

BOTTKE NEWSLETTER

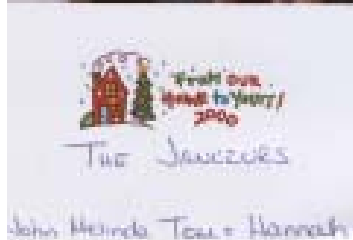
HOLIDAY EDITION 2001 ◊ 2329 Chestnut Way ◊ Bedford Tx. 76022 ◊ marvcarole@yahoo.com



Tragedy strikes: We keep Denise and Lee Gazda in our thoughts and prayers this Holiday Season. Kasandra Lee Gazda Born Oct. 30, 1996. Died Aug. 8, 2001 from injuries sustained in automobile accident. Four year old Kasandra's mother, Denise, continues long term recovery process in Conifer after several weeks of being in critical condition in Denver Colorado. (See insert)



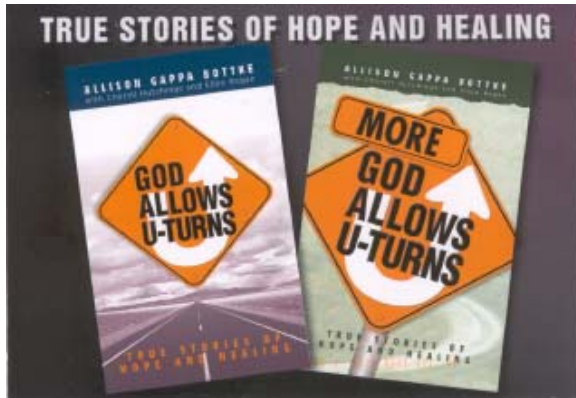
Newlyweds: May 2001; Jason and Michelle (Becker) Bottke exchanged vows at St. Patricks Catholic Church Sheildsville, Mn.



Tommy & Hannalore Janczur at Christmastime 2000.



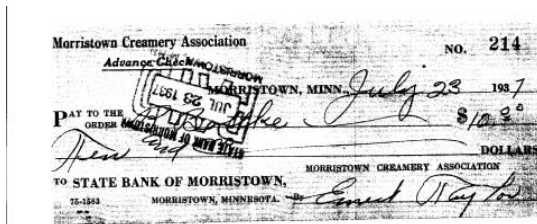
Greetings from May Bottke, December 2000



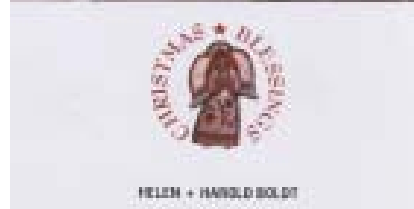
Now available at bookstores everywhere from Allison Gappa Bottke. Check out the website: www.godallowsuturns.com



If machinery was designated as male or female, then Kermit Bottke probably farmed with all “Male” farm machinery; except for one tractor like the one pictured above. That one was a female tractor because he called her “Minnie.” (Minneapolis-Moline)



A \$10 advance or draw against milk check made out to Richard Bottke in July of 1937. The original of this check was given to Kevin Bottke. It was found during renovating of the Morristown Creamery in 2001. In her own handwriting the check was endorsed and cashed by Mrs. Richard Bottke. Richard’s name was not used for cashing it.



Holiday Greetings from Harold and Helen (Bottke) Boldt, Faribault, Mn.



Jim Morton with his recent bear that he got when hunting. (Nancy in background)

RECREATED NEWS STORY.

FROM

The High Timber Times Conifer, Colo.

Thursday, August 16, 2001

GIRL DIES FROM INJURIES IN WRECK 4-year-old's mother remains critical

By Pamela Lawson, reporter

CONIFER – A 4-year-old conifer girl died last week as a result of injuries suffered in a head-on collision in the area on Aug. 5.

The Girl, Cassandra Gazda, was transported to Children's Hospital, where she clung to life for several days. She died late Wednesday.

"Kassandra loved animals and anything in nature," said her grandmother, Gladys Longpre of Pottsboro, Texas. "She had a guinea pig, a snake and two dogs."

The child's mother and driver of the car, 43-year-old Denise Gazda of Conifer, received multiple injuries in the crash. She was airlifted to Swedish Medical Center, where she remains in critical condition. "We pray for a speedy recovery for Denise," said Longpre.

Gazda was northbound on U.S. 285 just north of Shaffers Crossing when her 1995 Oldsmobile minivan crossed into southbound traffic and hit a Jeep Cherokee. After the initial crash, a Honda Accord slammed into the minivan. One other accident victim was injured and three were unharmed or treated and released at metro area hospitals.

The three-car accident closed U.S. 285 for nearly two hours. It was one of three accidents near Conifer that day that required nine helicopters to transport accident victims to medical facilities.

Kassandra was the only child of Denise and husband, Lee Gazda. Two half-sisters Kristin Strutton, 18, and Tiffany Strutton, 20 of Aurora, survive her.

Kassandra's funeral is Saturday, Aug. 18 at 10 a.m. at Evergreen Memorial Park.

Instead of flowers, the family requests that any donations go to the Cassandra Lee Gazda memorial fund at Community First bank in Conifer, 15657 Conifer Road.

Additional Information:

From Cassandra's Obituary:
She was born to Lee and Denise Gazda on October 30, 1996, in Englewood, Colorado. Her interests were in swimming, animals, and nature.

From the Bottke Newsletter Writer.

Perhaps mixed emotions permeated the air on Saturday August 18 at the Evergreen Memorial park. There was the sadness of the funeral itself and knowing that this little girl who loved nature and animals and who was so much a part of all that was not here with us at this beautiful natural setting this day. Yet there was a feeling of goodness in knowing Lee had acted in the best interests of Denise and of Cassandra in choosing this very unique and special arrangement for today.

It was an honor and a privilege to have been asked to provide some special songs on the portable keyboard while many friends and relatives gathered with God in his world of nature to say final goodbyes to Cassandra. It was also meaningful to have lead the attendees in the singing of "Jesus Loves Me,"

There was sadness in realizing Denise could not be here this day. Her sister Diane was especially saddened to be here and wondered in bewilderment if Denise would be okay. Denise was not conscious yet and it was especially hard on Lee and on Don and Gladys too.

The messages from the members of the Clergy were very touching. The same Clergy member who had performed the marriage ceremony for Lee and Denise also gave the message for Cassandra that day.

Later, everyone was invited to Lee and Denise's home in the mountains. Tiffany and Kristin, Cassandra's half sisters, were especially saddened to think of how this precious young girl would no longer be a part of their lives. It was difficult to pass through the child's bedroom and see the many photos of her enjoying life to its fullest.

But, as Lee shared, God Gave them Cassandra and they enjoyed her so much, but now God chose to call her back home.

We keep Denise and Lee Gazda in our thoughts and prayers now, throughout the Holiday Season, and in the many months ahead as they walk through the struggles of physical recoveries for Denise and also as they both recover from the mental anguish this has brought to them.

Marv Bottke

JASON & MICHELLE'S WEDDING DAY

May 2001. A gathering of what seemed like thousands, (but maybe it was only hundreds) of traditional Irish Catholics and staunch German Lutherans descended upon Bohemiaville (Lonsdale) that Saturday night to celebrate the wedding of Jason Bottke and Michelle Becker. After a special wedding ceremony in Shieldsville, they all got together, under one rooftop, at the American Legion in Lonsdale Minnesota. They ate! They danced! They celebrated the evening away while they enjoyed good company with one another. Bin Laden wouldn't have believed it: All these cultures coming together under the same rooftop in the spirit of love and support for this great newlywed couple. The Priest at St. Patrick's Irish Parish in Shieldsville suggested that's what it's all about; Friends and relatives who share this day and will be there to share the high spots. Also to lift them up when they are in the valley. It was about a 3 day wedding celebration. There was the wedding before the wedding – then the Wedding, and then the wedding celebration after the wedding which finished up at Kelly Samuel's home Sunday noon, the day after the wedding. Congratulations Jason and Michelle.



Max Adam, Willi and Herman Ballenthin

Older generation members of Bottke families remember Max Adam very well. Max enjoyed many Christmas Holidays with Bottkes. His mother, Lena, was a sister to Wilhemine (Nemitz) Bottke. Max came to America from Woblanse which was in Eastern Germany in the region of Pommern or Pomerania. (Today the village is called Obleze'. It is in Poland) In 1938, When Max returned to Germany with his mother so she could die and be buried there, he ended up in the Western side of Germany, in Ahlen which is in the region of Westfalen or Westfalia. There he lived until his passing away in 1981.

Recovering from knee surgery:

Charles Evans is doing well. It's been a long siege of extensive complications following knee replacement surgery well over a year ago. He claims he's even been on the dance floor. After many weeks that grew into months Charles is grateful to be able to get around once again. His family and friends are all as happy as he is, we're sure.

N. Morristown, Minn. History:

The farmstead birthplace of Elsie (Schmidtke) Bottke celebrated its 100th anniversary this year. The final estate of her brother Emil had been in the family 100 years.

More History: (Excerpts from a letter to the editor, Faribault Daily News, written by Floyd "Ole" Stark.)

"In 1869 Mr. C. William wrote that Morristown is another important village on the Cannon River. It has two stores, one steam saw mill, one water saw and grist mill, two taverns, one cabinet shop with water power, two blacksmith shops, one schoolhouse, one house of public worship and a post

office with about 100 residents. Sarah Morris, wife of the late Jonathon Morris filed for claim and laid out original lots for what is now Morristown. Jonathon Morris died in 1855 and rests in the Riverside Cemetery. Morristown was not incorporated until 1874."

Kenneyville, an important community near the Bottke home place:

Kenneyville was a prosperous religious community, consisting of mostly German immigrants. It was located right near the Bottke homestead of Wilhelm and Wilhelmina, and also near the Concordia cemetery, just a bit west. Kenneyville was known for Kenney's Sorghum Factory. It was established in 1860. It consisted of two wooden rollers and powered by a yoke of oxen. The mill operated each season until 1862. It had the capacity of 32 gallons a day. A book could be written on this community. It prospered to the point that it became the best managed mill in the state. It prospered with the new steel mill and steam power to the capacity of 700 gallons a day and 600 pounds of sugar. Mr. Seth Kenney, owner, became president of the Minnesota Amber Cane Association. Kenneyville also raised and shipped cranberries and apples statewide.

North Morristown was organized by a group of pioneer Lutherans. This group organized a congregation in 1867 and held worship services in the home of John Weber. They built the first church in 1881 at cost of \$600. (Wilhelm and Wilhelmine Bottke had not yet arrived at N. Morristown). This also was the beginning of the Concordia cemetery. Originally the cemetery was known as the Weber Cemetery, named after John Weber as he was the first burial. There are 735 buried in this well kept cemetery. Wilhelm and Wilhelmine Bottke and several descendents are buried there, including Goedel family members. Trinity Lutheran Church still has services and is also proud of its school. The school was organized in 1892. As of this date, it has about 35 students attending from kindergarten through the 8th grade. It has 3 full time teachers. Students stand tall and proud as they start each day with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. This is followed with a prayer of devotion. If you travel to N. Morristown, check out the cemetery. While you're there, you may just have a desire to take a photo or two and meet Pastor Wallace of the North Morristown Lutheran Church. You may also want to check the history room of the Faribault Library. Be prepared to spend a week in Faribault, then go back for more. North Morristown is by far, much more than a 4th of July celebration.

4th of July was a great time in Wisconsin

Hi from Nancy and Jim Morton, Trade Lake, Wisconsin.

July 4th celebration was a family affair at Trade Lake. The day started with a bang-up boat parade of festively decorated pontoons and other boats. Following that we had a two-team family fishing contest won by the "red" team as the "blue" team got ***skunked***.

Jim took honors for the "most authentic dressed farmer" in the Pickle Lake tractor parade. Entry requirements were 1959 tractors or older and they were required to perform so he demonstrated the front end loader function by giving a goose a ride. Nancy "suffered withdrawal" as her name was not drawn for the Pickle Lake Queen but she is determined to get it next year. Nine tractors entered the parade and next year it will be bigger than that, we're sure.

All seven grandchildren spent "cousin time" together as Blaine and his family came to Wisc. from Steamboat Springs, Col. Jim also got his bear this year.

An Editorial, from Perry Bottke,

Date: Saturday, September 22, 2001 **This was sent by e-mail from his home: 2744 Cumberland Ave. Ann Arbor Michigan 48104. (His parents in Bedford Tx were impressed.)**

Prior to the comments he makes concerning the world crisis, he described the status of Shonda's recovery from recent surgery to her sinuses. He spoke of her discomfort following the surgery and he also described in depth the kinds of trouble she'd been having prior to surgery due to a very abnormally developed pair of sphenoid sinuses.

Since then, Shonda has had a great recovery and is back being busy working, and taking Edward to his many activities.

Letter from Perry Bottke (Attack on America)

Hi.

We watched the Salute to Heroes thing on TV tonight. It's pretty sad, this whole thing. We've talked to a few people back in New York. What a mess. It's ironic that Shonda's surgical doctor is from the Middle East. Syria, I think. There is a very large Middle Eastern community in this part of the country. I feel very sorry for those people. Even I find myself wondering, when I see someone who is obviously Middle Eastern, what they are thinking, where their allegiance lies, who's side they are on. That is bad. I've patronized their stores and gas stations for years. We have several pilots where I work that are Middle Easterners. One is a former Iraqi fighter pilot, he flew in the war with Iran. The FBI (or someone claiming to be from the FBI) has called the office asking questions about one of the others. This is not a good thing, feeling as though you must look over your shoulder at your own neighbor, wondering. I hate it. I hate that I have thoughts like that.

I hope we don't end up in a war. It kind of looks like we will. I don't think anyone will win. This is the kind of thing that will drag on for many years, I think. Perhaps the rest of our lives. One side attacking, the other counterattacking. It could go on and on. We don't know who or where all these people are that are against us. And they are against us for no real reason, other than some sort of vague 'religious' reason. I don't think they even know why they hate us. It's the same type of thing that the Germans had against the Jews in the 30's. Some crackpot told them that the Jews were standing in the way of them achieving their destiny of world domination. That the Jews were to blame for all their financial woes. And the deterioration of their society.

This is what the fundamentalist Muslims are saying about us, and westerners in general. They have found a source that they can point to and say that if they eliminate these people, they can achieve what God has promised them. It's too bad people believe that stuff. The difference is these people are not isolated into a small area of the world. They do not have a single country that we can fight back at. Many of them live among us. It's more like fighting a disease, like cancer. Cancer that has gone untreated for too long. It's going to be a very costly cure. More than we can afford, I'm afraid.

I hope I'm wrong. There is always the chance that this is a very small group that will fall apart when their leader is taken away. Religions based on the murder of other people cannot pervade the human spirit indefinitely. Deep down, I think most people will give up on such an idea when the instigator is no longer there. This is what we must hope. If their leadership is brought down, the strength of their convictions will diminish.

Convictions can only remain strong if they are true and righteous, I think. Evil must be continuously motivated. Good is its own motivator. Without leadership, evil will not flourish. Goodness happens on its own. All we can do is hope for the best.

It appears as though we should settle in for a very dark period in history. Let's just hope it's over soon. I don't want to see another war. I don't think war has ever settled anything. Just postponed conflicts until they escalate into other wars. Think about it. This war started 4 or 5 thousand years ago, and it's still going on.

It seems that no one wants to listen to anything other than 'Let's go in and bomb and kill them all...' As much as someone needs to be punished, I don't think the whole world should be punished. Yet we can't stand still and let another thing like this happen. There is no easy answer. Rushing off to war is just a quick fix to make everyone feel good right away. I think everyone will be real tired of war in a couple years. Real tired. I don't think we're ready for it, or able to withstand the effects it will have. I hope it doesn't happen.

What's new with you? Anything exciting going on there? Is the mood as somber there? Everyone's trying their best to pretend nothing is out of the ordinary, yet everyone is still talking about the situation. It's kind of weird. It's been pretty dead at work. Ominously quiet. We should be busier. But we're not. Customers keep inquiring about charters, but they are not buying them. They just keep talking about how much they need to charter, and then nothing happens. Strange. I'd better get some sleep. Talk to you soon.

Perry

Remember the fun of the Follies?

Reprint from Faribault Daily news. FARIBAULT

By writer Mary Dietrich, former Garfield School fan in Faribault.

After reading the headline Garfield Rises Again, it reminded me that for those of us that lived in the Garfield School district, it was a time of contentment. Our children were getting a good education from qualified teachers, and most of the children were within walking distance of the school.

At our PTA meetings we parents became acquainted with each other and the teachers. Often we became close friends. We were always searching for ways to make money for the school, and different fund-raising projects were introduced. One year it was agreed that we would have a carnival. Two mothers volunteered to direct a musical as a side show for the carnival. All students who wished to perform were included. It would be called The Garfield Follies and would be held in May Bottke's kindergarten room.

Immediately, the two mothers minds went into action, and ideas came pouring out. It was decided to use the names of famous personalities and groups and their recordings. The children could learn to lip sync the words and memorize them, and the band with real instruments could pretend to be playing the music on the record. (Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

The opening number was the first-grade girls introduced as the June Taylor Dancers. They were dressed as pirates in three-corner hats, and each carried a dagger, some had a patch over one eye. The band with real instruments pretended to play for the dancers. They pretended several times to play the big-band sounds with popular records. The four Lennon Sisters did a great job lip-syncing their famous song.

Liberace was a fourth-grade boy who had taken piano lessons for several years. He had memorized a very classical number and played it with flare. At the end he stood up and took a deep bow as he smiled one of the famous Liberace smiles. The applause was so great that he came back and took another bow.

Another fourth-grade boy that had taken guitar lessons imitated Elvis Presley. He actually played and sang along with the record I Just Want to Be Your Teddy Bear. The directors had asked some of the fifth- and sixth-grade girls to squeal once in a while, which they did; and with each squeal, Elvis put more action in his hips. It is probably a wonderful memory he'll never forget.

One sixth-grade girl did a tap dance, and her cousin in fourth grade did a ballet number. There were several girls dressed as ushers. I forgot how much was charged for admission, but it was considered the most successful part of the carnival. Some parents attended more than one performance.

The kindergarten room was pretty small and crowded, so it was decided that next year the fathers would build a stage in the basement and hire Commodore Kappie from WCCO to be the M.C. Pleased with themselves, the mothers volunteered to direct another musical next year. They wanted it to be a bigger extravaganza entitled Around the World, and they painted different backgrounds for each act. The first background was the Eiffel Tower, where the first-grade girls with ruffled skirts and ruffled bonnets were can-can dancers. One background was a beach scene with banana trees and palm trees and gentle waves. Fifth-grade girls with andannas on their heads, large earrings and tight skirts with a slit up the side did the cha-cha in Trinidad; while the boy who had imitated Elvis played the bongo drums with ruffles all down the sleeves of his red shirt. The girls practiced using a lot of hip action after the two directors demonstrated what they wanted. Because of this one mother dreamed they were kicked out of the PTA.

Another background was on the deck of a ship called S.S. Garfield. Boys dressed in jeans, white T-shirts and navy caps did a cute dance. There was also a Swiss band with the players dressed in Swiss costumes. They really did play their instruments this time. The background was snow-covered Alps and a Swiss chalet. There were Scandinavian dancers, both boys and girls that danced in pairs against a background of high mountains.

The colorful costumes were made by their mothers. All of the mothers really cooperated to help make the Follies the success it was. Commodore Kappie had the two directors come on stage after the last act and presented each with a bouquet of red roses from, the PTA. Having been one of those directors, I know how much the Garfield Follies meant to me, and how much fun it was. I hope reading this article will bring back some happy memories of Garfield School, especially for those who performed in the follies. END

FROM Kelly Samuels:

Hi Marv

My heart goes out to all that have lost loved ones, and to all people as it has impacted each and every one of us in one way or another.

I do have some information for you to share in the newsletter

Lyndie Paquette graduated from Faribault High School in June of 2001 and is attending studies at The University of Wisconsin-Madison. Lyndie has Chosen to Major in Elementary Education with a Minor in Journalism

Adam Paquette is into his 2nd year of studies at St Cloud State University. Adam has chosen to major in Business Communications.

Erin Storch also graduated in June, and of course Elly is continuing her education.

Amy and I both are on the same Team with Creative Memories. That is a wonderful idea to do an Album of Germany for Michael! That could possibly be his "once in a lifetime" trip to that part of the world, and it is important to have ties forever through photo memories! Maybe someday I will get a chance to see it!

Also In College:

Michael McDonough of Faribault and his Cousin Robbie Castro are in College now. They were the ones we wrote about in a past newsletter who had a number of common denominators in their lives. Born one day apart. Same shoe size. Same weight. Same interests in sports. Same height. They both were graduated from High School this past May. Michael Graduated from Bethlehem Academy in Faribault, Minnesota ... and Robbie Graduated from his High School in Forest Park, Illinois. Now they're both in College. Michael is going to Mankato State and Robbie goes to Morton College in Illinois.

SPECIAL BASKETBALL HONOR

While Michael McDonough and Robbie Castro both like sports and both like Basketball, Robbie has taken basketball to a high level. He made the Morton College Basketball team, as a freshman. This is a remarkable achievement. To make this team, a person has to be extremely good. Robbie did it. He'll be playing with some of the best. They'll be going to Florida to play other colleges. Great going Robbie. Elly Storch enrolled in Med School and is in process of completing complex exams.

Erin Storch, in Junior College in Inver Grove, Mn. Emmy Jean works for Hyatt Hotels.

We apologize if we missed other names here. But, wherever you might be away in College, we welcome your e-mails and letters and will be happy to share them in future newsletters.

Edward Bottke of Ann Arbor Michigan, (Perry & Shonda Bottke) had his To-shin-do advancement recently, and got his new belt (yellow/black). He's very excited about it. (To Shin Do is the Japanese form of self defense training and self discipline)

Other Bottke's From Ships Passenger lists:

1. August Bottke Arrived 1892 age 23
2. Bernhard Bottke Berlin, Germany Arrived 1908 age 26
3. Bertha Bottke Berlin, Germany arrived 1905 age 20
4. Erick K.G. Bottke Karlberg, Pommern arrived 1923 age 26

BOTTKE'S in N. Dakota:

May Bottke, While visiting her daughter Gretchen and family in Watford City, N.Dakota last year, came across other Bottke's. Jeanette Bottke, age 90 was in the nursing home in Watford City. May was asked to play at that nursing home while she was in N. Dakota. There is also another Bill Bottke who lives in the country outside of Watford City. In the local Watford City Newspaper there is a column titled "Down Memory Lane." May sent a clipping which referred to 40 years ago ... November 17, 1960: It reads: "A daughter was born Nov. 12th to Mr. And Mrs. William Bottke of Alexander." Interesting information, and thanks, May.

BOTTKE'S in Iowa Too:

Dr. David, Harold, and Karl A. Bottke, and their Sister Gloria (Bottke) Beer, from Iowa Falls, Hampton, & Cedar Falls, are all very interested in the Minnesota Bottke branch. If any reunion of any kind is planned in Faribault, they certainly would appreciate being invited. We thank them for their interest and perhaps 2002 will provide a better chance for a get together in Faribault. Meantime, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the Bottke's in Iowa.

A bit of Cemetery History; St. Mark's Cemetery, Iowa Falls, Iowa. Hardin Township. Records are kept in the Church offices at 415 Main St., Iowa Falls, Ia. 50126.

The records from the church office were edited by Lorraine Bitters, then typed into the following record by Madeline Mason, 1999. This cemetery was purchased with donations from members of the Catholic Church in 1895. It was incorporated the 25 May 1895. B.G. Cummings was the first secretary.

Bottke gravestones marked in cemetery in Iowa Falls, Iowa;

Bottke, Arlene infant 1926- 3-25-1926
Bottke, Carl W. 39y 1901-
Bottke, Lena 80y
Bottke, Wm. Newton, Lucille 1892-
9-7-1974
Bottke, Wm., Mrs. 69y 1891- 3-16-1960

Then there are Several Bottke's in Saginaw Michigan.:

There's even another Marvin Bottke in the Saginaw area.

Overseas Bottke's.

Les Bottke from his home in Texas chatted on line with another Les Bottke from near Hamburg Germany. A later attachment photo to e-mail suggested that the Les Bottke near Hamburg resembled Alan Bottke in Faribault, Minnesota.

A recent letter from the Bottke's in Torgelow Germany sends greetings and best wishes to all Bottke's and Bottke descendants in America from Erich and Lydia Bottke and their families.

OVERSEAS BOTTKE'S CONTINUED

Heinz and Waltraud Bottke remain in good health and enjoy life to its fullest. They now live in their own apartment in a new home that was built by their son Ingo in a suburb of Eisleben. We visited them this past Summer with Grandson Michael. They also were given a sample of Jim Morton's Wisconsin style home made Maple Syrup. The weather in Germany doesn't provide the opportunity for making Maple Syrup. They appreciated the gift very much. They smacked their lips when referring to "Ahornbaum" Syrup. Later, when asked, "So how do you feel now after 10 years of being a part of West Germany, which is better the old way or the new way?" Their reply: "The new way is much better."

Heinz and Waltraud have traveled a great deal and have appreciated much freedom since the wall.

Heinz & Waltraud Bottke also extend greetings to the Goedtels, Alvin & Dorothy, and to all the Bottke's in America. Someday, Ingo would like to come to America, but these are busy days for him. Mrs. Ingo Bottke now operates a travel business from their new Austrian style home which he designed himself from an idea he'd gotten while skiing in Austria. Ingo has a large insurance business which he also operates from a home office.

The very First 5th Generation Bottke in America Descendent from Wilhelm goes "Over the Hill."

October 23, 2001, Kathe (Bottke) Willems celebrated her 50th. (Over the hill Kathe). She was honored with a guest from Minnesota, her sister Amy Storch, who made a special trip to Tampa so they could celebrate her 50th together. They toured the area and enjoyed the beautiful fall weather in Florida.

How 'bout a Bottle of Beer Bub?

The average beer drinker is greeted by an almost overwhelming array of choices these days. But, it was the Germans who brought beer making to America. Last year, the U.S. had 1,400 breweries producing 180 million barrels of beer - both figures are tops in the world.

Rich Wagner (No relative of the composer Richard Wagner) is assistant brewer for Manayunk Brewing co. in Philadelphia and a great historian on beer making. The former Fleck's Brewing Company in Faribault, Minnesota is a part of American Beer Brewing history. It was one of many small breweries that no longer exist. (Beer, Continued on page 6)

(Beer, continued from Page 5)

The Bottke's were a part of that history too, as Bill Bottke was promotions director for the Ernest Fleckenstein Brewing Company in Faribault for several years during the late fifties and early 60's. The Fleckensteins too, were brewers that immigrated from Germany. Flecks boasted of its beer being aged in sand rock caves and in wood vats. Those caves were located in the east side bluffs of Faribault alongside the straight river. The temperature inside those caves was perfect for the natural aging process of Fleck's beer. Then too, Fleck's also was proud of its beer because it was made from pure artesian well water. It was made from the finest hops and malt obtainable to make a beer that was uniquely Fleck's. Fleck's Brewery sponsored many an evening 6 p.m. newstime broadcasts on KDHL radio in Faribault. "It's Fleck's Newstime" ... were the opening words.

Since that Fleck's Newstime era, many varieties have been added to the beers of today. If you happen to travel to Germany and want to select a beer, or if you happen to be selecting a brew from and import display, here is a translation of German Beer words.

First of all, keep in mind, there are only two broad categories of beer; ales **or lagers**. **The following is related to Lagers:**

Bock: A strong Lager beer. The word Bock is German for male goat. This is why the male goat adorns so many Bock Beers. (Ziegen Bock = Billy Goat). Many Bocks use highly roasted malts, but there are also pale varieties that go by names like Helles Bock and Maibock.

Doppelbock: Doppelbock might not be twice as strong as bock beer, but it is heavier and more potent. Drink it with caution. They too come in dark and pale varieties, but they are stronger.

Dortmunder: Also known as Export, this originated in the German city of Dortmund. It's midway between a pilsner and a dunkel regarding bitterness and color, but it's a little stronger.

Dunkel: Literally, "dark." A brown-colored lager with coffeeish and/or chocolatey overtones from the use of roasted malts.

Eisbock: A strong lager which the brewer allows to freeze in part. He then sloughs off the ice, thus concentrating the alcohol. The bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms considers this a form of distillation and strictly limits its practice. However, the Niagara Falls Brewing Co. of Canada makes a good example of this style.

Helles: Literally, "bright." This is an everyday drinking beer in Bavaria, gold in color, with a malt-accented flavor.

Maerzen: A Fall beer. Drank often at Octoberfests. They have different origins, but have a toasty malt flavor and a restrained hoppiness. They are copper-colored.

Pilsner or Pils: A golden-colored lager with a dry, hop-accented flavor. It gets its name after the town of Pilsen or Plzen in the Czech Republic. It was first

brewed in 1842. Most American mainstream beers are distant cousins of the Pilsner style.

Rauchbier: Literally "smoke beer." Specialty of the city of Bamberg in northern Bavaria. It's made with malted barley that's been dried over a fire fueled by beechwood. Goes great with sausage and barbecue.

Schwarzbier: "Black Beer". It's darker than a Dunkel, but has a drier, roastier flavor. The famous German Poet, Goethe, is supposed to have enjoyed this type of beer.

FROM HAMBURG, GERMANY

In 1978 we hosted an exchange student from Hamburg. Her name was Susanne. She called us mom and dad, and still does to this day. We visit back and forth and write regularly. She is now married, and lives with her husband Joachim Ramm, in Hamburg. They have a son, Tobias, now 2 years old. During her stay with us in 1978, She spoke about how they celebrate Christmas in Germany and how they have St. Nicholas Day on the 6th of December. So, we asked if she would write us about it for our newsletter. Here is what she writes:

"As I was a child Nikolaus was very important to me. The reason is very simple: (Nikolaus= German spelling of Nicholas)

Nikolaus is during Advent on the 6th of December and when Nikolaus day had come it was not too long until Christmas any longer. On the evening before Nikolaus children are supposed to polish their boots and put one of them in front of the door (entrance or their room) before they go to bed.

While they are sleeping St. Nikolaus comes and puts candy, nuts and fruit into the boot and in the morning when they wake up the boot is full of good stuff. We did not have to polish our boots though since Mama had bought a little red plastic boot for everyone of us that we put in front of our door. Some parents do not put sweets in the boot but a little present. So that depends.

I needed to look up the historical background, though. The custom is very old and dates back into the 4th century.

Nikolaus day honors the Holy Nikolaus of Myra who probably was a bishop but there are no reliable historical documents.

Very important in the legend seems to be the abbot of St. Nikolaus in the monastery of Sion next to Myra. If I remember it right from last year's newspaper the abbot took care of the poor especially their children, fed them and gave them what they needed. In the 6th century the Greek church and later also the Russian church and then all of Europe started to honor St. Nikolaus.

Since then he is the patron of prisoners, bakers, pharmacists, sales people, jurists and most important of the children. The customs of the 6th of December date back into the 13th century when school children started the bishops play and one of them took over the role of the bishop."

Special Note: Color Cover Page of this newsletter is printed on "Hammermill" Brand Paper. Hammermill goes back to the Hometown area of Wilhelm and Wilhemine Bottke, "Hammermuehle", Germany.

Holiday Greetings to everyone