



Schweitzer Salt

Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association



www.swissmennonite.org

September 2023

September 30 Wheat Planting Means Fall is Here

The second happening of the 150th celebration of the Swiss Volhynian Mennonites coming to the U.S. in 1874 is a Planting Turkey Red Wheat with Horses event just west of the Moundridge Museum on Saturday, September 30, 2023. Three teams of horses will show up to work the planting project starting at 8:30 a.m., and an old tractor will deliver the wheat to the drills. Morning concessions will be available. The Moundridge Museum will be open to visitors, and the Farmers Market will have plenty of produce to sell.



Many more events will be leading up to the celebration August 22-25, **2024** at Eden Mennonite Church of rural Moundridge. Planned events in this next year include a speaker with Ukraine knowledge, an historical movie about Zwingli, a genealogy workshop, and maybe even a quilt show. So watch for more details.

Thank you to Darrell Schrag, Glen Goering, Keith Goering, Russ Stucky, and Nathan Graber for making all the arrangements. We all don't have a team of horses in our backyard, so seeing those big work horses is astonishing; the kids especially find them awesome. **Come and see.**

Annual Banquet to be held at Faith Mennonite on October 26 and 6 pm

Mark your calendars for the annual SMCHA Banquet. This year we will celebrate it Thursday, October 26 at 6:00 pm at Faith Mennonite church in Newton. We will be featuring an ethnic German buffet style meal catered by the Breadbasket. A special feature this year will be 'bohne beroggi' made by authentic Schweitzer cooks.

As this event is an early kickoff event for our 150th anniversary year of 2024, we will be featuring Jerry Juhnke, a genealogist, who will be pulling out interesting people and events from the last 500 years of Anabaptist history. It should be noted here that while we are celebrating 150 years of Schweitzers in the US, we are also on the cusp of 2025 which is 500 years since the first Anabaptist rebaptisms in Zurich, Switzerland. The Swiss Mennonites go back all the way!

We invite you to come to the banquet on the 26th, enjoy good food, learn who we are and were, browse some displays, learn what SMCHA is doing and planning, have a great time fellowshiping with friends old and new, and start developing celebratory mood about the 150th. The cost of the annual banquet is \$25. Come and enjoy!

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If you have a story to share for a book of stories about our ancestors, submit them to Bryan Adams at smolts123@yahoo.com or Casey Adams at cpadams992@gmail.com

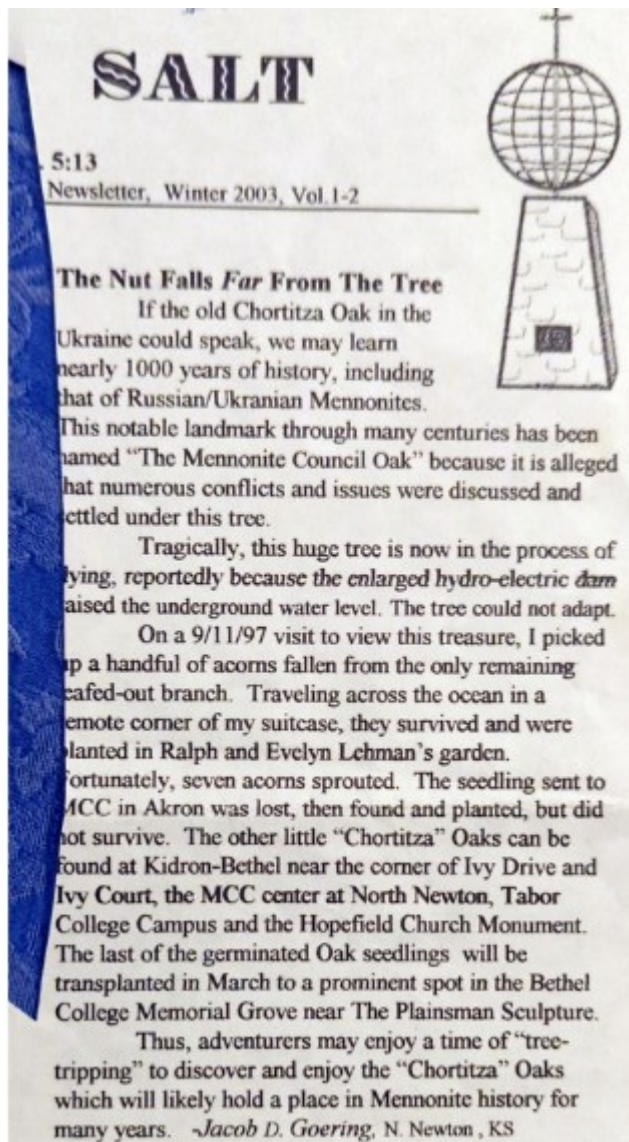
Please share Schweitzer news and events with others to expand our readership and inform about our upcoming 150th celebration held on August 22-25, 2024.

Ukranian Chortitza Oak Tree Descendants Alive and Well



While looking through some old paperwork, this article cut from a 2003 Schweitzer Salt written by Jacob D. Goering caught my attention. It created a field trip opportunity for me to go see if the trees were still alive. I am happy to report that the trees are still standing and being taken care of. Each tree has a marker next to it. The trees are all easily seen by the road except for the one planted at Tabor College. However it can be found near the center of campus next to a big sculpture. The plaque near it is different from the rest of the trees' plaques.

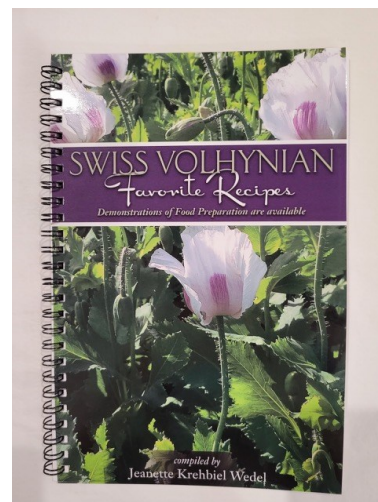
I don't know if the old "Mennonite Council Chortitza Oak" still stands in the Ukraine, but it makes my heart happy to see that some of it's descendants live on in Kansas.



Who are the Swiss-Volhynian Immigrants?

On our SMCHA book list (www.swissmennonite.org) is *Mennonite Ship List Swiss (Volhynian) 1874* by Harley Stucky, printed by Mennonite Press Inc., North Newton, Kansas. Now Vern Schrag from Kingman, Kansas, has been working for nearly 12 years on *Identification of Swiss-Volhynian Immigrants from Russia 1874*, copyright 2023. All total this study presents information for 880 persons from 169 families from the four principle villages of the Swiss Volhynians. On the first page is a picture of Castle Garden Immigration Station, Port of New York from the postcard collection of Maggie Land Blanck. Our ancestors came through Castle Garden in 1874, not Ellis Island. Vern worked from original source by going to Bethel Library and Archives to make high-density scans of the original microfilm for each ship. After two years of effort, he almost quit from confusion of so much information. The result is 196 pages of details by families. The Table of Contents includes Ships which carried the immigrants to America, Index of Individuals and Orphans, Index of Children Born During Transit, Index of Those Not Found, List of Families that Remained or Came Later, SS City of Richmond List or Manifest 05/18/1874, SS City of Chester List of Manifest 08/31/1874 and much more.

Vern has allowed us to share this information on the [swissmennonite.org](http://www.swissmennonite.org) website under Resources/Books so you can download or study it. Thank you to Vern Schrag for this amazing resource for Schweitzer researchers.



Cookbook For Sale

A revised version of the Swiss Volhynian Favorite Recipes cookbook is now for sale. It can be purchased at any SMCHA activity or our website: (www.swissmennonite.org)

Special Happenings 2023 and 2024

Souvenir / Information

Booths at —

- *Bethel College Fall Festival, October 14
- *SMCHA Fall Banquet, October 26 at 6pm, Faith Mennonite, Newton
- *Moundridge Christmas Fair, November 18

Events

- *Genealogy Workshop with Jerry Juhnke, March 18, 2024
- Matt Cotton speaking on contemporary Ukraine
- *Movie of Ulrich Zwingli
- *Moundridge Arts Council show
- *Binding and Threshing Wheat demonstrations

Watch for details.



Castle Garden Immigration Station, Port of New York. Exterior view from the Battery, Harper's Weekly 1871, from the postcard collection of Maggie Land Blanck.



SMCHA

Accepting Credit/Debit Cards

The SMCHA website (www.swissmennonite.org) is now capable of accepting credit/debit card payments to purchase cook-books or to make donations. Look for instructions on the website as to how to make that happen. You will also be able to use credit/debit cards at all of the 150th Year Celebration events. Please plan to attend!



Send articles, ideas for articles, or requests to be added to the mailing or email list to Kathy Preheim at kathypreheim@gmail.com

**Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association
P.O. Box 93
Moundridge, KS 67107**

SMCHA MISSION

- ◆ Collect and disseminate information concerning the spiritual and cultural history of Anabaptists of Swiss Volhynian origin
- ◆ Offer financial assistance to qualifying students
- ◆ Relate in a meaningful way the faith of our Mennonite forebears to present and future generations
- ◆ Maintain the Hopefield Cemetery and Swiss Mennonite 1943 Marker and Centennial Monument

Successful Plowing with Horses Event

Teams of horses came and vintage tractors lined the field for the Plowing with Horses event west of the Moundridge Museum on Saturday, July 29, 2023. This time good weather greeted us that got hotter through the morning. Three teams of horses hitched up to an old one-bottom plow to work the field. One team brought a big surprise of a beautiful colt running alongside. After the horse plowing demonstration, sixteen tractors and plows handled the work, ten in the field at one time. Cinnamon rolls, hamburgers, and home made ice cream was served by the Gospel Mennonite Church and many of their youth. Over 300 spectators started off the 150th celebration of our ancestors coming to the U.S. in 1874 in this agricultural way. Spectators were even able to take home produce from the Farmers Market on site and visit the Blacksmith Shop, Agricultural Museum and Moundridge Heritage Museum. More events will be coming throughout this next year. Kathy Goering, Publicity Chair, kjgio@mtelco.net.

