



VOLUME 50 ISSUE 3

Historical Footnotes

CONCORDIA HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

FALL 2005



Nurses' Residence at Potomac & Texas Streets, St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis Lutheran Hospital and the School of Nursing Alumni

by Dr. Marilyn Rubin, Nursing Alumni

This year, 2005, marks a century of caring by the Alumni of the Lutheran School of Nursing, St. Louis, Missouri. It is an alumni association that had its beginnings at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Louise Krauss Ament was the inspiration for these early graduates.

In 1898 Louise Krauss Ament graduated from Rebecca Hospital School of Nursing in St. Louis. Her first nursing position was at Rebecca Hospital, where she gained a reputation as a skilled and competent surgical nurse. One of the medical doctors transferred his practice to Lutheran Hospital and requested Louise Krauss Ament as his assistant in surgery. She became Superintendent at Lutheran Hospital, which then had 30 beds for patients. Only five months after her own graduation she started the Lutheran School of Nursing with six student nurses,

who graduated in 1899. Louise Krauss Ament was well known throughout St. Louis.

When David Francis, Administrator of the World's Fair, needed to hire medical and nursing staffs for the Emergency Hospital on the Fair grounds, he appointed Louise Krauss Ament to the position of Superintendent of Nursing.

The Fair Hospital was located with the model modern village in Forest Park, with the Hospital just east of the present Missouri Historical Society buildings. It was a state-of-the-art hospital and nurses attending the Fair included a tour of this building as a priority. While they were there, Louise Krauss Ament had the opportunity to talk with them about the benefits of organizing professional nursing. The Third District, Missouri Nurses Association was one of the organizations that came of this; the other was the Lutheran

(Continued from page one)

Nurses Alumni.

In early December 1905 alumnae gathered in the hospital to have their first meeting. By-laws for the association were soon written and the fledgling organization became a reality. There were nine charter members. Nurses from this group became leaders in the district and state nursing associations, and were instrumental in the passage of the first Nursing Practice Act in Missouri, which required all professional nurses to be Registered Nurses.

The first students lived on one of the upper floors of the hospital. Over the years, residential and dormitory space was expanded over and over again as the enrollment of the school grew. Finally a large dormitory and a faculty office building were placed on Jefferson Avenue across the street from Concordia Publishing House.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, located in the adjacent block and home church for Louise Krauss Ament, became the church home for students during their years in school. Many capping ceremonies and graduations took place in this church.

In 1917, with the beginning of World War I, our alumnae were among the first to volunteer for service in the Red Cross and the United States Army. There were fifty graduates who served their country in the United States, England and France. In 1918, when the war was over, all alumnae returned and took positions in various places. Some became Superintendents of Nursing at other hospitals.

With increasing enrollments, more faculty were needed in the school. In 1928 Frieda M. Brenner accepted the position of Superintendent of Nurses and spent many years working with Louise Krauss Ament.

Frieda M. Brenner was a kind mentor, a knowledgeable teacher and a well-respected administrator. During her tenure at Lutheran over eight hundred students graduated. Before long alumnae seeking positions in all parts of the United States only had to say that they were from Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing in St. Louis and they were hired on the spot. The reputation of the school and the educational program developed by Frieda M. Brenner put the school on the map. She also provided the leadership for national accreditation of the school.

Alumnae entered foreign mission fields either by commissioning or by accompanying their pastor husbands on missionary calls. The first missionary nurse was a graduate of the first class in 1900 who served in India. Many others would come after her to serve in

China, Japan, Nigeria, Venezuela, Korea, New Guinea, Lebanon, Thailand and Kyrgyzstan.

With the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Lutheran alumnae again answered the call to serve. There were fifty-three volunteers for the United States Army and Air Force, and sixteen in the United States Navy. Many served overseas in both the European and Pacific Theaters. Others worked in Army hospitals in the States where they received the wounded from the front lines. One of the alumnae spent 1001 days as a POW under the Japanese in the Philippines. This selfless service of our alumnae has continued through the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars.

There were several organizations that were strongly supported by alumnae. The Lutheran Business Women operated three community centers for underprivileged children. Alumnae were members of the Lutheran Medical Missions Association and assisted with recruitment of nurse missionaries, sometimes going to the mission field themselves. Many have been members of the Bach Society of St. Louis and have sung in their annual concerts. In recent years the Alumni initiated a School Nursing program for elementary students in the Lutheran schools in St. Louis County. This program is administered through the LCMS Missouri District.

Alumni have provided care around the world. They have worked in acute care settings, public health, schools, industry, clinics, the parish and many more places. One member was honored with membership in the Academy of Nursing and another with Faculty Fellow Awards to do research at NASA. Truly, God has blessed over and over again the pioneering work of Louise Krauss Ament and Frieda M. Brenner, the faculties and the graduates of this alumni organization.



Louise Krauss Ament



Frieda M. Brenner



Rose Reiper was a prisoner of war in Bataan during World War II

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League

by Mrs. Gladys Grovender, LWML Archivist-Historian Emeritus

On December 16, 1929, Pastors Paul Lindemann and E. G. Nachtsheim wrote to Mrs. J. F. Deckman of Minneapolis, Minnesota:

First of all, we wish to state that a movement of this kind should be completely independent of any other organization now in existence and should not have the position of being a mere auxiliary of some other body . . . The women [should] have complete jurisdiction over their own funds.

In January of 1930, a preliminary organization named the Lutheran Women's League was formed. The 1941 Synodical Convention approved the formation of a women's organization. A green light at last!

World War II began on December 7, 1941. In spite of the war, seven months later LWML's organizational meeting was held July 7-8, 1942, at St. Stephen's Church in Chicago, Illinois. In December of 1942 Sadie Fulk Roehrs, first President of the LWML Indiana District, sent out a postcard-sized message to all members of her district:

Today we are on the verge of the unknown. There lies before us a NEW YEAR and a NEW VENTURE. On January 1 (1943) the Lutheran Women's Missionary League begins to function officially. What new experiences shall be ours, what new problems shall arise?



Sadie Fulk Roehrs

The problems facing the LWML archivists-historians have often been unexpected. It became apparent to us early on in our work as archivists that the transition from the use of German to English in our Synod brought about problems. LWML members who never knew German did not correctly spell the names of officers, committee chairs and committee members. Traditionally, all married women in 1941 were addressed and referred to as someone's wife. Some

gentlemen were sometimes widowers and would remarry. A second wife could also be known by her husband's name and be very active in LWML.

Invoices the officers examined during the organizing process were used for clues. Women signed their own names with various spellings over the years. Here was proof of proper spellings. Letters were sent to them or their surviving family members to verify the spelling of their names. One woman in Iowa wrote back to the effect that at last we had the record straight. She was delighted. All misspellings are noted in our files.

In 1989 we were determined to identify each officer, committee chair and committee member by her first name. Letters were sent to all districts and we received great response. District newsletters within our collection were also reviewed and much information was gleaned from them.

Organizing the Lutheran Women's Missionary League collection has been a tremendous opportunity to review documents of almost overwhelming blessings to LWML. Many items were submitted to us when members became aware of their importance. Our first priority was to organize the entire collection in chronological order. Documents date back to twelve years before the Lutheran Women's Missionary League's organizational meeting.

History has always been a passion of mine, therefore it is a great pleasure to work with the LWML archives.

Gladys Grovender



Documents quoted are filed in the LWML archival collection.

† Memorials

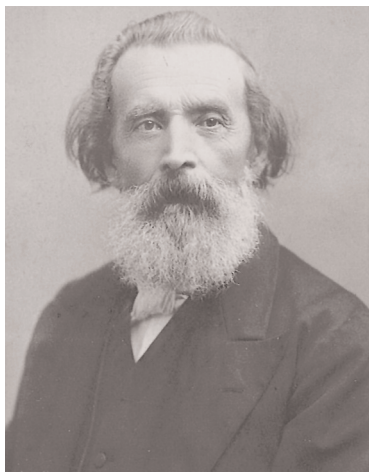
Gertrude Helen Troyke by the Dietz Family
 Leo Burrell by Mrs. Natalie Wehrman
 Everett Pederast by Rev. Robert I. Miskimen
 Harold Heldt by Mrs. Natalie Wehrman
 Dorothy Barthels by Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Rodenfeld
 Col. Fran Domingo by Rev. George Bruening
 Ruth A. Meyer by Kenneth and Ramona Gornet
 Leonard Potthoff, Jr. by Kenneth and Ramona Gornet

Early Missions to the Native Americans

by Christopher Lieske, CHI Research Assistant

Did you know that The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has been doing missionary work among the Native Americans since before there was an LCMS? It seems hard to believe, but it is true. One of the main groups that was involved in the founding of the LCMS, the settlement at Frankenmuth, Michigan, was founded as an outreach ministry to Native Americans.

The Frankenmuth colony was founded under the influence of one of the main figures in the founding of the Missouri Synod, Wilhelm Loehe. Loehe had trained men and sent them to serve the Germans scattered in the vast American continent. He also knew that the American Indians needed to hear the saving gospel message. It was suggested to him that the way to go about evangelizing the Native Americans was to start a congregation of Lutherans, including the Lutherans already in Michigan. This congregation would be established in the vicinity of Native American villages. These congregations would be able to witness to the Native Americans by their way of life, and in their interactions could share the gospel of Jesus Christ.



August Friedrich Craemer

A group of young men and women in Germany volunteered to go to Michigan to be the foundation of this new congregation. Their number included seven men and five women. There were four engaged couples, one married couple and two single men. Also chosen to be their leader and pastor was August Friedrich Craemer. Craemer had many experiences before he became a pastor. He studied theology at Erlangen from 1830-1832. He was part of the Frankfurt Revolution of 1833. This landed him in jail until 1839. He studied Greek, Old and Middle High German, French, English, and theology. He began to truly understand the gospel in his time at

Munich studying theology. Craemer served as a tutor for the children of English nobility and taught German at Oxford University.

When he heard of Loehe's efforts to send preachers to North America, he volunteered his service. Craemer was ordained just before the group left on April 4, 1845. Before leaving, the colonists were trained for months on the work they'd be doing among the Native Americans. The colonists left aboard the *Carolina* to sail to America. German marriage laws prevented the four engaged couples from being married, but as soon as they were on the boat Craemer took care of that problem and joined them in holy matrimony. While on the trip, Craemer met and began to fall in love with a woman named Dorothea Benthien. He observed her treating smallpox patients and showing genuine care for them. Craemer learned that she had a five-year-old son, but had never been married. He also could see that she was a good Christian woman. He married Dorothea in New York days after they reached the New World.

Upon their arrival in New York, the colonists took many modes of transportation west towards Michigan. Trains, boats and good old fashioned walking were involved in transporting the group from New York to Detroit and, eventually, their final destination: an area fifteen miles from Saginaw, Michigan, on the Cass River. The colonists named their colony Frankenmuth, which means Courage of the Franconians.

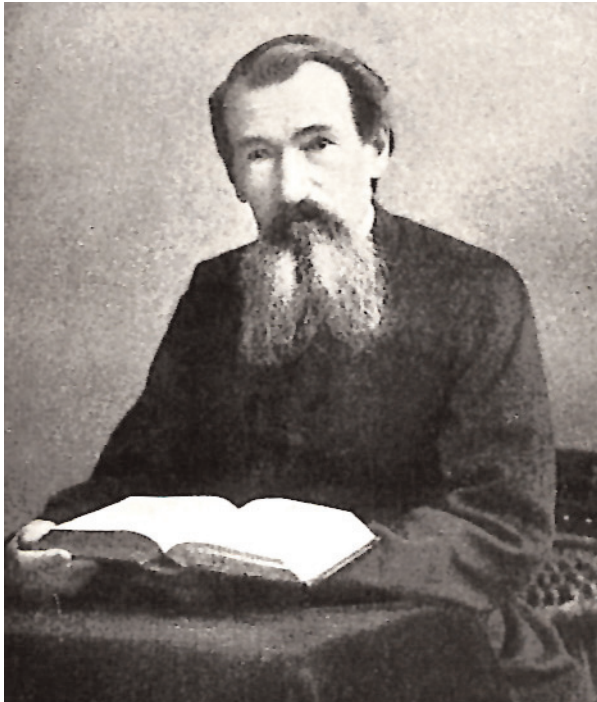
The colonists built a communal hut and another hut for the pastor, so that they'd have a place to live. Then, while they went to work on building log cabin homes, Rev. Craemer went to work among the Native Americans. With the help of an interpreter named Jim Gruett, Craemer visited the Native American families that lived along local rivers. He soon opened a school for Native American children. The mission bore its first fruits on Christmas Day, 1846, when Craemer baptized three Native American children: a boy and two girls.

By the following year the Frankenmuth colony had grown much larger. One hundred new colonists had come to Frankenmuth from Germany. Another missionary, Edward Baierlein, joined the mission in 1847. He translated the catechism into the Chippewa language to advance the work among the Native Americans.

There were more than 80 log cabins and farmhouses by 1851. The Frankenmuth colony's success led to the founding of other colonies in the area, such as Frankentrost, Frankenlust and Frankenhilf.

Early Missions in India

by Robert Sundquist, CHI Research Assistant



Edward R. Baierlein

In the shadow of the Himalayas lies the fertile countryside of India. In the mid-nineteenth century it was a country drenched in monsoon rains and drowning in a sea of idolatry. But from the flood plains of the Madras Valley a beautiful rose would bloom, a rose that would enrapture its onlookers with beauty and stand impervious against those who would seek to uproot it. This rose, this light amidst the darkness and storms of unbelief, is the gospel of Christ. The sowers of this gospel rose are the men and women who served as tireless missionaries in India.

One such missionary was Edward R. Baierlein. Born in Posen, Poland, in 1819 to a strict Roman Catholic family, Baierlein would become one of the most renowned Lutheran missionaries to pioneer work in southern India. At the age of twenty-one he left Roman Catholicism and converted to Lutheranism. His zeal for the gospel pushed him toward missions. After a period of instruction at the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Germany he was scheduled to leave for India, but due to a sudden illness he was delayed from going on his trip. It was at this time that a request was made by Pastor August Friederich Craemer for an assistant to work among the Chippewa in Michigan. Baierlein, being delayed in Germany from going to India, was permitted to take the call to be a missionary to the American Indians in Frankenmuth. Baierlein labored approximately six years among the Indians at Bethany. When he first came to the Native Americans at Bethany, he found spiritual and material

poverty, suspicion and even hostility. But after five years of tireless devotion he left behind an organized congregation of fifty-eight souls with both a church and a school.

In 1853 there was a tremendous increase in mission stations in India and several more opportunities for other posts in South India. The Leipzig Mission Society found itself in desperate need of additional men. It was for this reason that it decided to call Baierlein from his work among the Chippewa and send him to India. He accepted this call, realizing the extreme shortage of men in India.

Of the many ups and downs that filled the thirty-three years of Baierlein's work in India his greatest success came in Chellambram, a small town about thirty miles south of Cuddalore. This one mission station (out of four that he started) was founded in 1863 when a number of non-believers approached him for baptism. From that small group and meager invitation grew a great number of converts: a total of five hundred were reported. By November of 1884 the congregation, which was now self-sustaining, grew to 893 souls in sixty-nine villages. His fame was unprecedented and his devotion was unshakable. This pioneer held forth the light of the gospel to a sin-darkened land, and brought the treasure of Christ to a people impoverished in sin. To truly grasp the evangelical style of his work, perhaps this quote taken from Schoenfuhs' biography of Baierlein illustrates it best.

On returning to an inn after witnessing to a village elder, Baierlein met the old man's son who was accompanied by a learned friend. In the ensuing religious discussion the son demanded that the missionary visibly reveal his God. Baierlein replied that "blind men cannot see Him. Only faith can grasp Him."

During his last years in India Baierlein was constantly ill. After suffering a heart attack in the beginning of 1886, his doctor ordered him to return to Germany. The congregation in India gathered and, in the light of many torches, said farewell. They presented him with gifts and an expensive cane, asking Baierlein that wherever he might travel, he should not forget them. He never did. In 1901 he died in Germany with his family, supporting missions until the very end. Who can ever say enough about such men! They are the ones who go before us, to prepare the field for the harvest. They tirelessly work to plant that precious seed of the gospel rose, so that future generations many enjoy its beauty and splendor. But no one enjoys the scent of this blossom more than the Father, who receives these laborers into their eternal furlough with him. There they hear him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord." (Matthew 25:23)

Early Missions in China

by Matthew Schilling, CHI Research Assistant

On May 1, 1912, a not-for-profit society was organized within the LCMS circles known as the "Evangelical Lutheran Mission for China." This mission society was not originally supported by the Missouri Synod, but it needed missionaries. It was not until the 1917 Missouri Synod convention that the Evangelical Lutheran Mission for China was adopted by the synod and put under the direction of the Foreign Mission Board. Between 1917 and the end of 1919, six men were sent to China to assist those who were already there. Who were these avant garde, who scouted out and began the work of proclaiming Christ to an ancient people in a foreign tongue? Two men, Reverend Edward L. Arndt and Reverend Erhardt A. H. Riedel, were the first Missouri Synod clergy to accept the call of doing mission work in China.

The arrival in China of Reverend Edward L. Arndt and his family on March 3, 1913, marked the beginning of this work. After spending the summer in Shekow, Arndt decided to do mission work in the city of Hankow, commonly referred to as the "Chicago of China." Arndt worked by himself until January 18, 1916, when a recent graduate from the seminary in Springfield, Illinois, the Reverend Erhardt A. H. Riedel, arrived with his wife. Rev. Arndt was not in China upon Rev. Riedel's arrival, but was on his way back to China from the United States, where he had to tend to his father's funeral and estate.

Even before their arrival, both men strove to learn the Chinese language. Rev. Arndt learned the Chinese language at a rapid pace with the help of a Japanese man on board the ship to China. After arrival Rev. Arndt was instructed by a Chinese teacher who had been recommended by the Reverend C. W. Kastler, an independent German missionary. On August 7, 1913, Rev. Arndt delivered his first Chinese sermon at Shekow. Rev. Riedel wanted to study Chinese with a fellow seminarian, who also was offered a call to China, but this gentleman declined. Rev. Riedel began his intense study the day after arriving in Hankow. Riedel studied with a teacher



Back (L-R): Rev. Arndt, Edward Arndt, Mrs. Arndt, Frieda Oelschlaeger, Agnes Arndt; Front: Lydia Arndt

named Mr. Wang Chung Tang. Rev. Riedel recalled the first few days of study in his unpublished autobiography:

With us [Riedel and his wife] knowing no Chinese and the teacher no English and no teaching method save reading some words and the sentences to the students, the first few days were desperately tough. The teacher took no initiative nor did he have any plan of study. All the student could do was gaze at the intricate, puzzling Chinese characters and try to imitate their sounds.

Both men excelled in Chinese and eventually wrote textbooks for the seminary in Hankow, China. Their efforts, along with those of Reverend Lawrence Meyer, fellow instructor at the seminary in Hankow, produced the translation of works such as the *Book of Concord*, Reinhold Pieper's *Epistle Sermons*, a Chinese hymnbook, and various other articles and literary works. Without Rev. Arndt's and Rev. Riedel's strenuous work of translating theological materials, the Chinese seminary would not have had the resources needed to prepare men to serve as ministers in the Lutheran Church by the first graduation date of February 6, 1926.

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To the Members of Concordia Historical Institute

On May 25th, 2005, board members of the Concordia Historical Institute met with the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in New Orleans. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Institute's proposal for a permanent museum at the synod's headquarters (a.k.a. the International Center or "IC") in Kirkwood, Missouri. This museum would narrate the history of the synod from its founding until the present, using the latest in museum presentation techniques as well as the most significant items from the Institute's collection. The synodical Directors approved the proposal and generously accommodated the future museum's operating expenses.

This is something new for both the synod and the Institute! The synod will finally have a permanent "showcase" for its historic treasures and a place for its members (and other visitors) to experience the great stories of its spiritual fathers and mothers. The

Institute will gain a significant public presence at the Missouri Synod's headquarters, with an opportunity to reach out to thousands of visitors each year. The Institute will also gain much-needed space for archives in its current building, utilizing the latest technology in compact shelving. This new archives area should accommodate the archival space needs of the Institute for the next fifteen to twenty years.

In order to accomplish these tasks, the Institute will be making funding appeals to its members and to the members of Missouri Synod congregations. I ask you personally, as a member of the Institute, to consider making donations for the purpose of the "IC Museum-New Archives Project." I also ask you to ask for financial support for this project from the congregations that you know. You can expect to receive further information in the next year about this fantastic opportunity to work together on behalf of the history of a great church!

From Martin R. Noland
Director



Wyneken Home Almost Goes Up in Smoke



Photos by Brian Tombaugh of the News-Sentinel,
Fort Wayne, Indiana, June 3, 2005

The historic home of Friedrich C. D. Wyneken has a new location in northwest Adams County, Indiana, and a bright future. Its future was almost too bright recently. While the house was being moved, it passed under a high-power electrical line, which caused the electrical current to jump to the house and started a fire on the roof. Volunteer firemen rushed to the scene and saved the house, which has minimal damage.

The Friends of Wyneken Committee, a sub-committee of the Indiana German Heritage Society, hopes to restore the house and turn it into a museum devoted to the work of Wyneken. Wyneken was one of the founders of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and its second president.

For further information, visit the Society's website at: www.ighs.org

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TO OUR FRIENDS OF HISTORY:



FALL 2005 ISSUE

CHI
Auxiliary



News



Mrs. Joyce Sauer



Mrs. Terry Kieschnick and Mrs. Jill Hintze

The topic for the Auxiliary Spring Fling luncheon held in March was the "History of Hats." Everyone was invited to wear their favorite hats and what fun it was! There were big hats, delicate hats, colorful hats, garden hats, hats with feathers, hats with ribbons, and hats with flowers. Joyce Sauer was the speaker and brought along her large collec-

tion of hats from different periods of time. She also brought hat boxes (which are sometimes more valuable than the hats!), hat pins and other antique collectables.

The next auxiliary meeting is October 13th at 1:00 p.m., in the CHI conference room. The topic will be "Seed Planting and Harvest in New Guinea" by Dr. and Mrs. Otto Hintze.

Please note that the articles in this issue give historical background to the special exhibits at the Institute titled "A Century of Caring" which will be on display until September 2006.