



Swiss Heritage Society Messenger

Mission Statement: To spark and sustain an interest in the cultural heritage of Berne, Indiana and southern Adams County by promoting learning through discovery.

Swiss Heritage Society, Inc.

November 2013

Berne, Indiana 46711

Hauenstein Family Celebrates 125th Anniversary at Swiss Heritage Village

by JIM LANGHAM

Between 50 and 60 members of the Hauenstein family, who made the well-known cider press available to Swiss Heritage Village, met at this year's Swiss Heritage Festival for their annual family reunion. However, this year was a special occasion because it was the family's 125th reunion.

Eric Hauenstein said that he suggested the possibility of the family moving the date of the reunion a couple of weeks and meeting by their family heritage cider press at the festival. The response was immediately positive and they ended up having a catered meal served at the South Adams Senior Center before heading to the festival where they marveled at the operation of the cider press.

"We stayed and took all kinds of pictures. Everyone loved it. They loved it so much that they want to do it next year again,"

said Hauenstein. "In fact, I wouldn't be surprised if we end up doing it every year."

"We can't say enough about how well the people at Swiss Heritage Village have maintained the cider press. It definitely went to the right place," continued Hauenstein. "We are so proud of the work that Amos Schwartz put into it. We are sorry for his loss; he was such a good friend to us, but we know it is still in good hands as his family continues to help."

Hauenstein noted that his son, William Frederick, fourth generation from the original creator of the cider press, comes to Berne with him and is learning certain things about the maintenance of the press. The press was built during the Civil War (1861-1864) by F. William Hauenstein in Huntington County, Indiana.

Mr. Hauenstein was a Swiss immigrant who settled near his brother in Huntington in 1856.



There he bought a farm which contained a large apple orchard. The huge trees on the Hauenstein farm became the timbers used for framing his cider press. Mr. Hauenstein built his press, which is still the largest in the world, purely from his recollection of those he had seen in Switzerland. In a newspaper interview just 2 years before his death he stated that he had figured out how to make the nut and screw assembly function to raise and lower the pressing beam when

it came to him in a dream.

The descendants of Mr. Hauenstein are happy to see the cider press a part of Swiss Heritage Village. During the summer of 1992, the press and barn were dismantled and moved to Berne. The press was then reconstructed and the barn rebuilt around it. As much of the original barn timbers and framing were used as possible in the reconstruction, so it is essentially the same barn which housed the press in Huntington.

West Coast Family Brings Back Roots of their Father to Museum

By JIM LANGHAM

Darlene Nichols and Donald Moser, children of Berne native Vern Moser, visited the local area this past summer to donate miniature rooms made by their father to the Swiss Heritage Village and also the Heritage Room at the Berne Library.

Vern was born in Berne in 1903, the oldest son of Charles and Bertha (Liechty) Moser. However, his family moved to Los Angeles by train in 1911. Both Moser and his sister, Francis, had been delivered by "horse and buggy doctor," Dr. Amos Reusser.

"My father's home place was in the Bunker Hill area, located southeast of Berne, on what

was Christian and Emma Liechty's farm," said Darlene (Moser) Nichols.

"Dad wrote his story about his childhood days here," added Nichols. "Our grandparents are buried in the MRE Cemetery. My grandparents lived the remainder of their lives in California. Grandpa worked in the railroad yards. My brother and I were raised there."

As Vern Moser started recalling memories of his Indiana days, he started building rooms and furniture on a one-inch scale from his recollection of those days. He then placed his room displays in cases in glass-type boxes.

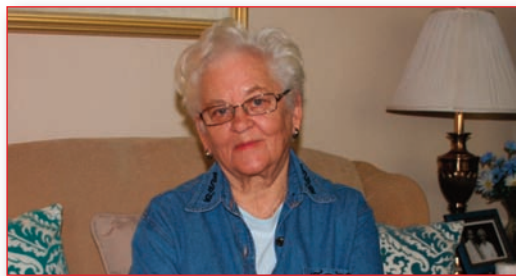
The first case that Moser built was the largest and displays a combination living-dining room and two bedrooms. It measures

over four feet long. The other four cases measured 26x16 inches.

For Donald Moser, the trip to Indiana this past summer was his first trip ever. He noted that he had always questioned about the way things looked where his father had lived.

"I always wanted to go and see the original farm," Moser said. "The buildings no longer exist but a lot of foundations were there. It gives me a feeling of being connected. All of my life I was told that I am Swiss and my family came from Berne. I was told that, but I had no idea where Berne was or what it looked like." Both Swiss Heritage Village and the Heritage Room appreciate the generosity of the Mosers in presenting their displays.

Inniger Enjoys Meeting People as a Volunteer at Swiss Heritage



By JIM LANGHAM

It was 1993 when Madelyn Wurster asked Merle Inniger to serve as summer director at Swiss Heritage Village and Museum.

"We were there for five years," said Gloria Inniger.

"It was in the beginning stages at that time and only the second year that they gave tours. I volunteered there to help alleviate all his responsibilities with tours. "It's been great to see the village grow," continued Inniger. "It's been amazing the way people have contributed things. People say that it's the best outdoor museum in Indiana. That's because of the way the community supports it."

Merle passed away in April of 2006, but Gloria has sustained her volunteerism to the village and museum for 20 years. Currently, she works in the museum shop on Friday afternoons, and also helps at special events like the festival.

In addition, she also volunteers at Compassionate Ministries. "I like to be with people," said Inniger, "and I enjoy doing things for people. If you want to be friends, you have to be a friend." Gloria was raised in Chicago and Merle was raised in Berne. The two met at Moody Bible Institute.

Ironically, the only time Gloria had ever heard of Berne was when she read an article in Christian Life Magazine about Berne having a five-week Daily Vacation Bible School that bussed kids to school through the public school transportation system. When she mentioned it to Merle, he told her that he had attended that Bible School for eight years and had a report card to show for it. Prior to retiring in the Berne area, the Innigers served for 40 years in Pakistan and London.

"There is a special blessing for volunteers," said Inniger, "and it is a great opportunity to get to know people you might not otherwise meet in other settings."

Greetings.....

..... from the Executive Director

On a weekend not so long ago I had the opportunity to celebrate the remarkable 100th birthday of my grandmother, Mildred Keller. As I enjoyed the pictures that had been laid out for the occasion, I thought about how much the times have changed since her birth in 1913. I also pondered the heritage she has passed on to her family. Values are a major part of ones heritage.

Hard work, the value of a dollar, and faith in God are among the values I have learned from my grandma. Also, if there was ever a person on this planet who demonstrated unconditional love to me, it was her. With each passing year Mildred has wondered why the good Lord has left her on this earth. Grandpa has been with Jesus almost 11 years now – she misses him dearly. At age 99 she fell and broke her hip which necessitated nursing care and leaving her beloved home. Change is never easy and the older we get the harder it is, so adjusting to this new season of life has been a challenge.

On this particular day, grandma was enjoying herself. She grinned as she greeted her friends and family, welcoming them to the celebration. I watched as she reached out her beautifully aged hands to grasp the ones of those before her, and the way she looked at each of us with love, no matter who it was or how long they had known her. What a blessing! I couldn't help but think this day's celebration was just a taste of what grandma will one day experience in heaven, where there are numerous loved ones waiting to welcome her to that eternal celebration.

May each of you reading this have a blessed holiday season! As you gather with family & friends to create memories for the future while celebrating the heritage that is yours, don't neglect to enjoy the present day. The Swiss Heritage Society says "Thank You" for all of your support as we continue to preserve the heritage of Berne, Indiana and southern Adams County.

Barn Painting Planned for Spring 2014

Last December, we received two separate \$1000 donations earmarked specifically for the painting of the barn. Since then, the Swiss Heritage Society has been trying to raise the remaining funds to be able to complete the project. In its entirety, the cost of the project is a little over \$12,000. To date, we have been able to set aside ¾ of the money and the barn painting has been scheduled for the spring of next year.

"We are grateful to the First Bank of Berne for their contribution this year, as well as the Adams County Community Foundation for the grant they awarded us," stated Debby Neuenschwander. In addition, a number of other donations have trickled in from Swiss Heritage members and individuals over the course of the year. "It's exciting to see the funds grow," said Neuenschwander. "We had planned to use money from the auction to cover the remaining \$4000, but five days before the benefit auction our 28 year old air conditioner unit died, and the furnace is close behind." As a result, the majority of auction funds will have go towards replacing the heating & cooling system for the gift shop and offices before the end of the year.

Anyone who would like to still donate to the "Paint the Barn" project this year can send their check to the Swiss Heritage Society at P.O. Box 88, Berne, IN, 46711.



The Sweitzer Barn provided the backdrop for the 1st Annual Kinderlauf, held on October 4, 2013.

Scenes From Swiss Heritage Education Day

Fourth Grade Education Day was on Friday, September 6th. The iconic yellow school busses began to line Swiss Way at 8:30 AM, delivering nearly 1,400 students from five counties for a day filled with lots of learning and fun. Many hours were spent preparing for this day, which has evolved over the years to take its present form. Artisans, demonstrators, historical rein-actors, as well as numerous volunteers look forward to the excitement, awe and wonder of so many children enjoying hands on experiences like none other! Along with the students and teachers, we say "THANK YOU" to each and every person and business who helped make this day possible.



Swiss Heritage Festival A HUGE Success

The Swiss Heritage Festival took place on Saturday, September 7th, drawing a crowd that began to arrive immediately at 10 A.M. and continued throughout the late afternoon hours. An estimated 2300 people attended the festival. Excellent musical entertainment was provided throughout the day and could be heard all around the village, adding to the ambiance that was created by costumes, activities, stories and the authentic

buildings on the grounds. Folks found plenty of delicious food to satisfy their appetites, too. Apples were pressed in the 150 year old Hauenstein Cider Press as onlookers caught a glimpse of the 19th century process and then could taste the resulting product. From the school house to the black smith to the kettle corn and baby chicks, and all of the activities & games in between, there was something for everyone; a day full of memories and family fun!



35th Annual Holiday Bazaar



The traditional Christmas Eve Service at the Baumgartner Church will once again be held at 6 PM and 9 PM. Please be reminded that seating is limited. Parking will be available near the church with access from Swiss Way Road.

The 35th Annual Holiday Bazaar was held on Nov. 2nd at the South Adams Schools. Nearly 100 vendors lined the hallways and filled the building from one end to the other. Each year the Swiss Heritage Society sponsors the bazaar and asks patrons to give \$1 at the door. This money goes 100% towards the South Adams Scholarship Fund. Traditionally, this has totaled right around \$1000 for the students.

"We are pleased to be able to contribute annually to the fund and feel this is one way we can give back to our community," commented Holiday Bazaar organizer Gretchen Lehman, "and it is always encouraging to see our young people willing to help with our events."



South Adams High School Seniors along with their teacher, Mr. Moser, recently worked at Swiss Heritage in conjunction with Senior Servant Day. They provided excellent assistance with a number of tasks!

Lehman Enjoys Being the Energy Behind the Scene

By JIM LANGHAM

Even though his responsibilities have sometimes demanded that he appear in the forefront, he is most comfortable when he is the energy keeping things rolling behind the scenes.

It was 20 years ago when Madelyn Wurster approached Fred Lehman about working with the (then) newly-initiated Swiss Heritage Village. Although Lehman ended up serving for many years on the organization's board of directors, his first promoted event was bringing a Native American Powwow to the Berne area.

"Many felt that it was the wave sweeping the country at the time," said Lehman. "We thought it would be of particular interest for people who hadn't had much contact with Native Americans."

The first Powwow was a tremendous success; there were over 3,000 in attendance and cars were backed up on Parr Road looking for places to park. There was only one glitch.

Lehman had scheduled the first dance at 11 a.m., not knowing that was not a traditional hour for Native American dances.

"At 11 a.m. we had all of these people lined up and there weren't any Native Americans here," said Lehman, who admitted that the situation briefly threw him into a panic.

"Suddenly, the people started shouting, 'the Indians are here, the Indians are here,'" continued Lehman. "I breathed a sigh of relief. I tried to learn their ways a little better for the next year." Lehman said that three years later Powwow success had grown to over 6,000 people. But there were many stressful things

that developed with the situation so officials decided to combine things and make the event more of a "pioneer festival," similar to what is marketed now.

One of Lehman's biggest joys is the nature contributions he has made to the village. He noted that of the 40-some new trees planted on campus, he has either planted or directed the planting of every tree. He also enjoys maintaining the trail in the woods and assisted with the development of the garden at the beginning.

Another contribution Lehman has enjoyed is what he referred to as the, "fun activities," pioneer games which he either learned of from

other festivals or purely developed on his own. A suggestion from a Smith Brothers employee brought about the introduction of the very popular Saturday morning "wiener dog" races.

Lehman said that he has begun a personal program within himself where he hopes to fade some and allow younger people to take over some of the activities that he has been involved with. Still, he also plans to remain involved with the festival and the Holiday Bazaar at South Adams High School, a major fund-raiser for the village each year.

"Working at the village has given me a tremendous sense of satisfaction," said Lehman. "I was raised in the country and I've always loved working in the country. In some ways, mowing the yard, planting trees and doing the outdoor things has been like going home."

"I've wanted to extend my love of the land to the community that I love. I hope that I've been able to accomplish a little of that," said Lehman.



Yoder Recycles Trees for Split Rail Fences



by JIM LANGHAM

The story of Richard Yoder and the split rail fence at Swiss Heritage Village actually began 25 years ago. Trees in his forest had died and he began cutting them up and converting them into rails. When Yoder heard at the time that Swiss Heritage Village was looking for a rail fence, he decided to donate to the young village's undertaking. Over the course of the past 25 years, the bottom rails in particular, started to rot, so Heritage Society official Don Kuhn phoned Yoder and asked him if he could help repair the breaches.

"I had ash trees that were dying so I used some steel wedges to try to shape the rails. However, I found that was much more difficult to work with, so I pulled out a chain saw where I could guide the line in splitting the logs," observed Yoder.

"The exercise was good for my physical body so I felt good," continued Yoder. "I put one around my woods on 200 West. At Swiss Heritage Village, the Boy Scouts, as well as another group of students, each helped with a section of fence and I finished the rest."

Yoder said that completing the fence once again at Swiss Heritage Village gave him a sense of accomplishment and a feeling that he had used his talents to do something for the community.

"I was glad to help; I knew how to do it and had done it before. God supplied the wood and gave me the strength to tackle the project again," continued Yoder. "I am still making rails. I have a lot of wood; I've got over 1,500 rails made."

"One of my friends built a log cabin in Jefferson Township. I told him that if he is going to have a log cabin, he has to have a rail fence around it. I really enjoy what I am doing. I'm glad to help all that I can," added Yoder.

Marsh Offers a New Journey Through Prayer

by JIM LANGHAM

One of the special enjoyments that has become engrained in my soul in recent months has been times spent walking through nature on the trails of the Loblolly Marsh Reserve, located a few miles southwest of Geneva in the land which once housed the Limberlost Swamp.

At first I started walking for the exercise, then I became addicted to the beauty of the wild flowers that created a color quilt effect that overspread in different colors and shapes. Finally, I realized that by walking in nature, I was in the quietness of the spirit of God, a natural prayer shawl, as it were, a place for me to grow in my closeness to our Lord through prayer.

One of the most special experiences occurred a few weeks ago. A close friend embraces the presence of Monarch butterflies as an indication of God's presence and promise in her life. At the time, she was going through a difficult time and there was nothing I wanted more than to be able to take a picture of a Monarch and convert it into a meaningful framed picture.

The difficult thing is that Monarchs are fidgety; they dart hither and thither and seldom land on anything long enough to photograph. I literally prayed as I walked

on to the trail, "Lord, if it's your will, help a Monarch to land long enough for me to photograph."

Astonishingly, minutes later, a beautiful Monarch drifted in front of me, sat on a bush and seemingly was waiting to be photographed. Nervously, I opened my camera while the butterfly patiently waited to seemingly fill out its part in this mission. Over the next minute, I snapped six pictures of the butterfly while it patiently waited through its session.

In this quick snippet of God's nature provision, I learned several things. Nothing is too small to pray for; God loves it when contacts with things He created empower our Christian walk and normal settings can quickly become spiritually significant once they are visited by the Holy Spirit.

I thought of special places in the Old Testament that were named because God had met people there in a special way, Bethel, Gilgal, Gilead and others. As I realized I was in such a place, I stayed a minute later to pour out my heart to God in my new "place of prayer."

Places of prayer don't have to be in front of stained glass windows or other religious symbols. It is simply a spot where God meets us in a special way, and it can become sacred to us forever.

Fifth Commemorative Silver Coins Available

SilverTowne, L.P. of Winchester, IN, has been commissioned, once again, by Swiss Heritage Society to mint the fifth 1 oz. commemorative silver coin. The historic doctor's office of Dr. Peter A. Sprunger ("Hami Pete") is the featured building for this year's coin.

The coin will be available beginning in December for \$55, and members who wish to purchase five or more coins will receive a \$5 discount on each one, making them \$50 each.

There are also some unnumbered coins that feature the Baumgartner church and some remaining numbered coins featuring the Yager school that are available at \$47 each, while supplies last. If you would like your coins mailed, please add an additional \$5 per coin for postage and insurance. To order, you may mail a check to Swiss Heritage Society, Inc., P.O. Box 88, Berne, IN, 46711, or call 260-589-8007.



Create a Legacy

The opportunity continues to purchase bricks and make ongoing donations toward the, "Create a Legacy Project" at Swiss Heritage Village. Donations for bricks range from \$125 to \$300 depending on size of brick. Additional bricks cost less. Please contact Swiss Heritage for more information.





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Visit us at: www.swissheritage.org
email: debbyn@swissheritage.org

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Swiss Heritage Village and Museum



To:

Dated Material--Do Not Delay!

Become a Member!

We want you to join us in educating others and preserving the heritage of southern Adams County, Indiana, through the Swiss Heritage Village, Museum and Nature Center and its many events. Members of the Swiss Heritage Society receive the newsletter, invitations to all programs, workshops and conferences plus free admission to the museum village and special events. All gifts over \$25 are deductible. Please complete this form and remit with your check to:

Swiss Heritage Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 88

Berne, IN 46711

Learn more online at: www.swissheritage.org
or call 260-589-8007.

Our Mission Statement:

*To spark and sustain interest in the cultural heritage
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Annual Membership Levels

<input type="checkbox"/> Village Patriarch	\$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Preservationist	\$ 500
<input type="checkbox"/> Village Builder	\$ 250
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of the Village	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer Family	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Pioneer	\$ 25

Annual Business Memberships

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<input type="checkbox"/> 26-50 employees	\$250-400
<input type="checkbox"/> 51-75 employees	\$400-550
<input type="checkbox"/> 75+ employees	\$550-1,000
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