



# Indiana German Heritage Society & IUPUI Max Kade German American Center



## Newsletter

Volume 37 Number 3

Summer 2021

### IUPUI Max Kade Center Update

As we get ready to bring this academic year to a close, I am glad for the opportunity to reflect on this challenging and unique year. The Max Kade Center had tried many new initiatives to connect with its community, with incredible results. What I will detail below will look back on our events and awards and forward to the coming year and our goals.

We hosted an impressive number of events this year: two Book Club events, a film screening and talk with director Sheri Hagen, a conference on cinema, the panel “Images of Insurrection,” the postponed book talk by Richard McCormick (on his new book on German-American director Ernst Lubitsch) and, finally, a talk on attitudes toward health in the German-American Press with our colleague at the UW Madison Max Kade Institute, Antje Petty. Because we were hosting on Zoom, we were able to open our events up to a much wider community and reach both national and international audiences. We plan to host a mix of in-person and online events in the next year. These include a talk on Dada, a talk on animal magnetism, and two workshops. Keep your eyes peeled for these events on our website (see below). You can also join the Max Kade mailing list by sending an email to [mkgac@iupui.edu](mailto:mkgac@iupui.edu).

We also have reiterated our commitment to social justice and equity, both on our campus, in

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### STORIES OF MAIBAUMS

#### PAST & PRESENT

#### INDIANA’S TAKE ON AN OLD WORLD TRADITION

Travis J. Jerde and Inge Davies



The first of May is known as Maitag, or May Day throughout Europe and especially within the Germanic lands. In the modern day, May Day is Germany’s “Labor Day”, and we recently learned at the outstanding April IGHS Stammtisch by Nico Selm the story of how events in America led to the solidification of a 1st of May Labor Day in Europe. The day honors the labor of working people, fair wages, safe working conditions, and humane hours that were earned by the labor movements of the 1800s. Maitag as a holiday, however, dates much earlier than that. In fact, it dates centuries earlier.

It is thought by many that Maitag celebrations have pagan roots in pre-Christianized Europe. The 1st of May sits exactly halfway between the Vernal Equinox and the Summer Solstice on the natural calendar of the year, a fact fitting well with the pagan root hypothesis of Maitag origins. In addition, folklorists account for traditions throughout Europe of this special day

being the beginning of the summer season within folk culture, and they describe ancient traditions of casting away spells of winter spirits to open the space for warm weather for the summer. Like many traditions with pagan roots, however, well-

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## TIME TO RENEW YOUR IGHS MEMBERSHIP!

The IGHS membership runs concurrently with the calendar year. This means that once again it is time to renew for 2021.

IGHS is a not-for-profit membership organization, so we rely on membership fees, donations, and occasional grants to provide the essential support for the activities and programs of the organization, including our quarterly Newsletter, which focuses mainly on Indiana German-American history and heritage, but brings also items of general interest.

Renew online at [www.ighs.org/renew.html](http://www.ighs.org/renew.html) or use the renewal form located at the back of this newsletter. You can also use the same forms to give the gift of an Indiana German Heritage Membership!

If you are uncertain of your membership status, check your newsletter label. You can also check by sending an e-mail to [ighsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:ighsmembership@gmail.com).

Please renew right away. Thank you!

The Membership Committee

## SUPPORT THE IGHS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Support the IGHS Scholarship Funds. The Marie Schoch Endowment Fund was established for the benefit of "qualified persons wishing to gain and distribute knowledge with respect to the cultural, historic and linguistic contributions of the German American community." German language study at secondary or university level may be included. The Daniel Nützel, scholarship was established by IGHS, IUPUI Max Kade Center, and the Athenaeum Foundation in memory of Dr. Daniel Nützel, former German professor and Director of the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center, to honor his contributions to the German Program at IUPUI and the German-American community of Indiana. The scholarship supports undergraduate or graduate students with the pursuit of a part-time professional internship at a German-American organization or institution for the duration of one semester or over the summer. The donations are tax-exempt. Checks may be sent to the Indiana German Heritage Society, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. Please include a note stating that

the contribution is intended for the Marie Schoch Endowment Fund or the Daniel Nuetzel Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The IGHS Funds Development Committee would like to recognize the folks who have made contributions so far this year:

### Eiche Level (\$501 - \$1000)

♦ Jane Feit

### Lederhosen Level (\$25 - \$250)



♦ Joan Bartermann, Larry & Rotraut Bockstahler, Eli Lilly Foundation, Roger and Patricia Franke, Brian Griesemer, Claudia Grossmann, Eleonore Harle, Michael Alan and Dee Hirt, Giles and Dolores Hoyt, Juergen Jungbauer, Sharon Kennedy, Gerhard Klemm, Anneliese Krauter, Kroger, Robert Kuhn, Ursula Nicola, Robert Schweitzer, John Seest, William and Laura Selm, Julie Stewart-Langlinais, Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Warner, and Marianne Wokeck.

Thank you for your generosity!

## WELCOME NEW IGHS BOARD MEMBERS

On 12 May, Nicholas Selm was voted in to fill the vacated seat left by the resignation of Matthew Behnke. He was filling the vacated seat left by Ursula Nicola. The term expires in March 2022.

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**Indiana German Heritage Society**  
&  
IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center

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 qualified for tax-free donations.

The IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center provides support to maintain an interdisciplinary research center for German-American Studies. Its mission is to support this field through research into German-American history and heritage with primary emphasis on Indianapolis and the Hoosier State, and through teaching and service.

The Indiana German Heritage Society & IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center Newsletter (ISSN: 1939-3261) is published quarterly by the:

**Indiana German Heritage Society**  
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*Back issues of the IGHS Newsletter are available online at <http://IGHS.org>.*

## IGHS MISSION AND VISION

In December 2019, I visited the Christkindl-market in Carmel. Not really knowing what to expect, I was pleasantly surprised to find a market with many of the elements I fondly remembered from such visits in Germany: Good food and drink, wonderful gifts and ornaments, and a place called "Kulturecke" where I found what I didn't expect: A real German Weihnachtsbaum with actual candles instead of a string of electric lights. The Kulturecke, I discovered, was sponsored by IGHS, the Indiana German Heritage Society.

I was immediately intrigued and decided to join. Here is what I found. IGHS is:

- An organization which tries to preserve, share, promote, and celebrate the contributions which German immigrants made over more than 300 years in America and Indiana.
- An organization which goes back to 1984, a year after some of the founding members had assisted US agencies with the Tricentennial of German Immigration celebrations. (More information on the Tricentennial of German Immigration can be found in the Fall 2020 IGHS Newsletter in an article by Ruth Reichmann).
- A flexible organization, committed and serious enough to find ways around COVID rules and social distancing requirements to move the temporarily halted monthly Stammtisch meetings to Zoom format.

And here is what members can expect:

- Satisfaction of being part of the effort to honor and preserve the contribution of German Immigrants.
- A monthly Stammtisch with interesting presentations in English, which are now recorded and archived on the IGHS website.
- Access to the website and discounts to relevant publications.
- A very substantial quarterly Newsletter.
- Scholarship opportunities for High School and College students.
- A calendar which lists upcoming events of IGHS and similarly focused organizations.
- A network of engaged and like-minded members.

If you are not yet a member, I encourage you to join and find out for yourselves! Please go to IGHS.org and choose the membership level which fits your needs and start attending the Stammtisch meetings, read the newsletters, and, once meeting

restrictions are lifted, look forward to camaraderie, German food and drink, and good conversation!

Tschüss und hoffentlich bis bald!

*Ingeburg Davies*

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**Esther Tabitha Earbin** is an Indianapolis native, but Germany is a country very dear to her



heart. She grew up calling her grandmother "Oma" due to her family and personal history with German culture. Esther recently returned to Indianapolis after living and teaching in Germany for the last 5 years. She is currently a lawyer, and is finishing her doctoral studies in law at the University of Freiburg in Germany. During her time in Germany, she worked for the Max Planck Institute for Crime, Security, and Law and became an active member of the German-American cultural community. Now that she has returned to Indiana to stay, she is very excited to be a member of the Indiana German Heritage Society and hopes to be a resource to the community. She brings a great amount of energy, unique experiences, and liebe for German-American collaboration as well as Indiana history to the IGHS.

**Marcia Gascho** was born in South Dakota and has lived in Wyoming, Montana, Wisconsin and Alabama. She grew up with her grandfather speaking German at home. She served in the US Army Women's Army Corps (WAC), 1973-75 before getting her B.A. from the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she majored in German. Marcia has lived in Indianapolis since 1980 to work as a computer programmer in Indianapolis until retiring in 2017. She has been married to her husband Bruce Gascho for 35 years.



(Fun fact: Her German professor's husband was a scientist who came to the US with Wernher Von Braun!) Marcia was a member of Sängerkhor in the 1980's, and more recently has given tours at the City Market Catacombs, the Athenaeum, The Carmel Christkindlmarkt and served as a Kulturecke volunteer.

**Worth Hartman**, of Indianapolis, is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC) and

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***Have you renewed your  
IGHS Membership for 2021?  
<https://www.ighs.org/renew.html>***



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our community, and through our programming. The MKC supports multiple efforts across campus to support a diverse, inclusive, equitable, and anti-racist world. Currently, we are working to hire a full-time American Sign Language interpreter to make campus more accessible for our deaf students and colleagues.

During this year, we were able to award a number of scholarships to excellent graduate and undergraduate students for the 21-22 academic year. These include:

- ♦ **Matthew Armstrong**, Daniel Nützel Memorial Scholarship
- ♦ **Chris Holland**, Max Kade German-American Center Scholarship for Interdisciplinary Studies
- ♦ **Cody Fenimore**, IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center Study Abroad Scholarship
- ♦ **Ellie Lawson**, Max Kade Graduate Scholarship

Because travel still is restricted, we were unable to award (and lead) the summer program to Heilbronn, but look forward to making those awards next year. Would you like to support our scholarships? Please reach out to me at [mkgac@iupui.edu](mailto:mkgac@iupui.edu) to learn how!

One item that may be of interest to many of you: the German Studies Association will hold its annual conference in Indianapolis from September 30-October 3, 2021. There will be a host of panels on a wide range of topics relating to German and German language culture and history. There also will be adjacent programming, and you would all be welcome. You can learn more by visiting the GSA's website (<https://thegsa.org/conference/current-conference>).

We do hope to see more IGHS members at our events during AY 21-22! You can always find more information about the Center and its events at our website (<https://liberalarts.iupui.edu/maxkade/>) and our Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/mkgacIUPUI>). We look forward to seeing you in person at some point in the next (academic) year!

Till then, may you and your loved ones be safe and healthy.

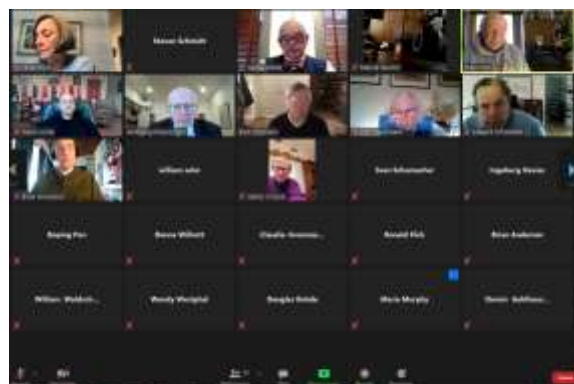
Nichole M. Neuman, Director  
Max Kade German-American Center

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currently serves as chaplain for Westminster Village North Continuing Care Community in Lawrence, IN. He previously served as chaplain for The Altenheim Community in Indianapolis, among other locations. He has a B.S. degree from Earlham College (1975), and M.Div. from Earlham School of Religion (1987). He is a runner,

who has participated in the Sankt Nicolaus Lauf. He also grew up learning of his German heritage listening to his historian father, Dr. Grover L. Hartman, tell us the story of our great grandfather, George Frederick Hartman, who immigrated from Baden Wurttemberg state in 1852. He looks forward to finding ways to use his skills in communication, marketing, fundraising, and organization to further the aims of the IGHS.



## 1ST VIRTUAL ANNUAL IGHS MEETING & PRESENTATION

On 19 March 2021, IGHS held its first virtual annual meeting and an abbreviated symposium. The annual meeting kicked off at 5pm with annual reports and wrapped up with the election of new board members and the election of our officers.

Following dinner (on our own, regretfully), the group reconvened for a conversation between Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann and Dr. Giles Hoyt on the Current German-American Scene. Using Dr. Tolzmann's recent research and publications as a jumping off point, the two looked at what's going on in the German-American world, how we see the future for our organizations and for German-American studies generally.



# Indiana German Heritage Society

## Hoosier German - American Of The Year

### Nominations Sought for 2021 Hoosier German-American of the Year

Each fall, the IGHS recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the cultural and historical heritage of the Hoosier German-American community. This person must have been active in the German-American Community of their area during the past years.

Nominations are now being accepted from the entire IGHS membership for *The Hoosier German-American of the Year* for 2021.

Please send us the name of the person you would like to nominate for this prestigious award. Be sure to include an explanation of why you believe that this person should be chosen to receive this award. Please be sure to include your name, address, telephone number, and email address along with your nomination and send it to:

Brian Griesemer, Chairperson  
Indiana German Heritage Society Awards  
Committee  
401 E. Michigan Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

or email to: [griesemerbp@lilly.com](mailto:griesemerbp@lilly.com).

### Nominations are due by August 1.

The award will be presented at the German-American Day presentation held in October at the Athenaeum German Fest, with proclamations by the Governor and the Mayor. The recipient will receive a plaque and the recipient's name will be permanently displayed at the Deutsche Haus/ Athenaeum.

### Past recipients of the IGHS Hoosier German-American Award include:

2007 Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.  
2008 Dr. Carl Sputh  
2009 Dr. Eberhard Reichmann  
2010 Rev. Arthur Schwenk  
2011 Prof. Ron Warner  
2012 Hon. Senator Richard Lugar  
2013 Dr. Ruth Reichmann  
2014 Jürgen Jungbauer  
2015 Othmar Grueninger  
2016 Dr. Giles Hoyt  
2017 Matthias Hilger  
2018 Sven Schumacher  
2019 William Selm  
2020 Friends of Wyneken, Inc.  
**2021 ?????**

### Requirements for Hoosier-German American Award

Each year, the Indiana German Heritage Society recognizes someone who has made significant contributions to the cultural and historical heritage of the Hoosier German-American community. This person must be a Hoosier who has been active in the German-American Community over a period of time and who has demonstrated an ongoing

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documented historical accounts of Maitag traditions in Germanic lands are difficult to come by. In modern customs, Maitag is also a day of civic pride, honoring the commerce and historical events of people's home villages and cities. In very recent years, a neopagan revival of early Maitag festivities has taken hold in Europe, complete with ceremonial casting away of spirits, dances, and music.

An enduring symbol of Maitag is the Maibaum, or May Pole, raised on the 1st of May or the night before, depending upon the local custom. Ceremonies involving May Poles are a commonplace custom in German, Scandinavian, and other European cities and villages. In Scandinavia and Northern German villages, poles adorned in flowers and greenery are affixed with ribbons extending to the ground, and Maibaum dances are performed intertwining the ribbons on, and then back off, the pole. As the day evolved to a more civic purpose and migrated southward, the baums of Southern Germany, Austria, and Switzerland have acquired a more civic theme. Branches on these baums exhibit symbolism of the local businesses, historical traditions, and customs of the individual villages. These Maibaums can be very large, 30 meters or more high, and are a difficult task to raise. Nonetheless, Maitag ceremonial raisings of the Maibaum, called a Maibaumaufstellen, are an established local tradition in the old country and are the centerpiece of Maitag festivals complete with food, dancing, and a special bier brewed for the day called a "Maibock", a rich lightly-colored bockbier that is customary with spring festivities. These civic-themed Maibaumaufstellen festivities are now commonplace throughout Germany.

Our immigrant ancestors brought Maibaums to the Midwest in the 1800s. The Nancy English Collection of the photo archive "The Indiana Album" details the Maibaum dances of New Harmony in the 1800s, with their last photo entry on the subject being entered in 1914, on the centennial of their first Maitag in 1814. Similarly, there are entries of other villages, particularly church festivals around the state, performing ribbon-based Maibaum dances. Some of these traditions were lost during the oppressive days of the early 1900s, but a revival of the Maitag celebration has returned to the Hoosier state in recent years. There are several performances of

Maibaum ribbon dances every year at German-themed festivals such as the parade at Jasper's Strassenfest, and non-German-themed May Day folk festivals, including those at Elf fest at the Lothlorien Nature Sanctuary in Needmore, the Chellberg Farm and Bailly Homestead at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and Purdue University's Folk Fest.

In 2017, the Freudenfest committee of Oldenburg built their first Maibaum—appropriately dressed in red and gold striping for the village's colors. Led by Troy Ilderton with artistic talents of Diana Ryker Brunsman, the Oldenburg Baum's eight branches highlight the town crest, the Corpus Christi/Fronleichnam procession, the Eagle Fire Company, the Freudenfest itself, the area's agriculture, the Franciscan Friars and Sisters of St. Francis, the local craftsmen trade, and the Morgan's Raiders visit to the area during the Civil War. Oldenburg's baum is a permanent structure and remains up all year round.

In 2017, the German American Klub of Indianapolis on the City's south side hosted their first Maibaumaufstellen on the Edelweiss Biergarten in German Park. The GAK-Indianapolis baum exhibits the navy blue and white colors of Indianapolis, and the Klub changes the branches each year to highlight some element of German-American contributions to the city, such as architecture, the southside German Gardeners, medical and first responders, and, this year, the German Cultural Societies of Indianapolis. The baum is taken down each fall after Oktoberfest, making the May Maibaumaufstellen an event each spring. Due to Covid restrictions, this year's festivities were a sold-out event. The 2021 GAK baum honors the contributions of several German cultural societies in Indianapolis, including the GAK, the Indianapolis Liederkrantz, The IGHS, Athenaeum Foundation, Southside Turnverein, The Preussen and Heimath Unterstützungsvereins, Carmel Christkindlmarkt, Indiana Palatines, the IUPUI

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Today is a good time  
to renew your  
membership in IGHS





**IGHS board member Travis Jerde dances with the witches at the on Indianapolis GAK Maibaumaufstellen on Walpurgisnacht.**

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Max Kade German-American Center, and The Indianapolis-Cologne Sister Cities program.

The Indianapolis GAK Maibaumaufstellen is accompanied by a weekend-long festival of music, spring-inspired German food, and music. In addition to the aufstellen, Die Fledermäuschen Tanzgruppe also performs the Maibaum ribbon dance at the event, on a separate, specially-made Maibaum designed for the dance on Maitag. There is also a Walpurgisnacht celebration the night before (April 30), the feast day of St. Walpurga. Walpurgisnacht honors Walpurga, but it also has pagan roots to usher in the good spirits of summer. Walpurgisnacht 2021 included a delightful witches' dance by the Irvington Black Hat Society and the Fledermäuschen Trangupe. The 2021 Maibaum will be up all summer on the Edelweiss biergarten. Mark your calendars and treat yourselves to these events in the coming years! We certainly plan to do just that.

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ing dedication to promoting and perpetuating German culture. The award will be presented in the fall of each calendar year.

A Hoosier can be a person who was born in Indiana or who has moved to Indiana regardless of state or country of origin and has maintained residency here for at least five (5) years. Period of time means at least ten (10) years (continuous or non-continuous period of time) of enabling and promoting German culture.

Examples of promoting and perpetuating German culture in Indiana may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Leadership in a German-American organization
2. Cultural Exchange, such as Sister City Program
3. Promotion of cultural events to raise public awareness
4. Historic preservation
5. Promotion of the German language
6. German-American relations (politics or economy)

Posthumous awarding may be done if no candidates are nominated and/or if nominated candidates do not fulfill the requirements established by the organization for that calendar year. Posthumous awarding must be done within five (5) years after nominee has been deceased.

All active IGHS members are eligible to nominate nominees for the Hoosier-German American Award.

***Full rules and details for the Hoosier German-American of the Year Award are available at [IGHS.org](http://IGHS.org)***



**INDIANA CHAPTER  
PALATINES TO AMERICA**

The fall meeting of the Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America will be held on Saturday, October 2 via Zoom. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Roger Minert, professor emeritus at Brigham Young University and author of many books related to German genealogy research. He will give four virtual presentations to assist you in your research and help you understand the lives of your German ancestors.

Please see <https://inpalam.org/> for further details and registration information. If you have any questions, contact [indianapalam@gmail.com](mailto:indianapalam@gmail.com)



### OKTOBERFEST CANCELED OVER VIRUS FEARS

BERLIN – Bavarian officials on Monday canceled Oktoberfest festivities for a second year in a row due to concerns over the spread of COVID-19, saying there are too many risks in hosting the celebrations – which bring in visitors from around the world – during a global pandemic.

Bavarian Governor Markus Soeder said it was with “heavy hearts” that they decided to call off the festival for which the state is known globally, but that with coronavirus numbers still stubbornly high and German hospitals already struggling, it had to be done.

“Oktoberfest will be held again, and will be big again,” he pledged.

Germany is in the middle of a coronavirus lockdown that includes a ban on large gatherings, with an infection rate of 146.9 new weekly infections per 100,000 residents. Bavaria is slightly below the national average with 145.4 new weekly infections per 100,000, according to the country’s disease control center, the Robert Koch Institute.

Oktoberfest typically attracts about 6 million visitors from around the world and had been scheduled from Sept. 18 to Oct. 3.

Today is a good time  
to renew your  
membership in IGHS



### THE SORROWS OF YOUNG WÖRTER: COVID INSPIRES 1,200 NEW GERMAN WORDS

A list of over 1,200 new German words has been compiled by the Leibniz Institute for the German Language, an organization that documents German language in the past and present. On average, the German language adds about 200 new word during a normal year. Here are a few of the terms they cataloged that have been coined since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic:

<i>Babyelefant,</i>	n. Unit of measurement for appropriate social distancing
<i>ellenbogengruss,</i>	n. A touching of elbows in greeting
<i>fussgruss,</i>	n. A touching of feet in greeting
<i>geisterküche,</i>	n. Ghost kitchen; a restaurant without eat-in dining
<i>hamsteritis,</i>	n. A compulsion to hoard supplies such as toilet paper
<i>impfdrängler,</i>	n. One who receives a vaccine before others of higher priority
<i>isolationseinerlei,</i>	n. The monotony experienced during extended periods of isolation
<i>kuschelkontakt,</i>	n. Cuddle contact; a person within one’s quarantine bubble
<i>lockdownspeck,</i>	n. Weight gained during a period of quarantine
<i>nacktnase,</i>	n. Naked nose; a person whose mask only covers their mouth
<i>niesscham,</i>	n. The torment one feels when needing to sneeze in public
<i>schnellshopper,</i>	n. A fast shopper
<i>spuckwand,</i>	n. Spit wall; a barrier to prevent the exchange of air particles

Compiled by Abby Young-Powell, *The Guardian*; John Sherman, *Harper’s Magazine* and [Leibniz Institute for the German Language](#).



## FOLK CULTURE HAS MANY TIES TO LIFE DOWN ON THE FARM

by Dr. Rosmann

Little did I know when I signed up for Mr. Lumpkin's course in Folk Music and Literature at the University of Colorado 55 years ago that he would influence my appreciation for farm culture.

Students who had questions had to raise their hands, and when called upon, they had to stand. Most students were afraid of Professor Lumpkin.

I learned that folk music, which now is largely labeled as country music, descended from Scotch and Irish immigrants who brought their musical instruments, such as banjos, with them to America, as well as their traditional songs. When I raised my hand to ask about the cultural significance of growing up in a German Catholic agricultural area of Western Iowa, Mr. Lumpkin asked me to sing and play a tune and to tell a story that I had learned as a youngster. As I prepared for my upcoming recital, I remembered a ditty that Emil, a local farmer, told me I should learn to play and sing, "Ist Das Nicht Ein Schnitzel Bank."

I also recalled a folk story I acquired as a youngster. It goes something like this.

"When St. Boniface Church, was built in the western Iowa Catholic community of Westphalia during 1881-82, the steeple was the last and most important feature to be constructed. As local farmers and craftsmen raised the last timbers of the 126 ft. steeple, one of the carpenters at the top lost his grasp. As he fell, he yelled out. His brother, 80 ft. below him, held out an axe. The falling gentleman snagged and thrust the axe into a rafter as he descended. He hung onto the axe until he was rescued and saved from almost certain death."

Most anyone can detect why this might be a folk story. I know the supposed names of the two long-deceased heroic brothers and their descendants, which makes the story juicier and only slightly more plausible, but I will say no more.

A few years after 1882, the neighboring community of Earling constructed their church steeple 5 ft. higher than the "mother" community

of Westphalia that spawned four nearby parish communities. No one in my community has forgotten this affront.

New farming communities, whether Protestant or Catholic, constructed churches with tall steeples. Usually, they were about five miles apart so that farm residents could see the church cross at the top of its steeple and hear its bell.

Another shaping experience about the culture of agricultural people occurred in 2001. Dr. Lynda Haverstock, a psychologist who was appointed the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and the representative of the Queen of England, deserves the credit. John Reed of Australia, and I were principal speakers at a conference in Saskatchewan to help the Canadian

Government develop support services for distressed farm people. After a long day of presentations and discussions, John and I shed our suit coats and ties to loosen up before the dinner event by taking a walk to stretch our legs.

No, we didn't visit any taverns, but we were perspiring from our vigorous exercise as we arrived back at the hotel. A polished black limousine pulled up to the hotel entrance and the aide-de-camp escorted a regally gowned woman into the hotel. John blurted, "I hope she's not going where we're supposed to be heading." Yup, John and I were seated on the dais next to Dr. Haverstock in our open-collared and sweaty garb. I spilled pasta sauce on my white shirt.

Dr. Haverstock took everything in stride during her address. "The 'culture' part of the word, 'agriculture,' is more important to understand than the 'agri' part of the word when assisting farming people with their mental health, as my two compatriots from Australia and the United States demonstrate. A farm girl myself, I understand."

Dr. Haverstock's pronouncement became a cornerstone principle of agricultural behavioral health. Understanding the culture of agricultural producers and their unique backgrounds are key to acceptable assistance from providers of professional service, whether it's counseling, business expertise, agronomic advice, or something else. Participants in "agri-culture" owe much to the expressions of our way to life through music, literature, dance, painting, photography, and other artistic forms. Folklore exhibits our culture.

Excerpted from *Farm World*, 5 April 2021  
Submitted by IGHS member, John Kaiser.



# GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY ESSAY CONTEST

## For College Students



Sponsored by:

**Indiana German Heritage Society (IGHS)**

Deadline: October 29, 2021

Essay Topic:

**“From Physical Fitness to Olympic Fame and Professional Sports –  
German-American Athletes Then and Now”**

1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$200, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$ 100

**Description:** Immigrants from German-speaking countries contributed to many aspects of public life and community building in the U.S.A. As early as the 19<sup>th</sup> century, physical education was introduced to American life through the Turners. Since the 20<sup>th</sup> century, German-American athletes have been successful in both professional sports as well as in Olympic competitions. Additionally, German athletes have had an increasing impact on American professional sports recently.

In your essay, describe and analyze these accomplishments, either by focusing on one particular athlete or by discussing the overall impact of German-American or German athletes on a particular sport in the U.S.A.

**Evaluation of Essay** (in English): Factual evidence/research, analysis, creativity, writing style will be considered equally.

**Evaluation of Personal Statement** (in German): content, details, grammar and vocabulary.

**Contest Requirements:** Please submit in one Word document:

- **Essay**, approx. 750-1000 words (*in English*); Notate sources and include a “**Works Cited**”
- **One page (double spaced) statement** (~250 words) of student’s background (*in German*), highlighting any experiences / planned experiences with German language and culture which have influenced the student’s personal life and educational career, or their own German-American heritage (where applicable).
- **Cover page with:** Student name & email address, Instructor’s Name, University Name

Submit entries via email (subject line: “**IGHS College Essay Contest**”) as one Word document attachment to: **Dr. Wendy Westphal**, IGHS Education Committee,  
Marian University German Program, [abroad@marian.edu](mailto:abroad@marian.edu)

Contest winners will be invited to share their findings with the IGHS organization at one of their monthly *Stammtisch* meetings and/or by publishing their essay in the quarterly newsletter.





## German-American Day Essay Contest

Sponsored by: **Indiana German Heritage Society (IGHS)**

Deadline: October 29, 2021

---

### Prizes:

1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$ 300.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$ 200.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$ 100.00

Several prizes for runner-ups

IGHS will recognize the class with the most essay submissions  
with \$100 to be used towards a German class celebration.

### “From Physical Fitness to Olympic Fame and Professional Sports: German-American Athletes - Then and Now”

In honor of **German-American Day (October 6)**, the Indiana German Heritage Society is sponsoring an essay contest for Indiana high school students. Participants do not have to be currently enrolled in a German class to be eligible. However, they should be able to write a brief biographical statement in German. Contest winners will be invited to share their findings with the IGHS organization at one of their monthly *Stammtisch* meetings and/or by publishing their essay in the quarterly newsletter.

**Description:** Immigrants from German-speaking countries contributed to many aspects of public life and community building in the U.S.A. As early as the 19<sup>th</sup> century, physical education was introduced to American life through the Turners. Since the 20<sup>th</sup> century, German-American athletes have been successful in both professional sports as well as in Olympic competitions. Additionally, German athletes have made an increasing impact on American professional sports recently.

In your essay, describe and analyze these accomplishments, either by focusing on one particular athlete or by discussing the overall impact of German-American or German athletes on a particular sport in the U.S.A.

**Evaluation of Essay (in English):** Factual evidence/research, analysis, creativity, writing style.

**Evaluation of Personal Statement (in German):** Content, details, grammar and vocabulary.

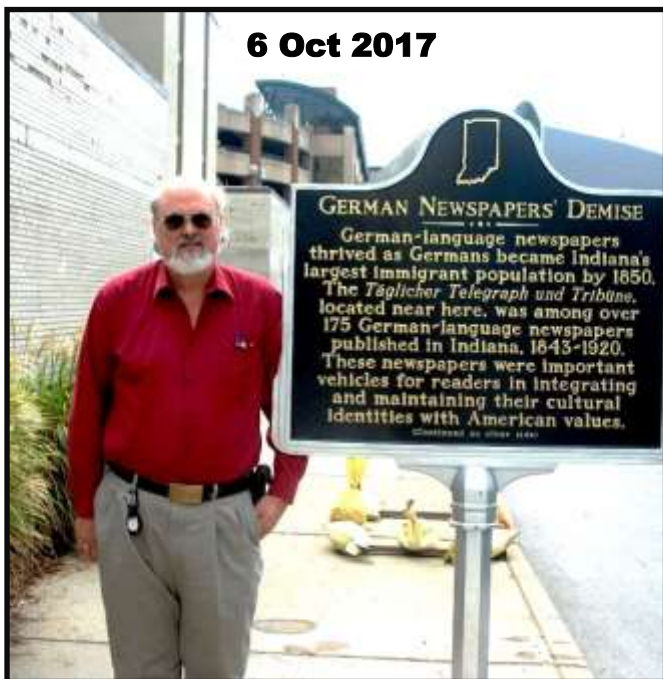
#### Contest Requirement ( Please submit in **one** Word document):

- **Essay**, approx. 750-1000 words (*in English*); Notate sources and include a “Works Cited”
- **One page statement (in German):** ~250 words, double-spaced; of student’s background highlighting any past/planned experiences with German language and culture which have influenced the student’s personal life and educational career, or their own German-American heritage (where applicable).
- **Cover page with:** Student name & email address, German teacher’s name, name of school

Submit entries via email (subject line: “IGHS High School Essay Contest”) to:

**Dr. Wendy Westphal**, IGHS Education Committee,  
Marian University German Program, [abroad@marian.edu](mailto:abroad@marian.edu)





## ? MISSING MARKER MYSTERY ?

On 6 October 2017, IGHS unveiled a new Indiana Historical Marker celebrating the German newspapers in Indiana. The marker was located on south Delaware Street in Indianapolis, on the west side of the Marion County Jail and just a few steps from the new Julia M. Carson Transit Center and the City County building.

In recent weeks, the city has begun a major repaving project on the first couple of blocks of south Delaware. Casey Pfeiffer, the director of the Historical Marker Program for the Indiana Historical Bureau Division of the Indiana State Library, noticed that the marker was missing.

Casey reached out to Department of Public Works (DPW) administrator for the City of Indianapolis, who assured her that they had seen the marker in February before the road work began but that by the time, they started in March it was gone.

DPW plans included the temporary removal of

the marker and its reinstallation after the work was done. If the Indiana Historical Bureau had been notified of the project, then they would have removed the marker for safe keeping until it was safe to reinstall it. The problem is, no one informed the bureau about the construction.

There are some unconfirmed reports that the marker may have been damaged by a car accident, but according to the Indianapolis Police records, no property damage accidents appear in their logs for the February-March period.

Unfortunately, right now, we just don't have any more information about what happened to the marker. Both IGHS and the Indiana Historical Bureau are trying to check area surveillance camera footage to see if we can determine what happened.

Watch future issues of this newsletter and the [IGHS.org](http://IGHS.org) webpage for updates.

## Celebrate Your German Heritage



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[www.ighs.org/membership.html](http://www.ighs.org/membership.html)

## AROUND THE STATE

### Indianapolis:

Cologne Mayor Henriette Reker sent Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett a letter of warm congratulations addressed to all citizens of our capital city on the occasion of its 200th Birthday. She regretted the fact that she had not yet had the opportunity to visit our city so far, but had received a lot of fascinating impressions from the representatives of both friendship associations in Cologne and Indy. "All of these institutions help to ensure that our cities are in a constant exchange with the long-standing fire department exchange or the friendship between our libraries, the jazz exchange or the school partnership that now exists for some years. All these encounters contribute to the fact that our sister-city friendship is flourishing and lively."

Hartwig Prüßmann, president of the Freundeskreis Köln-Indianapolis e.V., sent a message of condolence to Mayor Hogsett and to the people of Indianapolis following the tragic mass shooting at a FedEx terminal in the city.

The 2021 Indiana Jazz Exchange, a co-operative program sponsored by the Amerika Haus NRW e.V., Freundeskreis Köln-Indianapolis e.V. and the City of Cologne was broadcast live on May 19 on YouTube. The program featured Monika Herzig (Piano) and Peter Kienle (Bass/ Guitar), Andre Nendza (Bass), Jasna Jovicevic (Saxophone), Igal Foni (Drums) and Reut Regev (Trombone).

### Oldenburg:

The Oldenburg Freudenfest, known as "The Biggest Little German Festival in Indiana" has been cancelled for the second year in a row, due to COVID.

The mission of the annual festival is "to provide a high quality festival that celebrates the richness of our German Heritage community". The festival will return when it is safe to do so.

## A Look Back:

### TRAVELS TO THE OLD COUNTRY

by Martha Rasche

Excerpted from *The Herald*, July 8, 2000

You cannot come away from Pfaffenweiler, Germany, not knowing the importance of grapes and wine to this community of 2,600 people. The first thing you notice about Jasper's sister city is the patchwork of green vineyards-about 250 acres of them circling the village. The hills slope up from the town like the sides of a funnel.

Next, you discover that Pfaffenweiler's main street goes by the name Weinstrasse, and borders three sides of this village nestled in the far southwestern corner of Germany, in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

On the east side of town, the village's co-operative winery celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Boasting 270 grape growers, the co-op employs a dozen people year round and gets help from the entire community during the harvest in October and November. And next to the town museum in the center of town stands an old wooden wine press. On the other side of the museum rests a large cart filled with stone, historically the village's second-most important commodity. This village knows its 1,284-year past, and has symbols of its economic mainstays standing like bookends in a prominent location. Although grape-growing and wine-making here date back to 716, the last 50 years have held revolutionary changes for both. Until 1950, each grower worked his own fields, harvested, made and sold his own wine and so forth-but nobody made a profit.

So growers united to form the co-operative. Today, 270 co-op members grow 15 kinds of grapes. Different soil types, different sun exposure and other factors contribute to about 100 varieties of wine each year.

In a good year, the winery produces 350,000 gallons of wine, according to the winery's general manager, Heinrich Maennle. Generally, the harvest yields about 200,000 gallons. The hillside on the west side of Pfaffenweiler stretches out about three miles. Known as the Batzenberg, it comprises the largest uninterrupted vineyard in all of Germany.

After the harvest in the fall, the co-operative presses and filters the grapes and then puts them in barrels to ferment. Red wines go in wooden barrels, which absorb the carbonation, which makes red wines smooth, Maennle explains. White wines go in metal barrels, which makes them more carbonated and bubbly.

The co-operative must report to a government control agency what kinds of grapes it processes, how many, when, who owns them and other details. Before the co-op may sell wine, three bottles of each

(Continued on page 14)

kind must be sent to the same control agency for testing, grading and certification. Maennle says 1997 and 1999 were good years for wine here. A good year requires a balance of sunshine, to produce sugar in the grapes, and rain, to cause the grapes to grow large, he explains. "This year looks very, very good already," Maennle said in Germany in mid-June, when the grapes were growing 16 days ahead of schedule.

Ten years after the formation of the co-op, the vineyards themselves were redistributed among their owners. Historically throughout Germany, when a man died his property was divided evenly among his children. As generations went on, individuals had many small pieces of land far-flung around the villages. In 1960, Pfaffenweiler joined a national movement to redistribute farmland. The vineyard owners consolidated their acreage, remeasured them and redistributed larger plots.

Starting with the Batzenberg, the community tore out all existing vineyards, including work huts and dividing walls of stone, and started over. At that time, getting to the vineyards required walking through tiny paths with stone steps. To facilitate access, narrow asphalt roads replaced those paths.

(In recent months, the county has revealed plans to build a new road through the Snail Valley, known as the Schneckental in German. Local residents oppose the new road, fearing it will disrupt their peaceful lives. Some predict a new road would send thousands more vehicles through the valley each day, according to Pfaffenweiler Mayor Fritz Gutsell, who leads the opposition.)

Growers began planting grapes at standard distances from one another, allowing room for mowers and tractors and other farm machinery to maneuver between the rows; the vineyards no longer required as much time consuming work by hand. Other than the vineyards, which provide second jobs for many in the village, Pfaffenweiler offers little work for its residents.

About 90 percent of Pfaffenweiler's work force works outside the village, most in the county seat of Freiburg but some as far away as Basel, Switzerland, about 45 miles from here. A university town a 10-minute drive away, Freiburg is particularly accessible to Pfaffenweiler

residents. Heiko Treyer, a Pfaffenweiler resident who takes the bus to work at the regional unemployment office in Freiburg each day, estimates Pfaffenweiler unemployment at 5 to 7 percent. Unlike the United States, Germany is not a mobile society, Weeger says. So when someone loses a job, he or she doesn't want to relocate. The country's coalmining and iron industry are fading fast, according to Weeger, and it will take a while to build new industry to

replace them.

"German people choose a place to live and don't want to move. We build our homes for eternity," Weeger says, pointing out the homes' stone and concrete construction.

Another striking difference between the German culture and that of the United States is the number of vacation days employees have. Treyer, who belongs to a union, has 30 days of vacation each year. Not all em-

ployees get that many days off, he says, but federal law requires at least 18 days vacation a year for adults. Because of collective bargaining, though, 70 percent of all employees get at least six weeks paid vacation, according to the German Information Center in New York City.

The Batzenberger Winzerkapelle is the town's 200-year-old, 250-member brass band. The Winzerkapelle is one of seven bands in town, along with two choirs and about a dozen other clubs. Everybody, it seems, belongs to something. Though many of the clubs have a long history in the community and have both young and old members, one of the bands does not.

The town's Snail Festival Brass Band started 11 years ago. It plays primarily during the Karneval festivities before Lent. Those town wide celebrations used to bore young people, Weeger says, so the young people did something about it. Snail Festival Brass Band members also belong to one of the other town bands, so they already had the talent; they just needed the outrageous uniforms: purple kickers, oversized pink and purple plastic clogs, white stockings and multi-colored frocks of bright pink, purple, and gold. They added Carnival masks and picked up their drums, trombones and other horns.

When they play – anything from Chubby Checker's "The Twist" to the evening-ending Aufwiedersehen – the piercing music bounces off the walls and all of the band members grin widely and tock to the beat. On the inside rim of the tuba is written Schneck-Bläaerer, which translates as "snail blaster". Not unlike what you would find in southern Indiana, older Pfaffenweiler residents hold their hands over their ears when the band begins playing, hoping the loud music will go away.





# Auf Deutsch

By Ruth Reichmann

Joachim Ringelnatz is one of my favorite authors. Ringelnatz is the pen name of the author and painter Hans Bötticher (1883, Wurzen, Saxony – 1934, Berlin). His pen name Ringelnatz is usually explained as a dialect expression for an animal, possibly a variant of Ringelnatter, German for Grass Snake. He was a sailor in his youth and spent the First World War in the Navy on a mine-sweeper. In the 1920s and 1930s, he worked as a Kabarettist, i.e., a kind of satirical stand-up comedian. He is best known for his wry poems, often using wordplay and sometimes even disguising a deeper meaning. I was unable to find a good translation of one of my favorite poems "Die Ameisen". So, I am going to just transcribe it. Below it are two poems translated by Ethan Weinstein.



## Die Ameisen

In Hamburg lebten zwei Ameisen,  
Die wollten nach Australien reisen.  
Bei Altona auf der Chaussee  
Da taten ihnen die Beine weh,  
Und da verzichteten sie weise  
Denn auf den letzten Teil der Reise.

So will man oft und kann doch nicht  
Und leistet dann recht gern Verzicht.

## Logik

Die Nacht war kalt und sternklar,  
Da trieb im Meer bei Norderney  
Ein Suahelischnurrbarthaar. -  
Die nächste Schiffsuhr wies auf drei.

Mir scheint da mancherlei nicht klar,  
Man fragt doch, wenn man Logik hat,  
Was sucht ein Suahelihaar  
Denn nachts um drei am Kattegatt?

## Sehnsucht nach Berlin

Berlin wird immer mehr Berlin.  
Humorgemüt ins Grobe.  
Das wär' mein Wunsch: Es anzuziehn  
Wie eine schöne Hose

Und wär' Berlin dann stets um mich  
Auf meinen Wanderwegen.  
Berlin, Ich sehne mich in dich.  
Ach komm mir doch entgegen.

## The Ants

In Hamburg lived two ants,  
Who wanted to travel to Australia.  
In Altona on the Boulevard  
Their legs began to hurt,  
And so they gave up wisely  
Therefore, the last part of their travel.

Thus often one wants and can not  
And then will gladly do without.

## Reason

The night was cold, crisp, the air,  
There drifted in the sea  
A Swahili moustache hair. -  
The next ship's clock showed three.

I find in me a question brewing.  
You ask, if you have reason,  
What is a Swahili moustache hair doing?  
At 3 a.m. during fishing season?

## Longing for Berlin

Berlin becomes always more Berlin.  
Funny at every chance.  
This would be my wish: to stand in  
Berlin, like a beautiful pair of pants.

And if Berlin would stay around me,  
Following my tracks.  
Berlin, I long for thee.  
Oh please, I need you back!



# INDIANA GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE CALENDAR



## STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS

### Wednesday, June 9: *German Landmark Preservation in Dubois County* by Ron Flick.

Dubois County in southern Indiana is home to several communities with deep German-American heritage. For decades too many historically and architecturally important landmarks were lost through misguided intentions, neglect, and indifference. However, in recent years, important structures and monuments are now being saved, restored, or rebuilt, including historic cemeteries, churches, homes, and commercial buildings in several of the communities throughout the county, including the two largest, Jasper and Huntingburg, which are experiencing extensive revitalization and preservation efforts. Join architect and historian Ron Flick, on a tour through one of southern Indiana's most historic and beautiful areas. ZOOM Presentation.

Please register in advance for this program: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrdeqvqDMpHdYF54S-tvJh8AiKj1JIMywP>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### Wednesday, July: *No Board Meeting, Stammtisch or Program*

### Wednesday, August 11: *An Encore performance of the Liederkrantz Brass*

**Band.** Conductor Jeff Westfall will lead the Liederkrantz Brass Band in an encore performance in the pavilion in German Park, 8600 South Meridian Street.



Register in advance for this program: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvf-CspzMrEtJKSSJleLGahfZ5HlJnmBLK>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**Wednesday, September 8: IGHS College Essay Student Presentations**, moderated by Dr. Claudia Grossmann, moderator. The winners of the IGHS college essay contest will present their essays. IUPUI Honors student, Abbie Koster, will present her research findings on Das Deutsche Haus articles published in *Indiana Tribune*. At the Athenaeum.

Register in advance for this program: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZludemsqTwjH9ZGd2PCgl9KVw-qolqp9pcP>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

*For the immediate future all Stammtisch programs will be held virtually via Zoom. They are in English, free of charge, open to the public, and begin at 7:30 PM. Please register in advance for each session. You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.*

## OTHER PROGRAMS

**Saturday, June 12, 4:00pm - 9:00pm: 2021 S dzfest:** a celebration of South side Brewing held at German Park, 8602 S. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46217. "Nothing is more German than partaking in a region's own locally-brewed biers, with local pride. The GAK is an Indy Southside Icon, and S dzfest is our annual southside brewers' tasting. (The pun: S d = "south",



but also the double meaning of “suds” on a bier)” Featuring brews from Mashcraft, Planetary Brewing, Garfield Brewery, Fountain Square Brewery and music by Ride that Train, Pushing Daisy’s.

**Sunday, July 11th, from noon - 3pm in Jasper: *StrassenVORfest A “Prep for the Fest” Event.*** Help to usher in the 2021 Jasper Strassenfest, August 5 to August 8. There will be German dancing, singing, and German themed events for kids. Come for lunch at the Jasper Moose Lodge, 2507 Newton Street, Jasper, and enjoy the afternoon with us! For more information, contact Paul Siegel at 812-499-9690.



**Thursday, August 5—Sunday, August 8: *The Jasper Strassenfest!*** After not being able to hold the festival in 2020, doesn’t it feel great to once again celebrate our German heritage as a community? For more information, visit <https://jasperstrassenfest.org/>.

**Saturday, August 7, 5:00pm - 10:00pm: *Liederkrantz Sommerfest!*** The Indianapolis Liederkrantz misses everyone terribly! So this year, let’s catch up with old friends, make new ones, and help support the Liederkrantz with traditional German beers, food, and music available for your enjoyment! Admission is just \$5 and kids 12 and under are free. Held at German Park, 8602 S. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46217.

**Thursday, September 9—Saturday, September 11, 4:00pm - 11:00pm. *The G.A.K. OKTOBERFEST*** at German Park, 8602 S. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46217 on Indianapolis’ south side. Get your German on with traditional food, beer, music and lots of fun! For more information, check out <https://indianapoliskak.com/portfolio-items/oktoberfest/>.

**Thursday, September 30-Sunday, October 3, 2021: the *45th Annual German Studies Association Conference*** will be held in Indianapolis this fall. The conference will consist of both in-person and virtual panels, seminars, and roundtables on a wide range of topics relating to German and German language culture and history. There also will be adjacent programming, and everyone is welcome to attend. Learn more by visiting the GSA’s website (<https://thegsa.org/conference/current-conference>).



**Saturday, October 2 :*The fall meeting of the Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America*** will be held on Saturday, October 2 via Zoom. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Roger Minert, professor emeritus at Brigham Young University and author of many books related to German genealogy research. He will give four virtual presentations to assist you in your research and help you understand the lives of your German ancestors. Please see <https://inpalam.org/> for further details and registration information. If you have any questions, contact [indianapalam@gmail.com](mailto:indianapalam@gmail.com)

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# Indiana German Heritage Society

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|  | <input type="checkbox"/> German Language Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Materials    |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> History                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Traditions & Folklore |

Knowledge of German Language:

☐ None

☐ Some

☐ Fluent

Knowledge of Old German Script (Sütterlin):

☐ None

☐ Some

☐ Good

I am willing to help with activities (Circle one):

Yes

No

I wish to make an additional tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ This is a gift membership. Name of person providing gift membership:

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You can become a lifetime member by either registering online at [ighs.org](https://www.ighs.org) or by submitting a membership form.

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