CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS MOURNS THE LOSS OF KURT VONNEGUT
By Mayor Bart Peterson

Indianapolis mourns the loss of a native son who became one of the greatest writers of the 20th Century. Born and raised in Indianapolis, Kurt Vonnegut regularly referenced his Hoosier ties and spoke fondly of his formative years here. The pride that Vonnegut often expressed in his Indianapolis roots has certainly been reciprocated through the community pride we have for this American icon and his imaginative, thought-provoking work.

Vonnegut will continue to live on through his art and profound literature - which mixed dark humor with critical thinking and impacted the way many view the society we live in. Indianapolis will certainly do its part to commemorate and honor him through the 'Year of Vonnegut' celebration and beyond. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Vonnegut family.

GERMAN HERITAGE CELEBRATED AT THE ARTSGARDEN
By Charles Most & David S. Dreyer

Saturday, April 28, 2007 was a pleasant spring day, with the sun streaming into the atrium at the Indianapolis Artsgarden in the Circle Center Mall. The event was a preview of the transformed Central Library which is scheduled to open later in this year. Approximately 200 people were present for the ceremony. Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. was to have been present to place a copy of his book, *Slaughterhouse-Five*, in a time capsule which would be placed in the new Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library building. Alas, it was not to be, so his son Mark Twain Vonnegut stood in his father's shoes.

The German-American ambiance was evident. A number of choral pieces were performed by The Indianapolis Männerchor, which had once been directed by Kurt's great-grandfather, Prof. Karl Barus from 1882-1896. Also prominent was the excellent exhibit created by the IUPUI...
Ruth Lilly Archives Special Collections: "The Vonneguts, the German-Americans, and the Shaping of Indianapolis". Featured in this display was a letter from Herman Lieber to Franklin Vonnegut seeking funds for Shades Park and some similar documents which illustrated how important the Vonnegut family and its allied families have been to this community.

The IGHS Award's presentation was preceded by a recitation of an original poem by Indianapolis poet Ricardo Parra and followed by the Vonnegut family's presenting a signed first edition of Slaughterhouse Five to the time-capsule that will be placed in the cornerstone of the new Indianapolis Central Library.

Retiring IGHS Board Member Charles Most presented Mark Vonnegut with a plaque, naming his father the German-American of the Year. Most remarked: "It was certainly not anticipated that this would be a posthumous recognition; however, under these unexpected circumstances we are very glad that you are here to accept this honor on behalf of your father."

"Perhaps, like Billy Pilgrim, Kurt might now find himself transported into the agreeable company of those people who frequented the Deutsche Haus here at the end of the 19th century. That magnificent building, designed and built by Bernard Vonnegut with Arthur Bohn, was at one time a gathering place for the so-called Freethinkers to discuss the issues of the day. I think Kurt would feel very much at home with his forbearers there. That historic place, now called The Athenaeum, is today the home of The Indiana German Heritage Society, on behalf of which I am honored to present this recognition which reads as follows:"

GERMAN-AMERICAN OF THE YEAR 2007
AWARDED TO
KURT VONNEGUT, JR.
FOR
HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF
CREATIVE WRITING AND THOUGHT
TO THIS STATE, TO THE NATION, AND TO
THE WORLD
BY THE
INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

David Dreyer also presented him with a pen & ink portrait of Kurt, Jr., that was done in 1980 by an artist named Davis from his personal collection. Vonnegut, in turn presented the Indiana German Heritage Society with a handmade booklet entitled Natur by Goethe inscribed to Alex Vonnegut by the artist who created this single copy edition.

Charles Most presents IGHS plaque to Mark Vonnegut to honor his father as the German-American of the Year 2007

Indiana German Heritage Society Newsletter

The Indiana German Heritage Society was founded in 1984 as a statewide historical and educational membership organization aimed at preserving and celebrating Indiana's German Heritage. The Society is headed by a volunteer board of directors, it is a non-profit organization and qualifies for tax-deductible donations.

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LONGTIME IGHS NEWSLETTER EDITOR SAYS AUF WIEDERSEHEN!

When I was asked to become editor of the Indiana German Heritage Society Newsletter some 19 years ago, I reluctantly agreed, figuring I would do it for a couple of years and someone else would either want to do it or I would gracefully bow out. During that time we have gone from pasting up to having it completed on a disk and sent to the printer.

In 2005 my duties at the Indiana Historical Society required more of my time and it has become more and more difficult to continue editing the Newsletter. Steven Schmidt has now agreed to serve as Editor and I feel confident that the publication with flourish under his editorship. I do take pride in the fact that in 18 years we were never late in announcing a major event and never missed an issue. The majority of the credit for this goes to Ruth Reichmann, managing editor, and Eb Reichmann who contributed about 90% of the information and articles to the Newsletter and hounded us all to make sure members received it on time.

For those of you who are new or haven't noticed, this is more than a Newsletter announcing events. I always viewed it as a combination journal/newsletter containing articles of importance on the history and culture of Indiana's German-American community. While admittedly light on illustrations, it is heavy on information and provides not only information on events, but serves as an educational and research tool as well. To me a well written informative article beats a fuzzy picture.

I will continue to serve on the IGHS board and on the publications committee but I am relieved and very happy to leave the Newsletter in capable hands. (Ruth wouldn't let us have it any other way!) Thanks to all those who submitted articles, photographs and have contributed in other ways.

Paul Brockman, GHS Newsletter Editor, 1988-2007

GOVERNOR DANIELS LEADS TRADE MISSION TO GERMANY

In May, Governor Mitch Daniels led a 32-member delegation on a week-long trade mission to Germany and the United Kingdom. The delegation included members of the Indiana legislature as well as prominent business and community leaders, including Sven Schumacher, of the Indianapolis-Cologne Sister City Committee and the Foundation for Lutheran Child and Family Services.

Before boarding a plane Gov. Daniels made it clear this trip meant business. "We are going job hunting," he said. The Governor is quoted in The Indianapolis Star as saying that he "hopes to lure more investment by touting longer-term benefits -- good infrastructure, low costs, a strong work force and a positive work environment."

The delegation called on executives in Frankfurt and Cologne, including the steel company Arcelor Mittal and German auto-parts maker Getrag, who the governor urged to locate their new transmission plant in Indiana. The group also met with DaimlerChrysler Chairman Dr. Dieter Zetsche just moments before "Dr. Z" reported on the sale of Chrysler to Cerberus Capital Management. While the group was in Cologne, they had the chance to tour Toyota's F-1 research and development facility. Toyota currently has a Camry production plant located in Lafayette.

The Indianapolis Star reports that Germany's capital investment in Indiana is $8.6 billion,
while the United Kingdom's investment is nearly $8 billion.

INDIANA HOSTS THE 59TH NATIONAL SÄNGERFEST

Evansville's Germania Maennerchor hosted the 59th National Sängerfest on April 27 and 28, 2007 at Roberts Stadium in Evansville, Indiana.

The North American National Sängerfest featured 69 German and Austrian Singing Societies from across the United States. More than 2,000 guests came to Evansville from Illinois, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas, and Louisiana for the two-day festival.

Over 1700 singers performed with the orchestra at the 59th National Sängerfest on 28 April 2007 in Roberts Stadium in Evansville.

Participating Indiana groups included the Ft. Wayne Damen und Männerchor, the German-American Club Gesangverein, the Germania Männerchor and Damenchor from Evansville, the Indianapolis Liederkranz, the Indianapolis Liederkranz Damenchor and the Indianapolis Sängерchor.

This is only the second time that the National Sängerfest, which is held once every three years, has been held in Indiana. The last time was in 1903 in Indianapolis. The concert on Saturday, April 28, featured a mass choir of 1,200 voices, with a 27-piece orchestra. Afterward, there was dancing to the St. Louis Heritage Band.

SCHOOL PREPARES FOR 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Did you know that the School of Physical Education and Tourism Management is IUPUI's oldest academic unit? Formerly known as Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union, it also is the oldest existing school for the preparation of physical education teachers in the United States and celebrates its 100-year anniversary in Indianapolis in 2007.

To commemorate this occasion, a celebration gala is planned for the evening of September 29, 2007 at the Athenaeum in Indianapolis. For more information, go to their webpage: http://petm.iupui.edu/news/100-year-anniversary-celebration.html.

CLAUS’ SAUSAGE & MEATS HAS MOO-VED

Claus' German Sausage & Meats (formerly Klemm's) has moved to a new location at 1845 South Shelby Street in Indianapolis. The new store is only 1½ miles from the old store on South Street. To help people find their new location, Claus has left maps to the new store in a box on the door outside the old building. Once that building is knocked down, the maps will be in an outside box near the Visual Sign Company, the next door.

Claus' Meat Market is keeping the same phone number, 317-632-1963, along with the same hours, same meats, and same crew. Retail hours are Tuesday through Friday, from 8am to 5 pm.
REPORT ON THE SGAS SYMPOSIUM
By Greg Redding

Several members of the IGHS recently attended the 31st Annual Symposium of the Society for German-American Studies (SGAS), held this year at the University of Kansas in Lawrence on April 26-29. The SGAS is an international professional organization that promotes research on the German element in North America; it is much like the IGHS, but broader in geographic scope. The IGHS is an affiliated organization of the SGAS and a number of people are members of both societies.

IGHS members attending included Eb Reichmann, Giles and Dolores Hoyt, and Greg Redding. Dolores Hoyt moderated a panel on “Teaching German-American Studies,” while Giles Hoyt chaired a session on “Immigration Patterns” and also gave a talk on “Max Kade and German-American Philanthropy.” Greg Redding presided over a panel on “Indiana German-Americana” that featured research projects by four Wabash College students. Two of the presentations were documentary film projects, including “Vonnegut: A Hoosier Legacy” by Aaron Spolarich and “Indiana’s Utopian Experiment,” an overview of New Harmony produced by Jeremy Sexton. The other two presentations were research papers written by Andy Deig and Tim Rickard in collaboration with Greg Redding. Deig’s paper, entitled “A Common Bond: Music as a Bridge between Kirchendeutsche and Vereinsdeutsche,” examined how a shared interest in music served to unite ethnic sub-communities that were otherwise divided along religious, political, and linguistic lines. In “Father and Son: The Relationship between Gustav and Otto Stark,” Rickard explored how the Stark family maintained their German heritage and how the relationship between father Gustav and son Otto deviated from a common German stereotype of the era.

The 2008 SGAS Symposium will take place in Colonial Williamsburg and will coincide with the 400th anniversary of the arrival at Jamestown of the first Germans, who were brought to the fledgling colony to establish a glassworks. IGHS members who are interested in joining the SGAS should contact Greg Redding at reddinggg@wabash.edu or at a future IGHS event.

REPORT FROM THE SISTER CITIES

GOSHEN - BEXBACH:
Goshen’s "Diversity Day" last March featured a display of the Sister Cities in Germany and served Black Forest Cherry Torte and Coffee to a large crowd of visitors. The Sister Cities of Goshen and Bexbach are planning a youth exchange in July and August. Three teens from Goshen will be hosted by families in Bexbach for three weeks in July and return with their hosts, who will spend three weeks in Goshen. The Goshen students hope to improve their German language skills while in Bexbach and the Bexbach students will practice their English knowledge while enjoying Goshen. We are looking forward to a successful exchange and hope to repeat this project again next year.

Gaby Botts

INDIANAPOLIS-COLOGNE:
The International Interfaith Initiative was formed as a direct result of the two decades of relationship building between Indianapolis and Cologne fostered by the Indianapolis/Cologne Sister City Partnership. In January of 2005 Mayor Bart Peterson of Indianapolis organized a meeting between local civic organizations and
philanthropist Herr Klaus Martin Finzel of Cologne, Germany. At that time Herr Finzel shared his dream about establishing the "World Interfaith Peace Center" in Indianapolis. As a result of Herr Finzel's ambition and the response of the Indianapolis community, the International Interfaith Initiative was created.

International Interfaith Initiative's vision was to create a center in Indianapolis that would inspire interfaith collaboration to strengthen civil society in many different ways: it would convene conferences; conduct original research; educate the public and policymakers; and exhibit works of art.

The International Interfaith Initiative is a collaborative effort between the IU School of Education Center for Urban and Multicultural Education, the Peace Learning Center, the Sagamore Institute for Policy Research, and members of the Indianapolis community - all working toward the realization of the dream to create a network that facilitates and initiates interfaith activities.

Within its first few months of operation, the International Interfaith Initiative (III) has conducted a series of Youth Dialogues with several local middle schools about the role of religion and civic participation, organized local discussions and co-sponsored "One Mosque, One Synagogue, One Church", and a bus tour of three places of worship with close connections to the Middle East. Much work still lies ahead for the International Interfaith Initiative. They are actively seeking other individuals who share this vision to join in this exciting and innovative opportunity to make a difference in our community, our nation and the world.

For more information visit their website http://www.InternationalInterfaith.org or contact one of their Steering Committee members:

Charlie Wiles, cwiles@peacelearningcenter.org
Jeffrey Hughes, jehughes@indiana.edu
Charlie McDonald, charlie@mcdonaldnassociates.com

The Indianapolis - Cologne Sister City Committee is also partnering with Indianapolis Firefighters Local 416's Survive Alive Program to present A Taste of Germany on Friday, August 17, from 5:00 to 10:00 pm. This benefit fundraiser will be held in the Local 416 Union hall and Museum located at 748 Massachusetts Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

Tickets to the Taste of Germany are $50 each, and a portion of each ticket is tax deductible. The price of the ticket includes the chance to sample a variety of fine German beers served with authentic German food. You must be over 21 years of age to attend this event, and the sponsors of the program encourage all attendees to drink responsibly. For more information, or to purchase tickets, see the Indianapolis - Cologne Sister City Committee web page at http://www.indianapolis-cologne.org.

JASPER - PFAFFENWEILER:
Dan Gutgsell reported that Mayor Bill Schmitt called Bürgermeister Fritz Gutgsell of Pfaffenweiler, as his term of office was expiring, to wish him well. Bürgermeister Gutgsell was in office for 24 years and was instrumental in developing a successful Sister Cities partnership with Jasper. Mayor Schmitt also called newly elected Bürgermeister Dieter Hahn to offer his congratulations and support in continuing the relationship.
Pfaffenweiler Bürgermeister Fritz Gutsell was given a retirement party last November with Jasper Partnership Commission Board Member Stan Jochum in attendance. He presented greeting cards from the people of Jasper, a gift certificate for vacation with his family and a DVD with greetings from Mayor Bill Schmitt and the Jasper German Club (produced by Lois Kunz, Patti Goepfrich and Hoosier Video).

Bürgermeister Hahn sent an invitation to the "Schneckenfest" to Mayor Schmitt for a delegation from Jasper in August. Father John Boeglin, Janet and Dave Kluemper visited Pfaffenweiler during the Schneckenfest last September. Al Schuler, Tom Eversman and Bob Grewe, President of the Dubois County Area Development Corp also visited. Tom Kiefer attended an anniversary birthday party for his German relative Gustav Kiefer at the weekend when Mayor Hahn was elected and was the first from Jasper to congratulate him. Matt Hilger, one of the driving forces behind the Sister City partnership visited Pfaffenweiler and talked with Mayor Hahn about the future of the relationship.

The exchange students from Faust Gymnasium in Staufen arrived in Jasper in September for three weeks. Dieter Amann from Pfaffenweiler also visited friends in Jasper.

The St. Joseph Choir gave a presentation about their stay in Pfaffenweiler in 2005.

The newspaper exchange, Jasper Herald and Gemeindeblatt, continues now in its 10th year. The Pfaffenweiler bi-weekly column by Matt and Franz Hilger, in The Herald, also now in its 10th year, has a huge following.

Kelsey Bohnenkemper from Ferdinand has put together a collection of recipes from family and friends. She is selling her cookbook to raise $6,000 for study abroad with EF Foundation for Foreign Study in Germany. Her cookbook will be sold at the Strassenfest.

November 15 there will be the annual auction to support the Jasper High School exchange. Fundraising is on target, including a grant from the Dubois Community Foundation, which increased to $1,000.

Patti Goepfrich

VINCENNES - WASSERBURG-AM-INN:
Vincennes Sister Cities is preparing to welcome delegations from both sister cities, Wasserburg-am-Inn, Bavaria and Vincennes, France who have been invited to participate in the city's 275th Anniversary celebration. At the Rendezvous, which presents reenactments of Revolutionary War events, the members of the groups will be honored and presented to the town. Other festivities planned for our guests include dinners, a candle light tour of Grouseland, Wm. Henry Harrison's home, as well as receptions, a picnic, brunch with Mayor and City Council, excursions to French Lick or New Harmony, and a side trip to Chicago. The group members will be hosted by Vincennes Sister Cities members.

Arriving from Wasserburg-am-Inn are: Deputy Mayor Marlene Hof-Hippke, members the Vincennes-Komitee, Gunter Fuchs, Lorenz Grasberger, Adil Oyan and son, and the Stuermlinger family.

In March, 15 students and 2 teachers from Luitpold Gymnasium, our partner school in Wasserburg, attended classes at Lincoln High School and South Knox High School. Their
Spring vacations were during the visitation, so the students were only able to attend classes for one week. Vincennes Sister Cities is sponsoring its first High School/Home Stay exchange for the academic year through Sister Cities International and ACES (American Cultural Exchange Service) for Simon Stuermlinger from Wasserburg.

The Vincennes Sister Cities group has developed two items to sell during the 275th Anniversary festivities and beyond to raise money for our programs. We have had T-shirts with our Vincennes coat-of-arms, and those of Wasserburg and Vincennes, France, made for sale. We also have umbrellas with historic sites of Vincennes depicted on them.

Mary Lee Bowman

UPDATE ON THE WYNEKEN HOUSE

The Friends of Wyneken (FOW) is a committee of the Indiana German Heritage Society. It was formed in August 2004 to preserve the Wyneken House, home of Pastor and Sophie (Buuck) Wyneken from November 11, 1850 to February 13, 1864. Wyneken came to the U.S. in 1838 and left a great impact on the communities he served. He was the second President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and one of its founders.

The Friends of Wyneken (FOW) is an incredibly active and dedicated group and deserves not only our applause, but also our support. Their foremost goal is to preserve the Wyneken House, the Adams County home of Friedrich Conrad Dietrich Wyneken (1810-1876), and to turn the clapboard structure into an interpretive site that documents northeastern Indiana's cultural and religious history.

Representatives of the Indiana DNR, Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology, were invited to look at the Wyneken House to see whether it is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The house was threatened with demolition by the owners, and had to be moved. The structure is now located on a site donated by Dona Schaefer; however, buildings that have been moved are generally not eligible for the National Register.

While FOW were not given a definitive answer, there was an indication that it is possible that the building could be eligible if it were the only building associated with Wyneken during the period of his life in which he made the most impact. However, the loss of integrity of the building through not only the move but also the missing elements (such as the floors) and the fact that there are only theories for the original layout of the building are issues against proving eligibility for the National Register.

Since then, Earth Source, Inc. has provided a couple of site plan options, which include moving some of the other Wyneken related buildings in the area to the site. FOW has decided to continue researching the property as if it were going to be listed at the National Register because having that history will be important in interpreting the property. They will then revisit the actual listing at a later date.

Ken Selking of FOW states that they have scheduled two BBQ fundraisers, one in May and another in September. Other fundraisers include a bus trips to Frankenmuth, MI in September, and another going to the Christkindlmarkt in Chicago. FOW will also be hosting a Kekionga Days fund raiser in Decatur in August and the Germanfest in Fort Wayne in June.

Meanwhile, FOW plans to have four more windows and the front door rebuilt for the house. Other repairs are waiting for the weather to improve. The final layout of the house is envisioned with the house set pretty much as it is, with a large basement dug into and opening out onto the lower ground level below the hill. The basement would be the reception center.
with audio/visuals etc. and then the first floor of the house would be in as original condition as possible, with second floor, at least partially, used for additional storage, offices, and/or an apartment.

Donations are welcome: write your tax-deductible check to Indiana German Heritage Society and note on it “Friends of Wyneken.” Anyone donating a minimum of $20 will get a one-year membership to IGHS.

For info contact Ken Selking weathermanks@webtv.net

REPORT FROM THE INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

At the Annual Meeting on March 23, 2007 the IGHS membership elected four new members to the Board of Directors. Each will serve a three-year term. Meet the new Board members

Prof. Dr. Jur. Frank Emmert, LL.M. - Since July 2004 Frank has been the John H. Grimes (Research Fellowship Award) Professor of Law at IUPUI. His CV reflects a truly international orientation. He taught international and comparative law in Estonia, the Netherlands, Poland, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Italy, and at Stanford University. He is the founder and managing editor of the European Journal of Law Reform. Frank received his Ph.D. from the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands. Born in Wiesbaden, he speaks German, English, French and Italian, and has a basic level of competency in Estonian, Spanish, Swedish, and Dutch. Wow!

Dr. J. Gregory Redding - Greg, who grew up in Mooresville, IN, is a 1988 graduate of Wabash College and received his Ph.D. in German literature at the University of Cincinnati in 1995. He is Associate Professor of German and Chair of Modern Languages and Literatures. His main interest now is German-American Studies, particularly German-speaking immigrants to Indiana. He works on collaborative research projects with his students, who presented first-class papers at this year’s symposium of the Society for German-American Studies in Lawrence, KS. Greg has traveled extensively throughout the German-speaking world and studied at Freiburg and Hamburg.

Stephanie "Ina" Roberts - She grew up in Northern Germany and moved to Chattanooga, TN, in 1989. With a B.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Syracuse University, and a Masters degree in Speech and Language Pathology from Purdue in 1995, she is involved in the study of bilingual phonological development, as well as language development impairment in German and English-speaking children. She works at Methodist Hospital as a Speech Language Pathologist. Ina manages the German playgroup (Spielgruppe Indy), founded a German women's night out (Frauenabend), and started a German home school group (1.Ge.L). Besides organizing various children's events at the Athenaeum, she started the community mixer between German exchange students and American host families.

Dr. Fred Yaniga - Fred teaches a broad range of German courses at Butler University. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Ohio University with a B.A. in German and International Studies. He spent three years at the universities of Heidelberg and Vienna, and two years as a lecturer in the American Studies Department at Universität.
Special thanks go to retiring board members Richard Askren, Maribeth Bailey and Charles Most.

The Indiana German Heritage Society Board of Directors elected the following officers for the upcoming year:

- **President:** Marilyn McIntosh
- **Vice President:** William Ziegele
- **Secretary:** James Gould
- **Treasurer:** Fred Schramm

Last December, the Board elected Dennis Gehlhausen to fill the one-year, unexpired term of Richard Askren. Dennis retired from Eli Lilly & Co. in 2002 after 28 years as an environmental engineer. He had also been with the Indianapolis Dept. of Public Works as an Air Pollution Control Engineer. He received a B.S. from Purdue in Mechanical Engineering Technology and an M.B.A. from Indiana University. Dennis was a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. His great-great grandfather, Franz Gehlhausen, was a founding settler of Ferdinand, IN in 1836. For IGHS he would like to increase communications with the public about the many German activities and fests in Indianapolis and around the state.

**GERMAN ACTIVITIES IN INDIANA**

By Dennis Gehlhausen

Hello, I am the new State Council Coordinator. My background and family are German. I went to school in Huntingburg in Dubois County. In the early 1970's I became active at the Athenaeum. In 1999 I joined the Indianapolis Liederkranz and in 2002 I joined their male choir. That same year, I retired from Eli Lilly where I had been an engineer.

One of the responsibilities of the State Council Coordinator is to "promote activities of the State Council members, as well as other cities and other organizations promoting German-American activities in Indiana."

In 2005 Ralph Ruppel prepared a pamphlet entitled: *Explore Indiana's Rich German-American Heritage*. This was a great source of information for annual festivals, historical sites, restaurants, and city contacts. I want to update that information and put it on the IGHS website: [http://www.ighs.org](http://www.ighs.org).

I do not intend for this to be just an annual update, I intend for the information on the website to be kept current. Once users find the website useful and reliable, then it will be a great way to promote German-American events in Indiana.

I need your help in updating the festival dates and contacts. The website will not be limited like the 2005 pamphlet. Details on the date(s), location, food, entertainment, and costs can all be included. In fact, all German-American events can be promoted.

Please think about how you can help keep the information for your organization current. I have a personal interest in my new role as State Council Coordinator. I love German festivals, restaurants, history, buildings, and businesses. In the future I will be asking for volunteers for the State Council. Your help will help me and others with our love for German culture and traditions.

Send the information to

Dennis Gehlhausen  
6010 East 161st Street 
Noblesville, IN 46062.  
dgehlhausen@insightbb.com.  
(317) 776-2319.
The Summer solstice was celebrated by the Germanic tribes and their neighbors, the Slavs and Celts, with huge bonfires. Druids celebrated it as the wedding of Heaven and Earth. Possibly because the summer solstice was celebrated as the day of victory for the sun and light over darkness and death, the church placed the feast day of St. John the Baptist onto June 24, directly opposite the feast day of the birth of Christ on December 24. Johannestag or St. John’s day, is the name day of all of those who are named Hans, Johann, John, Jack, etc.

The magic of the longest night of the year was widespread, as were the customs and rituals celebrating it. It was the night of fire festivals and of love magic and of love oracles and divination. It had to do with lovers and predictions, when pairs of lovers would jump hand in hand through the luck-bringing flames, when maidens would learn about their future husbands, and when spirits and demons were banished.

Johannestag was considered to be the a day of cleaning and decorating of wells and fountains, a time when special healing attributes were ascribed to waters, brooks, flowers and herbs. A dip in the waters on Johannisnacht (St. John’s Night) was said to have special powers to cure disease, as did foods made with flowers or herbs that are picked on this day.

Customs like this have persisted over the ages, and some of these celebrations can still be found today in parts of Europe and even in the United States. A few years ago, Indianapolis hosted a Midsummer Festival on Monument Circle that ran until midnight with contemporary music and fine foods.

Every year on June 23, on the eve before the Feast of John the Baptist, bonfires are lit in the mountains of the Werdenfelser Land (Bavaria). This old custom developed after the Christianization from the Germanic summer solstice celebrations. In former times the "fire makers" were mostly shepherds, who burnt dry wood and kindling. Today, children and youth will stack wood and kindling for weeks into huge mounds waiting to be lit on the appointed night.

On the cliffs above Waxenstein and Zugspitze huge crosses will be put up and lit to commemorate a mountain climber who fell to his death. Many will meet in a mountain hut or a mountain farm (Alm) to share a bite to eat, some music and Gemütlichkeit.

To say that these were merely outgrowths of pagan traditions would be to simplify the matter, as would be to say that they were just entertainment.

In A Midsummer Night’s Dream Shakespeare brings these traditions and their hidden meanings to life. In the play, the collective myths and the personal dreams are so closely interwoven that a literal interpretation of the play may leave us puzzled. What happens to the two pairs of lovers when they leave Athens to spend the night in a forest? If it is to be comedy in the sense of that all Shakespeare wants to show is that humans are fools, as he has Puck exclaim, "Lord, what fools these mortals be!"
there would be no need for the symbolic elaboration that goes into the making of the play.

The adventure in the woods, in the view of eminent psychologist, Carl Gustav Jung, is an inseparable part of the encounter between the animal elements in those that dwell in the forest, and make darkness their home for one night. The encounter of the lovers, a shared dream, takes place within their own unconscious. It is only when they leave the woods at sunrise that they are reawakened to a new consciousness. In the words of Demetrius, during the night some "power" has helped him recover from "sickness" to "health."

All the psychic energy that animated the lovers outside the forest is either paralyzed or turned into confusion. Puck is merely an instrument of the unconscious self, "an archetype closely resembling the 'Trickster-figure' which Jung discovered in American Indian mythology." According to myth he is "God, man, and animal at once."

Midsummer night, the longest night of the year spells its magic. With warmth and light and reborn nature, in stark contrast to winter with reign of darkness and long cold nights, it calls for special celebrations. Darkness has lost its power and light is triumphant.

Source: *Der Oberbayerische Fest-Tag und Alte-Brauch-Kalender 1993*, p. 67)  

**ST. JOHN'S WORT**

*Johanniskraut*

St. John's Wort or Johanniskraut (hypericum perforatum) is the best known of the Midsummer herbs. It received its name from the abundant yellow flowers that bloom on June 24, the traditional birthday of John the Baptist. It has been called a "miracle herb" because of its unique therapeutic qualities and positive results.

In Germany, known for its long tradition of herb use and herb research, St. John's Wort is the most popular supplement for the treatment of mild depression, anxiety and nervous unrest. Many more prescriptions are written for one single brand of St. John's Wort than for Prozac. German research has indicated that up to 80% of the patients treated with it found improvement for mild depression and anxiety. Researchers have noted no serious side effects to this natural herb.

The red pigment found in the herb has been shown to interfere with an enzyme in the brain, that would normally make a person feel down or depressed. Another compound interferes with brain enzymes that normally would destroy our "feel good" amines; in other words, St. John's Wort blocks the negative activities in the brain, creating a chance for more "feel good" activity to occur.

As a result of its popularity in Europe, Americans are just beginning to hear about it. It can be purchased in the form of a powder, oil, caps, or dried leaves. However, caution must be exercised since, in contrast to Germany, its manufacture and quality are not overseen by the FDA. One really never knows what one gets when purchasing from one of the many alternative medicine catalogs and sellers.

**COLONEL RICHARD LIEBER, CONSERVATIONIST AND PARK BUILDER: THE INDIANA YEARS**

*By Robert Allen Frederick, Ph.D.*

The career of Richard Lieber is at once interesting and unusual. The young German
brought with him a love for political liberty which was not enjoyed by his people under the rule of the Kaisers. Although he did not plan to remain in the United States, he married Emma Rappaport in 1893 and settled in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Between 1893 and 1916, Lieber busied himself in journalism, business, and civic ventures in the Indiana capital. Astounded at the high insurance rates exacted from the city's businesses and residents, Lieber made a thorough study of the situation. As a member of the mayor's advisory council and a friend of several governors, he was in a position to fight for improvement of the fire-fighting facilities of Indianapolis. After just five years work, he succeeded in reducing the insurance rates for Indianapolis citizens by $150,000 per year. He also worked to create the position of state fire marshal, a merit plan for city and state civil servants, and primary election reforms.

Although successful in his business pursuits, in 1916 Lieber turned his attention to creating a system of state parks as a permanent memorial to the centennial of Hoosier statehood. Three years later, because of his leadership, the General Assembly passed legislation which established the Indiana Department of Conservation. Richard Lieber became its first director, a post which he occupied for fourteen years.

The conservation movement in Indiana made highly significant gains because Lieber proved to be both an able theorist and a successful administrator. His philosophy and management led the development of one of the nation's outstanding park systems. Under his leadership, Indiana pioneered several important phases of park development. Of these the most notable was the policy of making the parks self-supporting and building state park inns. By the early 1930's Indiana shared top park honors and conservation reputation with New York and California. Indiana's parks were selected and operated on high standards. During the period the department's work was accomplished on a strictly non-political basis.

The excellence of Lieber's work in Indiana gave him an opportunity to influence the growth and development of similar ventures in other states, which benefited greatly from the pioneering spirit of the Indiana parks. In recognition of his leadership in the state park field, he was elected president of the National Conference on State Parks for seven successive years. He later became the first chairman of the board of directors for the conference. Lieber enjoyed the interest and respect of the National Park Service and was acknowledged by federal conservation authorities as an expert in the development of state parks. He influenced the national park philosophy and after 1933 served the National Park Service as a consultant and member of its Advisory Board.

Richard Lieber's contribution to the field of park building and management increased with his age. Even after his resignation from the directorship of the Indiana Department of Conservation, he continued to gain national stature and reputation. The foundation of his success is based in his Indiana years. Thus, they take on a new and greater significance. The state provided him a natural testing ground of high potential. In time he presented her citizens with parks and memorials of outstanding quality and beauty. To his adopted country he bequeathed a conservation consciousness. To the state park movement he gave a sense of direction.

[Editor's Note: Dr. "Bob" Frederick wrote his doctoral dissertation on Lieber. He now lives in Colorado and continues his Lieber research. IGHS members will remember him as Newsletter editor. The IUPUI University Library and Archives have received hundreds of books from Bob Frederick, many of them from Lieber's personal library. Thank you, Bob and
REMINISCENCES ON COL. LIEBER'S IMPACT ON SOUTHERN INDIANA
By Ruth and Eberhard Reichmann

Our favorite getaway and one of the reasons we moved to Nashville is the Brown County State Park. We live just a five-minute drive from its West Gate and our log house is located in the valley between Yellowwood State Forest and the State Park.

No matter what the season, we love the drive for breakfast or lunch to the Abe Martin Lodge. From the Overlooks you can see the vast expanse of the park which runs right into the Hoosier National Forest. It is a grandiose view any time of the year with an ever changing landscape. The rugged countryside, product of the glacial ice age, has been compared to the mountainous areas of the eastern USA.

We love its rugged beauty as do the millions of Hoosiers and people from surrounding states who come to enjoy the legacy left to us by German-born Col. Richard Lieber, who is the father of our Indiana state parks.

A visit to Brown County in 1910 inspired his vision. His first three choices were Turkey Run, McCormick's Creek, and Indiana Dunes state parks. He is also responsible for the creation of Indiana State Park Inns, the cabins, the first shelters built at Turkey Run State Park (a Lieber Memorial is located in that park) and Spring Mill village.

Enter Spring Mill village today and you will "step back a hundred years." This was the vision of Col. Lieber when he sought out state engineers and historians to establish Spring Mill Village as a State Park. The mill and several original village structures were painstakingly restored by the New-Deal-era Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) workers, while other parts of the village were recreated with 19th century log cabins."

In 1911 Lieber built a cabin of his own in Brown County on 23 acres of land near in Nashville which he called Whippoorwill Lodge. Here he wrote America's Natural Wealth (1942)

Among the early Germans in the county's history was an immigrant with the name of Schonover, who is believed to have been the first permanent white settler here. He is said to have traded furs with the Indians probably as early as 1817 in the part of the county now called Schooner Creek.

Around the turn of the last century the scenic views and the colorful characters that populated the area attracted artists such as Adolph Shulz who discovered the "Peaceful Valley" and thickly wooded hills in 1906. He is considered the founder of the Brown County Art Colony because he brought friends like T. C. Steele to the area to paint. Steele built the House of the Singing Winds on 221 acres with his new Cincinnati-German wife, Selma Neubacher.

In 1917 Adolph Robert Shulz, Ada Walter Shulz, Carl Christopher Graf and his wife, Genevieve, and Marie Goth established the first summer art colony in the Midwest.

The Brown County Arts Community is celebrating its Centennial this year. This is a great opportunity to take a Brown County Art Tour with Pete Sebert, who is a story teller, writer and poet. For info call the visitor center at 812-988-9589.
Indiana German-American Heritage Calendar

Wednesday, June 13, 7:30 pm: The Vonneguts, the German-Americans, and the Shaping of Indianapolis with Greg Mobley. Visit to the IUPUI Archives at 6:30 pm followed by dinner at the Faculty Club, University Place Hotel and Conference Center. Reservations are required. Info: Giles R. Hoyt at 317-274-2330, ghoyt@iupui.edu

Wednesday, July 4, 5:30 pm: Independence Day Celebration at the Athenaeum Biergarten, Indianapolis, 5:30 pm. This family-oriented event provides fun, food, music and a spectacular view of the fireworks from the outdoor garden. In case of rain the party will be in the Kellersaal. Reservations: 317-630-4569 ext. 1

July: No Board Meeting and No Stammtisch

Wednesday, August 8, 7:30: Stammtisch and Program at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis. [See Stammtisch and Programs section for details]

Friday, August 17, 5:00 to 10:00 pm. A Taste of Germany, a benefit fundraiser and open house, held in the Local 416 Union hall and Museum located at 748 Massachusetts Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202. For ticket information see http://www.indianapolis-cologne.org/

Sunday, August 19, 11 am-3 pm: Annual P.O.W. Chapel Mass and Picnic (under the tent) at Our Lady's Chapel in the Meadow, Camp Atterbury -- remembering the Italian and German WWII P.O.W.s confined at Atterbury. Please, bring a dish! Take S.R. 31, at the junction of 252 East at Camp Atterbury sign, turn west and follow P.O.W. Chapel signs. Info: Ruth Reichmann at 812-988-2866

Wednesday, September 12, 7:30 pm: Stammtisch and Program at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis. [See Stammtisch and Programs section for details]

Sunday, September 16: The Athenaeum Turner/Indy G Walker Volksmarch will again originate and end at the Athenaeum. Info: Buddy McCart, 317-846-8613

Saturday, September 22: Symposium with Roland Paul of the Institute for Palatine History and Folkways, Kaiserslautern, Germany, at the Athenaeum (Das Deutsche Haus), 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Info: James Feit, jreft@aol.com

Saturday, September 29: 100-Year Anniversary Celebration Gala, School of Physical Education and Tourism Management, IUPUI's oldest academic unit at the Rathskeller, Athenaeum, Indianapolis. Info: Laura Klaum 317-274-1484, klaum@iupui.edu

Sunday, September 30, 2-7:30 pm, Family Oktoberfest at the Athenaeum! "Family" celebration with children's activities: games, face painting, music and song featuring "Polka Boy," Athenaeum Pops German Band and the Indianapolis Männerchor. Adults $5.00, Family $20.00 Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis. Info: 317-630-4569, ext. 1
October 27-November 5: Tour of Germany – Recalling the Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This 9 day package tour of Germany includes roundtrip airfare, first class hotels, most meals and all sightseeing excursions. Led by Rev. Bill Novak and Sven Schumacher. Info: Grueninger Tours, Meridian Towers, 201 West 103rd Street, Suite 380, Indianapolis, IN 46290.

STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS

Wednesday, August 8, Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program: "Kurt Vonnegut's WWII Dresden and the Rebuilding of the Great Frauenkirche" with Giles Hoyt and Louise Lamkin. Vonnegut called the destruction of Dresden "the largest single massacre in European history." As a prisoner of war he survived the firestorm in a meat locker under Schlachthof 5 (Slaughterhouse 5). Giles Hoyt will speak about the impact of this event on Vonnegut's writing. Louise Lamkin will show a film on the reconstruction of the Dresden Frauenkirche, which serves as a symbol of the city's rise from the ashes. Giles Hoyt is IGHS President and Director of the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center. Louise Lamkin is a retired teacher, writer and board member of IGHS.

Wednesday, September 12: "The Frenzel Family: German Bankers of Indianapolis" with Elisabeth Megan Wyse. Learn about one of Indianapolis's most prestigious and industrious German-American families. John P. Frenzel and his wife Caroline Gross Kuhrt Frenzel emigrated from Germany in the 1840's. They moved to Indianapolis in 1865. Their son John Peter, born in 1853, began the Enterprise Building and Loan Association based on the German "Bausparkasse" model. The rest is history. Ms. Wyse is a recent IUPUI graduate and a dedicated researcher in German-Americana.

These programs are held at the Athenaeum located at 401 E. Michigan Street in Indianapolis. The programs are in English. They are free of charge and open to the public. Optional dinner with conversation begin at 6:30 pm with program at 7:30 pm. For info Giles R. Hoyt at the Max Kade Center 317-274-2330: ghoyt@iupui.edu

OTHER PROGRAMS IN INDIANAPOLIS

September 22: Migration of Germans to America. IGHS and the Indiana Chapter of Palatines to America host Roland Paul of the Landestelle Pfalz as he discusses the migration of Germans to America in the Nineteenth Century. Mr. Paul is the director of the Institute for Palatine History and Folkways, in Kaiserslautern. His knowledge of Southwest Germany and its culture and history is extraordinary. We will enjoy all that he can tell us about this important region of Germany and the homeland of so many German-Americans. For info: James Feit, jrffeit@aol.com

September 22: School of Physical Education and Tourism Management Celebrates 100-Year Anniversary. We hope you will join us for a celebration gala on the evening of September 29, 2007 at the Athenaeum, Indianapolis, IN. Speakers include: Dr. Myles Brand, President, NCAA; Charles Bantz, Chancellor, IUPUI; P. Nicholas Kellum, Dean, School of Physical Education and Tourism Management and two outstanding students representing the department. Dinner and dancing will be part of the evening's program. A special hosted VIP reception will thank donors for
commemorative gifts of $100 or more prior to the dinner. For info: Laura Klaum, 317-274-1484; lklaum@iupui.edu

CRAFT WORKSHOPS

In connection with the Year of Kurt Vonnegut there will be several craft workshops offered at various Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library locations.

**Scherenschnitte**: Discover the German tradition and folk art of paper cutting known as *Scherenschnitte* at various IMCPL locations. Instructor Connie Squires of Creative Cuttings will lead participants in this craft workshop, and each will leave with a completed design.

**German Paper Stars**: Learn to create traditional German multi-colored holiday ornaments known as "German Paper Stars" during this workshop at various IMCPL locations. These ornaments can also be used as jewelry or as decorations on small packages. This is a class limit of 25 per session.

**German Feather Trees**: Create an heirloom feather tree with your host Mike Williams during a program entitled, "German Feather Trees," presented at various IMCPL locations. The tradition of feather trees began in Germany in the mid-19th century and German immigrants brought feather trees with them when they sailed across the Atlantic to the New World. In recent years, feather trees have achieved a new level of status among Christmas enthusiasts and especially Christmas crafters.

For info: Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, PO Box 211, Indianapolis, IN 46206 Tel. 317-269-1700 http://www.imcpl.org/events/detail/?event_id=749

FESTIVALS AROUND THE STATE

June 3-10:  *Fort Wayne Germanfest*
July 20-21:  *Oldenburg Freudenfest*
August 2-5:  *Strassenfest Jasper*
August 4:  *Summerfest at the German Park* in Indianapolis. Food and fun with Jay Fox and his Bavarian Show Time Band, 8600 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis

August 10-11:  *Germanfest in Vincennes* at Highland Woods Park with Jay Fox and the Bavarian Showtime Band

August 31-September 2 & September 7-8:  *Oktoberfest at* German Park, 8600 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis. Featuring Jay Fox and the Bavarian Showtime Band from 4 p.m. to midnight each day.
INDY'S CHOICE FOR 2007: SLAUGHTERHOUSE-FIVE

Vonnegut classic selected for this year's One Book, One City community reading experience

By Jon Barnes, IMCPL Communications Specialist

At the age of 23, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. was a World War II POW in Dresden during the February 13, 1945 allied bombing of that city which left 130,000 people dead and the city leveled. Vonnegut uses this event as a starting point in his 1969 bestselling novel, Slaughterhouse-Five, chosen as this year's One Book, One City selection by IMCPL and the City of Indianapolis.

Regarded as a classic, as well as one of his most popular works, Slaughterhouse-Five is the story of a disoriented and ill-trained American soldier, Billy Pilgrim, who is taken prisoner by the Germans and lives through the Dresden bombing, paralleling Vonnegut's experience. The title of the book refers to the German name of the slaughterhouse where Billy and other prisoners are employed in the production of a vitamin supplement for pregnant women.

Billy's story after the war, and Vonnegut's analysis of the human condition, will have readers debating if the book belongs in the science fiction genre. But readers would be wrong to do so, according to The New York Times review of the book on March 31, 1969: "The problem of Billy's enables Mr. Vonnegut to tell his story fluidly, jumping forward and backward in time, free from the strictures of chronology. But there is so much more to this book. It is very tough and very funny; it is sad and delightful; and it works."Yes, Billy is kidnapped by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. But through his experience with the Tralfamadorians (which includes time travel), Billy comes to inherit many of Vonnegut's well-known themes—a sense of fatalism, the pursuit of free will, and a view of life with somewhat comical fancy. It is in this book that Vonnegut began to use the chorus-line, "so it goes," every time a passage deals with death, dying or mortality. His famous alter ego, Kilgore Trout, was also introduced.

As with other Vonnegut books, Slaughterhouse-Five uses an alternate title, The Children's Crusade, referring to Vonnegut's first chapter explanation of the Children's Crusade of the 13th century, in which children were sold as slaves. Vonnegut views war as comparable to child slavery. Slaughterhouse-Five, one of 25 books written by Vonnegut, was chosen for this year's One Book, One City theme - "What if everyone read a book by Kurt Vonnegut?" In March, citizens' comments and recommendations led to "Indy's 5" final Vonnegut titles for consideration as "Indy's Choice." The other works were Cat's Cradle; A Man without a Country; Palm Sunday and The Sirens of Titan.

This year's One Book, One City campaign is part of "The Year of Kurt Vonnegut," a community-wide celebration of the life, literature and heritage of Indianapolis' native son. Yearlong programs include book talks, lectures, films, art exhibits, concerts and architectural tours. For a complete listing of events and programs, visit www.YearofVonnegut.org.
The Indiana German Heritage Society

Please enter / renew my membership:

- Individual $20.00
- Family $25.00
- Organization $50.00
- Patron $50.00
- Full-time Student $5.00 (with teacher's signature)
- Corporate $100.00
- Sponsor $500.00
- Benefactor $1,000.00
- Library Rate $15.00
- Patron $50.00
- Library Rate $15.00

I wish to make an additional gift to IGHS of $ ______

□ I wish to donate books/materials. Please contact me

Please make checks payable to: *Indiana German Heritage Society*

Send your membership form and payment to:

*Indiana German Heritage Society*

Membership Chair

401 East Michigan Street

Indianapolis, IN 46204

My specific interests in German-Americana are:

- Architecture
- Arts
- Cultural Exchanges and/or Sister Cities
- Family
- Genealogy
- General
- German Language Programs
- Local Community/City
- Music
- Teaching Materials
- Traditions & Folklore

□ Other: __________________________________________

Knowledge of German:

□ None
□ Some
□ Fluent

Knowledge of German Script:

□ None
□ Some

□ Good

□ Yes, I am willing to help with activities!

Name(s): _______________________________________

Address: _______________________________________

City: ___________________________________________

State: ___________________________ Zip code: _______

Telephone (Home): ______________________ (Work): _______

Email: _______________________________________

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