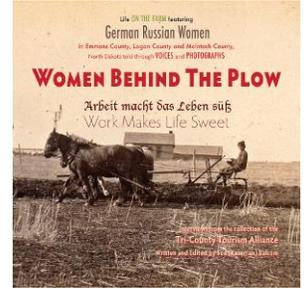
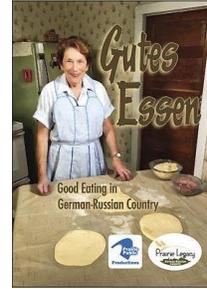
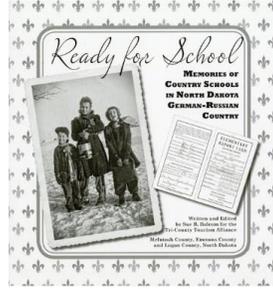


# News from Home

Tri-County Tourism Alliance Newsletter – September 2021

## A PROFESSIONAL LEGACY – Sue Kaseman Balcom



Sue Kaseman Balcom is a well-known historian and author who has been instrumental in researching, documenting and promoting the traditions of the Germans from Russia who settled on the North Dakota plains. Her curiosity and dedication are noteworthy. During a recent interview with Sue some key insights emerged that will hopefully encourage all of us to collect, preserve and share the many traditions within our individual families for the benefit of future generations. Sue recalled that much of her work began as she carried out the cooking and canning methods learned from her mother. She wondered, how could all of this be done without electricity and refrigeration? Sharing her skills in German-Russian food preparation with community groups and schools coupled with her background in journalism proved to be a natural transition to writing projects familiar to all of us. When Sue was invited to a Tri-County Tourism Alliance meeting the membership agreed wholeheartedly to support her work preserving German-Russian history. Sue's first project with the Alliance was the acclaimed book, *Ewiger Saatz*, now in its second printing. She obtained grant funding, conducted interviews, authored, designed, created the graphics and edited the very popular book containing recipes, history and photographs. Since publication of that first book, Sue created the content for other Alliance books and video projects including, *Gutes Essen and Ready for School*. She was also a creative force and major contributor to the *Women Behind the Plow* project including development and curator of the accompanying photo exhibit depicting the significant role of German-Russian women in agriculture. Sue's legacy, that extends beyond the tri-county area, began with learned family traditions and just simple curiosity. What are you curious about? What traditions would you like to make sure your family remembers will carry forward? Your family may not appreciate their heritage now as they raise a family or navigate a career, but they too will one day think back about how and why they cook what they do, work as they do and perhaps even think as they do.

### What will be your legacy?

Start building and creating your own personal legacy by making sure you have copies of all the Alliance books in your home. Here are some additional suggestions to begin creating your own personal legacy of German-Russian traditions.

1. Digitize your recipe box. Scan or take a photograph then save in a recipe folder on your computer. Avoid the temptation to retype your recipes to avoid losing handwriting samples and stains from use that are part of your family history.
2. Go a step further and add a short note to some or all of your recipes explaining the origin, popular events and traditions during which you prepared the recipe. Was it someone's particular favorite? Perhaps you could include your review, preparation tips and an actual measurement amount for general statements like, "add warm water."
3. Build a living recipe box. Your family would certainly treasure being able to watch you prepare a recipe and hear you speak?
4. Create an audio or video journal. A series of video messages during which you share your memories will be priceless to your family one day. You can also connect/link related digital photographs to audio recordings for even greater impact.

## Organize. Promote. Engage.

Visit our new website at [www.germanrussiancountry.org](http://www.germanrussiancountry.org). Learn more about our mission and projects, become a member, join us for our next meeting and check out the complete calendar of events.



## *bis nächstes Jahr (until next year)*

As fall approaches and the holiday season is soon to follow, our tourism season in German-Russian Country begins to wind down for 2021. Until you hear from us next year, these two recipes from **Ewiger Saatz** are wonderful fall and holiday favorites to prepare and share with your family.

### **Pumpkin Blachenta**

*Recipe submitted by Barbra (Reis) Wald*

#### **Dough:**

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

4 cups flour  
3/4 cup shortening  
1 teaspoon salt  
4 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 - 3/4 cup ice water

#### **Filling:**

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

4 cups ground pumpkin  
1 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon pepper  
Cinnamon to taste

**DIRECTIONS:** Mix flour, baking powder, salt and shortening until crumble, like making a pie crust. Add enough ice water to make a medium stiff dough. Cut dough into 12 equal parts. On a lightly floured surface, roll each part of dough out into a thin circle, then spread some filling on 1/2 of each circle, bring other half over on top of filled section; seal edges with fork. Place on cookie sheet. Prick each "blachent" with a fork and bake at 350.

### **Pfefferneuse**

*Recipe submitted by Joyce Giedt and Jane Giedt Kirby from their mother Mrs. William C. (LaVerne) Giedt from Ashley.*

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

1 cup honey  
1 cup coffee  
1cup lard  
3 eggs (beaten)  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 cup molasses  
1 1/2 teaspoon anise  
3 teaspoon soda  
1 teaspoon nutmeg  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1 teaspoon allspice  
1/2 teaspoon black pepper  
Enough flour to make a soft dough.

**DIRECTIONS:** Chill overnight. I use 7 cups flour



## *Mark Your Calendar*

- **October 2** - Linton Senior Citizen's Oktoberfest
- **October 3** - Sts. Peter & Paul's Catholic Church Fall Festival in Strasburg
- **October 8** – 10 AM Tri-County Tourism Alliance ZOOM meeting – Watch for the email with link to join.
- **October 9** - Chili Cook-Off in Linton
- **October 13** – 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Sauerkraut Day in Wishek (visit wishek-nd.com to confirm)
- **October 17** – 5 pm Facebook Watch Party with Women Behind the Plow
- **November 6** - Deer Widow's Luncheon in Braddock.
- **November 26** - Light up the Night in Linton.
- **December 5** - Lions Club Toy Project Breakfast in Linton.
- **December 11** - NBA Santa Day in Napoleon.
- **December 12** - Napoleon Lions Turkey Bingo.

FOR UPDATES AND OTHER INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.GERMANRUSSIANCOUNTRY.ORG](http://WWW.GERMANRUSSIANCOUNTRY.ORG)

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