In September, GRHC received valuable historical books donated from Ashley, ND. Leona (Woeszner) Neu, local historian, donated German language hymnals and Bibles she gathered from the former rural Lutheran churches in McIntosh County, ND. Robert Wishek donated books from his great-grandparents, John and Nina Farley Wishek. We invite you to contact us if you have historical books in the German language for the GRHC’s Special Collections: Music Archives & Theology Archives.

Matthias Hofmann, majoring in English and American Studies at the university in Chemnitz, Germany, has an internship at the GRHC until Nov. 2, 2007. Matthias shared his thoughts on his time here in Fargo and North Dakota State University:

“Working with the GRHC is becoming a very valuable experience for me. My first contact to the life and history of Germans from Russia was established through the interpretation work at the Amerika Haus information tables at the Russlanddeutschen Bundestreffen, Wiesbaden, Germany on May 26, 2007. I curiously listened to the various abstracts of the life stories of the German Russians who were looking for lost family members who might have immigrated to North America.”

Hofmann also said,”Since I started working at the GRHC in September 2007, I have been increasingly involved with the history, culture, and heritage of the Germans from Russia, which before I was unaware of. Working with the GRHC is an unbelievable adventure for me as I have the opportunity to translate very interesting memoirs of German Russians. I also get to know so many fantastic people who introduce me to doing pleasurable things such as water-tubing, going to Bison football games, and just having a great time.”

We are excited to announce the newest feature to our website. Visit our new blog at www.ndsu.edu/grhc/blog. The blog is our way of staying in touch with our faithful website visitors. Make sure you check back often and leave comments, as we will frequently update.

For further information about the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, Dakota Memories Oral History Project, Journey to the Homeland Tour and donations to the GRHC such as family histories, contact Michael M. Miller, NDSU Library, PO Box 5599, Fargo, ND 58105-5599 (Tel: 701-231-9416; Email: Michael.Miller@ndsu.edu; GRHC website: www.ndsu.edu/grhc).

October 2007 column for North Dakota and South Dakota newspapers.