

# Indiana German Beritage Society Newsletter

Foolume 18, Issue 1

Winter 2001-02

## Remembering Tragedies with the Hope for Peace on Earth

#### GERMAN SOLIDARITY

Individually and as a nation,
Germans expressed deep
sympathy for the victims of the
September 11 attacks and
showed their solidarity with the
U.S. The ringing of church bells
could be heard while Germans
joined others in public places, at
memorial services, formed light
chains, placed flowers and
candles, observed minutes of
silence. Flags were flown at halfstaff.

Two days after the terrorist attacks, all over Germany three minutes of silence were observed by children in schools and people at work. All public transportation vehicles stopped for three minutes: all trains, busses and subways. Bank tellers and most shopping mall clerks refused to do transactions; even radio and TV went quiet. Germany had a three-minute stand-still, not just silence. Germany too had lost people on the planes and in the towers--over 40 Germans are on the dead or missing list.

The President of the German Federal Republic Rau spoke in front of the Brandenburg gate in Berlin to more that 200,000. He stressed that America does not stand alone, and spoke of the tremendous U.S. engagement for the freedom of the once divided city. Bundespraesident Rau's statement of solidarity with America at the Berlin memorial gathering can be found at: http://www.welt.de/daten/2001/09/14/0914de282175.htx

Chancellor Schroeder visited
Ambassador Dan Coats and
reiterated that, as NATO partner,
Germany assures the U.S. of
military support. "Amerika kann
sich keinen loyaleren und
zuverlässigeren Freund
wünschen." ("America could not
wish for a more loyal and reliable
friend")--said Dan Couts, the
American Ambassador, about
Germany on September 14, 2001,
as he witnessed the massive
demonstration of German
support.

#### DESTRUCTION, DEATH AND SUFFERING GERMANS AND GERMAN-AMERICANS REMEMBER

After September 11, German-Americans and Americans received countless e-mail messages, phone calls and letters, from Germany, in which friends and relatives wanted to make sure that their loved ones were alright and to let them know that their thoughts and prayers were with them. Ralph Ruppel of Vincennes received a book containing letters, poems and pictures written and produced by high school students in the sister city Wasserburg, Germany. Ruppel delivered the book to Vincennes Mayor Terry Mooney with the greetings from Wasserburg Mayor Martin Geiger.

Many Germans and German-Americans remember the end of WW II, when Germany's cities were a desolate urban landscape. This was not collateral damage. "The war against the cities was a major component of the assault on Germany from 1942 right to the end in 1945. This was a war not simply against the German military and its war industry, but--in response to Hitler's "total war" declaration--against the cities and their civilian populations. A few smaller cities, like Jülich and Düren, were truly reduced to null. "In the bigger cities, like Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Hannover, Essen and Bremen, there were vast areas containing only mounds of ruins." (Diefendorf, p. 89)

Sven Schumacher, chair of the Indianapolis-Cologne Sister Cities Committee, received letters and phone calls from the sister city Cologne. In Cologne more than 30,000 people gathered to pay homage to the victims. Cologne was seized by American troops on 6 March 1945, though the city remained the object of German artillery fire for another four weeks. "Cologne had been devastated during the war. It had been the target of the first thousand-bomber air raid on 31 May 1942, and the last great air raid was on 2 March, destroying most of the still-standing buildings in the inner city except the Cathedral, which was severely damaged. The city's medieval meeting hall, town hall, and all of the Romanesque churches that had, along with the

cathedral, defined the city's silhouette where shattered wrecks. 70% percent of the city's 250,000 prewar dwelling units had been destroyed or badly damaged." (Diefendorf, p. 96) Only 40,000 people still lived among the ruins when the Americans arrived.

On Wed, 12 Sept. 2001, Helmut Popp of Nuremberg wrote: "Dear friends in Indiana, all people in Nürnberg are shocked about the cold-blooded attacks in your country. We have no words to describe our feelings, but in our hearts we are with you. We will fight against acts of terrorism, and the assassins should get their justified punishment! Your German friend Helmut Popp."

Ruth Reichmann spent the war years in Nuremberg. The images on the screen brought back memories of the firebombing of Nuremberg on January 2, 1945. The old city went up in flames and thousands died trying to flee. The medieval city had been bombed heavily before but during that night it was 80% destroyed. Her family's home in the outskirts of Nuremberg was still standing, but there was no water, electricity or heat. Ruth, age 15, and her family had to leave the city. They found refuge on a Bauernhof (farm) where Ruth worked for food.

THE PARALLEL OF DESTRUCTION, DEATH AND SUFFERING in the memory of most Germans and German-Americans is the firebombing of Dresden on Feb. 13, 1945. With his novel Slaughterhouse-Five, or, The Children's Crusade: A Duty-Dance with Death (1969), renowned German-American author Kurt Vonnegut (Kurt's grandfather, Bernard Vonnegut, was the architect who designed "Das Deutsche Haus," since then renamed the "Athenaeum") immortalized this tragic event. Slaughterhouse-Five was made into a film and an opera. In Germany it is known as Schlachthof 5. A couple of years ago at the Munich Opera Festival it had its operatic debut, with libretto and music by composer Hans-Jürgen von Bose.

Following the Battle of the Bulge, Vonnegut, an advance scout of the 106th Infantry Division, had been captured and was shipped to a work camp in Dresden. Sheltered in an underground meat storage locker, Vonnegut survived the firebombing of Dresden on February 13, 1945 that devastated the city and killed tens of thousands. In a lecture (March 1, 1995) at Indiana University in Bloomington Vonnegut recounted this experience: "The most interesting thing I saw during the war, I suppose was the destruction of Dresden, the largest single massacre in European history. I was a prisoner of war in a meat locker under a slaughterhouse when the worst of the firestorm was going on. After that I worked as a miner of corpses, breaking into the cellars where over a hundred thousand Hansels and Gretels

were baked like Gingerbread men."

Eberhard Reichmann, age 18, watched the firebombing of Dresden from a stalled Red Cross train just outside the city.

> Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann

Notes: Diefendorf, Stunde Null: The End and the Beginning Fifty Years Ago. Washington, D.C.: German Historical Institute (1997).



For over 200 years, the Baroque Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) stood as the symbol of one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Monies from all over the world are helping to rebuild this significant structure.

#### MOURNING FOR THE CITY

Shortly after Dresden's destruction, which he only survived by chance, Rudolf Mauersberger, cantor and conductor of the Kreuzkirche Boys' Choir, composed the motet "Wie liegt die Stadt so wuest". The first performance took place in the ruins of the Kreuzkirche (Church of the Holy Cross) on August 4, 1945.

The German lyrics of this mourning motet--based on the "Lamentations of Jermiah" 1,1.4.13;2,15; 1,9; 5,17.20-21; 1,9--are followed by Eberhard Reichmann's translation.

"Wie liegt die Stadt so wuest," 1945, aus "Chorzyklus Dresden" (RMWV 4/1)

"Wie liegt die Stadt so wuest, die voll Volks war. Alle ihre Tore stehen oede. Wie liegen die Steine des Heiligtums vorn auf allen Gassen zerstreut.

Er hat ein Feuer aus der Hoehe in meine Gebeine gesandt und es lassen walten. Ist das die Stadt, von der man sagt, sie sei die allerschoenste, der sich das ganze Land freuet?

Sie haette nicht gedacht, dass es ihr zuletzt so gehen wuerde; sie ist ja zu greulich heruntergestossen und hat dazu niemand, der sie troestet. Darum ist unser Herz betruebt, und unsere Augen sind finster geworden.

Warum willst du unser so gar vergessen und uns lebenslang so gar verlassen? Bringe uns, Herr, wieder zu dir, dass wir wieder heimkommen. Erneure unsre Tage wie vor alters. Herr, siehe an mein Elend, ach Herr, siehe an mein Elend!

How gruesomely destroyed the city!
Her people's vibrant life is gone.
Her gates in shambles,
her sanctuary's stones
lie scattered in the alleys.

From on high HE sent the fire into all my bones and let it burn.

Is this the city beautiful, once called the country's pearl?

Who would have thought this be her fate-rubble, ashes and death-and no one left to console her.
Our hearts are saddened and darkened our eyes.

Why, oh Lord, did you forget and forsake us?
Oh, bring us back to You, and take us home again.
Renew our days as You have done of old.
Lord, see us in our misery.

#### THEY ALL CAME!

IGHS did not have to cancel the Turner Symposium September 21-22 and the Folkdance workshop September 28-29 in Nashville (see our last newsletter). Our German guests confessed that they had thought about canceling their flights, but then decided that to come was the right thing to do. The members of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Volkstanz had planned to participate in the Steuben Parade in New York City on Sept. 22. In light of recent events, the Steuben Parade had been cancelled. Nevertheless, the DVG delegation came to NYC and participated in an ecumenical memorial service for the victims of the World Trade Center attack and their families at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan, conducted by Cardinal Edward Egan. It was attended by Mayor Giuliani, Fire Commissioner Von Essen and dignitaries both from the U.S. and from Germany. Official guests of honor were Heide Simonis, Minister President of Schleswig-Holstein and Joschka Fischer, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the FRG. The Germans were met with applause before the service in Manhattan. The German delegation was also taken to Ground Zero. Foreign Minister Fischer visited fire station "Engine 54, Battalion 9" and presented a \$100,000 check for the widows and children of the fire fighters. Fifteen members of this unit of 52 had lost their lives.

#### THE GERMAN-AMERICANS IN TWO WORLD WARS



While Americans are generally aware of the internment, relocation and other injustices suffered by Japanese-Americans during World War II, most are unaware that the two largest foreign-born groups in the United States at that time, German-Americans and Italian-Americans, were also targeted by the United States government.

Germans and German-Americans fought against each other in both wars. Family ties were disrupted, as relatives worried about relatives on the other side.

The younger generation no longer knows what faced their forebears when the anti-German hysteria struck. German-Americans remember "ethnic profiling," as anti-German feelings were vented during both World Wars. German-Americans, mainly first generation immigrants, who had failed to take out citizenship, became "enemy aliens" over night.

During World War I, German-Americans could no longer gather at social halls without having their loyalty to America questioned. Congress placed restrictions on German-Americans with the Espionage Act (1917) and the Sedition Act (1918), which provided severe punishment for anyone considered disloyal. The monks at St. Meinrad, as did many others, took a crash course in citizenship and hurried to become U.S. citizens.

On 26 August 1915, The New York Times reported that the Rev. Edmund Kayser, pastor of St. James' Evangelical Lutheran Church in Gary, had been murdered. April 5, 1918 Robert Paul Prager was lynched at Collinsville, IL.

During the anti-German movement of WW I, the German language was a major target. Some churches removed German lettering from buildings' exteriors and almost all discontinued German language services. It was suggested that foreign names be Americanized and many were: Kohlmann became Coleman and Schneider became Snyder. As the campaign to change the name of anything German gained momentum, Sauerkraut became

"liberty cabbage" and frankfurters were renamed hot dogs. Anything associated with Germany became suspect. "In Indianapolis, the city orchestra disbanded because its soprano soloist was German; city restaurants renamed sauerkraut as liberty cabbage; Das Deutsche Haus became the Athenaeum. and the board of education stopped the teaching of German in schools." (Traces, Spring 1999, p. 43). In 1918 the Indianapolis city government enacted Special Ordinances #3 and #9, by which the names of Bismarck and Germania streets in the Haughville area were respectively changed to Pershing Avenue and Belleview Place.

The purchase of liberty bonds was used to gauge if a citizen was 100 percent American. In cartoons, Germans were depicted as "Huns." But German-Americans were patriotic and loval Americans. In both wars, soldiers of German descent distinguished themselves. In WW I, Henry Strobel of St. Meinrad was the Indiana's most decorated Army private, and Paul Baer of Ft. Wayne the state's flying ace. General John J. (Black Jack) Pershing, for whom one of the Indianapolis street names was changed, was of German origin. The name of his immigrant ancestor was Pfoerschin.

In his autobiographical collage, Palm Sunday, Kurt Vonnegut points out how even German-American families suppressed their heritage in a response to the social and psychological pressures of wartime mentality:
"...the anti-Germanism in this
country during the First World
War so shamed and dismayed my
parents that they resolved to raise
me without acquainting me with
the language or the literature or
the music or the oral family
histories which my ancestors had
loved. They volunteered to make
me ignorant and rootless as proof
of their patriotism."

At World War II's end, Germany lay in ruins. Once again, German-Americans had fought against their kin overseas. During the war, many German aliens and citizens of German ancestry were interned in the United States. With them were their families, in many instances American-born wives and children.

The Emergency Detention Program was initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939 to detain "dangerous persons." Between December 7. 1941 and June 30, 1945 the FBI arrested more than 6,000 enemy aliens and U.S. citizens of enemy ancestry in 41 states. An enemy alien was any person who was not a naturalized United States citizen; an American citizen of enemy ancestry was a foreign or native-born U.S. citizen. Minor children and spouses were considered "voluntary internees."

Enemy aliens and U.S. citizens of enemy ancestry were moved out of militarily sensitive areas. Their movement was severely restricted and they had to request permission to travel. Among those who were caught in the anti-German hysteria of the WWII were Erika and Richard Theilig, the parents of Louise Theilig Lamkin.

Richard Theilig, had emigrated to the USA in 1928 and worked for the Southside gardeners in Indianapolis. He then purchased a farm near Batesville, Indiana, In 1930 Richard signed a declaration of intention to apply for citizenship and became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1935. Erika Mendel had emigrated with her mother to the United States in 1925 and worked as a domestic in Indianapolis, Erika failed to apply for United States citizenship on time. As an enemy alien her mobility was severely restricted.

Erika and Richard were married in 1935 and lived in Batesville. Every time the family wanted to visit relatives they had to have permission from the Department of Justice.

Notes: Ray E. Boomhower in Traces, Publication of the Indiana Historical Society, Spring 1999

The full permission letter of March 5, 1942 is on page 6. This story continues on page 7.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS

March 5, 1942

Mr. Richard Theilig R. R. 1 Batesville, Indiana

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 2 asking whether or not your wife, who is a registered alien of German nationality and citizenship, will be permitted to visit her relatives in Indianapolis.

In reply I wish to say that it will be agreeable for your wife to come to Indianapolis for such visits provided she informs this office one week in advance of her proposed trip, furnishing us each time a statement in triplicate containing the following information:

1. name Ezika Theilig 2. nationality german 3. alien registration number 484,

4. purpose of trip visiting zelazires
5. destination 236 East Raymond St.

6. date of departure and of return aprils - 10
7. route to be followed greensoning - Shelby will. 8. carrier (railroad, bus, automobile, etc.) used Cal - tak'u

It is necessary that permission to travel be asked each time a trip is contemplated.

Very truly yours.

United States Attorney

BHC: OEB



A German cousin, the son of the brother of Louise Theilig Lamkin's Grandmother, was an American POW and spent his time in Michigan, harvesting vegetables and fruit. Horst Schaefer was born in Weimar.

For more on the internment of German-Americans during the World Wars http:// www.serve.com/shea/germusa/ intern.htm

PRISONER OF WAR POST CARD
POSTLARTE für Kriegsgetangerre

Addresse

Nicht Hier Schreiben!

W. D. P. M. G. Form No. 41
Normher 1 Ed.

# FEINGOLD INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO STUDY TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN AMERICANS AND REFUGEES DURING WORLD WAR II

WASHINGTON, DC -- U.S.
Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI)
today introduced the Wartime
Treatment of European
Americans and Refugees Study
Act, a bill to establish a
commission to review the facts
and circumstances surrounding
injustices suffered by European
Americans, European Latin
Americans and European

refugees during World War II. Senators Charles Grassley (R-IA) and Edward Kennedy (D-MA) joined Feingold as cosponsors of the bill.

"We should honor and remember the millions of Americans who bravely served their country in World War II and the thousands who sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom," Feingold said. "But we should also take this moment, at a time of peace, to review the U.S. government's violation of civil liberties and its failure to protect refugees facing persecution during World War II."

Thousands of German Americans, Italian Americans and other European Americans were unfairly arrested, detained, interned or relocated by the U.S. government, some remaining in custody long after World War II had ended. Many European Americans were stripped of their personal property and travel rights. This bill intends to recognize those who were harmed and discourage future occurrences of similar offenses. Additionally, Europeans, including Jewish refugees, seeking protection from persecution were denied entry into the United States. This legislation includes a review of federal refugee policy, as well as a review of the eventual fate of refugees who were denied admission into the United States, so that we can prevent such injustices from taking place in the future.

"While most Americans are aware of the internment. relocation and other injustices suffered by Japanese Americans during World War II, many are unaware that the two largest foreign-born groups in the United States at that time, German Americans and Italian Americans, were also targeted by the United States government," Feingold said. "This legislation will help all Americans understand the injustices committed against European Americans, European Latin Americans and European refugees, and complete a full accounting and review of this dark chapter in our nation's history."

Senate Bill 1356 - WARTIME TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN AMERICANS AND REFUGEES STUDY ACT was introduced into the Senate on August 3, by Senator Feingold. It is to establish a commission to review the facts and circumstances surrounding injustices suffered by European Americans and European Latin Americans during World War II. It would also find out about Europeans, including Jewish refugees, seeking protection from persecution, who were denied entry into the United States.

Since this bill was introduced, terrorists have destroyed the World Trade Center in New York and hit the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. More than 5000 innocent lives have been lost and a nation is in shock. With all the terrible happenings in New

York and Washington, the U.S. Congress is creating legislation to deal with the terrorist attacks and national security. Measures are underway that expands the government's power and ability to conduct secret searches, surveillances, etc. Our very values and constitutional rights are much under discussion as is our freedom of speech, freedom to assemble, and freedom of religion.

We are concerned. While it is necessary to take all needed precautions to defend the US and its citizens in this time of national crisis, it can only be hoped that our representatives will be even more thoughtful and deliberate than usual and consider the longtime impact on basic freedoms in America.

The media brings disquieting news about mistreatment suffered by citizens and residents of Middle Eastern descent. They are Americans or legal residents, and need to be protected under the law, and our constitution should apply to them in every way. As have in the past German-Americans, Italian-Americans, Japanese-Americans, Latin Americans and Jewish and other refugees experienced arrests, internment, relocation and sometimes even deportation during WWII, there should now be concern about citizens and residents of Middle Eastern descent. The fate which befell German-Americans during WWII, and the unconstitutional manner in which so many things

were handled then, must not happen again.

It is even more important now that S-1356 be passed to prevent injustices to other ethnics from happening again. We urge you to write to Senator Richard Lugar, Market Tower Bldg., Suite 1180, 10 Market St., Indianapolis, In 46204-2964 and Senator Evan Bayh, 575 N Pennsylvania St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Request their support and encourage others to do so also.

Copies of the legislation is available from the Senate offices, as are copies of Senator Feingold's introductory statement and of his official press release.

Wisconsin Senator Feingold introduced the WARTIME TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN AMERICANS AND REFUGEES STUDY ACT into the U.S. Senate on August 3, 2001

# Programs and Activities

## STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS

Join us for Stammtisch on the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., prior to the program at the Athenaeum Rathskeller Restaurant - good food & good talk! Programs are held at 7:15 p.m. in the Max Kade Seminar Room on the first floor of the

Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis. For information call Ruth Reichmann at 812 988-2866 or 317 464-9004.

December 12: Hänsel and Gretel. Germany's "Christmas Opera" by Engelbert Humperdinck, video presentation by Ruth and Eberhard Reichmann. They will relate the context of the story and show excerpts of a video presentation of the opera. Performed every year around Christmas, Humperdinck's opera, based on the Grimm's fairy tale, has become a classic. This opera began as a humble domestic play with songs put together by Adelheid Wette for her daughters. It was then set to music by her brother, Engelbert Humperdinck (1854-1921).

February 13: Kurt Vonnegut and Slaughterhouse-Five. Video/film presentation and a discussion. Published in 1969, Slaughterhouse-Five, or, The Children's Crusade: A Duty-Dance with Death, is largely autobiographical. On February 13, 1945, Vonnegut, age 24 and a POW, survived the firebombing of Dresden in an underground meat storage locker. It changed his life.

.http://www.amazon.com/exec/ obidos/ASIN/ 1558801278/ravereviews/102-6113817-0384143

March 13: Bill Bilgram will take you on a romantic trip through scenic southwest Germany with brief side trips into the border areas of adjacent countries. Interesting facts about and customs of the area will be highlighted.

Note that there is no Stammtisch/ Program in January!

The programs - in English - are free of charge and open to the public. They are held at 7:15 p.m. in the Max Kade German-American Center Seminar Room, first floor of the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis. Join IGHS members for supper and talk prior to the program, 6 p.m. at the Athenaeum Rathskeller Restaurant. Information: 317 464-9004 or 812 988-2866

#### ANNUAL SANKT NIKOLAUS FEST AND CHRISTKINDL MARKET

On Sunday, December 9, this Old World tradition will take place once again at the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum in Indianapolis, 401 E. Michigan St. It begins at 1:00 p.m. in the first floor auditorium with a reception, traditional German refreshments and music. and ends at 5:00 p.m. There will be children's games, a puppet show and numerous activities for the young and the young-atheart, and a tree lighting ceremony and singing of Christmas songs. As he always does, the Saint will make a stop with Ruprecht at his side. There will be little gifts from St. Nikolaus for the good children

and switches from Ruprecht for naughty one. Admission \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Children under 13. Reservations Required!

The Old World Christkindl Market will be Friday & Saturday, Dec. 7-8, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. For information and reservations call 630-4569 ext. 1

#### GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT ZION, INDPLS.

On Sunday, December 16, at 4:00 p.m., the Annual German Christmas Service will be held at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ, 416 E. North St., Indpls. Although conducted in German, the service is easy to follow. The hymns are familiar to most churchgoers and the sermon is printed in English for participants to follow. Reception and fellowship will follow the service. For information call 317 639-5411.

#### INDIANAPOLIS GERMAN SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Dates for Spring 2002: Sat., January 26 - March 30 (10 Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

Three different classes are offered:
Pre-K/Kindergarten, Beginners (7-9 years) and
Intermediate/Advanced (9-12 years).

Location: IUPUI Center for Young Children, 321 N. Limestone, IUPUI

Cost: \$ 110.00 for one child \$ 200.00 for two children \$ 260.00 for three children

For more information contact: Claudia Grossmann, IUPUI Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures, 274-2330 or 274-0062.

#### HERITAGE DANCERS

The German Heritage Dancers meet every third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Small Auditorium, First Floor of the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis. They always look for new members, no prior knowledge needed! Info: Ginni Bullard 812 597-4932.

Visit the GERMANY IN US Website http://www.ihc4u.org/ international

Max Kade/IGHS Website http://www-lib.iupui.edu/kade/

Customs and Traditions http://serve.com/shea/germusa/ yearsun.htm

Information: Eberhard and/or Ruth Reichmann at: reichman@indiana.edu

#### INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

The GIU exhibits at the International Festival, Nov. 1-4, were a smashing success and a great finale to three years of GERMANY IN US. We had literally hundreds of people pass by and study them. There were many questions and we passed out tons of handouts. Our G-A publications sold quite well. We received the blue ribbon/1st price for the educational/cultural value of our exhibits.

Our thanks and appreciation go to everyone who made this possible. Special thanks go to our volunteers: Bill and Renee Bilgram, Paul Brockman, Ginnvor and Norman Bullard, Ralph Comstock, Ernestine Dillon, Martha Dietert, Jane and Jim Feit, Linda and John Guckenberger, Sarah Hicks, Bettina Huber, Dolores and Giles Hoyt, Carol Kastner, Joe Kirchhoff, Greg and Jo Kitzmiller, Louise Lamkin, Buddy McCart, Charles and Lynn McDonald, Heiko Muehr, Ann Olson, Mitzie and Robert Reichmann, Fred and Joann Schramm, Willi Schwoebel, Niko and Karl Selm, Tobias Schoenherr, Barbara and Robert Stewart.

Ginnvor Bullard and the Heritage Dancers performed several times and Jeff Burgmeier and his reenactment company of the 32nd (1st German) drilled and entertained especially the younger set.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 7-8, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Old World Christkindl Market at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis (317 630-4569)

Sunday, December 9, 1-5:00 p.m. St. Nikolaus Fest, Athenaeum, Indianapolis (317 630-4569)

Sunday, December 9, 1-5:00 p.m., Old World Christkindl Market at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis (317 630-4569)

Wednesday, December 12, 4:30 p.m. IGHS Board meeting at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis; 6 p.m. Stammtisch, Program 7:15 p.m. Hänsel and Gretel, Germany's "Christmas Opera" by Engelbert Humperdinck, video presentation with Ruth and Eberhard Reichmann (812 988-2866)

Sunday, December 16, 4 p.m. German Christmas Service at Zion Church in Indianapolis (317 639-5411)

Monday, December 17, 7 p.m. Folkdancers meet at the Athenaeum (Ginnvor Bullard 812-597-4932)

Wednesday, January 9, 4:30 p.m. IGHS Board at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis. No Stammtisch and Program

Monday, January 21, 7 p.m. Folkdancers meet at the Athenaeum (Ginnvor Bullard 812-597-4932) Saturday, February 9, Karneval at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis, with the Freudemacher (317 630-4569)

Wednesday, February 13, 4:30 p.m. IGHS Board meeting at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis, 6 p.m. Stammtisch, Program 7:15 p.m.; Kurt Vonnegut and Slaughterhouse Five (317 464-9004)

Monday, February 18, 7 p.m. Folkdancers meet at the Athenaeum (Ginnvor Bullard 812-597-4932)

Wednesday, March 13, 4:30 p.m. IGHS Board meeting at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis, 6 p.m. Stammtisch, Program 7:15 p.m.; Bill Bilgram on romantic southwest Germany.

Monday, March 18, 7 p.m. Folkdancers meet at the Athenaeum (Ginnvor Bullard 812-597-4932)

Saturday, March 30, St. Benno Fest at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis, with the Jay Fox Band (317 630-4569)

Annual Meeting: March 29 and 30, 2002 - Focus on Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Indy and other structures (Ruth Reichmann 317 464-9004 or 812 988-2866)

#### ARCHIVES RECEIVE DONATION OF SAUR BOOKS

Eleven valuable 18th-century works were donated by Wayne K. Sowers of Bloomington to the German Americana Collections at the IUPUI Archives. Sowers is a descendant of Christopher Saur, the famous printer, inventor and entrepreneur of Germantown, PA. The books come from several generations of Mr. Sowers' forebears.

Printing in America by German-American printers began about 1738 with the Sower (Sauer or Saur) family. The original name probably was Sauer or Saur. The name "Christopher Saur" is on the title page of his 1743 German Bible--the first Europeanlanguage Bible printed in America. Christopher Saur was born in 1695--not in [Bad] Lassphe a.d. Lahn, Northrhine-Westphalia, as is often assumed, but in Ladenburg (near Heidelberg). Saur came to Philadelphia in 1724 and worked in Lancaster, Pa from 1726-1738. Although trained as a tailor, he was a farmer by trade, but also made button molds, cast stoves, dealt in herbs, repaired clocks, made ink, and sold Franklin stoves. Saur was a religious or educational leader of the German Baptist Brethren. In 1738 having built his own printing press, he set up shop in Germantown, PA. Saur's printing type was imported from the Egenolff-Luther type foundry in Frankfurt a.M. On August 20, 1739 the first issue of

his newspaper appeared, Der Hoch Deutsche Pennsylvanische Geschichtsschreiber. In 1744 Saur opened his own paper mill and produced his own types. His paper--he changed its name to Germantauner Zeitung--appeared quite regularly. Upon his death in 1758, it was successfully continued by his son, Christopher Sower/Saur II who, about 1770, started the first type foundry in America. In 1777 he had problems with the Continental authorities because of Loyalistic and non-supportive tendencies. When most of his property was seized, Christopher discontinued printing and moved to Methatchen, PA, where he died in 1784.

His son, Christopher III, operated a press in Philadelphia for a few months and then moved to New York, where he continued printing until about 1779.

Sower descendants established another printing operation in Norristown, PA, which continued until 1834. The operation continued its decline, when the family in its Pacifist German Brethren ways opposed the War of 1812. During that war, the printing office was mobbed by local citizens.

The donation by Mr. Sowers includes the following books:

1. The Archbishop of Chambray's DISSERTATION on Pure Love... London: Printed, and Reprinted by Christopher Sowr at Germantown, 1750.

- 2. The Fatal Consequences of the Unscriptural Doctrine of Predestination and Reprobation... Written in High-Dutch by M.K. and translated by Desire. Germantown: Printed and Sold by Christopher Sowr, 1753. 3. The Way to the Sabbath of Rest or the Soul's Progress in the Work of New-Birth... By Mr. Thomas Bromley. And: Discourse on Mistakes concerning Religion... By Thomas Hartley, Rector of Winwick. London Printed, Germantown Reprinted and sold by Christopher Sower... 1759. 4. Neu-Eingerichtetes GESANG-BUCH... Mit einem Verzeichnis der Titel... Germantown, gedruckt bey Christoph Saur auf Kosten vereinigter Freunden, 1762. 5. D. Ambrosius Lobwasser, Neu-vermehrt- und vollständiges
- 5. D. Ambrosius Lobwasser, Neu-vermehrt- und vollständiges Gesang-Buch... in denen Reformirten Kirchen... auch mit dem Heidelberger Catechismo... 2.Aufl. Germantown: Gedruckt und zu finden bey Christoph Saur, 1763.
- 6. Johann Philip Schabalie, Die wandlende Seel Das ist Gespräch... mit Adam, Noah... "in Niederländischer Sprach geschrieben; injetzo aber in die Hochdeutsche Sprach übersetzet von B.B.B. Germantown: Gedruckt und zu finden bey Christoph Saur, 1768.
  7. Gerh. Ter St [Gerhard
- 7. Gerh. Ter St [Gerhard Tersteegen], Geistliches Blumen-Gärtlein inniger Seelen....Nebst der frommen Lotterie. 6. u. verm. Aufl. Germantown: Gedruckt und zu finden bey Christoph Saur, 1773.

8. Daniel Fenning, The Ready Reckoner. 7th ed., London printed: Germantown reprinted by Christopher Sower, 1774." 9. Robert Barclays Apologie oder Vertheidigungs-Schrift der wahren Christlichen Gottesgelahrtheit, Wie solche unter dem Volk, so man aus Spott OUAKER, das ist, Zitterer nennet vorgetragen und gelehret wird. Oder Völlige Erklärung und Rettung ihrer Grundsätze und Lehren... Anietzo nach der zweyten Lateinischen und neunten englichen Herausgebung ganz von neuen ins Deutsche übersetzt.

Germantown: Gedruckt bey Christoph Saur, dem Jüngeren, 1776.

10. Der Heilige Krieg... von Christo Jesu wider den Teufel, beschrieben von Johannes Bunian, Prediger zu Betford.-Nunmehro... im Hochdeutschen nachgeführt.

Baltimore: Gedruckt und zu haben, bey Samuel Saur, 1795.
11. Das kleine Davidische Psalterspiel der Kinder Zions.... zweite verbesserte Aufl.,
Baltimore: Gedruckt bey Samual Saur, 1797. Published as the Law directs.

#### A WORD ON BOOK DONATIONS

Part of our collective efforts in preserving German Heritage are the books brought to this country or printed here by German-American publishers. We gladly accept any and all such books that might be sitting in boxes in somebody's attic. We will also gladly help you with identifying

German books you have and want to keep in the family. Just bring them to the Stammtisch meetings, or send a description (author, title, publisher, year of publication) attention: Dr. Eberhard Reichmann (with SASE, please). If you want to donate books to IGHS/Max Kade German-American Center, he will send you an appraisal needed for your tax deductions on both the Federal and Indiana returns.

EACH ONE - REACH ONE! IGHS membership drive for 2002 is now on. Share your interest in your heritage. This Christmas give a gift that keeps on giving: Give an IGHS membership and win a new member! For a gift membership, use the form in this newsletter and send it to IGHS Membership Chair, 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

### Sister City News

#### SISTER CITIES NEWS

Vincennes Sister Cities, Inc.
(VSCI) has had a banner year. In
the summer of 2000, President
Vera Brenton and Vice President
Mary Lee Bowman were guests
in the home of Deputy Mayor
Ludwig Scheidacher in
Wasserburg-am-Inn, Bavaria. At
a meeting with members of the
Sister City Komittee, Brenton
and Bowman presented to them
copies of a video created to
introduce some people of

Vincennes to the Wasserburgers. Filmed and directed by VSCI's Treasurer, Marshall Miller, "People to People: Vincennes/ Wasserburg-am-Inn" was funded by mini-grants from the Indiana Humanities Council. Other special events enjoyed by Brenton and Bowman: the Fröhlingsfest; the Luitpold students' annual Konzert in the 15th-century Rathaus; and a weekend in the Bavarian Forest as guests of the Gunter Fuchs family.

Also seen on Wasserburg's medieval streets during these two weeks were students from Lincoln High School Vincennes. They were staying with families of students from their partner school, the Luitpold Gymnasium. They were accompanied by their teacher, Donna Kramer. Brenton and Bowman joined the students on an outing to the Chiemsee.

Vincennes' Sister City activist Ralph Ruppel arrived at the same time to enlist the aid of Dr. Scheidacher for the tour group coming from Vincennes in September. Some 20 adults from Vincennes and Indianapolis visited Wasserburg and Bavaria.

The Luitpold students from Wasserburg, accompanied by teacher Annemarie Ringler, arrived in March and were greeted by their host families from Vincennes' Lincoln, Rivet, and South Knox High Schools. Frau Ringler also came to the IGHS annual meeting and the German American Klub. She was

recognized as the person who'd come the farthest to attend.

Also in March, the first Sister Cities Young Artist competition was being sponsored by VSCI for 13-17 year olds in Knox County. The theme was "Impressions of the Fruits of World Peace." Sister City member Amy DeLap, Professor of Fine Art at Vincennes University, coordinated the competition and arranged for the exhibition in the Shake Learning Resources Center on the Vincennes University Campus. Of the 37 pieces exhibited, seven were from Wasserburg, and one from Vincennes, France, One \$75 and two \$50 prizes were awarded.

In July, President Brenton attended the 2001 Sister Cities International Annual conference in Atlanta and returned with a number of ideas for our chapter. We are planning for Knox County students to journey to Wasserburg in May 2001, as the exchange with our partner school, the Luitpold Gymnasium, continues. The Young Artists competition will be held again. and a number of "Ethnic Dinner Out" evenings are also in the planning stages for all who support our endeavors in the cause of international relations.

Mary Lee Bowman Vincennes Sister Cities, Inc.

#### PARTICIPATE IN THE KARNEVAL IN COLOGNE

The Indianapolis-Cologne Sister

Cities Committee announced that there will be no coordinated travel in February to participate in the Cologne Karneval. However, Sven Schumacher. chair of the Indianapolis-Cologne sister Cities Committee urges individuals and groups to visit the sister city. They will be welconmed there and well taken care of. For information, to secure tickets for Karneval events, and for hospitality in Cologne contact Sven Schumacher at 317 353-8211 or e-mail schumacher@lutheranfamily.org

## German Genealogy Programs

#### GENEALOGY RESEARCH TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY

The Palatines are planning a trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, the week of January 6-13, 2002. Coordinating the tour will be Sharon Kennedy. This is her 13th visit to this library. The trip provides many opportunities:

- \* Six-night stay at the Best Western Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, next door to the library. (In January the hotel is offering a "stay 5 nights and get the 6th night free.")
- \* Six full days (7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.) of research at the Family

History Library (except Mondayopen until 5 p.m.) Also research at the nearby Joseph F. Smith Building.

\* Free Genealogy class: "Using the Internet in Your Research ... How to surf the web without drowning the data," presented by Heritage Consulting Group who own a local genealogy shop.

\* Free classes available at the library (computer, German research, British Isles, etc.)

- \* Professional researchers available for hire.
- \* Meet others interested in genealogy.
- \* Sightseeing tours available (city and ski resorts).
- \* Group dinner planned.

For those who want to take a break in research, many pre-Olympic activities will be going on in Salt Lake City.

Contact: Sharon Kennedy, Palatines to America, 367 Nottinghill Court, Indianapolis, IN 46234, 317-271-6505 or Email SKENN63523@AOL.COM.

#### GERMAN-AMERICAN GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

April 29-May 2, 2002, a German-American Genealogy workshop will be offered at Kordes Retreat Center at Monastery of the Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand. In the hills of Southern Indiana one can experience the continued presence of German-Americana, taste German cuisine and explore the Old World background of Ferdinand's Benedictine community.

Workshop presenters will be Ernest Thode, nationally recognized genealogy scholar; Dr. Eberhard Reichmann, editorin-chief for the German-American Center and IGHS; Dr. Ruth Reichmann, President of IGHS and Program Director of the Max-Kade German-American Center at Indiana University in Indianapolis.

The program will explore tracing family roots, locating ancestral places of origin, and discovering the resources that will help genealogical search.

Topics to be covered during the week include: origins of German family names; settlement history of German-speaking peoples and their changing political boundaries; German-American customs and traditions: German-American communities in North America and their genealogical sources; and genealogy on the Internet. Participants will learn also to read Fraktur and Handschrift-- older forms of German printing and writing. Kordes' home-cooked meals feature traditional German specialties, and each day's program includes an afternoon Kaffeestunde.

Cost: \$275 for double occupancy, \$325 for single occupancy, and \$200 for commuters. This includes the workshop, materials, meals, and overnight accommodations, if applicable.

Further information about this or other programs: Kordes Retreat Center 812-367-2777 or 800-880-2777, or send an e-mail to kordes@thedome.org.
Information is also available on the Kordes Web site: http://www.thedome.org/kordes.

#### Indiana Palatine Workshop in March 2002

The Indiana Chapter of Palatines to America will have a workshop on German Genealogy on March 16, 2002 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Besides having several short presentations and question and answer sessions, there will be several translators from the Indiana German Heritage Society. These people will be able to read old script and handwriting. Please bring your old documents for evaluation.

#### Theodore Dreiser: Indiana's Forgotten German-American Author

#### INDIANA'S GREATEST WRITER DESERVES A NEW GENERATION OF AVID READERS

by David Hackett, Managing Editor

The Herald Times (Bloomington)
September 1, 2001
This week marked the 130th birth

date of Indiana's greatest writer -Theodore Dreiser.

Don't worry if you missed the celebration. There wasn't one. Although Dreiser stands among the giants of American literature, he is little read and widely ignored today in his home state. In Terre Haute, where he was born into a large German-American family Aug. 27, 1871, Dreiser is not honored with statues or museums. Instead, the monuments are for his name-changing brother, the musician Paul Dresser, who wrote "On the Banks of the Wabash." The house in which Dresser was born has been preserved as a museum. Terre Haute has Dresser Square, Paul Dresser Drive and the Paul Dresser Memorial Association. No one is even sure of what rental house Dreiser was born in. IT doesn't get much better at Indiana University, where Dreiser was a student in 1889-90. Only one of Dreiser's novels is being taught this semester--that to a class of 30.

At the Monroe County Public Library, Dreiser's masterpieces, An American Tragedy and Sister Carrie, have been checked out fewer than 60 times between them in the past five years. Dreiser deserves better. Although he died in 1945, his novels still have plenty of life in them. They are powerful stories of lust, greed and class struggle. "He is one of the great writers and is relevant today," said Philip Greasley, a professor at the University of Kentucky. Greasley edited the recently published

Dictionary of Midwestern Literature (Indiana University Press), in which Dreiser is prominently featured. Dreiser specialist Keith Newlin, a professor at the University of North Carolina, said: "The themes Dreiser wrote about are still with us. Take his novel Jennie Gerhardt about a young woman who falls in love with a U.S. senator. I told my students, This is the Condit story. This is the Monica story.' That really caught their attention. "Among scholars there is still a lot of interest in Dreiser," added Newlin, who received his doctorate at IU. "The International Theodore Dreiser Society has doubled in membership in recent years."

One reason scholars are fascinated with Dreiser is that he was a true original. His books broke the mold of how sexuality was described in American literature. Previously, in novels such as the Scarlet Letter, women who had affairs--"fallen women"--were disgraced and punished. Dreiser gave a realistic treatment of sexuality, in which women were willing partners and men were forced to deal with the consequences.

Such themes led Dreiser's own publisher to derail his first novel, Sister Carrie. Despite critical acclaim, only 1,000 copies were published in the United States. Dreiser had a nervous breakdown and was close to suicide before his brother grabbed him off the streets and put him in a sanitarium.

Dreiser regained his strength and began churning out novels such as Jennie Gerhardt, The Genius and An American Tragedy, which was made into the movie A Place in the Sun, starring Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift. The threat from censors never went away. Some of his books were banned; others were pulled from the shelves by "vice suppression" leagues. Dreiser found himself embroiled in court battles to get his books published. Today, the typical prime-time TV show is racier than any of Dreiser's novels. But while the outrage has long passed, the power of his storytelling endures. For example,

passed, the power of his storytelling endures. For example,
Dreiser's novel *The Financier*,
based on the ruthless 19th
century financier Charles Yerkes,
is considered one of the best
books about business ever
written. Dreiser had the uncanny
ability to make complicated
subjects like the bond market
interesting.

Dreiser differed from earlier writers not only in content, but in style. Instead of the lofty Victorian tone, Dreiser had a pulverizing approach to prose, piling detail upon detail. *An American Tragedy* runs 800 pages.

In that way, Dreiser reminds me of Bob Dylan. While Dylan's voice is rough and at times grating, the power of his singing and lyrics rises above it. Dreiser's passion and sensitivity overcome the rough edges of his prose. So why isn't Dreiser revered in Indiana? Richard Dowell, a retired

professor at Indiana State University in Dreiser's hometown of Terre Haute, offered a few theories.

"Unlike Booth Tarkington and other Indiana writers of his time. Dreiser wasn't wholesome." Dowell said. "His stories were negative. On a personal side, once he left Terre Haute, he only returned one time. He didn't do much to cultivate the affections of the natives. His brother, Paul Dresser was just the opposite. He was part of the community, slapping backs and so forth." Then there were Dreiser's political beliefs. Late in life, he became a member of the American Communist Party. "When I used Dreiser's novels in class. I would sometimes hear from students who said their mothers were worried about them reading a communist," Dowell said. Still, Dowell said that Dreiser ranks among the greatest American writers and has much

Still, Dowell said that Dreiser ranks among the greatest American writers and has much to offer today's readers.
"He's very powerful," Dowell said. "He can be absolutely gripping."

#### New Books

#### NEW BOOKS

Why are you still alive? A
German in the Gulag. This
dramatic biography, first
published in German ("Wieso
lebst du noch?: Ein Deutscher im
Gulag," 1993), is now available in
English from The Germans from
Russia Heritage Collection. The

author, Georg Hildebrandt, just turned 90 this year.

Many Germans died in Siberian detention camps during Stalin's dictatorship. Russian-Germans were declared public enemies and, after Hitler's 1941 invasion of Russia, accused of collaborating with the Fascists. Hildebrandt's biography provides a shocking document with amazing memory and precision.

Erich Franz Sommer writes in the preface that testimonies were only rarely given by camp inmates and those German colonists who experienced collectivization in the Volga region, in Ukraine, the Caucasus, and on the Crimean peninsula, and who have survived decades of resettlement in Siberia and Central Asia.

That is why this biography and the report of suffering by the Ukrainian-German author are of documentary value. He speaks not only for himself but also for those whose cries and prayers in prisons and in detention camps had found no ear. Sommer stresses that this report recalls a chapter of the Soviet Union's past with which people are still trying to come to terms, and today's Kremlin cannot be indifferent towards revising it.

Orders: Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, Georg Hildebrandt Book, NDSU Libraries, PO Box 5599, Fargo, ND 58105-5599. (\$35+\$3 s/h, payable to NDSU Libraries). Luxembourgers in the New World. Nicholas Gonner's Die Luxemburger in der Neuen Welt (Dubuque, Iowa, 1889) is now available in a 2-volume English and reedited version by Jean Ensch, Jean-Claude Muller and Robert E. Owen. It includes a complete index of the personal and place-names cited in Gonner's newspaper, the Luxemburger Gazette (1871-1918) that linked Luxemb[o]urgers throughout the U.S.

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and its emigrants to America have received little attention, not only because of the "minute population" of less than 400,000 people making up the Grand Duchy, but, but also because of somewhat confusing historical-political circumstances. "Nowhere is this more evident than in immigration statistics... Luxembourgers were categorized as Prussions, Germans, Belgians, Dutch, French--only occasionally as Luxemburgers." Until 1866, Luxemb[o]urg was part of the German Federation.

During the late Middle Ages, Luxemburger princes played a leading role as emperors of the "Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation": Heinrich VII (1308-1313); Karl IV (1346-1378), founder of the first German university 1348--in Prague; Wenzel (1378-1410); Sigismund (1410-1437).

Indiana's small group of Luxembourger settlers chose esp.

La Porte, Perry, Jay and St.
Joseph counties. Many of them,
as members of the Congregation
of the Holy Cross, became active
as priests, brothers and nuns at
Notre Dame, most notably Father
Hessberg, the long-time president
of this Catholic university.

Luxemb[o]urgers may speak their German dialect at home and French in business and government. Lines from the 1848 poem, "Aus aler Zeit" (From Olden Days) reveals the dialect deviation from High German: "...Mer haten net fill, we mer komen an d'Land / Dach Kraeften, de hate mir, Fleiss a Verstand..." (We didn't have much when we came to this land / But strength we did have, diligence and brains). Publisher: Schortgen, Editions-Reliures Schortgen (1987), Eschsur-Alzette, Luxembourg. 393 + 690 pages.

#### NEW BOOK ONLINE

Annemarie Springer: Nineteenth Century German-American Church Artists with many illustrations, can now be found on the Max Kade German-American Center Website: http://www-lib.iupui.edu/kade/ springer/index.html

The book traces the history of 19th-century German-American artists who decorated mission churches erected by their immigrant countrymen in North America between 1850 and 1900. The majority of the churches were Catholic, but a few belonged to the Protestant faith. Individual artists, their themes and styles, are discussed with accompanying illustrations. The focus is on the painters of altarpieces and murals among them. Special attention is paid to the links between the religious art practiced by the early nineteenth century German Romantic group of Nazarenes and their German-American disciples who hailed from Munich. King Ludwig I of Bavaria, the Ludgwigmissionsverein, and the Benedictine Archabbot Boniface Wimmer played important roles

in the dissemination of German church art in the U.S.

The author has divided the manuscript into regional activities by the immigrant German artists. Their works may be found mainly in eastern and midwestern states of the U.S. Special attention is devoted to churches in southern Indiana. Unfortunately, a number of magnificent German churches in rural and urban areas have been razed or altered due to ethnic population shifts and/or urban sprawl.

The book points out the urgent need for preservation of an important historical heritage and acknowledgment of a group of dedicated, talented German artists intent on creating beauty for transplanted religious communities from the Old World.

# Indiana German Beritage Society

#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

For joining or membership renewal, please use this statement and make checks payable to the Indiana GermanHeritage Society. To increase Society support, you may wish to designate a higher category. All contributions are tax deductible

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German high school student in Wasserburg,
Germany, Vincennes'
sister city, expressed
their condolences and
support, using pictures
and words such as this
after the September 11
terrorist attacks. See article about Germany's
response on page 1 of
this Newsletter.

