



# The Heritage

www.goesselmuseum.com

Summer 2017

## Saving History: Restoring the Schroeder Barn Exterior



One hundred fifteen years ago, the Schroeder barn was built as a wedding gift for Jacob H. Schroeder and his bride, Susanna Janzen. Susanna's father also helped pay for the barn. This couple lived in the two rooms at the north end of the barn for eight years.

Jacob's mother was a mid-wife for the community; she delivered the couple's first four children who were born in the barn. Imagine six people living in two small rooms! To make the rooms more home-like, the walls were wallpapered.

In 1910, a house was moved onto the farm, and the family finally moved out of the barn. The barn was then moved from the middle of the section to a spot closer to the road, where the Schroeder house was then located. The living quarters of the barn were converted into grain bins.

The horse stalls once held Prince and Molly, two horses that worked the Schroeder's fields. The family pony was named Pat. He was hitched up to the buggy to take the children to Pleasant Valley School a mile and a half away. Pat stayed at the barn on the school yard during the school days. For lunch Pat got a helping of oats and another helping when the children arrived home. When it was cold, the children could put blankets over their heads, because Pat knew the way home.

The barn went out of use in about 1957. In 1988, the barn was donated to the museum by current owner Edwin Ratzlaff, a farmer from the Moundridge area, and moved to the museum complex.

The Schroeder Barn is now badly in need of new paint. Woodpeckers looking for a new home have taken their toll on the barn wood, as has the weather. Repair and painting is scheduled to take place in the next few months.

This spring, the museum received a \$500 grant from the Goessel Community Foundation, for which the museum is very grateful. These funds will be used for replacing damaged siding and hardware, but more importantly getting a fresh coat of paint on the barn to protect it for the next number of years.

So, this is how you can help. Donations of any amount are welcome and can be sent to the museum, designated for the Schroeder Barn.

Thank you for helping us preserve the barn for the next generation to enjoy!

### Upcoming Events:

#### **Country Threshing Days**

August 4 - 6, 2017

**August 4** - Community Program: Greg Claassen, Ventriloquist, 7:30 pm, Goessel High School, by donation

**August 5** - Traditional Low German Meal 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, Goessel Elementary School, meal priced per item -Food also available in 1906 Prep School See Pg 3 for additional Threshing Days information

**August 6** - South Bloomfield One-Room School Reunion See Pg 2 for details

#### **Fall Heritage Lecture**

September 23, 2017, 9:00 am Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Pastor Willmar Harder See Pg 3 for information

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

1906 Prep School, 7:00 pm

**July** - Joe & Elaine Goossen Brick from Alexanderwohl Church Site in Ukraine

**August** - No meeting

**September** - Steve Fast, "The Battle of the Grandmas"

### 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



## Random Musings from the Director

### Fern's Facelift

The showcases in the Immigrant House have been undergoing a facelift. I saw the water stains on a showcase wall and decided to take on a project of wallpaper removal - a task that defines the word "awful."

Well, what to do? The wallpaper won't come off, and there is some kind of textured surface underneath. A sea sponge and paint were used to give two showcases a facelift. Come see the final results for yourself!

### Great Guests

I get to meet the most interesting people at the museum: a couple from Australia, a man from Romania who identified himself as a gypsy Baptist minister, and a couple from the UK. In April, the Wheat Commission group came to check out how Turkey Red Hard Winter Wheat came to Kansas.

### Bergen Blacksmith

I found a box with dozens of Ben Bergen's old photos in our museum vault. For those of you who remember the Bergen Blacksmith Shop in downtown Goessel, the photos were a wonderful walk back through the decades. I plan to have a permanent display of the photos in the Wheat Palace near the current blacksmith display.

### Ukrainian Church Tiles

Found in the back archive storeroom, and now on display, are the original church tiles from the Alexanderwohl Village in Ukraine. I knew that we had the original tiles brought back from trips to Russia, and I had seen the reddish-orange things on the top shelf but never put the two thoughts together, until now. The church in the old country is completely gone but you can come see what remains of that church in our country.  
**- Fern Bartel**

## Recent Events:

*Senior Art Show, featuring 2017 Goessel High School students and alumnae, Immigrant House, April 29, 2017:* GHS students participating were Elizabeth Brandt, Jenny Horne, Destiny Johnson, Lauren Rymill, and Maddie Stutzman. Alumnae included Darlene Schroeder, Lavina Schroeder, Mayleen Vinson, and Fern Bartel.

*Students visit the museum:* Several groups of students from Goessel Elementary and Berean Academy Preschool came to the museum this spring! Kevin Hiebert shared about Native American life on the plains with the Goessel Elementary School fourth graders.

*Trail Talk, "Pioneer and Indian Trails in the Goessel Area," 1906 Prep School, May 13, 2017:* Brian Stucky presented a program about the Chisholm Trail, Kaw Trail, Cherokee Trail, and the Santa Fe Trail.

*Second Monday Family History & Genealogy Group, "Das Glasse-shoup un Dey Dey," 1906 Prep School, June 12, 2017:* Joyce Watts shared her composition of a "conversation" between two historical pieces of furniture in her family.

*Krause House residing project, June, 2017:* New siding was put up by Marlin Janzen and crew; the painting is being done by volunteer labor. Thanks to all who helped restore the Krause House again!

*Antique, Classic Car, Truck, and Rat Rod Show, museum grounds, June 17, 2017:* What could be more fun on a hot summer day, than looking at cool, cool cars and trucks while eating a hot, hot dog? Wonderful variety of over twenty 1917-1974 vehicles. Kendall Heinrichs' '58 Edsel won Best of Show!



### History Channel video:

You can see a short video, filmed in the Wheat Palace, which features one of the museum's seed trunks on our website video link: [goesselmuseum.com](http://goesselmuseum.com).

### "Thank You" to all volunteers:

On April 13, the Goessel Goal Getters 4-H Club came to clean the museum campus of old leaves and debris. Thanks also to the volunteer mowing crew and other people who stop by to offer help in any way!



(Right) **Did you attend the South Bloomfield One-Room School?** The original stage curtain that hung in the school was recently donated to the museum. Celebrate the curtain "coming home" and visit with schoolmates you may not have seen in decades at a South Bloomfield School Reunion during Threshing Days on Sunday afternoon, August 6, at 2:00 pm in the schoolhouse on the museum grounds. We'll provide refreshments and the opportunity to reminisce about your favorite school memories.



**Museum Volunteers Needed:** Saturday front desk volunteers to welcome guests, four hour shift, once a month.

# 44th Annual Country Threshing Days

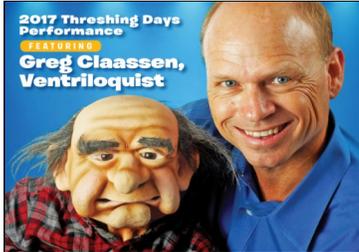
presented by:

Wheat Heritage Engine and Threshing  
Company, wheatco.org

Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum,  
goesselmuseum.com

**August 4, 5, & 6, 2017**

Goessel, Kansas



**Greg Claassen, Ventriloquist**

**Friday, August 4, 7:30 pm, (Doors open at 7 pm)**

Goessel High School Auditorium

Donations Welcome (No admission fee)

A benefit performance for the  
Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum

**Please join us for a fun evening!**



Downtown parade Saturday,  
August 5 at 9:30 am



Children's activities and  
pedal tractor pull



Threshing and field demonstrations,  
sawmill demonstrations,  
steam tractors, antique farm machinery

Admission charged to grounds, good all three days. Gates open at noon on Friday.

## **Hungry at Threshing Days?**

The museum will serve a traditional Low German meal  
on Saturday, August 5 only, from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm,  
at the Goessel Elementary School. Priced per item.

Verenika with Ham Gravy  
Bierocks  
German Country Sausage  
Cole Slaw  
Zwieback  
Cherry Moos  
New Year's Cookies

The museum will also sell food in the  
1906 Prep School on the museum grounds on  
Saturday, August 5 only. Priced per item.

BBQ Beef Sandwiches  
Bierocks  
Chips  
Monster Cookies  
New Year's Cookies  
Pop, Water, and Coffee

## **Heritage Lectures: Low German Mennonites in Bolivia**

Willmar Harder will be the featured speaker for the Fall  
Heritage Lectures on Saturday morning, September 23, 2017,  
at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall.

Harder will present two lectures: "Vivir Bien: Low German  
Mennonites in Bolivia" and "Kjenn Jie Noch Plautdietsch: Is  
Low German a Dead Language?" The sessions will start at  
9:00 am and 10:30 am, respectively, with a coffee break in  
between. This event is free and open to the public.

Harder served for four years as MCC Bolivia Low German  
Mennonite Program Co-Coordinator with his wife, Hannah  
Neufeld. Presently, Harder serves as pastor of Buhler  
Mennonite Church.

## **First a Coat, Then a Quilt for the Barn?**

How about a barn quilt for the Schroeder Barn after  
it receives a new coat of paint?

A barn quilt is a square painted quilt block made of  
wood or metal that is hung on the side of a building.  
Google "barn quilt images" for examples.

Do you have an idea for how the barn quilt could  
look? Send your idea to the museum, P.O. Box 231,  
Goessel, KS 67053.

There are some awesome ones out there, and they  
are very trendy. As you drive around the area, see  
how many barn quilts you can discover!



Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum  
 200 N Poplar  
 P.O. Box 231  
 Goessel, KS 67053

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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



Museum Hours:  
 May - September:  
 Tues - Sat: 10 am - 5 pm  
 Closed Sundays & Mondays

March, April, October,  
 & November:  
 Tues - Sat: 12 pm - 4 pm

*The Heritage*

Written by:  
 Fern Bartel

Editorial Staff:  
 Museum Board Members  
 Mayleen Thiesen Vinson

*See you at Threshing Days on August 4, 5, and 6!*

**Family Recipe**

Have you ever marveled at the replication of names within a family and wondered why? There was a “recipe” for naming your children in the days up to the early 1900s. Here is the “recipe”:

- \*First son - named after the paternal grandfather
- \*Second son - named after the maternal grandfather
- \*Third son- named after the father
- \*First daughter - named after the maternal grand-mother
- \*Second daughter - named after the paternal grand-mother
- \*Third daughter - named after the mother

Of course, if a child died in infancy, the name needed to be carried on, so the next baby of the same gender was then given that same name. Eventually the parents’ names were worked into the family. This is the reason for so many persons having the same first name and last name within the same community at the same time.

(Partially from *Reminisce Magazine*, Feb./Mar. 2017 issue)



**Search for a Stowaway**

Now, a message for the couple who was at the museum looking for their great great aunt’s doll that she had smuggled into the country in 1909. Unfortunately, I had not a clue when you came here looking for her, but I found her! She is now on display, and she is so beautiful.

The doll belonged to Anna Harder Plett. She was told by her family that they did not have room to bring the doll to America, but Anna could not bring herself to leave her dear doll in Russia. She tightly rolled the doll in her own clothing, and in this way, the doll was a stowaway and arrived in Kansas. Anna’s daughter, Rubena E. Plett Berg, became the owner and sewed a new dress for her.

Come see the doll that was smuggled into the country. If you know the couple who was here at the museum, please tell them that Anna Harder Plett’s beloved doll is now found.  
 - Fern Bartel, Director

Low German phrase - *Kjleene Schmauntkaune habe uk Uahre.*

English - Small cream cans also have ears.

Meaning- Watch what you say around small children!