

SWISS (Volhynian) MENNONITE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
November 6, 2003, 3:30 pm  
Memorial Home Activity Center Conference Room

**Present:** Arnold Wedel, Ben Stucky, Gary Stucky, Jay Goering, LaVera Schrag, Maynard Krehbiel, Wayne Stucky, Ozzie Goering, Waneta Goering  
**Absent:** Roger Juhnke, Scott Waltner  
**Also Present:** Neva and N. Paul Stucky  
**Call to Order:** Arnold Wedel, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2003**

The minutes of September 11, 2003 were reviewed. The following corrections were made: Under Treasurer's Report the word "asked" should be "ask"; under Future of SMCHA Discussion: meeting held "on August 16, 2003" and "T. James Goering" was added to those attending the meeting. Added to a tour of Dale E. Schrag's home place was "the historical Schmid Jacob home place". Under Speaker for SMCHA Banquet 2004: the word "possibly" was corrected to read, "likely"

**MOTION: it was moved by Ozzie Goering and seconded by Maynard Krehbiel to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Jay Goering**

Jay distributed and reviewed the treasurer's report, which included account balances in SMCHA Checking Account of \$1,040.82, Cemetery Endowment Fund of \$15,018.28, Swiss Money Market Account of \$5,719.74, and Swiss Cemetery Building Fund Account of \$88.96. Income for September, October and November included memberships and investment income/dividends and expenses for those same months included insurance, electricity, website hosting and maintenance, and printing and postage for *Schweitzer Salt*.

**MOTION: It was moved by Ben Stucky and seconded by Gary Stucky to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.**

**FALL FESTIVAL**

It was reported there were 60-70 people in attendance during the SMCHA presentation at Bethel College's Fall Festival. Comments included some that were disappointed that it was a video and not a "live" presentation, and some appreciated seeing individuals in the video that have since passed away. A suggestion was made to have next year's presentation in a somewhat smaller venue, such as the Schultz Center. LaVera Schrag will contact the Pretty Prairie Mennonite Church to remind them of their responsibility for the 2004 Fall Festival presentation.

**SCHWEITZER SALT**

Donna Kaufman Neufeld and Neva Kaufman Stucky oversaw the publishing and distribution of 1,500 copies of *Schweitzer Salt*. They would like feedback on suggestions for content of future issues. It was reported that Elvera Johnson of Topeka could use additional copies of

Schweitzer Salt and her name will be added to the list. The Board thanked Donna and Neva for their work on this newsletter.

### **“ONLY SCHWEITZER SPOKEN HERE”**

Ozzie Goering reported there were 100 in attendance at the November 7 meeting of “Only Schweitzer Spoken Here”. Maynard Krehbiel gave a presentation on how horses were used in early days on the farm. The next meeting will be Friday, February 6, 2003, at the Goering Activity Center at Memorial Home in Moundridge.

### **TRUSTEE REPORT – Maynard Krehbiel**

Arnold Wedel reported he visited with Von Peterson regarding work on the cemetery. He will let the Board know when the work is done. Maynard stated they would be putting two more posts in when conditions are a little drier. He also reported still waiting for the repair work to be completed on the marker.

### **SMCHA WEBSITE**

T. James Goering was not present to report. He has requested that people contact him regarding monthly features they would like to see on the website. Send suggestions to T. James Goering at [sgoering@juno.com](mailto:sgoering@juno.com). It was noted that no information was listed on the website for the cemetery dedication service. In order to spark interest in SMCHA and open up traffic on the SMCHA website, it was suggested a student essay competition be initiated in spring at Bethel College which would encourage looking up information on the SMCHA website. It was suggested Mark Jantzen be the facilitator for this competition. Arnold Wedel will contact Mark Jantzen.

### **MEMBERSHIP LETTER**

The Chair reported that the membership letter was distributed to the Schweitzer churches with the exception of First Mennonite in Newton and First Mennonite in Pretty Prairie, but these would be distributed this week to these two churches. It was noted the letter was very well done, and the committee expressed thanks and appreciation to Roger Juhnke for his work on this. There are currently 150 members. There was discussion whether a letter soliciting membership in SMCHA should be sent again next year and there was consensus that it is done each year. The Board also conveyed to Neva Kaufman Stucky, present at this meeting, to add a membership “tear-off” section to *Schweitzer Salt*. There was discussion about the possibility of obtaining membership “on-line”. Gary Stucky stated he would check with T. James Goering.

### **JOHN RUTH--SPEAKER FOR 2004 SMCHA BANQUET**

The Chair reported that First Mennonite Church in McPherson and Kauffman Museum will underwrite some of the cost of bringing John Ruth to Kansas and the SMCHA Banquet in June 2004. There was discussion about what we would like him to speak on for the Banquet. Gary Stucky suggested it would be very beneficial to put on the website as early as possible when we know what he will be speaking on for Kauffman Museum, First Mennonite Church-McPherson and the SMCHA Banquet. Board representatives should check their Church calendars for conflicts on June 6 – 7, 2004. Gary Stucky will check the Bethel College calendar for the evening of June 6, Ben Stucky will check First Mennonite Church calendar for morning worship service on June 6 and Waneta Goering will check Memorial Home’s Goering Activity Center calendar for the banquet on June 7 for conflicts. E-mail Arnold Wedel

regarding scheduling at [wedel@bethelks.edu](mailto:wedel@bethelks.edu). There was discussion of alternate location for the banquet for 2004. No decision was made.

## **FUTURE OF SMCHA DISCUSSION**

Maynard Krehbiel suggested March 20, 2004 be set as SMCHA Farm Days. Ethnic foods would be served and there would be plowing bees, etc. Maynard will appoint a committee to help him. Maynard also reported he will have 16 teams of horses pulling plows on November 15, beginning at 8:00 am. It was suggested to take photos and then have them displayed on the SMCHA website.

There was discussion about initiating a committee to discuss the formation of a Swiss museum and it was suggested that some members of the Moundridge Historical Association serve on this committee. Since starting a museum takes an extraordinary amount of funding, it was suggested that we might first begin by asking for a select place in the Kauffman Museum for a display.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

SMCHA Annual Meeting. The date of Sunday, February 1, 2004, 2:30 pm is set for the SMCHA Annual Meeting at the Hopefield Church. February 8, 2004 will be an alternate date. T. James Goering will be notified to put it on the website as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned. **The next meeting will be Thursday, January 8, 2004, 4:00 PM in the South Conference Room of the Goering Activity Center at Memorial Home, Moundridge.**

Respectfully submitted,

Waneta Goering, Recording Secretary