



Schweitzer Salt

Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association

August 2013

SMCHA Banquet, Thursday, August 29, 2013, at 6:00 p.m.

“Time Travel Schweitzer Style—More Research Needed” by David E. Ortman

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association Annual Banquet will be held Thursday, August 29, 2013, at 6:00 at Whitestone Mennonite Church, 629 Crescent Drive, Hesston, KS.

Attorney David E. Ortman will be coming from Seattle WA to share his interest in Schweitzer history touching on historical areas where more research could be directed. Included will be information about the arrival in SD/KS in 1874 and Bank panic of 1873 and Bank Failures of 1890, 1893, and 1907, the 1888 Children’s Blizzard, WWI and COs and Intermenno Trainee Program.

David E. Ortman grew up in the rural Freeman-Marion area of South Dakota. He graduated from Freeman Academy ('71), Freeman Jr. College ('73), and Bethel College (B.A., Environmental Studies, '75). He was an Intermenno Trainee in West Germany from '73-'74 and joined Mennonite Voluntary Service from 1975-1980, working with Friends of the Earth in Seattle, WA and WA D.C. After leaving Friends of the Earth’s Northwest Office Seattle office in 1997, he ran for Seattle Port Commission and, although finishing second, received more votes than John Quincy Adams did running for President. He then worked as a law clerk, and in 2006, passed the Washington State Bar without going to Law School. As an Attorney he currently works writing land use decisions for local governments around Puget Sound.



Ortman lives with his wife, Ann Marchand, a Wichita native he met when both were in MVS in Seattle. They have two children: Michael (27), a CPA accountant with KPMG in Seattle WA, and Neah (24) who spent 2011-2012 teaching English in Burkina Faso (West Africa) through the MCC Salt program.

Dinner prepared by the Whitestone Church members will cost \$20 each. Please call reservations to Barbara Stucky (620-345-8367) or LaVern Stucky (620-983-2348) or Whitestone Mennonite Church (620-327-4123) before Friday, August 23. Bring your friends and neighbors; the banquet is open to members and non-members.

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SMCHA Mission:

- * Collect and disseminate information concerning the spiritual and cultural history of Anabaptists of Swiss origin.
- * Offer scholarships to qualifying college and seminary students.
- * Relate in a meaningful way the faith of our Mennonite forebears to present and future generations.
- * Maintain the Hoffnungs-feld Cemetery and Swiss Mennonite Marker and Monument.

Schweitzer Salt Editor

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At the banquet, you can pay your dues for 2013 (\$15/year or \$100/ten years) or pay ahead for next year or years. Membership dues will increase January 1, 2014 to \$20/year or \$100 for 6 years. Schweitzer Salt is now sent only to members.

Interest has been shown in developing a Schweitzer Cemetery Data Base showing where people of Swiss Volhynian heritage are buried. Listed would be name, birth date, death date, spouse, and father and include a Photo Registry (photo of grave and of person). On this web site, people living anywhere in the U.S. could find where their relatives are buried. Anyone interested in working on this project should contact President LaVern Stucky.

SMCHA Scholarships Awarded

The SMCHA Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that four persons have been awarded scholarships this year. Jacob Landis and Mary Schrag will each receive \$250 toward their continuing preparation for Christian service at Eastern Mennonite University and Bluffton University respectively. Jacob (son of Keith and Lois Kaufman Landis) is from Sterling, IL and graduated from Hesston College in May of 2013. He will be majoring in Congregational Ministry at EMU. Mary (daughter of Bob and Jenny Schrag) is from Moundridge KS and will continue as a junior at Bluffton University this fall, majoring in Biblical and Theological Studies.

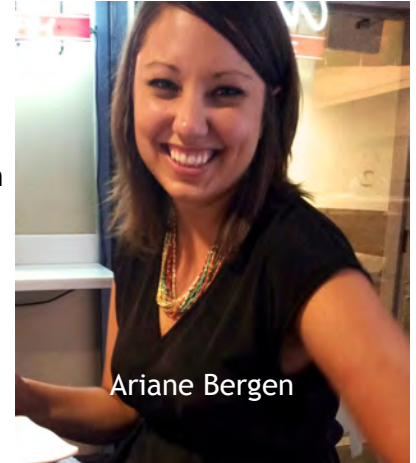


Ariane Bergen from Moundridge KS (daughter of Dietrich and Nanette Goering Bergen) will receive a \$250 scholarship as she begins a one-year term of service in Nicaragua



under the MCC SALT program. Caley Ortman from North Newton KS (son of Stan and Gwen Ortman of Marion SD) who is studying part-time at AMBS-Great Plains Extension in North Newton, will also receive a \$250 award. Caley also received a SMCHA scholarship in 2012.

Records show scholarships were awarded for most years since 1980. Recipients have served the Church in many important ways, some becoming pastors and missionaries. The Oswald and Elaine Goering family made substantial donations to this Scholarship Program. Ozzie, a strong advocate of encouraging young people to serve the church, was a faithful member of SMCHA until his death in 2008.



Only Schweitzer Spoken Here

Schweitzer Only Spoken Here met on June 7, 2013, at the Wellness Center in Pine Village, Moundridge KS. We sang six German songs: *Ach, Du Lieber Augustine*; *Du, Du, Liegst Mir Im Herzen*; *Mein Han Ist Tod*; *Gott Ist Die Liebe*; *Grosser Got, Wir Loben Dich* and *So Nimm Denn Meine Hande*. After the first song someone asked "What did we just sing?" Thanks to Evelyn Schrag, Neva Kaufman and Michael Putman the songs were translated from German into English for those who didn't understand the German. Dr. Michael Putman, from Penn State University, was in this area to interview Schweitzer-speaking people. He also shared at the meeting about various German dialects. He mentioned that he discovered a dialect very similar to ours in the German Catholics around Ellis, Kansas. Mr. Putman was also in Moundridge in 2011 and interviewed 23 Schweitzer-speaking people, and now in 2013 he interviewed nine individuals. Several of the 23 had already passed away; we are slowly losing our Schweitzer-speaking people. What is the future of our Schweitzer dialect?

—Ben Stucky for the Committee

John J. Stucky's Diary and Business at March 2013 Annual Meeting at McPherson

Though the cause of the rift between Hopefield and Eden Mennonite churches remains elusive, John J. Stucky's diary offers insights about some of the people involved. Stucky's great-granddaughter Marlene Krehbiel read from the diary at the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association Annual Meeting March 10 at First Mennonite Church, McPherson KS.

A nephew of Elder Jacob Stucky, John J. Stucky was born in 1858, left Russia in 1872, and arrived in the United States in 1874. He was one of several ministers tending the early Hoffnungsfield (Hopefield) flock, and because pastors received no salaries, he farmed as well.

Stucky kept meticulous records of seemingly mundane things, such as the weather, and some not-so-mundane things, such as the debts family and church members owed to each other. Krehbiel wondered if the Mennonites' frequent borrowing and faithful repayments strengthened the view that everyone should pay their fair share of

church building and operating expenses.

"The belief was that each must participate," she said, "and members who tried to escape their obligations by switching congregations could be excommunicated." Was the Hopefield-Eden rift over finances? The diary does not say.

Equally puzzling are gaps between 1911 and 1920. Though the whole diary spanned the years from 1898 to 1928, entries are sparse from 1911 to 1918 – difficult years in the Hopefield-Eden relationship – and completely vanish from 1919 to 1920. Why did Stucky stop writing? Again, the diary does not say, but Krehbiel speculated that since Stucky was known as a gentle and caring man, he may have found it too difficult to commit his sorrows to writing.

One point the diary may clear up is the relationship between Stucky and N. R. Kaufman. Kaufman left Hopefield in 1918 to preach at Garden Church, and Stucky left to preach at Emmanuel Church. Krehbiel read a letter by Peter J. P. Schrag that criticized comments in David Haurly's book Prairie People which alleged a sour relationship between Stucky and Kaufman. In fact, said Krehbiel, the diary makes clear that Stucky and Kaufman met regularly and remained mutually supportive.

In other business:

- Randy Goering delivered a short history of First Mennonite Church of McPherson, and the church's Pastor Kathy Neufeld Dunn offered devotions.
- SMCHA President LaVern Stucky summarized the organization's 2012 accomplishments, which included erecting a memorial at Caitlin Cemetery to honor the 17 children who died from illness near Peabody, planning for a SMCHA Heritage Tour of the Ukraine in July and August 2013, awarding a scholarship to Caley Ortman, and several meetings of "Only Schweitzer Spoken Here," including an appearance at Bethel Fest.
- Membership dues were raised to \$20 per year or \$100 for six years.
- Prices for cemetery plots at the Hopefield Cemetery were set at \$350 each or \$600 for husband-and-wife couples.

—Kip Wedel



Board members working at Hoffnungsfield Cemetery

New SMCHA Treasurer Clemon Kaufman

Clemon Kaufman retired from First National Bank of Hutchinson KS as one of their Vice Presidents with 31 years of service and is still on their call list to fill in. He served on the Mid-Kansas MCC Relief Sale board as treasurer for 15 years as well as other local boards and committees. Clemon and wife, the former Jane Krehbiel, love following the activities of their three children, five grandchildren, and one great grandchild. He enjoys going to auctions and collecting antiques. Also, he enjoys Fine Arts, and participating some in stage productions.



How do you recognize an Anabaptist?

You watch how they act. The state Anabaptist hunters who got paid to capture and rid the area of the accused heretics in Switzerland would note if the behavior of people was different from the expected cultural mores, whether people refused to cross themselves as the Catholics did; Anabaptists would pray aloud and long. Hunters would go to the hills and check to see if they had a Froschauer Bible (1529 Zwingli). Or they would notice who had not registered or baptized their child. Anabaptists were considered radical. Through study of the Bible, their leaders taught a new way to live, discipleship as Jesus taught, different from the established church. Their efforts were to restore the Church to New Testament beliefs and practices. That reminds me of the song "They will know we are Christians by our love." Would our behavior identify us as Anabaptists? Our challenge is to show Christ in our walk so that others will come to true faith.



The 38 travelers on the SMCHA-sponsored Heritage Tour June 22-August 6 heard the stories of the traumatic lives of our ancestors in Switzerland from tour leader Gary Waltner, director of the Mennonite Historical Library in Weierhof, Germany. This Tour provided opportunity to retrace the steps of those who went before us through Germany, France, Poland, and Ukraine. The next issue of Schweitzer Salt will include stories from these travelers. Stay tuned.

—Kathy Goering

Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association

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SMCHA OFFICERS

LaVern Stucky, President
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Richard Stucky, James Juhnke,
Leann Toews

Research Committee:

Maynard and Marlene Krehbiel,
Wayne Goering, Vic Goering

Webmaster: Dennis Quiring

“Only Schweitzer Spoken Here”

Committee:

Norvin Schrag, Ben Stucky,
Verlene Kaufman, Lorita Regier

2014 LOCAL SITES TOUR

Have you ever wondered what the towns of Empire, Christian and King City have in common? Do you know where the children who died while the immigrating families were staying at Peabody are buried? Have you wondered where the home of Conrad Nightengale, an Olympic track athlete whose mother was a Stucky, is located? What about where KDOT has established a marker in honor of Turkey Red Wheat. Do you know where Arlen Fast, bassoonist with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra grew up. If you are interested in any of these things plus a whole lot more, you are in luck!

SMCHA is planning an all-day bus tour of sites of local interest tentatively scheduled for a Saturday in the last part of April or early May 2014. The current plan is to concentrate on Marion, Harvey and McPherson counties. Conducted by Brian Stucky and a few others, the tour will concentrate on the history of the Swiss Volhynian immigrants, some general Mennonite history of the area and historically significant events and landmarks. This would be a beneficial event for High School and College students, too. Projected cost for each individual is \$50-75 which will include a meal at noon, perhaps some snacks as well as the transportation.

A large size bus holds about 50 people. Commitment of a minimum number of people is needed for the tour to go. No money is required for signup, but once the itinerary, date and cost are finalized, a downpayment will be required to reserve a space. The final payment will be due before the trip. Contact Brian Stucky (620-367-2610 or bnstucky@mtelco.net), or LaVern Stucky (620-983-2348 or lavern@powwwer.net) to indicate interest.

Die Hausfrau Ihre Arbeit

Washe am Montag!

Dienstag biggle (iron)!

Hosseflicke (mend pants),

Kleider machen (make clothes),

Mittwoch Kumme.

Donnerstag donn Geht's ans Butze (cleaning),

Freitag ach noch Dreck verdreibe.

Backen am Samstag!

Noh bringt Sonntag.

Suntags Schull und Kirch.

Ganz verricht! (cracy)

Jeder (each) Hausfrau Hut so'n Moddel (model).

Regelmassich (regularly),

Muss gut Koche

Durch die Woche.

So geht's widder

Doch recht heider (yet full of fun).

—Die Deitsher Bauer seine Frau