

News from Home

Tri-County Tourism Alliance Newsletter – Oct 2024

Pay it Forward to Future Generations!

The Tri-County Alliance has been working diligently since 2010 to help preserve our shared German-Russian heritage and promote tourism in McIntosh, Logan and Emmons counties. At a recent strategic planning meeting, Alliance members considered the many projects and accomplishments to help identify next steps to continue the organization's mission. Notable accomplishments in past years have included supporting the Welk Homestead, publishing multiple books, video productions, photograph exhibits and most recently a Talking Trail mobile phone application that guides visitors to historic sites in the region. But there is still more work to be done, and we hope you will lend a hand. Here a few ways you can help the cause.



Spread the word. If you are reading this email, you are already in the loop. Ask your friends or family if they would like to be included in our communications. Send us their email address and we will make sure they are part of our group.



Familiarize yourself with Talking Trail to share historic sites with family members and visitors. (go to www.talkingtrail.com/germanrussiancountry to learn more.

A road trip to visit county museums, cemeteries, churches and notable businesses with German-Russian products and foods is a terrific way to spend the day. You will be amazed on the number of shared memories that will bind your group together. Remember to support local businesses on the route while you travel the area to make sure the German-Russian communities remain economically viable.



Volunteer at a local or nearby school to talk about your own early education experiences. Our book entitled "Ready for School" provides stories about attending the one-room rural school. Even if you did not attend one yourself, you may have a grandparent or parent who did attend rural school, and you can hopefully share any stories you recall from them. Better yet, bring them with you. Engage the students by having them compare their experience with the early rural education structure. Perhaps even an essay contest with a small prize/recognition can spur their creativity. Contact 4th grade teachers or 8th grade social studies teachers.



Support the Alliance financially through a monetary gift or purchasing one or more of our popular books. Visit www.germanrussiancountry.org to learn more.



Attend an Alliance meeting. Meetings are held monthly (except December) by Zoom or at rotating restaurants or other sites in tri-county communities. Meet potential new friends, connect with old friends and gain a greater appreciation for your German-Russian heritage. If you are receiving this newsletter, you should already be receiving notices.

Tri-County Heritage Tourism

WOULD YOU LIKE TO INCREASE TOURISM VISITS TO YOUR COMMUNITY?

Focusing your community's development and marketing efforts on Germans from Russia heritage has the potential to generate economic benefit thus creating a more vibrant, successful community by:

- Bringing new businesses, jobs and higher property values.
- Improving the quality of life as residents take advantage of the services and attractions tourism adds.
- Creating new opportunities for tourists to gain an understanding of an unfamiliar place, people or time.
- Diversifying community economies and increase prosperity.
- Attracting new visitors and potential new residents.
- Fostering community pride in ancestral heritage and multi-generational traditions.

If you think your community might be able to expand its Germans from Russia tourism, the Alliance would welcome an opportunity to collaborate and work with communities in the tri-county area to explore how our resources and contacts might help us achieve a shared vision of preserving and promoting the rich heritage of Germans from Russia. The Alliance is offering to facilitate a planning session with representatives from your business community, city government, tourism, and economic development organizations to produce a workable plan. We will work with your group to identify existing or future German-Russian tourism efforts/activities, review Alliance resources and help you begin to develop a community-specific action plan to attract more visitors to your local businesses and events.

If you would like to explore possibilities send an email to: germanrussiacountry@outlook.com and request an Alliance representative to contact you.



Mark Your Calendars

- **October 9th – Sauerkraut Day in Wishek.** The Alliance will be available to purchase books and learn more about our resources at the vendor show.
- **October 11th 10am** – Alliance monthly meeting at the Hazelton Coffee Shop.
- **November 13th - “The Art of Making Do”** exhibit of Germans from Russia folk art opens at North Dakota Heritage Center. The exhibit is a collaboration between the North Dakota State Historical Society and Tri-County Tourism Alliance. Exhibit will be open for viewing until September 30, 2025. Watch your email and Facebook posts for more information.



FOR UPDATES AND OTHER INFORMATION VISIT WWW.GERMANRUSSIANCOUNTRY.ORG

You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, and TripAdvisor