

**SWISS (VOLHYNIAN) MENNONITE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, September 11, 2003, 4:00 pm
South Conference Room
Memorial Home Wellness/Activity Center

Present: Maynard Krehbiel, Arnold Wedel, Ozzie Goering, Jay Goering, Gary Stucky, LaVera Schrag, Wayne Stucky, Ben Stucky, Waneta Goering
Absent: Roger Juhnke, Scott Waltner

Call to Order: Arnold Wedel, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MINUTES OF JULY 10, 2003

The minutes were reviewed.

MOTION: It was moved by Ben Stucky and seconded by Wayne Stucky to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jay Goering

Jay reported the membership report was not available. There were no deposits other than interest. No expenses except the electric bill for the marker. Waneta will ask the committee who served the SMCHA banquet what their fee is and relay this to Jay.

SMCHA PROGRAM FOR BETHEL COLLEGE FALL FESTIVAL

SMCHA is on the program on October 4 from 9:00 – 10:00 am. After discussion it was agreed to ask Arlen Ortman of South Dakota to lead the 50-minute program. Wayne will speak with Vic Goering and Maynard Krehbiel about the tapes available to show. LaVera Schrag will make the contact with Arlen Ortman. The Pretty Prairie church will be responsible for the 2004 SMCHA program for Fall Festival.

ONLY SCHWEITZER SPOKEN HERE – Ozzie Goering

Ozzie Goering reported approximately 80 people attended the gathering. J. O. Schrag spoke on nicknames and Russian words that have found their way into the Schweitzer dialect. The next meeting is Friday, November 7, 2003 in the Memorial Home Wellness/Activity Center and Martin H. Goering, Ozzie Goering and Neva Kaufman are in charge of the program and two new people will be rotated in for the next meeting. The drinks are furnished by the Wellness/Activity Center and the cookies by the Schweitzer committee.

SCHWEITZER SALT

Donna Kaufman was not able to be at the meeting to report.

TRUSTEE REPORT – Maynard Krehbiel

Maynard Krehbiel reported a burial at the Hopefield Cemetery—Abe Neufeld. Arrangements are made for burial with SMCHA. If a reservation is made it was suggested by Ben Stucky that sites need to be designated, with a \$200 fee for members, \$250 fee for non-members.

The fee would be paid when making the reservation. Arnold Wedel maintains the list of reservations and burials. There was discussion about a more secure access to this list.

FUTURE OF SMCHA DISCUSSION

There was a meeting held on August 16, 2003 at the Breadbasket in Newton and attended by Roger Juhnke, Jim Juhnke, Dale E. Schrag, Don Schrag, Ozzie Goering, T. James Goering, and Arnold Wedel and out of this discussion it was suggested:

- A video be made describing and defining the Schweitzer Mennonites.
- A museum be established.
- A “think tank” be formed to discuss options.

Some suggestions from the SMCHA board members were:

- A bus tour be developed of original farmsteads, churches, and other sites.
- A farm created from an existing farmstead for purposes of touring.
- A map and timeline be made of all original Schweitzer homesteads.
- An activity with horses, tying it in with some of the other activities suggested.
- A demonstration of “butchering day”.
- Experiencing other traditions that were common among the Schweitzers.
- A tour of Dale E. Schrag home place (the historical Jacob Schmid home place).

This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Arnold Wedel reported the membership of SMCHA is about what it was last year. Roger Juhnke is working on the letter soliciting new members. Waneta will contact him to check on progress.

SPEAKER FOR SMCHA BANQUET 2004

It was decided that John Ruth speaking at the 2004 SMCHA banquet was not likely due to costs. It was suggested there be a panel discussion. There was no decision.

NEW BUSINESS – There was none.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Friday, November 7, 3:30 pm in the Memorial Home Wellness/Activity Center South Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Waneta Goering, Recorder