

Indiana German Heritage Society Newsletter

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Spring 2006

Annual Meeting Travels to Terre Haute

22nd ANNUAL IGHS SYMPOSIUM IN TERRE HAUTE

When people think of German immigrant settlement in America, cities such as Milwaukee, Cincinnati, or St. Louis come immediately to mind, but hardly anyone ever thinks to mention Terre Haute, Indiana. It may be surprising to some then to learn that this city at one time had a very lively and active German-American community. During the 19th century large numbers of Germans poured into Vigo Countymostly into Terre Haute, where from the 1850s up to around 1890, Germans made up the largest single immigrant group, followed in second place by the Irish.

Just how large was the German-American community in Terre Haute? Imagine, for example, that there were numerous German-American Masonic lodges, social clubs, churches, benevolent societies, bars, hotels, newspapers (11 different ones over 50 years), a German theater, and even two German-American regimental groups from Terre Haute in the Civil War.

Most visibly, Terre Haute was the birthplace and home to a number of nationally significant German-American figures, such as labor

leader and political activist Eugene V. Debs, the renowned author Theodore Dreiser, the songwriter Paul Dresser, businessman Hermann Hulman (grandfather of Tony Hulman of Indianapolis 500 fame), poet laureate Max Ehrmann, and portrait artist Amalie Kuessner.

The Symposium promises a range of interesting presentations, highlighted Friday evening by a delicious German dinner of Kassler Rippchen mit Rotkraut (Germanstyle smoked pork chops with red cabbage) at the colorful and gemuetlich German Oberlandler Club, along with a dramatic presentation on Eugene V. Debs and, we hope, German folk music performed by Crossroads Brass. (Long-time IGHS members may remember fondly the last IGHS meeting and dinner at the Oberlandler Club back in August of 1987).

Saturday's line up of presentations will be held on the campus of Indiana State University and will include an illustrated overview of Terre Haute's German immigrant community plus interesting and informative sessions on Indiana's German Civil War regiment, and various important German immigrants who helped shape Terre Haute and the state of Indiana.

Coffee and pastries will be provided in the morning as well as refreshments throughout the day, and a formal lunch will be provided on campus. Following the presentations there will be tours of the Hulman & Company Clabber Girl Museum and the Eugene V. Debs House Museum, both within walking distance of the campus.

In particular, because of the evening dinner at the Oberlandler Club and the heavy demand for hotel rooms on Friday night, everyone is urged to make conference and hotel reservations as soon as possible.

Ron W. Dunbar



Hermann Hullman

REMBERING OUR TRIP TO TERRE HAUTE OF SUMMER 1987

[Reprinted from IGHS Newsletter Vol. 3, Issue 3, Summer 1987]

PLACES OF INTEREST IN TERRE HAUTE: The last summer Board/ membership meeting [summer 1987] will take us to Terre Haute to explore some of its German heritage and spend an enjoyable evening with members of the Oberlandler Club.

At 1:00 p.m. we will meet at the Club, form a car pool and caravan to the Debs Museum on 451 N.8th St. (812 232-2163) for a visit of the home of Eugene V. Debs and a presentation on Debs by Professor Robert Constantine. On our way to the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College we will visit St. Benedict's Catholic Church. We will return to the Oberlandler Club at 6:00 p.m. for dinner (pork roast) and dance (both for \$7.50) Karl Kugler will play his zither. Our thanks goes to Hilde Crisp and Lee Phifer for an interesting program.

Eugene V. Debs (1855-1926), pioneer of the American labor movement and the country's best known socialist leader was a native and lifelong resident of Terre Haute. Dr. Constantine will speak about the importance of Debs to the Socialist movement and provide some insight into his ethnolinguistic background. Debs' parents emigrated from Kalmar in the Alsace circa 1850. The maiden name of Eugene Debs' mother was Pettrich, and Debs was married to Kate Metzel. Albert Schweizer, the great humanitarian born in Kaisersberg in the Alsace. was a distant relative of Debs. Legalistically interpreted, the citizenship of the Debs family was French, since Alsace, at that time, belonged to France until 1871; ethnolinguisti-

cally, however, they were German. The Alsatians (Elsaesser) speak a form of Allemanic, a German dialect shared by Southwest Germans and the Swiss. E.V. Debs--so his fellow townsman Max Ehrmann--frequently quoted Goethe and Schiller to him at length.

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods was established by six Sisters of Providence who arrived from France in 1840. The buildings were designed by Dietrich August Bohlen of Indianapolis. The Church of the Immaculate Conception was built from 1886 to 1891. It is a replica of Holy Trinity in Paris, France. The stained glass windows with Biblical scenes, the altars, statues and the wood-carved 14 Stations of the Cross around the Church were made at the Royal Art Institute of Bayaria in Munich. The Church is adorned with paintings by the Polish artist Thaddeus Van Zukotynski, a graduate of the Academy of Arts at Munich. The stained Tiffany windows in the Chapel of Perpetual Prayer Adoration were executed in the Royal Bavarian Studios by Gustay van Treeck, Munich.

BOHLEN COLLECTION: The Indiana Historical Society announced a recent addition to its Architectural Archives: The Bohlen Collection. It includes the original drawings of an architectural firm that is believed to be the oldest continuously operated architectural firm in the country. The firm of Bohlen, Myer, Gibson, and Associates, Inc. was begun when Dietrich August Bohlen (1827-1890) established his office in April 1853. Born in Hanover, Germany, Bohlen emigrated to the United States at the age of twenty-four and soon settled in Indianapolis. For a short time he practiced under noted architect Francis Costigan and worked on the Asylum for the Blind. His earliest documented buildings were those for Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College near Terre Haute. The architect's work in Indianapolis spanned a pe-

riod of four decades and included a full range of building types, private residences, commercial architecture, academic building, churches, and institutional buildings, many of which still survive as landmarks of the community. In 1884, Oscar Bohlen (1863-1936), an 1881 graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, joined his father's practice. The firm name was changed to D.A. Bohlen and Son, a name that endured for nearly eighty years. In all, four generations of the Bohlen family were involved in the firm's development: Buildings designed by D.A. Bohlen for Indianapolis include St. John's Catholic Church on South Capitol Street, Roberts Park Methodist Episcopal Church on North Delaware Street, and the original St. Vincent's Hospital located on Fall creek Parkway (now demolished). In partnership with his son, D.A. Bohlen was responsible for Tomlinson Hall, for many years the only public assembly hall in Indianapolis (now demolished), and the City Market. The current principals of the firm are Melvin E.G. Meyer, John M. Gibson, Michael E. Rogers, and Hans P. Mengering.

From Indiana Historical Society News, Vol. 2, No.2, 1987. Reprinted from IGHS Newsletter Vol. 3, Issue 3, Summer 1987.

MAX EHRMANN (1872-1945) REMEMBERS EUGENE V. DEBS (1855-1926)

by Bertha K. Ehrmann
Although reared in Terre Haute,
Indiana, Max Ehrmann did not meet
Eugene V. Debs until the former
became a student at Harvard College.
The impressions of Debs at Cambridge and elsewhere from the pen of
Max Ehrmann are of interest. "No
man in America has been more
hated, and few have been so much

loved as Eugene V. Debs...his opinions are considered by men in high places as the countersign of bloodshed, anarchy and riot, and by millions of others they are regarded as the beacon light that is to lead humanity to a better life and a higher civilization. Whatever may be said of his philosophy, one thing is certain, that he has won a place in American history as one of its greatest orators; and in my opinion, there is not a man on the American platform today that is his equal...

"The first time I heard Mr. Debs was more than ten years ago when I was a student at Harvard. He was booked to lecture at Prospect Union, Cambridge. This was shortly after the Chicago strike; and a good many Harvard students and some instructors came out to see the 'monster.' Mr. Debs was late, but the audience waited. When he came there was no applause. He began to speak, and for more than two hours he held that audience as if riveted to the seats: and they who had come to scorn hovered around him for more than an hour, and went away as friends. It was more than half an hour before I could get to the speaker's stand to shake hands with him.

"The night before that he had spoken to one of the largest audiences that had ever crowded into Faneuil Hall, Boston. And so generously was his message received that, as Dr. John Clark Ridpath afterwards told me, he feared the audience would 'tear him to pieces trying to shake his hand.' Dr. Ridpath believed that Mr. Debs was one of the most masterful orators that had ever been reared on American soil...

"The next time I tried to hear Mr. Debs was in Denver. The crowd was so great that I could not get within 50 feet of the door of the largest public hall in that city...I did, however, get to hear him the next Sunday, in the same city where the day was cele-

brated as Debs Day at Manhattan Beach Gardens...Everybody wore Debs badges and the day was generally observed in Denver as given to the great Socialist."

During the years 1903 to 1917, Max Ehrmann and Eugene V. Debs saw much of each other. Always interested in political and social questions, Max Ehrmann was naturally deeply interested in Debs' crusade for socialism. They had many discussions on the social injustices of the time. On the two occasions when Debs ran for president, Max Ehrmann voted for him, not because he wanted Debs for president but to support the protest vote.

Debs often related to Max Ehrmann memories of his youth. He told of the sad day when, although feeling keenly "the need to know more," he left school in the grades in order to help with the family income. Later when he read in the paper of the graduation of his class from high school he secretly wept. He told of his first job, washing grease from trucks at 50 cents a day, and how, on receiving his first pay of \$4.00 for eight days of work, he ran home and triumphantly gave it to his mother. He related the hardships and accidents of railroad life. When he was 19, realizing again the need of more



education and after long saving, he bought himself an encyclopedia which he sat up nights to read after his return from railroad work. Frequently in these talks Debs recited to Max Ehrmann long passages from Schiller and Goethe in German...

From: Bertha K. Ehrmann, "Reminiscences of Max Ehrmann," Indiana Magazine of History, XLVI (1950), 249-255

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

This week [Sept. 2001] 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 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 Yerkes, is considered one of the best '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 Dreiser differed from earlier writers 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 sanatorium. 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 life, he became a member of the the Sun," starring Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Cliff.

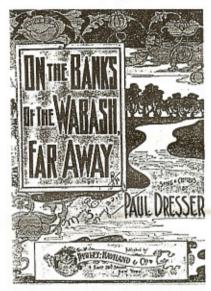
The threat from censors never went away. Some of his books were banned; others were pulled from the shelves by "vice suppression" leagues. Dreiser found himself embroiled in court battles to get his books published. Today the typical prime-time TV show is racier that any of Dreiser's novels. But while the outrage has long passed, the power of his storytelling endures. For example, Dreiser's novel "The Financier," based on the ruthless 19th Century financier Charles books about business ever written. Dreiser had the uncanny ability to make complicated subjects like the bond market interesting.

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

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 to offer today's readers. "He is very powerful," Dowell said. He can be absolutely gripping.

David Hackett, Managing Editor, The Herald-Times, Sept. 1, 2001



ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH FAR AWAY

The composer, Paul Dresser, born to the immigrant family Dreiser in Terre Haute in 1857 captured the hearts not only of all Hoosiers but of the nation as well. With more than 160 songs and his "On the Banks of the Wabash," Dresser became a man of fame and fortune--which he readily shared. His brother, the eminent novelist Theodore Dreiser, sketched how some of these songs came about. And from poet Max Ehrmann, also from Terre Haute, we have a more comprehensive and admiring biographical story. In 1986 we celebrated Paul Dresser at the Athenaeum with a big musical program. He passed away in 1906. Seven years later the General Assembly established "On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away" as the State Song of Indiana.

On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away

Round my Indiana homestead wave the cornfields,

In the distance loom the woodlands clear and cool.

Often times my thoughts revert to scenes of childhood,

Where I first received my lessons, nature's school.

But one thing there is missing in the picture,

Without her face it seems so incomplete.

I long to see my mother in the doorway,

As she stood there years ago, her boy to greet! Refrain:

Oh, the moonlight's fair tonight along the Wabash,

From the fields there comes the breath of new-mown hay.

Thro' the sycamores the candle lights are gleaming,

On the banks of the Wabash, far away.

Many years have passes since I strolled by the river,

Arm in arm with sweetheart Mary by Girl's World War II Story.

my side.

It was there I tried to tell her that I loved her,

It was there I begged her to be my bride.

Long years have passed since I strolled thro' the churchyard,

She's sleeping there, may angel Mary dear.

I loved her but she thought I didn't mean it,

Still I'd give my future were she only here.

Programs and Events

Stammtisch Program Schedule

Stammtisch Programs begin with an

optional dinner at 6:30 pm with program to follow at 7:30 pm. All are welcome. For information contact Giles Hoyt at 317-274-2330 or ghoyt@iupui.edu.

April 12, 2006

"Germany and the European Union: What's the future to Bring?"
John McCormick, Professor of Political Science IUPUI, author of numerous books and articles on the European Union.

May 10, 2006

"Germany as Work: An Internship Experience"

Andrew Wall, Engineering and German Major at IUPUI

June 14, 2006

"Dialect Literature in Southern Germany Today"

Dr. Helmut Haberkamm, prizewinning Franconian dialect poet and playwright from near Erlangen, Germany.

July 12, 2006

"Immigration, Internment, Deportation and Beyond: A Young Girl's World War II Story"

Anneliese C. Krauter, author of From the Heart's Closet: A Young Girl's World War II Story.

GERMAN GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT ZION, INDIANAPOLIS

On Friday, April 14, at 10 a.m. the Annual German Good Friday Service will be held at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ, 416 E. North St., corner of North and New Jersey Streets (1 block from the Athenaeum). Tel. 317-639-5411.

Although the worship service is conducted in German, it is easy to follow: The hymns are familiar to most church-goers and the sermon is printed in English for participants to follow.

Everyone, including students, are encouraged to attend. There are no denominational restrictions. Convenient parking north of the Church. Handicapped and hearing impaired accessible.

MAITANZ AT THE GERMAN-AMERICAN KLUB

Saturday, May 13, 6-11 p.m. celebrate the arrival of Spring the German way with food, drink, song and dancing. Music by JC Swing Time, featuring Vocalist Carole Clark, with Jeff Kunkel on the Accordion and keyboard and Dan Fox on drums. Performance and participation by die Fledermaeuschen TanzGruppe. The Klub is located at 8602 South Meridian, in the German Park, Indianapolis. Dinner and Dance \$18.00. Dance (only with dessert) \$7.00. For Reservations: Dinner and/or Tables for Dance, call the Klub at 317 888-6940 or Wally Vogt at 850-4197

IT IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Our membership year is the same as the calendar year. The renewal form can be found at the back of this Newsletter. Please, check your mailing label for your membership status. Your membership is important to us and your financial support is very much appreciated. It works for our many activities and publications. Please, consider renewing in a higher membership category or donating a little extra. As a not-for-profit organization we depend upon membership fees and (tax deductible) donations as our main sources of income. If you have already renewed we thank you!

> Louise Lamkin, Membership Chair

[Membership Renewal Form can be found on page 15 of this Newsletter] ON THE BANKS OF THE WA-BASH - THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF PAUL DRESSER by Clayton W. Henderson (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press. 2003. Pp. xxix, 48!. Illustrations, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

In this first biography of singer, songwriter, and comedic actor Paul Dresser, Clayton W. Henderson pro-

New Books

vides an engaging and enlightening account of his subject's life and times, with an emphasis on the culture of 1890s popular song. Dresser is a challenging subject for a biography because, unlike his more famous vounger brother, the writer Theodore Dreiser, he left few personal records behind. There seem to be no diaries or autobiographical accounts, and only a few letters. Any chronicle of his life depends upon contemporary sketches in newspapers and magazines and a few reminiscences of friends, most appearing long after Dresser's death. The most detailed accounts of Dresser's personality appear in his brother's works, chiefly the sketch "My Brother Paul" (Twelve Men, 1919) along with a few essays about the 1890s song business. All are refracted through the haze of the younger brother's hero-worship for Paul and his simultaneous disdain for sentimental music. As a result of this dearth of primary materials, Henderson devotes much of his account to sketching the context of American popular song, providing a fascinating and illuminating history of patent medicine showmen, black-face minstrel troupes, vaudeville entertainers, and the business of music publishing.

Born in Terre Haute, Indiana, in
1858 to German immigrant parents,
Paul Dreiser, Jr. was the oldest of ten
surviving children. In a childhood
marked by poverty and privation, he
learned to play the piano, picking out
that the reason for Dresser's importance becomes obscured. There is
little discussion of Dresser's developing craft or why his songs captured
the public interest; indeed, Henderson quotes comparatively few lyrics.

tunes by ear, but never learned to read music. His father, a devout Catholic, wanted Paul to study for the priesthood, but after only a few months at St. Meinrad Seminary in southern Indiana. Paul decided against becoming a priest. He left home at age fifteen to play piano with a traveling medicine show; throughout his teens he worked with patent medicine sellers and in minstrel shows. By age twenty he had published his first song and anglicized his name to Dresser. In 1895 he published "Just Tell Them You Saw Me," the song that was to make him famous, followed in 1897 by the wildly successful "On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away," now the state song of Indiana. At the height of his celebrity. Dresser achieved wealth and enjoyed friendships with leading Broadway stars. He was the silent partner of a music publishing firm, Howley, Haviland & Co., and its magazine, "Ev'ry Month," which his brother Theodore edited. But when his sentimental ballads of home and mother fell out of favor with the advent of ragtime, Dresser fell into a rapid and pathetic decline, dying at age forty-seven in 1906 of complications caused by obesity, alcoholism, and depression.

Henderson's decision to relegate his discussion of Dresser's songs to a section following the biography is problematic. He did so to allow "the reader who cares little about the workings of music to spend most of his or her time in the life-and-times portion of the book and to dip into the song section only when interested" (p. xviii). While the author acknowledges that the disadvantage of such segregation is to separate discussion of the songs from their biographical context, the result is that the reason for Dresser's importance becomes obscured. There is ing craft or why his songs captured the public interest; indeed, Henderson quotes comparatively few lyrics.

Even the discussion of "On the Banks of the Wabash" depends on a paraphrase of the song lyrics. Henderson appears to assume discussion of Dresser's music would put off readers, but most readers of a biography of a songwriter will be interested in the connection of the music to the man.

Perhaps because of the dearth of detail in the record, the strength of the biography is its rich portrayal of the culture of popular song and its biographical sketches of medicine and minstrel showmen, thoroughly documented by Henderson's scouring of historical records. For these reasons, "On the Banks of the Wabash" is a fascinating and thoroughly enjoyable book.

Book Review in: Indiana Magazine of History, Vol. 100, No. 2, June 2004, by Keith Newlin, professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. He is the co-editor of the journal Dreiser Studies, and his most recent book is A Theodore Dreiser Encyclopedia (2003).

From Across the Ocean

THE GERMANS: A LOT LIKE US

Last year Germany became the world's No.1 exporter, larger even than America, despite the fact that the U.S. economy is five times as big.

By Fareed Zakaria (Newsweek)

Oct. 10, 2005 issue - German voters have spoken. We don't want to become Americans." That's how a senior German politician ex-plained the recent election to me. And it's the conventional interpretation. Germans against re-form? are said to have rejected the Christian Democrats' program of economic reform. And they did this despite overwhelming evidenceextremely low growth and high unemployment-that the economy needs restructuring. (Anything can be discredited these days by attaching the label "American" to it.) Reformist voices are quiet, and antiglobalization forces are gleeful. But the latter should put away their party

Germany is changing, and it will change no matter what the new government looks like.

It is strange to call this a vote against reform. Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats ran on the most explicitly market-oriented platform in their party's history, promising painful medicine. With their coalition partners, they received 45 percent of the vote. This was unexpectedly low for them, but still, it represented a large part of the country. Merkel's coalition partners in the Free Democratic Party, with an even stronger freemarket agenda, jumped to one of their best results ever. But perhaps the main reason the election cannot be seen as anti-reform is that the Social Democrats (SPD) and Greens, who received 42 percent of the vote, are the parties that, just two years ago, put through the country's most comprehensive economic-reform program in 40 years.

That program has its problems, it is not nearly enough, but the fact rein any major

European country in a decade. The SPD campaign posters read creating JOBS REQUIRES THE COURAGE TO REFORM, MERKEL'S POST-ERS SAID GERMANY NEEDS CHANGE. Between them, the two got more than 70 percent of the vote.

Does that sound like a mandate

The real story in Germany is that despite the noisy surface battles, there is a growing pragmatic consensus among political elites. Compare Germany with France. In Germany, both parties have serious reform proposals, and one has carried out some of these. There are numerous think tanks that explain why such reforms are necessary. A large part of the German press and business elite supports them vocally. None of this is true of France. There is more serious discussion about economic reform in one month in Germany than there is in one year in France. And it is not just talk. German industry has begun a process of deep restructuring, forced by the pressures of global capitalism as much as by any government policies. Last week, despite the election results, Mercedes confirmed 8,500 job cuts and Volkswagen announced that it would keep a plant open because its union had agreed to large cost reductions. As a result of such measures, Germany's most competitive industries already are strengthening. Only two major economies have actually gained in their share of global exports of manufactured goods in the past five years: China and Germany. Last year Germany became the world's leading exporter of goods, larger even than the United States, despite the fact that the U.S. economy is five times as large. Germany's labor productivity is as high as that of America's, and its unit labor costs are now lower.

mains that this was more reform than It has been able to do all this despite massive constraints. Unlike the United States, Germany cannot lower its interest rates to smooth over its troubles, because it doesn't control the European Central Bank. It cannot depreciate its currency, which would make its wages more attractive, because it doesn't control the euro and continues to pay for reunification.

Germany spends 4 percent of its GDP on transfer payments to the east. The country has many deep problems, but it still has an impressive economy with world-class companies.

Germany's real problem is not simply economic but psychological. Despite being the third richest country in the world, it is among the gloomiest. And this hyper-angst translates into low consumer spending. In the past five years, the American consumer has kept our economy going through the stock-market crash, recession, 9/11, war and high oil prices. In economics, confidence is a self-fulfilling proposition. You spend and invest because you think things are getting better, and presto, they do. If Germans spent half as much as Americans, the German economy would be booming. Here German politicians are to blame. They have presented reforms to the voters entirely in terms of pain and sacrifice, heighten-ing insecurity. Chancellor Gerhard Schroder's speech introducing his reforms was almost Churchillian in asking for blood, toil, tears and sweat. Merkel spoke in similar tones. A better model might be Ronald Reagan, who enacted tough measures while speaking of "morning in America." Or Franklin Roosevelt, who told his country at the worst moment of the Great Depression, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

John Kornblum, a former U.S. ambassador to Germany, thinks Americans have also contributed to the problem. "We love to trash Germany. We sell more to it than virtually anyplace, buy more from it, invest more in it. It's been a friend for decades, a democracy that shares many of our basic goals around the world. Why do we keep telling them how bad things are, how pathetic they are? How does this help us?" How indeed!

MSNBC and Newsweek: comments@fareedzakaria.com. URL: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/ id/9558224/site/newsweek/from/ET/

HOOSIER LINKS TO HERMANN AT KALKRIESE

by David S. Drever

This year Sunman, IN, celebrates its Sesquicentennial. It is predominantly a German community and two of its early citizens were from Engter Parish ten miles north of Osnabrueck. One was Herman Nieman who was Sunman's foremost businessman; the other was my great-grandfather, Herman Drever. Both bore the name of Engter's own national hero, but his historical link with Engter was not known at the time. The significance of their origins beneath the hill known as the Kalkriese (Chalk Giant) had been virtually lost from German history. Yet they have a claim to a special German heritage of having been born near the hill from which their namesake Hermann launched his historic attack annihilating three Roman legions in 9 A.D.

That special heritage is not limited to these two immigrants in Sunman because immigrants from Engter and its neighbors Venne, Hunteburg and Damme settled in many locations throughout Indiana. The hill behind Sauer's Lutheran Church west of Brownstown, Indiana bears an eerie resemblance to the Kalkriese, while the rich farmland that stretches eastward towards Seymour and Dudleytown resembles rural countryside near the empty landscape which separates Engter and neighboring Venne (fen) from Damme, Oldenburg. It was between the Kalkriese and that empty fen that Roman legions under their commander Varus were trapped on a narrow road by Hermann and his warriors and were unable to maneuver into battle formation. On hearing the news the Emperor Augustus cried out. "Varus.

Varus bring me back my legions, Varus" This anguished cry is echoed in the song once taught to German school children that was entitled "Die Teutoburger Wald Schlacht" (Battle of the Teutoburg Forest). It was even included in a German songbook "Deutsche Lieder" for students published by Scherer and Dirks in Indianapolis.

For many years the battle was believed to have taken place in the Teu- Engter, Venne, Hunteburg, etc. The toburg Forest near Detmold where a huge statue of Hermann was erected in the late 1800s. An American statue of Hermann was erected at New Ulm, Minnesota, to commemorate the German victory. However, there have always been doubts about its actual location. The German historian Theodor Mommsen argued that Kalkriese might be the actual site of the battle, and when the author of this piece visited Engter for the first time in 1985, he photographed a small road known as the "Heerstrasse" or "Roman Road" which led through the village of Kalkriese, thinking it might be the battle site. Indeed, it was! Two years later, British army officer, Major Tony Clunn, dug and found many Roman artifacts beneath the soil on the Fisse-Niewedde farm at Kalkriese. Further excavations have given new life to the claims of Engter's Kalkriese as the real site of the 9 A.D. Battle

Indeed, one may now ask why the American statue of Hermann at New Ulm should not be relocated to the hill west of Sauer's Church, just as the statue of Hermann at Detmold rightly belongs at the Kalkriese! That is because the Jackson and Bartholomew county settlements as well as the Huntersville and Oldenburg settlements near Batesville as well as the two "Hermans" in Sunman, all have their origins in the vicinity of Kalkriese. Huntersville is now part of Batesville, but is located within a few miles of Catholic Oldenburg. They were settled by people from the launched his attack 9 A.D.

vicinity of Kalkriese, one Catholic, the other Protestant, as determined by the Peace of Westphalia made at Osnabrueck and Muenster 358 years ago at the end of the 30 Years War.

Thanks to the translations of the Huntersville churchbook by German immigrant Richard Theilig, it was discovered that Huntersville people came from an arc of villages south of the old Duchy of Oldenburg such as neighboring Oldenburg community was already known to have come from Damme, Oldenburg, the area across the moor to the north of Kalkriese, the southern pocket of the Duchy of Oldenburg which protrudes into the old Bishopric of Osnabrueck. Huntersville and Oldenburg families were neighbors in Germany and they remain neighbors in Franklin County. They were separated in Germany by the moor which trapped the Roman legions and they are separated today by the traffic jams over the Interstate bridge at Batesville which trap the motorist The beautiful lower Laughery valley between Olean and Friendship in Ripley County is also the home of another settlement of people from the Engter/Kalkriese/Venne vicinity. Some are also found at Farmers' Retreat in nearby Dearborn County.

One of those Hoosiers whose family came from the Kalkriese is Seymour rock star John Mellencamp whose Moehlenkamp ancestors once lived on the farm located closest to the summit of the Kalkriese. The rubble of the Moehlenkamp homestead still lies near that summit, and several years ago I gave John one of those pieces, to which he replied, "Oh, yeah?!" Although the archeological site beneath the Kalkriese is no longer used as a venue for rock concerts, I still have a vision of John being able to give a concert from the side of that hill where his ancestors once lived and from which Hermann The largest group of Hoosier settlers from the Kalkriese area is in southwestern Bartholomew and central Jackson counties, an area with numerous Lutheran churches including Sauer's, Borcher's, Dudleytown, Wegan, White Creek and Waymansville, plus others in Seymour and Columbus. In Dubois County in southwestern Indiana, rural Lutheran churches near Holland also have their origins in the Kalkriese vicinity. Another community from Catholic Damme may be found at Muenster, Ohio.

Udo Thoerner, this writer's fourth cousin on the Dreyer side, lives with his wife Doris in the middle of the moor at Campemoor. They have made a number of trips to the United States to track down the destinations of the nearly one thousand immigrants who left the village of Venne. Udo and Doris have found them at Venedy in Washington County, IL. southeast of St. Louis; near Richland in southeastern Iowa; and near Woodville, southeast of Toledo. Ohio. Thy also found them in major cities, particularly St. Louis, Cincinnati & Pittsburg, but their greatest concentration are in the Jackson-Bartholomew county vicinity and in parts of Ripley, Dearborn and Franklin counties.

What became of the tribe of Hermann and his Cheruskans is not entirely certain. Some have suggested they were absorbed by the Saxons who later fought a guerrilla war under Wittekind against the Franks under Charlemagne who was made-Emperor of a later "Holy Roman Empire". One of the families at Kalkriese, the von Bars, have been in the Kalkriese vicinity for almost 1000 years. Is it possible that the families around Kalkriese are descended from Hermann, or his Gheruskan warriors? DNA testing may yet reveal more specific genetic origins of European people, but not to worry, by now descent from

Hermann's warriors is likely to be spread throughout German-speaking peoples, just as descent from the Pharaohs may be well nigh unto universal today.

Nevertheless, a significant number of Hoosier Germans must have a high concentration of the Cheruskan DNA and a special relationship to Hermann and the Kalkriese from which their ancestors came. To have descended from people who lived around this relatively undeveloped site, one can sense why their progeny kept many of the areas of Indiana in which they settled in a more pristine rural condition than much of this state.

As for Hermann, his significance to history and culture will long be debated. The historian Creasy in his "Fifteen Most Important Battles of the World" sees Hermann as saving the Saxon heritage which was to cross over the channel into Britain in the 400-600 A.D. Others see Hermann as a more sinister forerunner of "German imperialism" even though Hermann's actions were defensive against the then imperial armies of Rome. The Hermann story resurfaced in other German myths through the ages. Recent research has echoed the ideas put forward 50 years ago by German immigrant Franz Barkenau in the posthumous publication of his book "End and Beginning: in which Hermann is seen as the proto-type of Siegfried of the Nibelungen Lied (Saga) located among the Burgundians on the upper Rhine near Worms. It was from these stories that the "Ring Cycle" operas of Richard Wagner were created. Hitler was entranced by Wagner and in his delusion saw himself in the aura of Siegfried & Hermann.

I think one should see Hermann in a more favorable light, not as the traitor of imperial Rome (which as a former Roman soldier he certainly was), or as some ignorant barbarian, but as one who resisted Romanization, not its civilization, but to save his own culture. In the midst of globalization, the rural origins of ethnic cultures are the last and crumbling bulwark of those places which hold our past. Vast urban sprawl of multinational corporate consumer culture threatens our distinctive agrarian pasts as much as Rome once threatened Hermann's own tribal culture.

To me, Hermann is a symbol of individual resistance to such imperial power. It seems to me no coincidence that a large "empty" dark spot as seen from the air at night is one of the most beautiful landscapes in Indiana settled by the descendants of the Kalkriese: To one frequent flyer from rural Jackson County, the absence of commercial lighting below tells him that he is approaching his "Heimat," his own true home.

[Longtime IGHS member David Dreyer currently resides with his wife Eve beneath Anna Mound complex near Natchez, Mississippi.]



TRAVEL TO GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

Mozart and the World Soccer Cup are the main attractions this year. While Vienna and Salzburg are celebrating the jubilee year of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 250th birthday concerts (www.mozart2006.net/eng/ index.html), Germany is preparing for the FIFA World Cup 2006, the world's largest sporting event. Begin- own Koelsch beer, the city has over ning June 9, 12 German cities will host 32 soccer teams, who will fight 4 weeks for the title. Fifty towns and cities are planning live telecasts on enormous screens (fifaworldcup.yahoo.com). If Fussball is your major interest Berlin,

Hamburg, Cologne, Frankfurt-am-Main, Stuttgart, Munich, Dortmund, Gelsenkirchen, Hanover, Kaiserslautern, Leipzig, and/or Nuremberg, should be on your travel itinerary.

If you would like to combine soccer with bright lights, glitzy restaurants and nightclubs, Berlin should be your destination. The fall of the wall almost 15 years ago allowed Berlin to redesign the unified city. Potsdamer Platz has been reborn in a flurry of new construction, with stunning architecture, alluring cafes, restaurants, movie houses, a shopping center and a film museum. A stroll along the Kurfuerstendamm takes visitors through the heart of Berlin. The wide boulevard with its landscaped median includes streetside stalls and upscale shops selling everything from flowers to haute cou-

Hamburg, Germany's second-largest city, has been a bustling port since Hanseatic League days. A new emigration museum under construction, the BallinStadt, will tell the story of the hundreds of thousands, who passed through its port on their way to the New World. With a large lake in the center, a lively cultural scene, and the [in]famous St. Pauli/ Reeperbahn red-light district, it offers much to do and to see.

Cologne, Indianapolis' Sister City is a UNESCO World Heritage. Founded by the Romans, with a 2,000 years' history, it is the oldest of major German cities. Its imposing

with programs, exhibits, festivals and Gothic cathedral St. Peter & Mary, begun in 1248 and finished seven centuries later, shelters remains of the Three Magi. Specializing in its 3,000 public houses, restaurants and breweries.

> Frankfurt am Main is the financial center of Germany and, with its airport, the usual gateway for American visitors. Its

> skyscraper skyline is the only one of its kind in Germany. More than three dozen museums and 100 art galleries make it a tourist delight. The Kaiserdom (Imperial Cathedral) is where the kings of the Holy Roman Empire were chosen, and was also the site of the coronations of 10 emperors. It is also the birthplace of Germany's greatest poet, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832).

Stuttgart is the home to both Mercedes-Benz and Porsche and a magnet for automobile buffs who visit their museums. Late in the summer, the city hosts a wine festival to showcase the wines of its surroundings. The annual Bach Festival draws Jews of Europe. The splendor of music lovers from around the world. Wilhelma, Europe's largest zoo and botanical gardens, has a new building replicating an Amazonian jungle.

Munich, where the recently elected Pope Benedict XVI, was Archbishop for four years, houses a richness of religious art. The newly renovated Alte Pinakotek Museum in Munich is Neuschwanstein, is one of the most home to some of Europe's finest religious masterpieces from the 14th to 19th centuries, including work by Fra Angelico, Botticelli, da Vinci, Raphael, Duerer, Rubens, Rembrandt, El Greco, and Goya (www.alte-pinakothek.de). Each year millions converge on Munich for "Oktoberfest." Originating as a celebration of the marriage of King Ludwig I to Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen in 1810, it's now a combination carnival, food fest and opportunity to consume pro-

digious quantities of beer. Munich's most famous beer hall is the Hofbraeuhaus, where visitors have been enjoying regional food, music and dance since 1589.

Germany offers many significant religious, historical and cultur-al destinations and events. In the Alpine hills of Upper Bavaria, childhood home of Pope Benedict, situated between Munich and Passau, lies Altoetting, the pilgrimage site of the Black Madonna. For over 500 years, the Black Madonna has been one of the most important Roman Catholic pilgrimage sites associated with the Virgin Mary. On par with Lourdes or Santiago de Campostela, the Mercy Chapel and the graceful baroque buildings are an attraction for non-Catholics as well (www.altoetting.de). Or you may want to visit the central German towns of Wittenberg and Eisenach where Luther preached. There are great churches and church art and architecture, the festivals for Bach and Haendel and the recently completed Memorial to the Murdered Bavarian baroque church architecture is kept alive in towns, such as Wuerzburg, Bamberg, Nuremberg and Landshut. The Wies Church, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a rococo jewel lying in the Bavarian fields, and Kloster Ettal is another gem nestled in the Alpine foothills. Germany's "fairy tale" castle popular palaces in Europe, Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom patterned its castle after it. This is King Ludwig II's most famous castle, built between 1869 and 1886, above the Alpsee Lake and with the Alps towering above it. Ludwig may have bankrupted Bayaria with his building spree in the mid-19th century, but his castles now support a thriving tourism in the region.

TRAVEL HELP

Germany has a reasonably priced transit system including buses, subways and rapid transit rail. Its freeway network, including the Autobahn, connects all major cities. All major car rental companies have either affiliates in Germany or have German operations themselves. Americans may drive in Germany up to one year on a U.S. driver's license. The Euro is used throughout Europe. One Euro equals about \$1.22. You will need a valid pass-port. For more information about lodging, dining, sites and weather, go online to www.cometogermany.com.

LOWEST EUROPEAN AUTO RENTAL--plus rail & air contact: Gemütlich-keit, 288 Ridge Rd., Ashland, OR 97520-2829, or www.gemut.com or call 800-521-6722. For latest car promos call Andy at 800-521-6722; for rail passes 800-521-6722, ext. 3; for air get a no obligation quote on www.gemut.com or call Laura at 800-521-6722, ext. 2.

OVERNIGHT: Visitors to the area Rothenburg-Nuremberg-Wuerzburg can stay for \$25 in a double room with a mighty breakfast (single occupancy a little more) at the PASTO-RIUS-HAUS in Bad Windsheim. A Bed and Breakfast, this Americanowned beautiful half-timbered house is named for Franz Daniel Pastorius, the founder of Germantown, PA.

The not-for-profit Pastorius Home Association offers group tours, independent travel, flights and car rental at bargain prices. For vouchers for the Pastorius Haus in Bad Windsheim, reservations & Pastorius Tours call/fax Bernice Hicks 610-767-6981 or write to: American-German Union, PO Box 66, Germansville, PA 18053-0066. For Europe-On-Your-Own packages call/fax Roberta Habern at 610-264-3373; e-mail Berti4953@aol.com When in Germany, contact Pastorius

Haus, An der Heuwaag 1, 91438 Bad Windsheim, tel. 09841/7078.

GERMAN HERITAGE TOURS: Dr. Wolfgang Grams combines Heritage Travel and Research Services. All tours are driver-guided in a van for a minimum of 6 travelers. Info: Dr. Wolfgang Grams, Babe-nend 127, 26127 Oldenburg, Germany. Phone 011 49-441-9620433, fax 011 49-441-9620434; e-mail Routes@t-online.de; heritage tours, services for pre-trip research, personal itineraries and custom-ized group tours can be found at www.routes.de/

"Discover your Roots in Germany:" brochure can be downloaded from the German National Tourist Office Website as a PDF file: www.cometogermany.com/ roots_flyer.pdf Paper copies can be ordered from the German National Tourist Office, 122 East 42nd Street, Suite 2000, New York, NY 10168 - 0072; (212) 661 7200 - (800) 637 1171; gntonyc@d-z-t.com

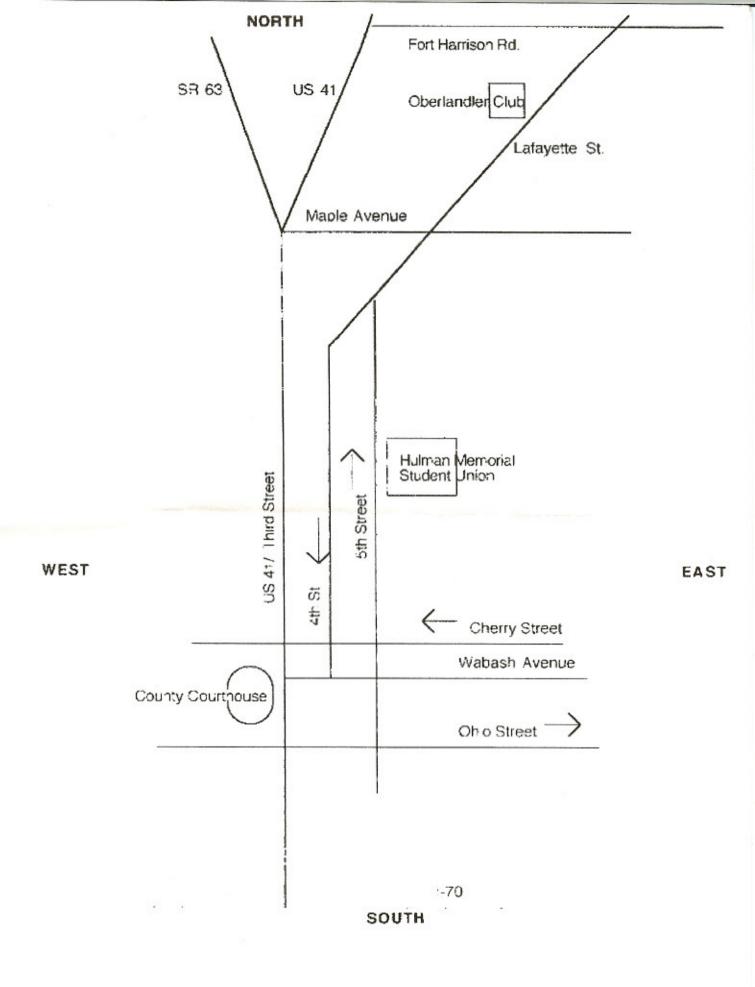
"Find your Roots in Germany" Website blends research and travel information. You can navigate with links and tools for research-ers and travelers and access resources, publications, projects, databases etc. related to the migration experience as well as to tourist information.



22nd Annual Meeting and Symposium March 24 and 25, 2006 Terre Haute, Indiana

Friday evening, March 24: Terre Haute German Oberlandler Club, 1616 Lafayette Street

5:00 p.m 5:30-6:0 6:00 7:00 Speech.		
Saturda	y, March 25: Hulman Memorial Student Union on the Campus of Indiana State University: Dede Activity Space II	
8:45 a.n	n. Registration, coffee and refreshments	
9:15	Welcome: Giles Hoyt, President, Indiana German Heritage Society	
9:30	"German Immigration to Terre Haute and the Wabash Valley: an Overview." Ronald W. Dunbar, Chair, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, Indiana State University	
10:15	Coffee break	
10:30	"Max Ehrmann: Terre Haute's Poet Laureate." Dorothy Weinz Jerse, Terre Haute author, columnist and historian	
11:15	"German Blood Shed in this War." Michael A. Peake, Civil War historian from Woodlawn, TN, will provide a Power Point presentation on German-Americans serving in the Civil War, with special attention to the 32 nd Indiana Regiment	
12:00	Lunch, Dede Activity Space III (Afternoon program returns to Dede Activity Space II)	
1:15	"Albert Lange, a German-American Success Story." James Gould of the Athenaeum Foundation and a descendent of Lange. A presentation on one of Terre Haute's earlies German settlers who rose to become Civil War mayor of Terre Haute, U.S. Ambassador to Holland, and State Auditor of Indiana under Governor Morton.	
1:45	"Hermann Hulman, Terre Haute Pioneer." Pamela Meeks, official historian of the Clabber Girl Corporation and curator of Clabber Girl museum. Presentation on Hermann Hulman, grandfather of Tony Hulman, Jr., philanthropist, civic leader and founder of Hulman and Company.	
2:30	Tour of Clabber Girl Museum, corner 9th and Wabash Avenue	
3:00	Tour of Debs Museum, home of the labor leader and political activist, maintained by Eugene V. Debs Society, 8th Street north of Chestnut (within boundaries of ISU campus)	



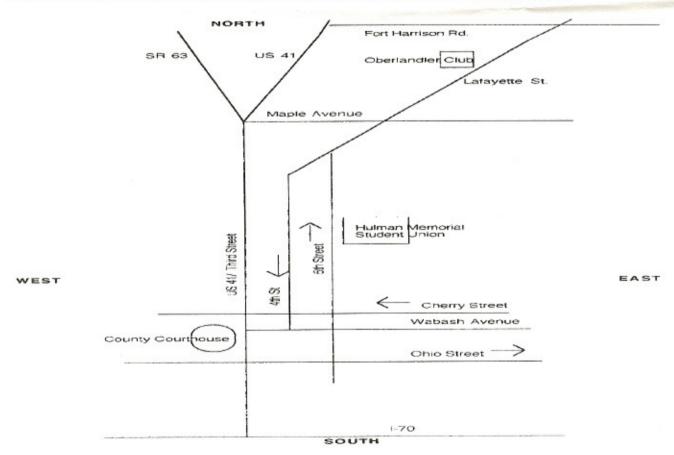
REGISTRATION

Friday E	vening Dinner and Program				
•	\$20.0	0 per Person	Num	ber	Total \$
	After March 15:\$25.00 per Person		Number Total \$		\$
Saturday	Registration and Luncheon	(includes continent	al breakfast, refr	eshments	s, and tours)
•	\$25.00 per Person		Number		Total \$
	After March 15: \$30.00 per Person		Number	Number Total \$	
				Grand T	otal S
Name		Address _			
City, Stat	e, Zip code				

Make checks payable to Indiana German Heritage Society and send to: IGHS Annual Meeting, 401 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. For information call (812) 237-2367.

Hotel Reservations: A block of rooms has been reserved at the Fairfield Inn for Friday night March 24; reservations may be made by calling (812) 235-2444. The Fairfield Inn is located ½ block west of Third Street (US 41) at 475 E. Margaret Drive, which runs east-west, one block north of I-70.

Directions to Terre Haute Oberlandler Clubhouse (1616 Lafayette Avenue): Heading east on Maple Ave. turn left (north) at the first traffic light, heading north on Lafayette Ave. After driving about a mile north you will see the German Oberlandler Clubhouse, a German-style half-timbered building on yor left. Parking is in the rear.



THE INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

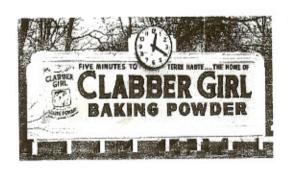
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Individual \$20.00 Family \$25.00	Sponsor \$500.00							
Organization \$50.00 Benefactor \$1,000.00								
Patron \$50.00Library Rate \$15.00								
Full-time Student \$5.00 (with teacher's signature)								
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wish to donate books/materials. Please contact me.								
	to: Indiana German Heritage Society and send to the t Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204							
My specific interests in Germ	an-Americana are:							
Family	Music							
Local Community/C	ityArts							
Genealogy	Architecture							
General	Traditions Folklore							
German Language P	rogramsTeaching Materials							
Cultural Exchange a	nd/or Sister Cities Programs							
Other								
Knowledge of German:	none fluent							
Knowledge of German script	none good							
Yes, am willing to help	with activities!							
Name(s)								
State								
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Tours of The Clabber Girl Museum and the Dresser House will be included in this year's Annual Meeting in Terre Haute