

Meet a Board Member



Kay Nuss

Lorena J. Herman

The Harley-Davidson raffle that Homefields has every year is quite successful, but success doesn't come without hard work. We'd like to shine the spotlight on some of the "behind-the-scenes" people who make it happen. The four women shown here—Kay Nuss, Lorena Herman, Kathleen Murray, and Louise Rutledge—work at Miller's Smorgas-

bord gift shop, and as you can surmise by the smiling faces, they must be good at what they do. Out of the number of venues where tickets are sold, Miller's consistently comes out on top by an order of magnitude, and we'd like to thank these four for making it happen.



Kathleen S. Murray

Louise M. Rutledge

Fame. Chris was a R.O.T.C. cadet while attending college and, after graduation, Lt. Herr entered the U.S. Army. He served two years active duty, Medical Service Corps on the beaches of Monterey, CA, and additional years on reserve duty.

After the army, Chris worked at the family business, Herr & Co., Inc., selling hardware wholesale. His expertise polished, Chris began a personnel consulting business, sold wholesale flooring for Landis & Co., and directed the Personnel and Production Control Department of Posey Ironworks. In 1980, Chris heard the siren call of his love for writing and bought the Intercourse News, founded by John Forrey.

What started out as a hobby became a full-time passion. Chris tripled the circulation of the Intercourse News to thirty-thousand, 25% of the readership coming from NY, 25% from NJ, 25% from PA, and 10-15% from VA, DE, and MD. The Intercourse News encapsulates Chris' love of family, community, heritage and writing. It speaks of the Amish way of life—a Plain way of living, faith, family ties, and people helping people. These are values the Amish show their "English" neighbors; values Chris enjoys writing about.

It was through Tom Strauss that Chris learned of and embraced a concept now known as Homefields. Chris and Tom, a co-founding parent of Homefields, share a history of working together, both serving on the Market-Committee of the PA Dutch Visitors Bureau and both board members of the Private Industry Council. While with PIC, Chris and Tom launched a program that brought the tourist industry together with inner city youths. Tenth-grade students were enrolled in a

three-year program of summer employment in the tourist industry. After graduating from college, these students were guaranteed employment at R.R. Donnelly & Sons Co., Armstrong World Industries, or New Holland Machine Company.

Tom told Chris about a concept of offering a farm property to adults with mental retardation where agricultural and horticultural skills could be learned. It would be home to a few and an opportunity for many; community helping community similar to the PIC program. There was no such existing opportunity, and Chris wanted to help make it happen.

Homefields has been an established residence for nearly 2 years. Chris envisions 4' x 6' garden plots where families can nourish their child through the therapeutic aspects of an agricultural life. In keeping with the Homefields' founders, possibility is intertwined with family responsibility.

To serve all well, it is Homefields' goal to one day offer three campuses to the community of people who would best be served through an agrarian environment, from people with mental retardation to retirees. For this to happen, Homefields requires facilities and, like his swim team, Chris is taking a lead by chairing the Fund-Raising Committee. To support Homefields and Chris' efforts, you can pick up a candy bar at the McGovern Ave. branch of the Fulton Bank; sign up for Homefields' First Annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament at Overlook; participate in the Inline Skating event in cooperation with the Lancaster Rotary Club, or nab a Harley-Davidson raffle ticket at one of the businesses listed below.

Zoom Into '98

We told you about it in the last newsletter, but now we've got a date for our third Harley-Davidson raffle. The drawing will be on December 13—far enough before Christmas for you to find a bow large enough for the handlebars. The Harley's black, tickets are \$5.00, and if you don't see it before October, look for it at the First Annual Homefields Fall Classic Golf Tournament. Tickets are available through Homefields, Gast Classic Motorcar Exhibit & Cycle Sales (Route 896), Your Place Restaurant (Route 340), Miller's Smorgasbord (Route 30), Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant (Route 340), Wavelengths (downtown Lancaster), and D&L Beauty Shop, Neffsville.



Back On-line

After a brief hiatus (as Reed Strauss, our webmaster, moved from Boston to Alexandria, VA), our web site is up and running again. The site includes everything you might want to know about Homefields from our original mission statement to an electronic version of this newsletter. There's a form you can fill out for the Harley raffle and hotlinks to Best Buddies, Goodwill Industries, and other organizations that work with us. The address is <http://www.wizard.net/~ignoble/homefields.html>