

Washington, MO - September 10, 2011

To my friends of the Sommer-Republik,
on this 5th anniversary of the Utopischen Weinanbaus,

A long time ago, when I was just a child, my great grandfather would talk about his quest, for our family's connection back to Germany. We shared long conversations about how our ancestors had struggled, and we both wanted to know more. He has been gone for a long long time now, but my quest continues. The more I learn, the more I want to know. It is said the further we look back, the further we can see the ahead.

When Peter first wrote me, and told me about the Sommer-Republik, I was amazed. Here too were others, who shared my quest, to understand and to know the story. And thanks to you and Peter, the story has grown much than just my quest, and it grows larger everyday. And while it is larger than all of us, it is because of each of us, and our new friendship. And as more join in the quest, to understand and know the story, it grows as I hope our friendship and understanding grows.

I will always remember fondly my tour of the sites and the sharing of stories, and my visit to Harriersand. I cannot thank each of you enough, for the memories, and the sharing of stories, and such a beautiful visit. I will think of you on September 10th, and toast to you, for continued friendship. And on September 25th, as Peter, Monika, Folker and Rolf join us here, we will recall the past, share, and toast to you! and a long friendship and more sharing!

With warmest of wishes from Missouri,

Dorris

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