcher (estate of Philip and Katie Roggie Moser).



Moser, Rosanna M. – Pictorial 2024 church directory Croghan Mennonite Church.

Moshier, Dorrance and Janet – Photo albums from estate of Jacob and Anna Widrick Yousey and Ezra and Clara Yousey Moshier; genealogy of Schweitzer, Yausi (Yousey), and Erb families, and legal documents (estate of Ezra and Clara Moshier).

Moshier, Floyd and Gladys Widrick – Canvas paintings (3) by Eileen Roggie Zehr (photo at right), cassette tapes (4) of Master’s Men, Choraleers, and Bruce Lyndaker family, crocheted blanket, cup/saucer, guest book, handmade glass painted motto, *Good Food, Served Right* (Gladys’s well-known raisin pie recipe in the book), and photo collection.



Ovando, Lila Moser – Photo collection from estate of Jacob and Nina Moser.

Roggie, Bruce – Shoe cobbler set, ice pick, and leather hole punch from estate of Wilford and Eunice Lehman Roggie.

Roggie, Ruthann – “Kingdom Singers’ program collection.

Roggie, Wayne and Edythe Finney – Pictorial Sunday school cards and autograph cards (estate of Erwin Z. Lehman); correspondence re: Howard Roggie CO status and diary (1952-53 original to Verna Lehman Roggie); and postcard collection original to Howard and Verna Lehman Roggie.

Schwartzentruber, Nelson and Bernadine – Ledger original to Christian Moser; child-size shovel original to Nelson Schwartzentruber; and genealogy of “Christian and Elizabeth (Louise) Yancey Martin” family.

Tuley, Janet Lehman – Traveling trunk (photo at right) original to Joseph Martin (pioneer) and feather pillows (2).



Virkler, Caroline (Roes) – Going-away dress original to Clara Roggie Roes (Lloyd).

Virkler, Geneva Lehman – Soapstone original to Samuel J. Virkler; autograph cards (3), school district souvenir card, and photo collection from estate of Norman and Alice Bachman Lehman.

Widrick, Bruce and Kathy Lehman – Booklet used as diary and Eastern Mennonite Bible School history correspondence course original to Christian Roggie (minister); passport original to Elmer Z and Rosella Lehman, maple syrup strainer and memorial book original to Elmer Z. Lehman; *Four Thousand Questions & Answers* original to John A. Roggie; wooden sock darning original to Rose, Veronica, and Martha Roggie; wrist watches (2) original to Veronica Roggie; fleam, ice skates, cast iron shoe cobbler stand, sewing notions, 50th wedding anniversary quilt, notebook of MCC Exchange Visitor Program, photo collection and minimuffin pan from estate of Gilbert and Esther Roggie Lehman; and two toddler dresses and crochet cap original to Gilbert Lehman.

Widrick, Rebecca Moser (Harlan) – Vintage hay hook original to Harlan J. Widrick.

Widrick, Edsel – Vintage maple sugar mold collection (14) original to Joseph N. and Katie Yousey Widrick; photo collection and wedding décor original to Irving and Savilla Zehr Widrick (photo at right); pictorial Sunday school cards and black bonnet original to Savilla Widrick.



Yancey, Ronald and Judy Lehman – “Diary of Miss Rosella M. Zehr Croghan” between October 1908 and February 13, 1909, and two postcards.

Yousey, Betty Widrick (Norman) – Eastern Mennonite College 1956 yearbook original to Norman Yousey.

Zehr, Barbara Zehr (Jesse) – Sermon notes original to Bishop Richard J. Zehr, photo albums (2), and notebooks (2) holding tributes for 50 years of ministry from Croghan and Lowville Mennonite congregations original to Richard and Eileen Roggie Zehr.

Zehr, Keith and Connie Troyer – Record album collection (6) of “The Choraleers” from Lancaster, PA.

Zehr, Pearl Bauman (Floyd J.) – Homestead photo on barn wood of Kate Moshier Zehr (Joseph J.)

Widrick Triplets - 60 Years Ago December 1965!

Rosanna M. Moser

By ambulance Beulah (Yancey) Widrick, age 37, was taken to the House of Good Samaritan on Monday, December 6, 1965, to give birth to triplets. The premature triplet boys arrived with their family of now nine children at three minutes apart on that evening (between 9:17 and 9:19). Clarence declared, “We believed there might be two, but not three.” After some thought to decision making for their names, they were named Mark Christopher (3 lb 15 oz), Luke Clarence (3 lb 4 oz), and Paul Andrew (3 lb 5 oz). Irene (Widrick) Roggie shared that Luke and Paul were considered identical twins, and her mother stated often that “Mark was a spare.”

Mark...When we three were around seven or eight years old, we had a gray wagon we would put dirt in it. When we came to a hill, one would push, one would pull, and the other would push also. I think we would fill in holes in the lawn. We always worked together...really good too. We were like a family of our own out of nine of us. We were in each other's weddings too.

Luke...In my opinion, growing up as a triplet is the only way to be raised. We were to be born in February; but Mom, not being a big person, could not carry us to full term. She ended up going to the hospital and needing to have a C-section in December. The three of us together weighed just over 9 pounds. The House of the Good Samaritan in Watertown bought another incubator because of us. Within a month, Mark went home; but Paul and I had to stay for two months before being released. We weren't very big. Dad's father didn't think we were going to make it. My three big sisters (Jane, Elaine, and Irene) were a big help to Mom in caring for us. I know we are a lot closer to each other than our other siblings.

Going to school was a lot of fun because it seemed like most of the teachers were always getting us mixed up, but our friends seemed to have it all figured out. I used to hate family reunions because Mom would always make us stand up in the order of our birth so her family and friends could see how much we grew. I really hated that.

When I got married, I missed Mark and Paul a lot. To this day, I still wish we lived closer together. Working together is still something I look forward to. We did everything together. In fact, when we were about six years old, Carl Zehr was doing some work at Mom and Dad's home and one of us was missing. He asked us where the other one was because we were always together. For some reason, we put one of us in a milk can and put the lid on. I'm not sure which one of us it was, but Carl still laughs when he tells us that story.



Mark, Luke, and Paul

Paul... We did a lot of things together, mostly working. We still work well and get together from time to time. When we were kids, our parents finally got a small 8 hp riding lawn mower that we looked for things to do with it just so we could drive it. Well, our garden still had a lot of rocks in it so we would dig them out together and roll them onto an old car trunk that we pulled with the lawn mower. Some of these rocks were big enough that it took all of us to get them on, and then we took turns driving. Someone would drive, someone would push the lawn mower, and someone would push the rock. I think our parents weren't crazy about us being so young and driving the lawn mower, but it kept us out of trouble.

I remember another time when there were bananas in a high cupboard (apparently, we were not to have them). We stood on the dryer and could not reach them. Then got a kitchen chair on the dryer and still could not. Then got the highchair on the kitchen chair that was on the dryer. We were very safety conscience about all this; I'm sure, because it took two of us to hold the chairs and one to climb up and reach for the bananas.

In school they always separated Luke and me. Mark and Luke would be in class together, and I was always separated from them. Well, one day maybe a teacher couldn't make it, but all the kids were in one class, and the assignment was to answer a bunch of questions in groups of two or three. Guess who we teamed up with? We were the only ones to get 100%. The smart kids did not even do it. We always worked well together.

We always had to share everything. I remember not liking that we could play with each other's toys. I think it was hard on Keith because he was only three years old when we were born and didn't get much lap time after that. Our older sisters loved it because they could each take one of us to Sunday school class to help Mom out. They loved showing us off. I know I always went with Elaine, Jane took Luke, and Mom would keep Mark.

More TRIPLETS in Mennonite Community



L to R: Dorothy m. Sherman Kloster, Doris m. Dewey Hill, and Dora m. Francis Kloster. The flower girl in the middle for Doris is Muriel Zehr (m. Elmer Roggie).

ZEHR Triplets. The earliest set of triplets in the Lewis County Mennonite community were daughters of William J. and Flora (Zehr) Zehr born on June 6, 1912, for a total of 18.5 pounds in a family of 4 children with a total of 12 in the family. When they were born, Dora, Doris, and Dorothy wore different color ribbons (red, white, and blue) on their wrists for identification. Later they wore pins that bore their name.

On Tuesday morning, June 1, 1937, the triplet sisters, who were gowned alike at age 24, were married at the Carthage First Methodist Episcopal Church. The triplets married young farmers and two of them were brothers. The maids of honor for the sisters were dressed alike too. Several news organizations, including *The Times Leader*, Associated Press, and International News covered the wedding and broadcasted on the NBC's blue radio network.

After the ceremony, the three couples celebrated at their parents' home with an invite of 40 guests. The three couples left together on a ten-day wedding trip to Beloit, Ohio, and visited the home of relatives. They made their homes in the Croghan vicinity and Lyons Falls and had the occupation of farming.

STERIA Triplets. Gary and Janet (Wilford) Steria were blessed with first born triplets, Michelle Lynn, Marlene Louise, and Mark Douglas, on August 8, 1967. The couple was saddened to have Marlene and Mark die on August 9, 1967, who are buried at the Croghan Mennonite Cemetery. Gary is the oldest son of the late Elmer and Grace (Zehr) Steria. The couple lived near Watertown for nine years and moved to California.

ZEHR Triplets. Colin and Patti Dutcher Zehr were blessed with first born triplet sons, Chase Matthew, Jared Mark, and Keaton Luke, on June 12, 2000, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Colin is the youngest son of the late Walter and Ramona Lyndaker Zehr.

ARLENE R. YOUSEY

October 24, 1922—September 30, 2025

102 years, 11 months, 6 days

At the same time Arlene became the first church historian for the Lewis County Conservative Mennonite churches, she began writing her first and only book *Strangers and Pilgrims*. (Her appointment was at the annual combined business meeting on May 11, 1976, for a five-year term and continued serving in the role faithfully until 1996.) The first several years were spent doing research, which mostly came from verbal family histories, naturalization papers, diaries, correspondence, and interviews with present Mennonites. She made a special trip to Europe to visit the homelands of her ancestors. (All of her research notes, handwritten and typewritten, are in about 20 notebooks at the AMHA archives plus 80+ historical/scrapbooks of the local Amish Mennonite community.) Her father Chris B. Yousey was a “diary-keeper” which impressed Arlene on the importance of writing things down. Arlene was noted for jotting down historical notes as they happened.

Arlene began writing on the actual manuscript in 1981 and would usually spend the early hours (4 to 6 a.m.) writing because she “was clearer” in the morning. The title for the book came to Arlene while she was reading a devotional book one evening. The biblical reference which caught her eye read something to the effect “we are strangers and pilgrims, seeking a different land.” Arlene told a *Times* staff intern during an interview, “Not only did the Mennonites literally come here as strangers from Europe years ago, in a more spiritual sense we are all still strangers here on earth. This is not our home; our permanent home will be heaven.”

The 511-page hardcover book was published in 1987, Herald Press, Scottsdale, Pennsylvania. Copies are still available, and AMHA is selling them at a special price of \$30.

Source: *Watertown Daily Times*, August 2, 1987, AMHA Archives



Arlene working on the manuscript in the dining room at her parents' home.

December 1986



Arlene signing a book.
April 2024

WISH LIST

Archival office gladly accepts obituary cards, engagement announcements, and wedding programs. The gift shop welcomes *Farney Virkler Zehr* books of any year.

VOLUNTEERS needed...

Work with “Ancestry” in updating the Mennonite community genealogy and farm maintenance.

Why Become an AMHA Member and/or What are the Benefits?

- To affirm and support the preservation of our Mennonite heritage, to share our unique Christian faith story, and to keep intact artifacts of the Lewis-Jefferson County Amish Mennonite settlement.
- To receive the annual *Plowman's Journal* (twice a year) and *Notes from the Farm* (once a year).
- To afford a 10 percent discount on books and merchandise at the Heritage Farm.
- To have voting privileges at the annual meeting.
- To be assured of great fellowship and bond of working together in the fulfillment of enlightening future generations.

-----cut here-----

ADIRONDACK MENNONITE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Valid Through April 30, 2027)

Date _____

Renewal _____ **NEW** _____

Name (print) _____

Membership Category (Select One)

Address _____

Individual \$15 _____

Married Couple \$25 _____

Lifetime (Individual) \$500 _____

Lifetime (Couple) \$1000 _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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

Affirmation:

I, _____, affirm that I am in agreement with Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association's purpose and shall do my utmost to support the organization in accomplishing these goals.

Please make checks payable to AMHA [501(c)(3) organization] and mail to:

AMHA Treasurer, Charlene Moser, PO Box 368, Croghan, NY 13327

Subscription to *Plowman's Journal*

The *Plowman's Journal* is published twice a year with a focus on articles about the Anabaptists who settled and lived in Northern New York. *Notes from the Farm* is published once a year and provides updates on activities at the Farm. In addition, brief excerpts from some of the articles in *Plowman's Journal* may be included but no full-length articles. While we encourage individuals interested in the history and culture of our people to become members so that they will receive *Plowman's Journal*, the option to subscribe to the publication is possible. Please make check payable to AMHA for \$15.00 and mail to treasurer at same address above.

Pavilion Available...The pavilion is open for use at the farm for family gatherings, reunions, church picnics, etc., on a donation basis. Seating accommodation is about 100 plus other picnic tables. The storage area contains stove, freezer, and fridge plus several outlets above the countertop. Arrangements may be made with Rosanna Moser or Linda Deveines.

Fund...The AMHA board has an investment policy that includes the establishment of an Endowment Fund to secure a healthy financial future for our organization. Your donations to this Fund should be designated as such. If you would like to consider us in your estate planning, Charlene Moser (treasurer) can assist.

Website...Here is a reminder of information posted at www.mennoniteheritagefarm.com for your viewing and research: *Notes from the Farm* newsletters from 1991 to the present under **News**.

Manifests—immigrant passenger lists and translates. (See the details and the family links under Resources).

The Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association operates under the nonprofit charter granted by New York State. Your tax-deductible gifts will help secure the future of AMHA and give you a part in preserving the homestead and the Lewis County Mennonite story.

Send checks to:

Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association
Charlene Moser, Treasurer
PO Box 368
Croghan, NY 13327

Editor: Rosanna Moser
Layout/Design: Janice Crofoot
Proofreading: Janice Crofoot and Priscilla Lyndaker
Printing: Nicole Houser
Distribution: Linda Deveines

Adirondack Mennonite Heritage Association
PO Box 368
Croghan, NY 13327