

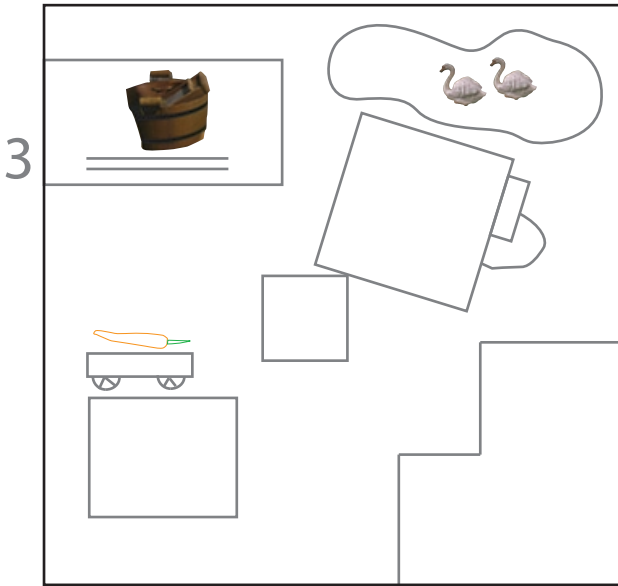
# Christmas Putz

November 29 2005- January 30, 2006

A **Putz** is a Pennsylvania German term for a miniature Christmas scene. It has been said that the **Putz** was brought to the United States by the **Moravians** from Europe. Each Putz is a unique collection of miniature objects obtained from a variety of sources and is often not to scale. Our **Putz** is representative of the early PA German life around the 1900's and most of the objects were made in Europe or handmade in the local region.



# what day of the week is it?



Platform 1

Less than 100 years ago, **Pennsylvania German** women had specific duties within the home. During the time period represented by the **Putz**, women would spend all day cooking, cleaning, ironing, and going to market. Today we have appliances and foods that require minimal preparation and modern farm equipment to help those that work in the fields, however life was not easy during the early 20th Century. Read the lyrics below to a Pennsylvania German folksong that was sung to describe the various duties that women did on each day of the week.

How has life changed?

Do we still do these activities today?

Use the maps below to find the matching scene in the putz to the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday verses of the song.

## Farm Life

Der Moondag iss Weschdaag.  
 Monday is washday.

Der Dinschdaag iss Beckeldaag.  
Tuesday is ironing day.

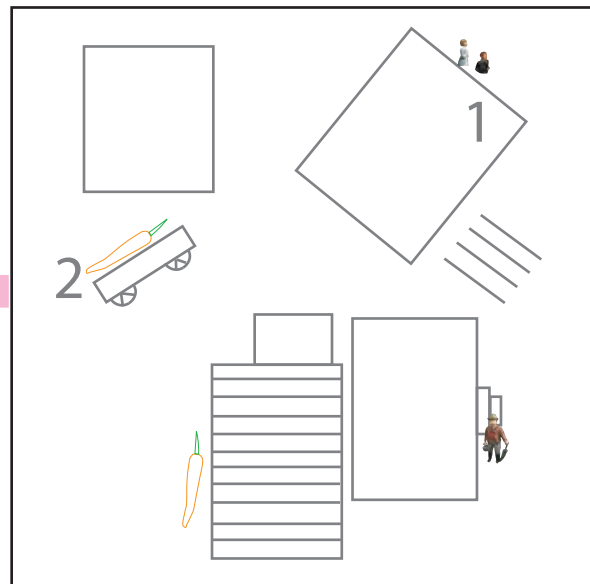
Der Mittwoch iss Flickdaag.  
Wednesday is mending day.

Der Dunnerschdaag iss Marrikdaag.  
 Thursday is market day.

Der Freidaag iss Butzdaag.  
Friday is cleaning day.

Der Samschdaag iss Backdaag.  
Saturday is baking day.

Der Sunndaag iss Karrichdaag.  
 Sunday is church day.



Platform 2



## Additional information

**Moravians**- A Protestant religious group with roots in Bohemia and Moravia in what is now called the Czech Republic. A pietist noble, Count Nicolas von Zinzendorf, in the 18th c provided a safe haven in Herrnhut for the Moravian refugees during a time when many protestant groups were suffering from religious persecution, including the Schwenkfelders. See our Schwenkfelder gallery for information about Zinzendorf and the Schwenkfelders.

**Putz**- A Pennsylvania German tradition of a miniature christmas display. The putz may or may not include a nativity scene.



Rebecca Lawrence, Museum Educator  
Special Thanks to Ron Treichler

Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center  
105 Seminary Street  
Pennsburg PA 18073