

September 4, 2012

Dear Residents:

On August 20<sup>th</sup> the Historical Society sponsored a “welcome” celebration for three gentlemen visiting our community from Germany. Guther Pung, Stefan Muller, and Arno Juchemich, traveled from their native village of Virneburg in Eifel, Germany, to the United States – not just to vacation and see the sites, but also to research and visit areas their ancestors immigrated to, including the towns of Westphalia, Pewamo, and Fowler. A crowd of over 150 people gathered at Droste Park for an evening of socializing, education, and fun. Our German guests provided us with information on relatives that had long ago left their native Germany to settle in America, and more specifically, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois. It was very interesting to hear their stories and embrace their adventure.

Westphalia was the first stop in their travels, and what a stop it was! The food was delicious, especially the brats and hot dogs provided by Ox’s Smoked Meats (grilled to perfection by Clara & Harold Smith). The wonderful German and American songs performed by members of men’s choir were awesome. Dan Pung’s rendition of his song “Westphalia Michigan” was a big hit as always. Guther, Stefan, and Juchemich, were very impressed and appreciative. They stated that they could not imagine a better way to begin their journey and will always have a warm spot in their hearts for Westphalia and its wonderful people.

Thank you to all who came out to join in the celebration. I would especially like to acknowledge the Historical Society for organizing the event, Father Fedewa for his kind words and blessings, Leo Pohl for doing a great job of emceeing, the members of men’s choir for the wonderful German and American songs, and Dan Pung for his unique brand of entertainment. This is just another fine example of what a special and giving community we have here in Westphalia.

The next Historical Society meeting is being held on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the Village Municipal Building. Please feel free to attend.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President  
Village of Westphalia

***SPECIAL NOTE:*** *We have been informed that the USPS will again be conducting a mail piece count from September 17-29. **The count will include only Westphalia rural route mail. The count will not include mail that is picked up or delivered personally to the Westphalia Post Office facility (i.e., village residential mail).***

*For those living outside the village limits that have a Westphalia rural route address, we ask that you send as much mail as possible during the count period. For those that live within the village limits, but have relatives or friends with a Westphalia rural route address, we ask that you consider sending your personal outgoing mail through your relatives or friends during the count period if you feel comfortable doing so. Please remember that for this to benefit the Westphalia Post Office, mail must go through a Westphalia rural route address. Every piece of mail that can be counted helps the cause!*