



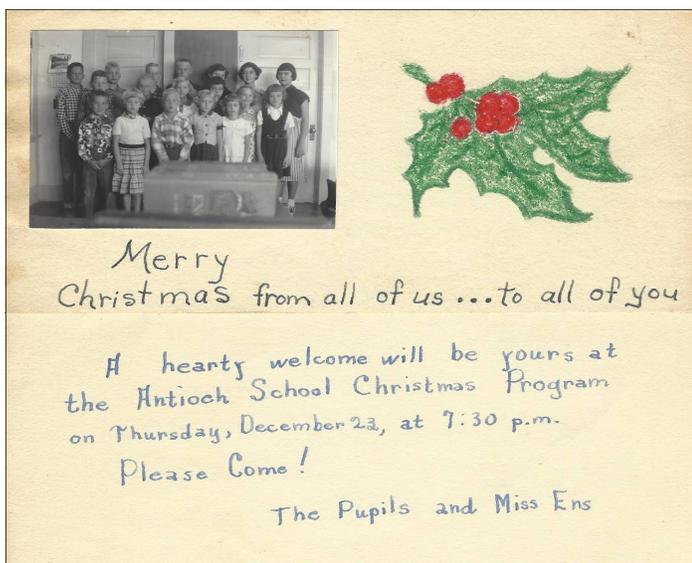
# The Heritage

www.goesselmuseum.com

Fall 2017

## Christmas at the Antioch One-Room School

My first memories of the Antioch one-room schoolhouse are from Christmas Eve programs held there, joyous community events. Students had cut out brightly colored paper bells and poinsettias which, overloaded with silver glitter, made the room festive.



Each area family received an invitation like the one pictured. We all dressed in our Sunday best, because that is what you did when you went to a program. Coats were left in a cloak room and wooden benches were filled until there was only standing room. Those by the pot belly stove would get too warm, while those by the north windows might keep their coats on.

The program was filled with Christmas dialogues, poems, and singing — “Nun Ist Sie Erschienen” of course! Then it was time for volunteers. For weeks, mothers had coached children to memorize a special piece to recite in front of everyone! Whatever a child did, it was so cute and charming, and the child was rewarded with a candy bar.

Afterward, Christmas sacks, “Wienachte tuta,” were handed out to everyone. Paper sacks were filled with peanuts and other nuts, an apple and an orange, and a smaller paper sack containing the real prize: ribbon and hard candy, coconut bonbons, and peanut clusters that were eaten first. The ever-present candy cane was left for later; it took too long to consume.

Children played tag, weaving in and around the adults visiting in Low-German. Finally, children and glittery decorations were rounded up for the trip back home. The empty schoolhouse’s lights were turned off.

— Fern Bartel, Museum Director

### Upcoming Events:

#### **Museum Hours**

See Pg 4 for our  
Fall & Winter hours

#### **Second Monday Family History & Genealogy Group**

7 pm, Goessel City Building  
(note change of location)

November -

Ladene (Janzen) Herrick  
Organizing Family Records

December - Arlin Buller,  
Family History Research

#### **Get “RED”ey for Christmas Museum Store Open House**

Saturday, November 18  
10 am - 4 pm

See Pg 4 for information

#### **Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Midweek Pizza**

**Night Fundraiser**

November 29

#### **Christmas Shopping Hours in the Museum Store**

Tuesdays - Saturdays  
12 - 4 pm until December 16

#### **Museum Annual Meeting**

January 21, 2018, 2:30 pm  
Goessel Mennonite Church  
Speaker Rachel Waltner

Goossen, Faspa

See Pg 3 for information

### Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum Board Members:

Steve Banman, President; John Janzen, Vice President; Anna Beth Birky, Secretary; Aileen Esau\*, Treasurer; Fern Bartel\*, Museum Director; Howard Birky, Anne Harvey, Michael Jost, Matthew Voth, Nelson Voth, Connie Wiens, and James Wiens. \*Non-voting members

## Ditt unt Daut (this and that) from Fern Bartel, Museum Director



An update on the **Search for a Stowaway** from the summer newsletter: It always warms my heart when guests come to see an artifact donated by a previous generation of their family. The week before Country Threshing

Days, Robert Plett and his sister, Frankye, called to say they heard, by word of mouth, that their great aunt's **Stowaway Doll** had been located. They made the trip with their spouses up from Oklahoma just to see her. Anna Harder Plett's beloved doll had a family reunion after so many years.

Another time three generations of the Selzer family came to visit their family's beloved Selzer buggy, housed in the Wheat Palace.

The best people come as guests to the museum. A grown son, who lives in another state, was visiting his aged mother for her birthday. He brought her to visit our museum as his gift to her. His mother (in a wheelchair) was rolled around the Immigrant House, inspecting each object in the showcases. They asked about a military uniform that had been donated to the museum last year, so I got it out to show. The original owner was a relative of hers, and she was very happy to see the uniform again.

Question - What is a **salesman sample**? Answer: Generally, a highly accurate working miniature of an item too large or heavy to be easily transported by a traveling salesman. A new donation displayed in the Peter Unruh and Sara Schroeder showcase is a **salesman's sample loom, spinning wheel, and skein winder**. Peter was a noted weaver by trade in Russia, so the donation seemed a good fit for the Unruh showcase.

### Recent Events:

*Country Threshing Days, August 4-6:* The largest attendance of recent years. (Right) Over 600 enjoyed the ventriloquism of Greg Claassen on Friday evening. All food at the Low German Meal and at the Preparatory School was sold out on Saturday, including 100 dozen New Year's Cookies.

(Right) Former students, a school board member, members of the family that donated the school's stage curtain, and other interested persons gathered on Sunday afternoon in the South Bloomfield One-Room School for reminiscing.



*Prairie Winnies Camping Group (Kansas Winnebago Campers), August 25:* In addition to touring the museum complex, this group visited Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, enjoyed a noon meal from Keith's Foods, and viewed the Jerry Toews' collection. Some women also scheduled a "barn quilt" painting class. **Is your family or group interested in a day trip? Call the museum to see what we can arrange!**

*Kansas State Fair, South Central Kansas Tourism Booth, September 15:* Fern Bartel and Janett Wiebe worked in the booth during the afternoon. John Janzen then manned the booth until 9 pm.



*"Amazing Race" event for Wichita youth from First Mennonite Brethren Church, September 16:* About 80 high schoolers and sponsors searched for clues in the museum buildings.

*Fall Heritage Lecture, Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, September 23:* Pastor Willmar T. Harder shared his experiences working with Mennonites in Bolivia and how Low German is a part of the flourishing culture there.

(Left) *Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Community Service Day, September 24:* Volunteers spruced up the museum buildings. A big "Thank You" goes out to those individuals!

*Second Monday Family History & Genealogy Group, October 9:* Those in attendance viewed a video, *How to Write a Bio*.

**Give the gift of experience - Purchase a 2018 Museum Membership for that special person on your list!**

## Rachel Waltner Goossen to Speak at Museum Annual Meeting



The annual meeting of the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum will be January 21, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. at the Goessel Mennonite Church. After a brief business meeting and review of the 2017 year, noted historian Rachel Waltner Goossen will be our guest speaker.

Currently a Professor of History at Washburn University, Waltner Goossen's interests and research has focused on the history of conscientious objection in the United States and 20<sup>th</sup> century U.S. women's history.

Further conversation and fellowship will be welcomed during the faspas time following the presentation. This event is free and open to the public.

## Schroeder Barn Update

Soon after Threshing Days, the board reevaluated our priorities regarding the painting of this historic barn on the museum grounds. It was scheduled to be scraped and painted in late September, but a decision was made to postpone the project until next year. The barn needs some of the siding replaced, as well as new hardware and wood slats for the barn doors, prior to receiving a new coat of paint. After re-siding the Krause House and a busy Threshing Days, the barn repair seemed greater than we had volunteer time and energy to accomplish.

We want to replace the siding with original full dimension wood and are looking for 1 x 12's in as long of lengths as possible. If you have wood that is stored or still on a barn waiting to be dismantled and would like to donate it to the project, please contact the museum

(phone 620-367-8200 or email [mhmuseum@mtelco.net](mailto:mhmuseum@mtelco.net)). Monetary donations for the restoration will also continue to be gratefully accepted.

A grant received from the Goessel Community Foundation this spring was designated for the "Schroeder Barn Painting and Preservation Project" with the stipulation of funds being used by year end. Because of the change in the timeline for the project, the Foundation has graciously allowed us to reallocate the funds and apply them to the costs of the Krause House re-siding, which has been completed.



## Become a Museum Member!

It's easy to become a member. Choose a membership level below, fill out the form, and return it with your check payable to MHAM to: Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum, P.O. Box 231, Goessel, KS 67053.

**Individual \$15    Couple \$30    Family \$40** (Includes children and grandchildren age 18 and younger)

Annual memberships run from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31.  
Benefits of annual membership

- Unlimited free visits to the museum
- 10% discount on museum store purchases
- One guest pass (two guest passes for couple and family memberships. Not valid for Country Threshing Days)

Life memberships \$500 / person

- Membership fee is added to museum endowment fund
- Unlimited free visits to museum
- 15% discount on museum store purchases
- Five guest passes per year (Not valid for Country Threshing Days)
- No annual membership renewal

I would like an annual membership \_\_\_ Individual \$15    \_\_\_ Couple \$30    \_\_\_ Family \$40

I would like a life membership \_\_\_ \$500 / person

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send future newsletters to my email address: \_\_\_\_\_



Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum  
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 Goessel, KS 67053

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

(620) 367- 8200  
 mhmuseum@mtelco.net  
 www.goesselmuseum.com



Museum Hours:  
 March, April, October,  
 & November:  
 Tues - Sat: 12 pm - 4 pm  
 Closed Sundays & Mondays  
 Open by appointment only  
 in January & February  
 May - September:  
 Tues - Sat: 10 am - 5 pm

*The Heritage*

Written by:  
 Fern Bartel, Director  
 Editorial Staff:  
 Museum Board Members  
 Mayleen Vinson

**SHOP LOCAL FOR CHRISTMAS**

2017 Mennonite  
 Heritage & Agricultural  
**MUSEUM  
 CHRISTMAS**

Get "RED"ey for Christmas Open House  
 Saturday, November 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 We're decked out in RED at the store!  
 Professional bow-making lessons  
 with Fern - Make it and  
 take it

**Special appearances by:**

- New book selections
- Locally crafted items
- A "new" slightly used cookbook area
- Gifts certificates available



Museum location:  
 200 N. Poplar, Goessel  
 620-367-8200

**Open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12 to 4 p.m.  
 until December 16 (closed Thanksgiving Day)**  
 www.goesselmuseum.com

As 2017 comes to a close,  
 we gratefully acknowledge  
 the gifts of each  
 museum volunteer  
 and  
 financial contributor.

Thank you for your generosity!

*Frohe Weihnachten  
 und ein glückliches neues Jahr!*

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!