



*Germans from Russia Heritage Society*  
*53rd Annual International Convention*  
**July 17-July 20, 2024**

Baymont Inn & Suites, Mandan, ND  
Hosted by the Germans from Russia Heritage Society Board of Directors

***“Our Ancestors Past - Our Future”***

Please check the GRHS Website at [grhs.org](http://grhs.org) for any changes/updates

**Wednesday – July 17, 2024**

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration and Endowment Silent Auction drop off

GRHS Headquarters

**Anyone going on the bus tour will receive their name tag and registration packet when they get on the bus at the Baymont Inn & Suites Hotel.**

**Bus Tour & Program**

**Fort Lincoln-United Tribes Technical College and  
University of Mary with the Annunciation Monastery**

**“Backstory on the Apple Creek Plain: History of the Fort Lincoln/United Tribes Site”  
Fort Lincoln Internment Camp during WWII at the United Tribes Technical College  
by Dennis Neumann**

8:00 a.m. Bus loads and leaves from the Baymont Inn & Suites lobby in Mandan, ND

11:00 a.m. Lunch at the University of Mary (lunch included in ticket)

3:00 p.m. Bus loads to return to the Baymont Inn & Suites

**GRHS is not responsible for any accidents**

5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m. German Dinner & Entertainment at the Mandan Eagles Club

Knoephla, Sausage, Kraut, Green Beans, Watermelon, Kuchen  
Entertainment Quartet

No dinner tickets will be available after July 1, so be sure to pre-register  
(Hosted by Dakota Pioneer Chapter)

**Directions from Hotel to Mandan Eagles Club:** Take Old Red Trail from the hotel entrance/turn right. Continue traveling on Old Red Trail to the traffic circle and take the 1<sup>st</sup> exit on the right onto Collins Ave. Go 0.3 mi., then turn left onto 13<sup>th</sup> St SW. In 141 feet, arrive at the Mandan Eagles Club on your left (1400 Collins Ave. Mandan, ND 58554).

**Kuchen for Sale**

**You asked! We listened! The kuchen that will be served for the kuchen breaks and available for sale is from a Bismarck vendor called “The Kuchen Kitchen.” The Kuchen Kitchen was founded in March 2023 by Ellie and Emma Horner. Ellie and Emma are twin entrepreneurs who sought a way to earn money for college and school trips. After baking and selling wedding kuchen as a fundraising project, they discovered the niche they hoped to fill in their area. A variety of kuchen flavors are made using their Grandma Horner’s recipe. Check out the pre-registration sheet to order kuchen to take home. They will be frozen, so bring a cooler along for transporting.**

***Times and places for all presentations will be published in the convention booklet, which you will receive in your registration packet at the convention. The schedule of presentations and titles are tentative and may change.***

# GRHS Convention

## Thursday – July 18, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Convention Registration .....	Baymont Lobby
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Silent Auction - Hunter Heinrich .....	Pier 7
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Heritage Hall: Chapter Banners & Pull-up Displays .....	Baymont Hallway
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Youth Booth .....	Pier 7
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Bookstore Open .....	GRHS Headquarters



8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Official Convention Opening Ceremony .....	Pier 7
10:15 a.m.–11:15 a.m.	Presentations & Regional Interest Groups .....	Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	President's Lunch: .....	Pier 7
	Life Membership Certificate Presentations	
	Board Candidate Speeches	
12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Presentations & RIG Meetings .....	Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Kuchen & Coffee Break .....	Dining Room
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Presentations & RIG Meetings .....	Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria
5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Sing-a-long (songbooks provided) .....	Dining Room
5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	GRHS Board of Directors Meeting .....	Executive I
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Dinner: Board Candidate Speeches .....	Pier 7
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Meet and visit with Regional Interest Group leaders & Village Coordinators .....	Pier 7

## Thursday Presentations & RIGS:

- Beresan Regional Interest Group - Valerie Stewart
- The Last Green Valley - Mark Sullivan
- ND State Germans from Russia to GRHS: In Narrative and Photos - Karen Retzlaff
- Grossliebental Regional Interest Group - Valerie Stewart
- Crimea Regional Interest Group - Matt Klee
- Growing Up Rural in the 1950's—Part 1 - Marilyn Kratz
- Death Demystified - Robyn Morales
- Kutschurgan Regional Interest Group - Dennis Roth
- Bessarabia Regional Interest Group Presentation: The Lives of Women in Bessarabia - Lonny Brakel
- Thoughts on Genealogy, Genocide, and Collective Guilt - Ron Vossler
- The Irony of it All: German-Russian Cousins in WW I - Randy Entzminger
- Hoffnungstal Regional Interest Group - Harry Harsch
- Some Immigrated to Mandan a Century Ago, but What Happened to Those Who Stayed Behind in Katharinental? - Leo Rung
- Cooking class/demo - Schlitz Kuechla - Cameron Nicklaus

**Remember: Friday is Chapter Day, so wear your chapter vest. Bring your chapter banner for the opening ceremony.**

## Friday: July 19, 2024

8:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	Registration .....	Baymont Lobby
12:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration .....	Baymont Lobby
8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.	Silent Auction Viewing & Bidding – Hunter Heinrich .....	Pier 7
8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.	Heritage Hall: Chapter Banners & Pull-up's .....	Baymont Hallway
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Youth Booth .....	Pier 7
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Bookstore Open .....	GRHS Headquarters



8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	GRHS Annual Business Meeting & Election of Board of Directors .....	Pier 7
10:15 a.m. – 1:15 a.m.	Presentations .....	Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Office Staff Lunch: Youth Essay Awards .....	Pier 7
12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Presentations .....	Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Kuchen & Coffee Break .....	Dining Room
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Presentations .....	Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria
5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Sing-a-long (songbooks provided) & Social Hour (Waitress orders) .....	Dining Room
5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	GRHS Board Reorganization Meeting .....	Executive I
5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.	NDSU Library Homeland Tour Reunion - Michael Miller .....	Cutty Sark
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Dinner: Joseph Height Literary Awards .....	Pier 7
7:45 p.m.	Entertainment: To be determined .....	Pier 7

## Friday Presentations:

Growing Up in the Shadow of Winchester Butte - Pete Silbernagel  
Why Did Your Ancestors Leave Their Homeland and Emigrate to Russia? Germany in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century -  
Ulrich Merten

Growing Up Rural in the 1950's—Part 2 - Marilyn Kratz  
Founding and the First Difficult Years of the Crimean Colony of Kronental - Matt Klee  
Some Immigrated to Mandan a Century Ago, but What Happened to Those Who Stayed Behind in  
Katharinental? – Leo Rung  
Cooking class/demo—Plachinda – Cameron Nicklaus  
Alsace Lorraine Research Made Easy – Robyn Morales  
Family Tree Maker - Yvonne Haefner  
Cooking class/demo—Kase Knoephla (Cheese Buttons) - Luella Gomke  
War & German Immigrants to Russia 1760-1820 - Wayne Garman  
Basic Beginning Genealogy (Bring information to help you create your family history) -Yvonne Haefner  
Bessarabia Resettlement—June to October, 1940 - Allen Konrad  
Hochzeit Schnapps (Red Eye) - Margaret Ternes

## Saturday, July 20, 2024

**Note: Memorial Service will be held Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.**

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Convention Registration (Pick-up Pre-ordered Kuchen) ..... Baymont Lobby  
8:00 a.m –12:00 p.m. Youth Booth ..... Pier 7  
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Silent Auction – Hunter Heinrich..... Pier 7



8:45 a.m. –11:15 a.m. Presentations Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria  
1:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m. Chapter President's Lunch: Family History, Lane Alton Nusz and ..... Pier 7  
James Renz Award, and Other Awards

12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Presentations ..... Executive I, Cutty Sark, Nautilus, Santa Maria  
1:00 p.m. Silent Auction Ends ..... Pier 7

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Bookstore Open..... GHRS HQTS  
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Pickup & Pay for Silent Auction Items..... Pier 7  
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Pick-up Chapter Banners ..... Convention Registration Desk  
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Kuchen & Coffee Break..... Dining Room  
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Memorial Service – Alice Delzer ..... Pier 7  
Celebration of Life – Yvonne Haefner

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Town Hall Meeting – Valerie Stewart.....Cutty Sark  
6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. Dinner – Passing of Torch, Closing..... Pier 7  
Installation of Officers

8:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m. Dance ..... Pier 7  
Hugo and Julie Lee Ternes and the White Rose Band, Fargo, ND

## Saturday Presentations:

Family Tree Maker - Yvonne Haefner  
War & German Immigrants to Russia 1760-1820 - Wayne Garman  
Cooking class/demo – Kuchen - Luella Gomke  
Art and history of the Ukrainian Egg "Pysanka" - Kathy Cline  
The Lives of Women in Bessarabia - Lonny Brackel  
Basic Beginning Genealogy (Bring information to help you create your family history) - Yvonne Haefner  
Death Demystified - Robyn Morales  
Why Did Your Ancestors Leave Their Homeland and Emigrate to Russia? Germany in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century-  
Ulrich Merten

The Wolf Chasing: Humorous Stories and Jokes from a Lifetime of German-Russian Writing - Ron Vossler  
Alsace Lorraine Research Made Easy - Robyn Morales  
Bessarabia Resettlement –June to October, 1940 - Allen Konrad  
Founding and the First Difficult Years of the Crimean Colony of Kronental - Matt Klee  
ND State Germans from Russia to GRHS: In Narrative and Photos - Karen Retzlaff  
The Irony of it All: German-Russian Cousins in WW I - Randy Entzminger



## *Menu of Meals during the Convention*

**We need to turn our meal count in to the hotel, so please register early.**

**(Help will be available for those who need assistance at the buffet line to carry plates)**

**Wednesday German Dinner:** Knoephla, Sausage, Kraut, Green Beans, Watermelon, & Kuchen

**Thursday German Lunch Plated:** German Brats or Sausage, Cheese Button Casserole, Garden Salad with dressing, Cucumber Salad, Water & Coffee (which may be on a beverage table)

**Thursday Dinner Plated:** Beef Pot Roast, Spaetzle, Crisp Tossed Salad with House Dressing, Green Beans, Apple Crisp, Water & Coffee (which may be on a beverage table)

**Friday Lunch Plated:** Sandwich (cold roast beef on whole wheat), Knoephla Soup, Garden Salad, Corn O'Brien, Water & Coffee (which may be on a beverage table)

**Friday Dinner Plated:** Chicken/dumplings, Garden Salad, Country trio (corn, carrots, and green beans), Carrot Cake, Water & Coffee (which may be on a beverage table)

**Saturday Lunch Plated:** Beef Stew, Roasted Red Potatoes, Crisp Tossed Salad with House Dressing, Hard Rolls & Butter, Water & Coffee (which may be on a beverage table)

**Saturday Dinner:** Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Garden Salad with House Dressing, Glazed Carrots, German Chocolate Cake, Water & Coffee (may be on a beverage table)

**Please indicate on the registration form if you have special dietary needs.**

**No meal changes after July 1st**

### **Hotel Information**

#### **Baymont Inn & Suites Mandan**

**2611 Old Red Trail NW, Mandan, ND 58554**

A block of rooms has been set aside with special rates at the Baymont Inn & Suites, Mandan, ND until **July 3, 2024**. Please contact the hotel directly at **(701) 663-7401** and ask for the **Germans from Russia Heritage Society block** when making your reservations.

**Room Rate's:** Single/Double **\$102.00/night (taxes not included)**. **ELEVATOR** to 2nd floor rooms. Rooms have a king or 2 queen beds. If you have a preference, you need to specify.

**Hotel:** The hotel rooms have mini fridges, microwaves, and in-room coffee makers. The rooms include free complimentary breakfast, wireless internet service (WiFi), and parking. Due to our hotel contract, no other hotel accommodations will be advertised.

**Camper Parking:** Parking campers overnight is **NOT** available at the convention site, unless you are staying in the motel.

Campsites to contact:

Colonial RV Park, 4631 Memorial Hwy, Mandan, ND 701-663-9824. (5.7 mi from hotel)  
Full hook-ups, electricity, water & sewage dumps, no bath houses

Fort Lincoln State Park 4480 Ft. Lincoln Road, Mandan, ND 701-667-6340 (11.2 mi. south on 1806)  
82 electrical & water hookups

For information on the following campgrounds call: 701-667-3363  
Sweetbriar Lake Recreation Area, West of Mandan, ND (21.8 mi from hotel)  
Primitive camping, fishing, boat ramps, picnic shelters, pets welcome.

Harmon Lake Campground: 3244 Harmon Lake Rd, Mandan, ND (10 mi north on Hwy 1806)  
Hwy 1806 & County Rd 140, Mandan, ND - 43 electrical camping sites

# 53rd Annual Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention

July 17 – July 20, 2024

## Registration Form

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

GRHS 2024 Convention  
1125 West Turnpike Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58501-8115

Make checks payable to: **GRHS (US funds only, please)**

- You may also save the form to your computer, then email it to [kristi.grhs@gmail.com](mailto:kristi.grhs@gmail.com), and pay through PayPal.

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

Pre-registration deadline is **June 17, 2024** and all registrations must be received at GRHS Headquarters no later than **July 1, 2024**. No refunds will be given after **July 1, 2024**.

**No registration fee is required for youth under the age 18 accompanied by a registered participant**

Meals for youths are the same prices as adults

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: \_\_\_\_\_

**No Airport Shuttle to Motel. Try Uber, Lyft or Taxi Service.**

**Note: All pre-registered attendees will have their name, maiden name, city, state, and zip published in the annual convention report booklet.**

**Volunteers:** Please indicate where and when you want to volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_

(Registration, cutting, serving coffee/kuchen, taking tickets: Meals/Kuchen breaks/Dance)

Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

	Per Person		Number		Total Amount
Pre-registration (3 day) by June 17 (GRHS Members)*	\$65.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Late Registration (3 day) (GRHS Members)*	\$80.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Pre-registration (3 day) by June 17 (Non-members)*	\$75.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Late Registration (3 day) (Non-members)*	\$90.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
<b>* meals &amp; break not included</b>					
One Day Registration (Thursday)	\$40.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
One Day Registration (Friday)	\$40.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
One Day Registration (Saturday)	\$40.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Wednesday Tour (lunch included) <b>limited to 60</b>	\$40.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Wednesday Dinner	\$25.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Thursday Luncheon	\$20.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Thursday Kuchen and Coffee	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Thursday Evening Dinner	\$30.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Friday Luncheon	\$20.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Friday Kuchen and Coffee	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Friday Evening Dinner	\$30.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Saturday Luncheon	\$20.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Saturday Kuchen and Coffee	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Saturday Evening Dinner	\$30.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Cooking Class/demo— <b>Plachinda</b>	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Cooking Class/demo— <b>Schlitz Kuechla</b>	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Cooking Class/demo— <b>Kuchen</b>	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Cooking Class/demo— <b>Kase Knoephla</b>	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Cooking Class/demo— <b>Hochzeit Schnapps</b> (Red Eye)	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
Dance (free to registrants with badges)	\$5.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
<b>(Dance is open to the public, purchase ticket for non-registered guests)</b>					
Pre-Order Kuchen to go (Total Number ordered)	\$12.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____

Place the quantity to the right of each flavor you are ordering (Frozen, come prepared with coolers)

Apple		Cottage Cheese		Mixed Berry		Peach	
Prune		Rhubarb		Strawberry			

**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)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Name as it appears on the card)

\_\_\_\_\_ Billing address (if different than address given on registration)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Authorized signature)

Receipt will be in your registration packet

**Indicate below any special dietary needs:** Vegan, Vegetarian, Gluten Free, Allergy. (No substitutions for Wednesday dinner) **No meal changes may be made after July 1.**

**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. If you have questions contact GRHS HQ at 701-223-6167.**