



Neubergthal Notes

Stories Live Here

Spring 2019

Volume 17 # 1

2 0 1 8 W H A T A Y E A R

Neubergthal Heritage Foundation Board members for 2019-2020 (the Annual General Meeting elects or appoints board members)

Brad Braun
Danyne Hoepfner
Joe Braun
John Giesbrecht
Karen Martens
Lori Dueck
Monique Scholte
Shaun Friesen
Susie Fisher

Ray Hamm
part-time staff.
Graham Schellenberg
on a contract for research, communication and social media.
Harv Heinrichs is the keeper of numbers in the \$\$ books.

Board members can be contacted through neubergthalheritagefoundation@gmail.com, or by calling 204 324 4115

2018 was an amazing year

The restoration and rehabilitation of the Kilppenstein/Schmidt barn was finished. Wilf Hiebert got us through on time and under budget. It is called the Commons Barn now. The barn has hosted its first wedding and receptions and many other events. Basic work on the Bergthal School is complete, a few restoration and historical details remain. The washroom building was completed in the fall of 2017.

September 15, Culture Day, 2018, was a great day. A few hundred people came here on a beautiful day for interesting seminars and music, an artisan market and to hear Andrew Bergman of the Daily Bonnet (dailybonnet.com) - - amusing Mennonite satire.

Thank you to Parks Canada for their grant of \$330,000, to pay for 50% of the eligible restoration work

Thank you to all the supporters, with other special thanks to Access Credit Union, Altona Community Foundation, Friesens Corp., Golden West Broadcasting/E Hildebrand, H Derksen, J Derksen, L Friesen & family, RM of Rhineland, Thomas Sill Foundation, Wm Loewen.

-Notes from Annual General Meeting, March 12, 2019

2 spring

Come to Cover Me - -in the Commons Barn
an exhibit of heirloom quilts from the Heritage Quilters Guild (Altona)
May 8 to 11, 11-8 Wed Thur & Fri and 10-5 on Saturday.
Admission is \$5.00.

Paul Bergman concert of cover tunes at
7:30 Saturday, May 11
Admission is \$20.00

A Korean supper was served in the Commons Barn on December 6 by Won Jae Song and Olivia Do. This was the conclusion of a Seniors Cooking project coordinated by Won Jae and Olivia. A group here, led by Karen Martens and Rose Hildebrand, and groups in Winnipeg and Mitchell would share stories and sample recipes for traditional foods on a monthly basis in 2018. A small book has been published with recipes, stories and pictures.

The menu included bolgogi (beef and vegetables), jobchae (noodles and veggies), o-yee muchim (cucumber seaweed salad), kimchi and more, and pumpkin pie for dessert.

Won Jae and Olivia are publishers of The DiversityTimes/The Korea Times. They were given a federal grant for this project. Won Jae and Olivia met Marilyn and Ray Hamm some years ago when they came southern Manitoba and Neuberghthal, looking for stories for their paper. The December issue of The Times has several stories about Neuberghthal.

**ASIAN DANCE GROUP PROGRAM
COMMONS BARN, NEUBERGTHAL
MAY 19, 2019
WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS**

Improving Understanding and Relationships with Indigenous Neighbours

On January 20 Steve Heinrichs, Mennonite Church Canada Indigenous-Settler Relations staff, talked of our identity as settlers. We are not guilty for what happened or did not happen but we do have responsibilities, among other things, for understanding and respect. On February 17, Jonathan Toews of Borderland School Division and Josie Hartin of Ginew School (and Gail Lakatos) led a group through the "Blanket Exercise" - a simulation experience about the impacts of settlers and 'western civilization' on the indigenous people. On March 17, Dale Missyabit, Roseau River, led a sharing circle.
4 flowers

"Sposs and Tietvedrief" (fun and passing the time) was the theme for 3 Saturday afternoons in March. Each session featured Plautdietsche musik, some readings in Plautdietsch/low German and lots of humour.

Wauht bediet dit?//what is the meaning of these words? Find the matching numbers and English words elsewhere in these pages

- 1 Aewashwammung*
- 2 Farjoah*
- 3 Sonneschien*
- 4 Bloome*

NHF Summer Events, 2019

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| May 8 - 11 | Cover Me - quilts and music |
| 19 | Asian Dance Group |
| June 8 | bread baking workshop |
| 13 | Summer Sodas |
| Wednesday evenings July and August | Yoga in the Village |
| July 4 | Poetry readings |
| 11 | Weed walk |
| 18 | Darning workshop |
| 25 | family movie night |
| August 8 | family games |
| 15 | story telling |
| 22 | fermented vegetables & sourdough flatbread on a BBQ |

September 14 Darp Day

For updates and more details on these and other events, go to www.neuberghthaheritagefoundation.com or www.facebook.com/NeuberghthalCommons



This house and I share many Christmas memories.

One evening in early January I was sitting in the living room looking at the lights on the Christmas tree. It occurred to me that there are only two years in my life that I did not experience Christmas in this house, in this living room. I grew up in this house. (My parents moved here after their wedding in 1926.) I went away for school, but came home for Christmas. Got married but we came home for Christmas. And now we have lived here for almost 30 years. It is hard to understand how fortunate I/we have been.

1 flood

I remember getting up early on Christmas morning, not being able to wait for chore time or breakfast to see the Christmas living room. I used to help my mother set up the tree but the final touches, and the presents and candy, were left for the evening of Dec 24 after I went to bed. My dad loved the early morning Christmas excitement and wonder. He shared the sparkle of the lights. After a while dad would go out for the morning chores and mom would get breakfast started and also help with the milking. And I would be busy with the gifts of Christmas. For many years, Christmas meant that the toy train was set up. I don't know how mom put up with it but sometimes the train was set up in the living room, somehow around the table with the gifts and candy. I could play with all the new toys, but they had to stay in the Christmas room till after Epiphany/Heilige Drei Koenige. - -Ray Hamm



To book your wedding or other events, call 204 324 4115 or send a note to Neubergthalheritagefoundation@gmail.com

Finances

Over \$700,000.00 was paid out in 2018. Grants, donations and a \$335,000 mortgage made this possible. Some pledges are in place, but approximately 85,000, plus interest over 10 years is still needed to finish paying for the work done to date.

Especially in these first years with these buildings, financial support is needed for debt reduction, for operating costs and for further capital development (food/Kitchen). **Any and all donations are welcome and gratefully received.** (Cheques would be written to Neubergthal Heritage Foundation and mailed to NHF Box 2429, Altona MB R0G 0B0 - - thank you)

Grant applications have been submitted for hiring a summer student and other summer projects, including moving, rebuilding the community outdoor rink.

Next Steps

Programming

Darp Days is planned for September 14 this year. Mark the day on your calendars. The weekly "Thursday in the Village" events will happen again this summer. There will be occasional music and other events. **Plautdietsch** (low German) events is a program track. Events to **improve understanding and relationships** with Roseau River First Nation and other indigenous peoples is another program track. Anishinabe/Ojibway stories are part of the stories of this place, stories of this land. Food and agriculture events will be explored - - more stories of this place.

Capital

3 sunshine

Food and kitchen facilities are next on the list for further development.

An endowment fund will be started. This provides another way to receive and designate financial support. Interest from this fund will begin to provide annual income.



Linie (& Ted) Friesen and family made a donation and an ongoing pledge to Neubergthal Heritage Foundation. Linie's father, Peter Krahn, was a teacher in the Bergthal School when it was in Altbergthal. Linie recalls that she and her sisters slept in a bedroom upstairs. The classroom was not heated on winter weekends and their bedroom was cold on those days.

Left to right in the picture: Eric Friesen, Joe Braun(NHF), Linie Friesen, Ray Hamm(NHF) and Tim Friesen. Missing from the picture is Paul Friesen.

