Germans from Russia Heritage Society
47th Annual International Convention
July 12-16, 2017
Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center Bismarck, ND

Hosted by Dakota Pioneer Chapter of Germans from Russia Heritage Society

**GRHS in the 21st Century**

**Wednesday, July 12, 2017**

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  **GRHS Headquarters**, Bookstore & Library/Research Center Open at GRHS 1125 W. Turnpike Ave. Bismarck. [www.grhs.org](http://www.grhs.org)  Free shuttle bus provided

12:00 PM – 6:00 PM  **Convention Registration** at the Ramkota Inn 800 South 3rd Street

Explore Your German Heritage at the ND Heritage Center Located on the ND State Capital Grounds
[http://history.nd.gov](http://history.nd.gov)

**ND Heritage Center Schedule of events:**  **Free Admission**

8:00 AM to 7:30 PM  The Heritage Center/Museum exhibits and the Tri-County Tourism Alliance display, “*Women Behind the Plow*”.

8:00 AM to 4:30 PM  The State Archives open at the ND Heritage Center.

1:00 PM & 3:00 PM  Heritage Center Staff are presenting free workshops on how to access and search the ND State Archives. *Archive will also be open Saturday July 16th 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM*

5:30 PM  **Enjoy a genuine “homemade” German dinner** of Knoephla and Sausage with or without Sauerkraut and Kuchen hosted by the Dakota Pioneer GRHS Chapter. The dinner is in the Missouri River Center (inside west entrance) of the Heritage Center.  **Please pre-register for the German meal on the convention registration form so adequate preparations can be made**

7:30 PM  The World Premiere of the new Prairie Public Documentary – “*Das Gute Essen*: Good Eating in German-Russian Country”. Producers of the documentary are Prairie Public Broadcasting and the Tri-County Tourism Alliance. This will be shown in the Heritage Center Russell Reid Auditorium

**Free Shuttle Transportation** is available to GRHS Headquarters and the ND Heritage Center departing from the Ramkota Hotel Conference Center Lamborn Room.  City maps are available at Hotels and Convention Registration.

**Thursday, July 13, 2017**

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Convention Registration Ramkota Inn

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  Silent Auction Viewing & Bidding

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Bookstore & Library/Research at GRHS Headquarters, 1125 W. Turnpike Ave., Bismarck Free shuttle bus provided

9:00 AM - 10:15AM  Official Convention Opening Ceremony & Welcoming by Dignitaries.

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM  Workshops & Regional Interest Group (RIG) Meetings

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM  Lunch: Life Membership Certificate Presentations & Board Candidate Speeches

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM  Kuchen break: Lamborn Room, seating and tables provided
4:15 PM - 5:15 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM  Sing: A-Long & Social hour (Songbooks Provided)
6:30 PM   Dinner: Board Candidate Speeches
Entertainment: Hungry Five Band

Thursday Workshops:
Lives of Ethnic Germans in Soviet Exile During & After WWII - Nancy & Alex Herzog
Great Humorous Stories and Jokes of Our German Relatives - Chuck Weisser
Websites for Genealogical Research with Emphasis on the LDS Site - Ken Messmer
My Parent’s Story of Soviet Exile & Finding a New Life in Canada - Louise Wiens
GR Farmers in Hutchinson County, SD Test 1st Amendment in WWI - Allyn Brosz
German Russian Farming Before GMOs - Mark Halverson
Letters from the Volga to Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl, 1913-1937 - Eric Schmaltz
Ethnic Germans of Chortitza: Trading Identity for Survival - Erica Weidemann
Beresan District Odessa Regional Interest Group Meeting - Valerie Stewart
Bessarabia Regional Interest Group Meeting - Bernice Kimball
Crimea Regional Interest Group Meeting - Matt Klee
Germans from Prussia-Poland to Russia Regional Interest Group Meeting-Tom Stangl
Grossliebental District Odessa Regional Group Meeting- Valerie Stewart
Hoffnungstal Odessa Parish Regional Interest Group Meeting - Melvin Bender
Kutschuragan (KRIAG) Regional Interest Group Meeting - Dennis Roth
Glückstal Colonies Research Association Annual Meeting - Duane Stabler

Friday, July 14, 2017
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Convention Registration Ramkota Inn
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  Silent Auction Viewing & Bidding
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Bookstore & Library/Research at GRHS Headquarters, 1125 W. Turnpike Ave., Bismarck (shuttle bus provided)
8:45 AM - 9:45 AM  Workshops & RIG Meetings
10:00 AM - 11:15 AM  GRHS General Business Meeting, Election of Board of Directors
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM  Lunch: Essay Awards
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM  Kuchen break: Lamborn Room, seating and tables provided,
4:15 PM - 5:15 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM  Sing: A-Long & Social hour, (songbooks provided)
6:30 PM   Dinner: Height Literary Award and Lane Alton Nusz Awards:
Live Portrayal of Martin Luther by Rev. Marv Mutzenburger

Friday Workshops:
Cooking the Traditional Sauerkraut and Knoephla Dinner – Marlene Adolf
Growing Up German (Without Realizing It!) – Merv Weiss
Using Maps to Enhance Your Genealogical Story – Susi Wickman
Harper’s Weekly, 1896: A Snapshot into GR Cultural Customs – Ann Braaten
Date with Kate: Behind the Silk Curtains of Catherine the Great – Milt Ost
Demographic Patterns Among the Bessarabian Germans – Burk Huey
German Settlements in Dobrudsha – Allen Konrad
GRHS 101-Who We Are/What We Do – Valerie Stewart
Introduction to Genealogy – Susi Wickman
German-Russian History: An Overview – Bill Bosch
Lives of Ethnic Germans in Soviet Exile During & After WWII – Nancy & Alex Herzog
Ethnic Germans of Chortitza: Trading Identity for Survival – Erica Weidemann
Voices of the Future Essay Readings – Cameron Nickolaus
HFGR Annual & Informational Session – Ted Becker
Kherson, Ekaterinoslav, Taurida (KET) Regional Interest Group Meeting

Arrive on Wednesday, do ancestry research at GRHS Headquarters, attend the activities at the ND Heritage Center, research the ND State Archives, eat a homemade German dinner, and view premier showing of “Das Gute Essen: Good Eating in German-Russian Country”.

Friday Dinner
Join us for the Live Portrayal of Martin Luther by Rev. Marv Mutzenburger
Saturday, July 15, 2017

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Convention Registration Ramkota Inn
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  Silent Auction Viewing & Bidding
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Bookstore & Library/Research at GRHS Headquarters, 1125 W. Turnpike Ave., Bismarck (shuttle bus provided)
8:45 AM - 9:45 AM  Workshops & RIG Meetings
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM Workshops & RIG Meetings
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM Lunch: Family History and Other Awards
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM  Kuchen break: Lamborn Room, seating and tables provided
4:15 PM - 5:15 PM  Workshops and RIG Meetings
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM  Sing- A-Long & Social hour (songbooks provided)
6:30 PM - Dinner: Installation of Officers and Board of Directors
Silent Auction Successful Bidders

Keynote Speaker: Monsignor James P. Shea, President University of Mary

Saturday Workshops:
The Art of Making Plachinda - Myron Fischer
The Art of Making Kuchen - Marlene Adolf
GR Farmers in Hutchinson County, SD Test 1st Amendment in WWI - Allyn Brosz
My Parent’s Story of Soviet Exile & Finding a New Life in Canada - Louise Wiens
Bergseite Kirche: Lifeblood of Volga German Colonies - Dr. LaVern Rippley
Experiencing the History of My Ancestors in the Kutschurgan Colonies - Father Bitz
Great Humorous Stories and Jokes of Our German Relatives - Chuck Weisser
German Settlements in Dobrudsha - Allen Konrad
German-Russian History: An Overview - Bill Bosch
Growing Up German (Without Realizing It!) - Merv Weiss
Harper’s Weekly, 1896: A Snap Shot into GR Cultural Customs - Ann Braaten
Letters from the Volga to Pauline (Schlegel) Lehl, 1913-1937 - Eric Schmaltz
Websites for Genealogical Research with Emphasis on the LDS Site - Ken Messmer
German Russian Farming Before GMOs - Mark Halverson
Demographic Patterns Among the Bessarabian Germans - Burk Huey
Using Maps to Enhance Your Genealogical Story - Susi Wickman
Town Hall Meeting - Valerie Stewart

Workshop schedules are subject to change, check the www.grhs.org web site for changes and look for GRHS on Facebook. The final schedule will be published in the Program Booklet available at registration.

Sunday, July 16, 2017

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM  Prelude Music
9:00 AM  Memorial Service
          Passing of the Convention Torch
          Closing Remarks by GRHS President

Convention Meals

Thursday, July 13th  Lunch Menu  Ramkota Deli Roast Beef - Tender sliced roast beef topped with cheddar, lettuce, tomato, served on a tavern bun, pickle spear and pasta salad, fresh fruit garnish, served with coffee/herbal teas.

Thursday, July 13th  Dinner Menu  Chicken Cordon Bleu - Panko breaded chicken breast filled with ham and Swiss cheese, baked and topped with alfredo sauce, garden salad, rice pilaf, popover, bourbon glazed baby carrots, petite assorted gourmet cheesecakes, served with coffee/herbal teas.

Friday, July 14th  Lunch Menu  Croissant Sandwich - Shaved black oak ham and Swiss cheese with lettuce and tomato on a buttery fresh croissant, pickle spear, fresh fruit garnish, and potato salad, served with coffee/herbal teas.

Saturday Dinner
Our Keynote Speaker
Monsignor James P. Shea
President of the University of Mary
Friday, July 14th  
**Dinner Menu**  
Ramkota Deli Roast Beef - Tender thin-sliced beef topped with our bordelaise sauce, popover, August salad, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetable, assorted cream pies, served with coffee/herbal teas.

Saturday, July 15th  
**Lunch Menu**  
Grilled Chicken Sandwich - Marinated grilled chicken breast topped with Swiss cheese on a fresh tavern bun with lettuce, tomato and red onion, pickle spear and pasta salad, fresh fruit garnish, served with coffee/herbal teas.

Saturday, July 15th  
**Dinner Menu**  
Marsala Pork Loin - 8oz slow roasted herb crusted pork loin topped with mushroom Marsala sauce, seasoned roasted red potatoes, popover, August salad, green peas, German chocolate cake, served with coffee/herbal teas.

---

**Bismarck Hotel/Motel Listing**

**The Ramkota Best Western is GRHS Convention Headquarters**
Special rates at the Ramkota Hotel are **$99.00 per room**. When making reservations, please indicate you will be attending the GRHS Convention. **A block of rooms will be held until June 16, 2017.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lodging</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Room Price</th>
<th>Phone#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ramkota Hotel Best Western</td>
<td>800 South 3 Street</td>
<td>$99.00</td>
<td>701-258-7700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Motels within walking distance to convention headquarters**

- Expressway Suites  
  180 E. Bismarck Expressway  
  $86.00  
  701-222-3311

- Expressway Inn  
  200 E. Bismarck Expressway  
  $86.00  
  701-222-2900

- Fairfield Inn & Suites Bismarck South  
  135 Ivy Avenue  
  701-223-9293

**Motels located south of I94**

- Americas Best Value Inn and Suites  
  1505 Interchange Avenue  
  701-223-8060

- Budget Inn Express  
  122 E. Thayer Ave.  
  701-255-1450

- Days Inn  
  1300 Capitol Avenue  
  701-223-9151

- Hampton Inn & Suites  
  2020 Schafer St.  
  701-751-5656

- Kelly Inn  
  1800 N. 12th Street  
  701-223-8001

- LaQuinta Inn & Suites  
  2240 N. 12th St.  
  701-751-3313

- Radisson Hotel Bismarck  
  605 E. Broadway Ave.  
  701-255-6000

- Ramada Bismarck  
  1400 E. Interchange Ave.  
  701-258-7000

- Super 8 Motel Bismarck  
  1124 E. Capitol Avenue  
  701-255-1314

There are numerous other hotels. If you have a favorite please contact them directly.

**Campgrounds:**

- Bismarck KOA Campground -  
  3720 Centennial Road (north of Bismarck)  
  701-222-2662

- Gen. Sibley Campground -  
  4 miles south of Bismarck  
  701-222-1844

- Hillcrest Campground -  
  1½ miles east of Bismarck on County Rd. 10  
  701-255-4334

- Ft. Lincoln State Park -  
  8 miles south of Mandan, ND, 4480 Fort Lincoln Road  
  701-667-6340

Parking of self-contained campers is available in the Ramkota Hotel NW parking lot.  
There is a daily charge for electric hookup.  
Check at the hotel desk for more information.

**Bring your items for the Silent Auction.**  
All auction proceeds go to the GRHS Endowment Fund.

The silent auction will be **open for bids Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.**  
Successful bidders will be announced on Saturday evening.
47th Annual Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention

July 12 -16, 2017

Registration Form

Please complete and mail the registration form with your check or credit card information for registration and meals to:

GRHS 2017 Convention
1125 West Turnpike Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-8115

Make checks payable to:
GRHS 2017 Convention
(US Funds only, please)

Meals must be selected with the registration form and cannot be selected for late registrants at the registration desk.

**Pre-registration deadline is June 23, 2017.** No refunds will be given after July 10, 2017.

No registration fee is required for youths age 18 and under. Meals for youth are the same price. Spouses of members pay member prices.

Please list each person separately. All children attending must also be listed. This information is needed for name badges. Please Print Clearly.

(1) Member _____ Life member paid in full_____ Non-member_____
Name: _______________________________________________________________________
Maiden Name: _______________________________________________________________________
Ancestral Village: _______________________________________________________________________
Complete Address: _______________________________________________________________________
Email Address: _______________________________________________________________________
Name of Chapter: _______________________________________________________________________

(2) Member_____ Life member paid in full_____ Non-member_____
Name: _______________________________________________________________________
Maiden Name: _______________________________________________________________________
Ancestral Village: _______________________________________________________________________
Complete Address: _______________________________________________________________________
Email Address: _______________________________________________________________________
Name of Chapter: _______________________________________________________________________

**Note:** Only the names and addresses of convention attendees pre-registering will be printed in the annual committee report booklet.

**Volunteers:** Please indicate where and when you want to volunteer: _______________________
Registration _____ Shuttle _____ Other ___________________ Day _________ Time ____________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Per Person</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-registration (Members)</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration (Members)</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-registration (Non-members)</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration (Non-members)</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Day Registration (Thursday)</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Day Registration (Friday)</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Day Registration (Saturday)</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday German Dinner</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Lunch</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Kuchen and Coffee</td>
<td>$ 5.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Evening Dinner</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Luncheon</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Kuchen and Coffee</td>
<td>$ 5.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Evening Dinner</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Luncheon</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Kuchen and Coffee</td>
<td>$ 5.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Evening Dinner</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$___________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Amount Enclosed** $___________

Payment method: ____Check (U.S. Funds only)  ____Credit Card (Master Card or Visa only)

_________________________________ ___________________  ______________
(Card Account Number)     (Exp. Date)    (Card verification number)

____________________________________________________________________________________
(Names as it appears on the card) (Billing address if different than address given on registration)

____________________________________________________________________________________
(Authorized signature)

If you have any special dietary needs or accessibility needs at the Ramkota Hotel, please indicate them below.

____________________________________________________________________________________

Please check your completed registration form for accuracy, make a copy for your own records, and mail your registration with payment to the address at the top of this form. Questions contact GRHS HQ at 701-223-6167.