



GERMANS FROM RUSSIA
GRHC
HERITAGE COLLECTION
NDSU Libraries

**Finding aid to the Germans
from Russia Heritage
Society, Red River Chapter,
Scrapbook Collection**

2010.38

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OVERVIEW

Donor: Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Red River Chapter

Accession Date: 11 June 2010

Collection Number: 082

Quantity: 3.75 linear feet

Summary: Nineteen (19) scrapbooks containing correspondence, club materials, photographs, ephemera, and periodical clippings relating to the Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Red River Chapter, 1978-2000.

Languages: English

Links:

- [Germans from Russia Heritage Society](#)

Access Restrictions: Open to the public, available upon request. Copyrights to items in this collection remain with original copyright holders or are in the public domain.

Citation: Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Red River Chapter, Scrapbook Collection, 082, Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND.

HISTORY

The Germans from Russia Historical Society was founded on January 9, 1971, at Bismarck, North Dakota, under the name North Dakota Historical Society of Germans from Russia (NDHSGR). For some time, meetings were held in the Grand Pacific Hotel, with Judge Ray Friederich serving as the society's first president. On July 14, 1979, the membership, by popular vote, changed the name to Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS). Finally on January 21, 1982 the Society moved into its first permanent home on East Central Avenue, Bismarck.

Over the years the Society's activities and physical resources grew until in 1999 the members voted to initiate a fund drive to construct a new and much larger building. The move to the new headquarters took place on December 13, 2000.

The Society's Bismarck headquarters, ideally located in the heartland of our ethnic group on the continental northern plains, has become the leading research center for the Black Sea Germans from Russia in the United States and Canada. Their ancestors migrated in great numbers to Dakota Territory beginning in 1873. By the end of the century, they became a predominant ethnic group of this area. Although descendants of these immigrant forefathers have scattered far and wide, the ancestral ties always go back to the pioneer settlement heartland - the place of new World roots. (Information courtesy of grhs.org.)

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Red River Chapter, Scrapbooks Collection** is comprised of nineteen scrapbooks of materials related to the Germans from Russia Heritage Society (GRHS), particularly the Red River Chapter, which is based in Fargo, North Dakota. This collection was initially donated to the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies, Fargo, in four accessions by Arnold Marzolf (donations in 1992, 1993), and Marvin Van Zante (donations in 1999, 2001), on behalf of the GRHS. The materials were transferred to the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection (GRHC), 11 June 2010.

The scrapbooks within this collection contain a wide variety of materials concerning the GRHS and the history and activities of that organization and provide a broadly-scoped record of its affairs and interests. Also present within the scrapbooks is information regarding the overall history and culture of Russian Germans. The resources are dated from 1978- 2000, with all years present. The types of physical materials within the scrapbooks include: organizational materials, such as membership rosters, programs, meeting notices, and correspondence; periodical clippings; brochures; photographs; and ephemera, such as name badges, menus, and event programs. According to an interview with Victor Knell, former president and news editor of the Red River Chapter (conducted 27 June 2012 by Zach Jendro, GRHC Assistant), these scrapbooks were made and maintained by Leo Johs, also a long-time member of the GRHS.

Also present are five folders of materials that were loosely contained within some of the scrapbooks. Folder 1/2 features correspondence and club materials that were found within 2010.38.13, dating from 1993- 1994. The Scrapbook Copies, Folder 1/3, features photocopies that were made of the pages of the 1991- 1992 scrapbook, 2010.38.11. The Periodicals folder contains a copy of the 14 August 1995 edition of the *Midweek Eagle*, which is published in West Fargo, North Dakota. This periodical was found in the 1993- 1994 scrapbook, 2010.38.13. The Photographs folder, 1/5, contains eleven 3" x 5" color prints of one image: a group snapshot featuring men and women posed on a dance floor, circa 1985. These were found within the 1987 scrapbook, 2010.38.07. The Artifacts folder, 1/6, contains three white satin ribbons, two labeled "Officer", and one labeled "Host." These were found loose from their original unknown scrapbook and are undated.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Finding aid, detailed inventory, and initial inventory
1/2	Club materials, 1993- 1994
1/3	Scrapbook copies
1/4	Periodicals
1/5	Photographs
1/6	Artifacts

SCRAPBOOKS SERIES

Box 1

1. **2010.38.01.** 1978- 1980 scrapbook. Green vinyl cover with gold trim. Yellow tie-string binding. Label pasted on cover: “NDHSGR Preserving our Heritage... enriching our lives...” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1978- 1980.
2. **2010.38.02.** 1981- 1982 scrapbook. Red vinyl cover with “Scrapbook” in gold letters enclosed by scallop design. Labels pasted on cover: “A Dream Coming True for the Germans from Russia Heritage Society” and “We are preserving our heritage and enriching our lives... We are looking both ways: behind, where we came from, ahead, where we are going. We honor our parents and build for our children.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1981- 1982.
3. **2010.38.03.** 1982 scrapbook. Brown vinyl with ‘ScrapBook’ in gold on cover. Postcard with cartoon of young girl and boy, inscribed “*Speshul*”, attached to cover. Inside is inscribed “Red River Chapter-Fargo”, “1982”, and “Victor Knell, Club News Editor.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1982.
4. **2010.38.04.** 1983 scrapbook. Turquoise-colored vinyl cover with a brochure for the International Peace Gardens pasted on front. “1983” inscribed on title page. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1983.

5. **2010.38.05.** 1984 scrapbook. Brown vinyl with gold trim and gold tie-string binding. Brochure for “Marlborough Inn, Calgary, Alberta, Canada” pasted on cover. Inscribed inside “1984. G.R.H.S. Convention in Calgary.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1984.
6. **2010.38.06.** 1985- 1986 scrapbook. Gray vinyl cover with gold trim. Two small prints of farm land pasted to cover. “Red River Chapter; Fargo, N Dak” on cover in gold sticker letters. Inscribed “1985” on first page. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1985- 1986.
7. **2010.38.07.** 1987 scrapbook. Dark red vinyl cover with gold trim. Contains photographs, ephemera, and periodical clippings related to a visit by the Hartenholm Farmers and Firefighters Band to Fargo. Photographs and ephemera related to 1987 Oktoberfest.
8. **2010.38.08.** 1988- 1989 scrapbook. Dark green vinyl cover with gold trim and “Scrap Book” in gold letters. Labels pasted to cover read “Germans from Russia Heritage Society” and “Red River Chapter” (with colored drawing of sun, water, and stalks of wheat). Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1988- 1989.
9. **2010.38.09.** 1989- 1990 scrapbook. Blue vinyl cover. “Red River Chapter GRHS Scrap Book” in metallic sticker letters on cover. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1989- 1990.
10. **2010.38.10.** 1990- 1991 scrapbook. Blue cover “Scrapbook by Deluxe Craft.” Label taped on: “Red River Chapter; Germans from Russia Heritage Society.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1990- 1991.
11. **2010.38.11.** 1991- 1992 scrapbook. Brown with gold trimmed vinyl cover. Contains archival folder with photocopies of pages. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1991- 1992.

Box 2

1. **2010.38.12.** 1992- 1993 scrapbook. Gray vinyl binder with gold trim. Labels on cover “Germans from Russia Heritage Society; Red River Chapter; Welcome to Fargo-Moorhead!; Showplace in the Heartland.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1992- 1993.
2. **2010.38.13.** 1993- 1994 scrapbook. Maroon vinyl binder with “Red River Chapter; GRHS” in metallic sticker letters. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1994- 1995.

3. **2010.38.14.** 1994- 1995 scrapbook. White vinyl binder with “Germans from Russia Heritage Society Red River Chapter” label. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1994- 1995.
4. **2010.38.15.** 1995- 1996 scrapbook. White vinyl binder with paper inset cover “Germans from Russia Heritage Society Red River Chapter” with sun, water, and stalks of wheat. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1995- 1996.

Box 3

1. **2010.38.16.** 1996- 1997 scrapbook. White vinyl binder with “Germans from Russia Heritage Society Red River Chapter” label. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1996- 1997. Binder is partitioned by tabbed dividers.
2. **2010.38.17.** 1997- 1998 scrapbook. Vinyl binder with yellow paper inset cover with “Germans from Russia Heritage Society; Red River Chapter.” “1997- 1998 Scrap Book” on spine. Photograph of Statue of Liberty Monument in Fargo, ND pasted on cover. Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1997- 1998.
3. **2010.38.18.** 1998- 1999 scrapbook. White vinyl binder. Paper inset cover with multiple images of Fargo and label “Red River Chapter; Germans from Russia Heritage Society.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1998- 1999.
4. **2010.38.19.** 1999- 2000 scrapbook. White vinyl binder. Paper inset cover with cartoon map of Fargo/Moorhead and label: “Red River Chapter; Germans from Russia Heritage Society; Scrap Book 1999/2000.” Contains photographs, ephemera, periodical clippings, c. 1999- 2000.