



# NEWSLETTER

Indiana German Heritage Society<sup>INC</sup>

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 2

SPRING 1994

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## 10TH IGHS MEETING FEATURES TURNERS

March means it's time for the Annual Meeting of the Indiana German Heritage Society. The theme of this year's meeting focuses on the Turners and German education. The meeting begins on Friday, 18 March, at the German-American Klub, 8600 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis, with the business meeting and the election of officers and board members. A dinner of either schnitzel or catfish (your choice) will follow the meeting. Price for the dinner is \$10.95. German music and dancing will conclude Friday's activities.

Saturday's program will be held at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, and will begin at 9:00 a.m. with registration. Speakers for the program are Arthur Maethner, an educator who has taught German in the U. S. and Germany, speaking about German University student societies, Dolorers J. Hoyt, the head of Technical Services at the IUPUI Library who has done extensive research in Turner history, education and libraries, talking about Turner libraries, Katja Rampelmann, a graduate of the Universität Bochum and current project archivist for the Turner Records Project at IUPUI, on the Turner Historical Survey Project, and Heiko Muehr, a Ph.D. candidate at I. U. Bloomington, on public rituals in Dubois County, Indiana. The research for Herr Muehr's presentation was supported by an Indiana Heritage Research Grant, jointly funded by the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Humanities Council. The program will conclude with the original film of the 1933 German Turnfest in Stuttgart. All meeting attendees are invited to stay over for the Athenaeum

Turner's annual St. Benno Fest. Price for the Saturday program is \$19 for IGHS members (\$25 non-members) and includes lunch at the Athenaeum's Rathskeller Restaurant. Price does not include admission to St. Benno Fest. Both the program and the registration form is printed in this Newsletter. Deadline for registration for all events is Monday, 14 March. For more information, contact Buddy McCart 317-846-8613



1905 Turnfest Parade, Indianapolis



For 100 years the Athenaeum has been a part of the historical streetscape of Indianapolis. This year the building, one of the finest examples of German Renaissance Revival Architecture in the nation, will celebrate its 100th anniversary. It was built by German-speaking immigrants, generally referred to as "Turners." The freedom-loving, politically active German Turners had been in conflict with the reactionary authorities in the old country. In Prussia, for example, the Turner movement was banned from 1818-1842. The "New World" held greater promise for them and they were in the forefront of gymnastics and physical education in this country.

A bit of Turner history should probably start with meaning of the German word "Turner." The American Heritage Dictionary defines a "Turner" as a "tumbler or gymnast; esp. a member of a Turnverein....," "turnen" means to do gymnastics or physical exercises. Back in Germany, the turners were followers of Friedrich Ludwig Jahn (1778-1852), the "father" of gymnastics. They embraced his educational tenets of sound body and mind through physical fitness and all-round development. Thus music--male chorus and orchestra--theatrical groups, debates and lectures, were integral elements of the Turnvereins. Education in citizenship and vocational work was provided as well; and a Savings and Loan Bank served their building needs. The Turnverein was a place for fellowship, fun and growth for the whole family.

After the disastrous defeat of the Prussian army by Napoleon at Jena, a tidal wave of nationalism spread over Central Europe. The universities became hotbeds of liberal thinkers. Secret societies, fraternities, and various patriotic organizations were formed. Physical prowess and fitness were demanded so that the Vaterland could be liberated from foreign domination. Turners were a part of the movement and they contributed valiantly to the defeat of Napoleon.

The Post-Napoleonic period (1815-1848), unfortunately, was one of restoration of the princely powers. The patriotic dreams of German "unity and justice and freedom" could not be realized against the will of autocratic governments and their repressive control of the people. The Revolution of 1848 did not succeed and liberal thinkers were forced into exile.

Three university-trained scholars, Charles Beck, Charles Follen, and Francis Lieber, contemporaries of "Turnvater" Jahn, who had been forced to flee due to their republican sentiments, established a beach-head for gymnastics in the United States. The first Turnverein was established in Cincinnati in

1848 by Friedrich Hecker, a flamboyant leader in the failed 1848 Revolution. During the second half of the 19th century, numerous Turnvereins were founded in many American cities and Turner Halls were built. These clubs not only promoted physical fitness through highly disciplined exercises, they also offered musical and theatrical activities, lectures, language courses and civics, all according to the Greek motto, mens sana in corpore sano. Creativity and skills in arts and crafts received equal attention, from painting and sculpture to good cooking. Today's cultural exhibits of the Vereins and at the Turnfests are unthinkable without this arts and crafts tradition. Turnvereins provided a homeland atmosphere for newcomers. This made the transitional adjustments of becoming American a bit easier. For Turners active social and political participation in their chosen country was the rule rather than the exception. They promoted education, notably physical and vocational education.

Although their language preference remained German, membership was open across the ethnic spectrum. As a national organization the Turners were opposed to slavery. During the Civil War they wholeheartedly supported Abraham Lincoln and the Union in word and deed. When they formed their own regiments during the Civil War, they accepted black and white recruits alike. Having its origin in the male-only tradition, it took a little longer to include women in the sports events.

In the not so distant past, members of the American Turners represented the U. S. state of the art in gymnastics, both nationally and internationally, including the Olympics. More important than stardom, though, has been the Turners' orientation toward Volkssport, aiming at physical fitness for everyone through regular recreational activities.

By Ruth Reichmann

#### 1994 CALENDAR

The 1994 Hoosier German Calendar with focus on historic landmarks, will be followed by a 1995 Calendar, featuring German-American sculptures in Indiana. This year's calendar will again have entries of the major events of German heritage groups in the state and a list of all heritage groups, German-American businesses and other important addresses. We want to be sure to have an up-to-date listing of all groups and also entries of special anniversaries of Hoosier German towns, churches and Vereins. Send pertinent information to: IGHS Calendar, 401 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Copies of the 1994 calendar are still available. Send \$4.00 (includes tax, shipping, and handling) to NCSA Lieteratur, 430 S. Kelp Grove Rd., Nashville, IN 47448 or call 812-988-2866.



# Indiana German Heritage Society<sup>Inc</sup>

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL

If you wish to join or renew your membership, please enclose your check with this statement. Our membership year is from 1 January through 31 December. To increase Society support, you may wish to designate a higher category. All contributions are tax deductible.

### ANNUAL DUES

Contributors of \$50 or more will be listed in the Tricentennial Edition.

___ Student	\$5.00	--- Institution: _____
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___ Family	\$20.00	
___ Organization	\$25.00	
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Please make checks payable to Indiana German Heritage Society

\_\_\_ Renewal  
\_\_\_ New Member

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Send Payment and Form To:  
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Indiana German Heritage Society  
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Indianapolis, IN 46204



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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For more information, call Bill Adams, Project Director, 317/638-1500

Please return the attached form to the International School of Indiana, c/o 1500 North Delaware Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-2419, ATTN: Bill Adams

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Yes! I want to learn more about the International School of Indiana!

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Name of child who may be attending \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate of child \_\_\_\_\_ Foreign language preferred \_\_\_\_\_

Name of child who may be attending \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate of child \_\_\_\_\_ Foreign language preferred \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of a friend or colleague who would also be interested in learning more about the International School of Indiana:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY'S 10th ANNUAL MEETING  
18-19 MARCH 1994

Friday, 18 March

5:30 p.m. Annual Business Meeting and Dinner,  
German-American Klub, 8600 S. Meridian St.,  
Indianapolis. German Music and Dancing to Follow

Saturday, 19 March

9:00 a.m. Registration. Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St.,  
Indianapolis.  
9:30 a.m. Arthur Maethner--"A Brief History of the German  
University Student Societies"  
10:15 a.m. Walter Linert--"The Oldest School of Physical  
Education in the Country: Historical Highpoints"  
11:00 a.m. Delores J. Hoyt--"Turner Libraries--When, Where  
and Why"  
11:45 a.m. Lunch in the Rathskeller  
1:30 p.m. Katja Rampelmann--"A History Uncovered:  
Preliminary Results of the Turner Historical  
Survey Project"  
2:15 p.m. Heiko Muehr--"Hoosier-Germans on Parade: The  
Role of Public Ritual in Shaping of Dubois  
County Identities"  
3:00 p.m. Film--"German Turnfest in Stuttgart, 1933"  
Evening St. Benno Fest at the Athenaeum

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(Detach here and mail to address below)  
Registration Form

Event	Number Attending	Total
Friday Supper at GAK: \$10. 95 per person	_____	_____
Schnitzel _____ Catfish _____ (Check One)	_____	_____
Saturday Program & Lunch at Athenaeum:	_____	_____
\$19.00 IGHS Members; \$25.00 Non-Members	_____	_____
St. Benno Fest (make reservations with Buddy McCart at 317-846-8613)	_____	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	_____	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Indiana German Heritage Society  
Mail to Buddy McCart 10925 Beechwood Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46280.  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 14 MARCH 1994



INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1993-1994

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316 S. Main St.  
Tipton, IN 46072  
317-675-4689

*ATHENAEUM TURNERS  
FESTIVALS AND EVENTS  
1994*

ST. BENNO FEST .....	Saturday, March 19
ANNUAL MEETING.....	Wednesday, April 13
MAY FEST.....	Saturday, May 7
FIREWORKS NIGHT .....	Monday, July 4
OX ROAST.....	Saturday, August 20
OKTOBERFEST .....	Saturday, September 17
PIONEER BANQUET.....	Wednesday, October 19
ANNIVERSARY PARTY .....	Saturday, November 19
CHRISTMAS LUNCH & VISIT TO THE IMA.....	Friday, December 16



## BEER AND WINE

In German household it is assumed that a child will learn to eat and drink responsibly at an early age. Beer and wine are consumed as a part of the meal, in delicate wine glasses and decorated beer mugs, in a family or social setting. Children may participate in the ritual by being served these beverages in a diluted form. As the child matures, the alcohol content is increased. Beer's major ingredients, hops, malt, and yeast make it a healthy beverage, and research has shown that wine will lower cholesterol.

The German immigrants brought their taste for beer and wine with them. It often put them at odds with other Americans. On 17 December 1917, the Senate passed a resolution to send an amendment to the state that would outlaw the "manufacture, sale or transportation" of alcoholic beverages. The coincidence with wartime strictures, a strong sponsorship in the Congress, and prejudice against the high proportion of brewers with German names gave the movement its peculiar strength. During the years of the American prohibition, 1920-1933, the beer and winemaking industries were dealt a severe blow.

A "loophole" in the Volstead Act, which provided for the enforcement of prohibition, allowed home winemakers to make 200 gallons of "non-intoxicating" fermented beverages a year for personal use. Many wineries simply got by under this loophole. Others survived commercially by making "sacramental wine" which was also allowed. Many people became very religious in that respect. So many so. that per capita wine consumption in the United States actually went up during prohibition.

Created in 1987, Beer Drinkers of America, a non-profit organization with more than 700,00 members and supporters fights to protect the rights of America's adult beer drinkers to consume beer responsibly, free from unfair taxes and other government over-regulation. Bill Schreiber of Costa Mesa, CA is its president.

Today's ten best-selling brands of beer are produced by five breweries of German-American origin. Of these Budweiser by Anheuser-Busch command 25.6% of the market share. Also by Anheuser Busch are Bud Light and Michelob. The top brands by Miller Brewing include Lite, Genuine Draft, and Miller High Life; Coors Light and Coors are by Coors Brewing, and Old Milwaukee is the top brand of Stroh Brewing. Together these brands command 70% of the total market.

Beer steins originated in the 1500s when European nations--particularly Germany--decreed that beverage containers should be covered to promote better public health standards. Stein collecting has

become a passion. German as well as American breweries and related businesses offer steins for collectors ranging from traditional designs with village and festival scenes relating to special events or social issues.

By Ruth Reichmann

[Editorial note: According to the 11 February issue of The Week in Germany German beer production was down 6% in the brewing year 1992-1993 (ending 30 September) compared to the previous year. The state of Baden-Württemberg even recorded an 8% drop in production. In addition, the annual per capita beer consumption in Germany declined from 144 liters (about 38 U.S. gallons) to 137.5 liters during the reported period.]

## VINCENNES-WASSERBURG ACTIVITIES

A delegation from Vincennes, numbering approximately 40 persons, will be making a trip to the city of Wasserburg am Inn, Germany, leaving 15 August for a stay of one week. The purpose of the trip is to create a firm and lasting Sister City relationship.

The Vincennes City Council has voted to accept Wasserburg as their German Sister City, and Mayor Belle Kasting has accepted the invitation of Wasserburg's Lord Mayor, Dr. Marting Geiger to visit the German city.

In 1992, 56 members of Wasserburg's "Trachtenverein Almrausch," a club dedicated to nurturing the costumes and traditions of their homeland, performed Bavarian dances at Vincennes' Germanfest. It was a joy to see entire families and many children and young people perform. This visit marked the beginning of the Sister City relationship.

Vincennes has since joined Sister Cities World Wide, thanks to Mrs. Ernestine Dillon, who brought the German group to Vincennes and who initially contacted Dr. Geiger in Wasserburg, and to Dr. Ruth Reichmann, who helped with the organization of Sister Cities. Mrs. Dillon will be the group's tour guide, as she is familiar with Wasserburg. She originally hails from Munich, but her mother had lived in Wasserburg for many years, before she joined her daughter in Indiana.

Ralph Ruppel and Claude Seger will also be going, as they laid the groundwork for Sister Cities when they traveled to Wasserburg last year and met with Dr. Geiger and members of the Trachtenverein and their families. Wasserburg families will be hosting the group from Vincennes, and we hear that they are busy making preparations to make the Americans feel at home. Hopefully, a representative of the Vincennes Sun-Commercial will come along and cover the event.

All are excited and looking forward to this trip to Germany.



## NEW MEMBERS

Paul and Carol Nawa  
Steve Augderhar  
Ralph and Priscilla Baumheckel  
Mark and Linda Bair  
Carrie Banks\*  
Eric Burdsall\*  
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Gould  
Marg Alice Yost  
Kathy Hoffmann\*  
Keely Jackson\*  
Howard and Joyce Kuhn  
Larry J. Lehmkuhler  
Amy Suzane Moore\*  
Nanda Schellen  
Robert Smith  
Mark Stephan  
Dorothy M. Terhorn  
Eric Tkazyk\*

"\*" denotes German-American Day Contest Winners who received a complimentary one-year membership. If you have not renewed your membership for 1994, do so immediately with the enclosed renewal form. If you do not renew your membership, this will be the last Newsletter you receive.

## STAMMTISCH REVISION

Beginning in April those living in the Indianapolis area will be able to choose between a "Stammtisch" for beginners or an advanced group.

The "Stammtisch" for beginners will meet on the second Wednesday, 6 p.m. at the Rathskeller Restaurant and will be followed by a program. A variety of interesting programs are planned, ranging from the "Hoosier Germans" and their "Tales" by Eb Reichmann to German films, with such well-known German actors as Louis Trenker in the "Kaiser von Kalifornien" (the story of Johann August Sutter in the California gold rush), and the story of the Bavarian immigrant Levi Strauss.

The Stammtisch for advanced speakers meets on the third Thursday. If you would like to practice your German join us for dinner at 6 p.m. at the Athenaeum Rathskeller in Indianapolis.

The Brown County Chapter, comprising the Nashville, Bloomington, and Columbus areas, meets on the first Thursday of the month, usually in the home of a member. A cookout in Brown County State Park and other summer activities are planned for those member who speak little or no German. If you would like to join the group or would like to have more information call the Chapter President, Al Mood of Nashville at 988-7376.

## AUGUST CEREMONY MARKS BEGINNING OF ATHENAEUM ROOF RESTORATION By Barbara Duncanson

After months of planning, the time has finally arrived. The Athenaeum roof restoration is ready to begin.

At an 18 August ceremony on the steps of the Athenaeum, U.S. Senator Richard Lugar spoke the words that supporters of the Athenaeum buildings have been anxious to hear: "The long-awaited, much-publicized restoration of Indianapolis' Athenaeum building has officially begun."

The roof restoration will be completed in two phases. During Phase I, Midland Engineering, the South Bend-based firm selected for the restoration project, will replace the century-old east wing roof with a new roof of natural slate. The west wing will be re-roofed during Phase II. Some glazing, masonry restoration and lightning protection work will also be performed during the two phases.

According to Project Engineer Dennis Rach, slate provides an extremely good value as a roofing material.

"While the initial cost of slate is higher than the cost of many other roofing materials, slate's natural beauty and durability cannot be matched," said Rach. "This roof will still be protecting the Athenaeum when it celebrates its bicentennial."

The biggest challenge to roof workers will be working on the steep surface several stories above the ground. Workers will perch on planks supported by "roof jacks" designed to adjust to the slope. The effect can be compared to standing on a shelf, excepts that this particular shelf happens to be more than three stories above East Michigan Street.

After the scaffolding is in place, workers will remove the old slate roof. Rach estimates that "intensive carpentry work" would be needed to repair the wood substrate beneath the roof. Then, the new slate roof will be applied to the sloped areas by hand, one piece at a time. Flat areas of the roof will be covered with a synthetic rubber, single ply roofing material.

Work to restore the dormers will also be extremely labor-intensive. The sheet metal will first be removed, then the wooden substructure inspected and repaired. Finally, the metal structure will be completely rebuilt and all windows replaced.

In addition, decorative cast-aluminum cresting will be installed along the ridging at the apex of the roof, restoring a prominent feature of the building from early days.

Workers began tearing off the old roof on the east wing 13 September. Phase I is expected to be completed by Christmas 1993. If fundraising continues to be successful, Phase II will begin in spring 1994 and be completed the following fall.

Athenaeum News, Fall, 1993

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 18-19	IGHS Annual Meeting, German-American Klub and Athenaeum (see announcements in <u>Newsletter</u> )	May 3	Stammtisch, Brown Co.
March 19	St. Benno Fest, Athenaeum, see article in <u>Newsletter</u>	May 7	Athenaeum Turners May Fest
April 7	Stammtisch, Brown Co. Chapter, see article in <u>Newsletter</u>	May 11	IGHS Board of Directors, 1:00 p.m., Athenaeum
April 13	IGHS Board of Directors, 1:00 p.m., Athenaeum	May 11	Stammtisch (Beginners), 6:00 p.m., Athenaeum
April 13	Stammtisch (Beginners), 6:00 p.m., Athenaeum	May 19	Stammtisch (Advanced), 6:00 p.m., Athenaeum
April 13	Athenaeum Turners Annual Meeting	June 2	Stammtisch, Brown Co.
April 21	Stammtisch (Advanced) 6:00 p.m., Athenaeum	June 8	IGHS Board of Directors, 1:00 p.m., Athenaeum
		June 8	Stammtisch (Beginners), 6:00 p.m., Athenaeum
		June 16	Stammtisch (Advanced) 6:00 p.m., Athenaeum



## Indiana German Heritage Society

Newsletter Return Address  
401 East Michigan Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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Paul Brockman, Editor