



# NEWSLETTER

## Indiana German Heritage Society Inc

Volume 3, Issue 3

Summer 1987

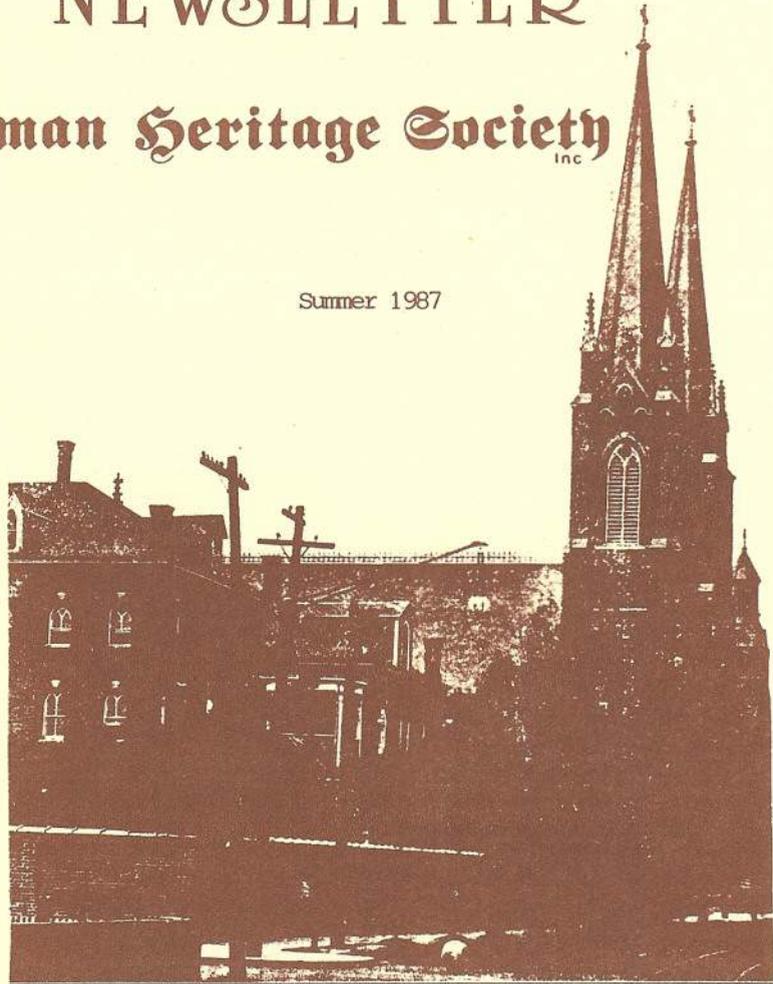
### June 20 - VISIT TO SACRED HEART CHURCH

June 20, 2:00 p.m. we will visit the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Indianapolis. The program includes lectures by Bill Selm on "The Architecture of the Church," by Giles Hoyt on "The History of the Parish," and by Charles Spencer on "The Problems of Translating the Church History." The Society will present to the church the translation of Father Haase's church history of 1900. A reception will follow the presentations. The church is located on 1530 Union St., just East of Meridian St. near Shapiro's Delicatessen.

The translation of the 1900 history of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church (Die Herz-Jesu-Gemeinde zu Indianapolis, Ind., in ihrem Entstehen und Wachsen von 1875-1900 ... dargestellt von P. Franciscus Haase, O.F.M.) received financial assistance through an Indiana Heritage Research grant, supported jointly by the Indiana Committee for the Humanities, and the Indiana Historical Society. The history illuminates activities and personalities of the late 19th century Indianapolis.

The Sacred Heart Church was formed as a mission of the St. Mary's Congregation. In 1875, Bishop Maurice de St. Palais caused this second congregation to be established when the German population became too large to be cared for by one church. The founders of this congregation were the Franciscan Fathers of the province of Saxony of the Holy Cross, located in Teutopolis, Illinois. The "History" covers in detail the relationship of the congregation to other important congregations and Catholic communities throughout the Midwest. It also discusses in more detail the formation and building of the Church. It includes a history of the Franciscan Monastery in Teutopolis, as well as the biographies of leading clerics connected with the congregation and the Order, e.g., P. Alardus, the first German prefect and pastor of Indianapolis. The document lists all of the lay organizations connected with the Church, such as the Knights of St. George (Sankt Georgs Ritter). There is also a detailed description of the order of liturgy as well as a complete list of the members in 1900.

Giles Hoyt



Ansicht des Klosters und Der Herz Jesu Kirche.

### July 2 - OLDENBURG SESQUICENTENNIAL

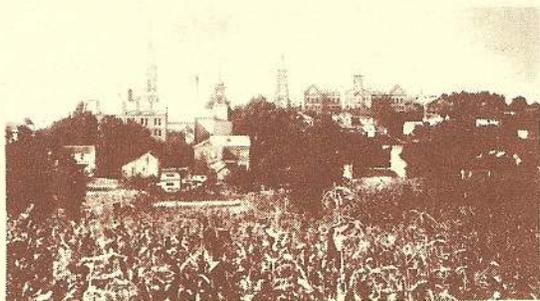
This year's "Freudenfest"--Oldenburg's Festival of Joy--will be special. The historic community, known as the "Village of Spires", will celebrate the 150th year of its founding. Noted for its extraordinary assemblage of 19th century and early 20th century German-American architecture, the entire village is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

There are many activities planned in Oldenburg during the week-long celebration beginning on June 28 with the Fireman's Festival and Parade and ending on July 4 with the traditional fireworks. We will participate in the celebration on July 2, meeting at 4:00 p.m. at Ron Koch's Brauhaus. Luke Knapke of the Minster Historical Society will give a slide presentation: "From the Old Country to the New, Liwwet Knapke-Boeke, Pioneer Woman, Artist and Writer", based on the drawings of Liwwet Boeke from Damme, who settled in St. John (now Maria Stein) near Minster, Ohio. Antonius Holtmann will follow with a presentation: "The Supreme Sacrifice: Heinrich Brandes of Oldenburg in the continued next page

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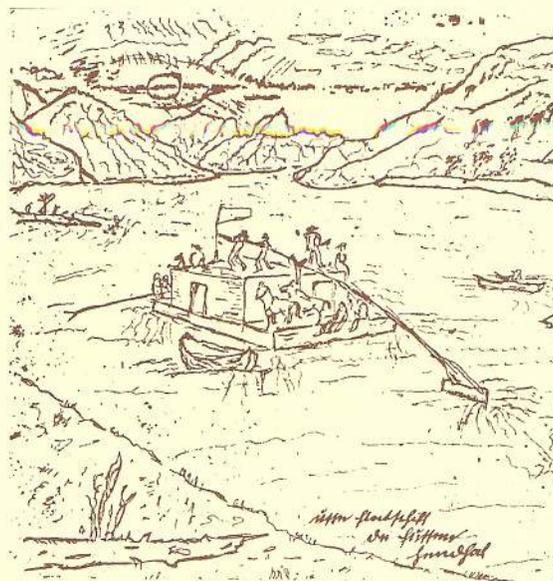
Civil War" with slides and readings. Eberhard Reichmann will read from the Brandes letters in the translation of Sr. Michael Luise. At 6 p.m. we will have dinner together at the Brauhaus. At 7:30 there will be a Pageant at the Immaculate Conception Academy Auditorium. On July 3, at 2 p.m. Antonius Holtmann will give a slide presentation on "Homesteads, Then and Now in Oldenburg, Germany", at the Oldenburg Elementary School Cafeteria.

In 1837, Father Ferneding, a Catholic priest from Steinfeld near Damme, invited two German land developers, Ronnebaum and Plasohl from Damme to plat the town. Ronnebaum advertised in the "Wahrheitsfreund", the first German Catholic newspaper, in an effort to attract Catholic German immigrants. This drew farmers, craftsmen and shopkeepers to the area. According to records of 1837, Conrad Huermann, Ben Hinnekamp, Joseph Huegel, Anton Mollau, Georg Hoelscher, Joseph Brink, Henry Kinker and Eberhard Waechter were the first to locate their families in the Oldenburg area. While these and later settlers were North German Catholics, particularly from the area around Damme in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, their religious leaders came from southern Germany and Austria: Father Rudolph from Alsace, the fathers at the Oldenburg Monastery from an order in Cincinnati established by friars from the Austrian Tyrol, and Mother Therese Hackelmeier came from Vienna to establish the Convent at Oldenburg in 1851.

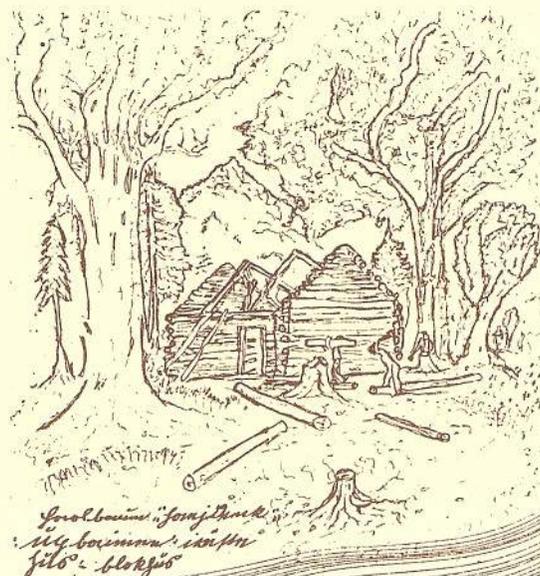


ANNIVERSARIES !!!

Anniversaries are milestones of the generations' march through time. Historic appreciation grows as communities and churches look back to their beginnings and to those who built the foundations on which we stand. 1987 marks the Bicentennial of the nation's adoption of the Constitution, and much of the Midwest observes the Bicentennial of the Northwest Ordinance. In 1787, Congress organized the Northwest Territory, comprising the areas of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and parts of Minnesota with an estimated total population of 23,000. The Indiana Territory was established in 1800, and statehood was granted in 1816. The only German settlement in pre-statehood days was New Harmony (1814) admired as the Rappites' "economic miracle of the West". These Württembergers came from Butler County, Pa. and returned to Pennsylvania in 1824. They were the largest group of Germans migrating to the U.S. before Napoleon defeated the German Empire in 1806.



Historical Society of Minster, OH announces the summer 1987 publication of Liwwät Bøke, 1807 - 1882, Pioneer. This is the story of an exceptional pioneer woman and her husband from the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg who settled in Western Ohio. Frau Bøke's story is told in her own words and in over one hundred of her pen drawings that offer a unique illustration of her life in Oldenburg, the journey to Ohio, and life in the wilderness. Thanks to the untiring effort of editor Luke Knapke, Liwwät (Elisabeth) Bøke-Knapke's life and work will now become a part of the great German-American pioneer tradition. Her pen drawings constitute the largest known documentation by any pioneer woman in American history. What a find! Luke Knapke will give a slide presentation of the drawings of Liwwät Bøke at Ron Koch's Oldenburg Brauhaus (see JULY 2 - OLDENBURG SESQUICENTENNIAL). Orders: Minster Historical Society, 231 N. Frankfort St., Minster, OH 45865. \$20.00. Copies may also be purchased from Luke Knapke on July 2.



It was not until the 1830s that Germans came to Indiana in large numbers—more than all other ethnic groups combined. The Southeastern part of the state saw most settlers coming by way of Cincinnati; many, headed for the counties of Spencer and Dubois, chose the Mississippi-Chio route and landed in Troy, near Tell City. These were both Catholics and Lutherans at first, most frequently settling in groups according to their denomination. Much of the immigration to Southeastern Indiana came from an area along the irregular border of the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg and the Kingdom of Hannover, roughly from between the cities of Bremen and Osnabrück. Fr. Ferneding from Oldenburg; Fr. Kundek from Austria; and Fr. Rudolph from Alsace, were the great Catholic missionary priests who established and assisted parishes and in the 1830s and 1840s throughout Southeastern and Southern Indiana. Their Lutheran equivalent was the Rev. Friederich K. D. Wyneken at Fort Wayne, who issued his famous "Notruf," "The Distress of the German Lutherans in North America" (1843) to the old country for help. In 1850 he succeeded the Rev. Walter as second president of the Missouri Synod, which now is 140 years old. Five congregations in Indiana are charter members of the Synod. St. Paul's, Fort Wayne, is observing its 150th year in 1987; Zion and Friedheim are next with their 150th in 1988.

It is because of this steady and large-scale German immigration from the 1830s to the outbreak of the Civil War that we are witnessing an equally steady flow of anniversary Fests. Last year, for instance, St. Meinrad celebrated the 125th anniversary of town and Archabbey for an entire week, and St. John's Lutheran Church, Lanesville, Harrison County, observed a three-fold anniversary, the 125th graduating class from the Christian Day School, the 125th recurrence of the founding of the school, and the 140th of the founding of the congregation. Its German heritage is very much in evidence throughout the congregation's history. Until 1921, the confirmation classes were conducted in German and the practice of a monthly worship service in German continued until 1939. The folks in St. Henry, a small Hoosier community near Ferdinand, are getting ready to celebrate their "125th" this summer. The Sisters of St. Benedict at the Convent of the Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand have their "Fest-Tag" on June 28, to commemorate the Convent's 120 years of service to God and fellow man.

For Oldenburg it is Sequicentennial big time, observing the founding of the Catholic Church and Parish of Oldenburg. Batesville too has a 150th birthday, that of the Huntersville Lutheran Church (now St. John United Church of Christ) which marks the beginning of the settlement of present-day Batesville. Other communities and churches in this area will be celebrating anniversaries as well, and nearby little Penntown, the "Pennsylvaniaburg" of 1840

is looking forward to 1990. Surely, there are many more anniversaries coming our way, but this year seems to be particularly noteworthy in this respect. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! and write to us about your celebrations. EBR

#### July 25 - CELEBRATION AT THE SHERMAN HOUSE

July 25, at 9 a.m. we will gather for breakfast and a program at Johann Brinkmann's Inn, better known as the Sherman House, in Batesville. The Indiana German Heritage Society will join with the Huntersville United Church of Christ and area citizens to celebrate Huntersville's 150th Anniversary and the 900th Anniversary of Venne near Osnabrück, the ancestral town of many a family in Ripley County. The celebration at Venne in Germany will be August 20-23 with a group from Indiana representing the area descendants (see ROOTS TOUR TO GERMANY elsewhere).

Robert C. Rau of Cincinnati will speak on "The History of German Protestant Congregations in Cincinnati and Southeastern Indiana", and David S. Dreyer on "Searching for Ancestral Roots in Lower Saxony". Mr. Rau is a well-known historian of German Protestant history in the Cincinnati and Southeastern Indiana vicinity; Mr. Dreyer is an immigration specialist in the Batesville area. Eberhard Reichmann of the IGHS Board will emcee the program along with Pastor David Johnston of St. John's United Church of Christ at Huntersville.

The Sherman House was chosen as a site because its founder, Johann Friedrich Brinkmann, was both a member of the Church at Huntersville and an immigrant from Venne. Today, Huntersville is a part of Batesville. It was settled in 1837, just a few miles south of Oldenburg, by German Protestants who came to Ripley County after having first migrated to Cincinnati.

The breakfast buffet is \$5.70 per person including tax and gratuity. To assure a reservation, your check, made out to David S. Dreyer, must be received no later than Wednesday, July 22. Mail to 4010 North Park Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205.

At 3 p.m. we will have a display and information table at St. John's Church Sunday School Picnic, to help area residents research their immigrant origins and make contacts with churches, families and towns back in Germany. St. John's Church was organized in 1836 by a group of German immigrants, who purchased 69 acres for their settlement. Their records were kept in German until the Civil War and were only recently translated. This translation makes it possible to reestablish connections with communities in Germany. The Huntersville Protestants came from a number of towns surrounding Damme Parish from which also nearby Oldenburg Catholic families emigrated.



SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS, The Church of the Immaculate Conception, D.A. Bohlen, Architect

#### AUGUST 22 - PLACES OF INTEREST IN TERRE HAUTE

The last summer Board/membership meeting will take us to Terre Haute to explore some of its German heritage and spend an enjoyable evening with members of the Oberlander Club. At 1:00 p.m. we will meet at the Club, form a car pool and caravan to the Debs Museum on 451 N. 8th St. (812 232-2163) for a visit of the Home of Eugene V. Debs and a presentation on Debs by Professor Robert Constantine. On our way to the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College we will visit St. Benedict's Catholic Church. We will return to the Oberlander Club at 6:00 p.m. for dinner (pork roast) and dance (both for \$7.50). Karl Kugler will play his zither. Our thanks to Hilde Crisp and Lee Phifer for an interesting program.

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

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

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

To get to the Oberlander Club from Interstate 70, go North on S.R. 46 (Hulman Rd.) and turn West (left) on State Road 40 (Wabash Avenue). At the first traffic light turn North (right) into Fruitridge; at the third light turn West (left) on Ft. Harrison Rd. At the second light turn left into Lafayette Avenue, the Club (1616 Lafayette Avenue, 812 466-6143) will be on your right. For further information contact Hilde Crisp at (812) 466-4486.

# CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES

## CULTURAL EXCHANGE

When people from two different culture groups, for whatever reason, visit each other and learn about and from each other, culture is exchanged. A number of exchanges are planned for this summer.

The Batzenberger Winzerkapelle from Pfaffenweiler will pay a visit to their Sister City Jasper. There will be old country sounds from the instruments of the 35 musicians when the village band participates in the Jasper Strassenfest July 30 through August 2. The Indianapolis Chapter and the German American Klub will co-host the Batzenberger Winzerkapelle during their visit to Indianapolis August 4-6. Host families are needed for the guests since hotel/motel space will not be available.

The name of The Batzenberger Winzerkapelle in translation is "the wine growers band from the Batzenberg." Pfaffenweiler is a wine growing town and is nestled in the vineyards of the Batzenberg. This is a huge hill area dotted with vineyards and located near the city of Freiburg in a vacation area between the Rhein and the Schwarzwald (Black Forest). A number of Jasper German families immigrated from this area. The telephone directories of Jasper and of Pfaffenweiler show dozens of identical names. The common roots and heritage are creating a very special bond between both towns.



## ROOTS TOUR TO GERMANY

In search of their roots, a group of Hoosiers, led by Art Schwenk, will visit Germany August 15-24. These Hoosiers of German descent will visit places of historic significance as well as the villages and towns in Northern Germany, from where their ancestors emigrated. They will visit historic Wittenberg, where Luther started the reformation with his famous 95 Theses, and the Wartburg Castle, where he translated the Bible while in hiding from the powers of state and church. They will stay at a restored farmstead at Bramsche and visit historic places and museums to see how their ancestors may have lived. Also on the itinerary is Marienfeld, home of the Marienfelder Volkstanzgruppe who visited Indiana last year. The trip will culminate in a four-day "Heimatfest" at Venne. The Hoosiers are invited to the 900-Year Celebration of the town and will have an opportunity to join towns people celebrating in traditional German style. For further information call Arthur or Marcia Schwenk at (812) 546-5852).

## BUSINESS STUDENTS EXCHANGE

An exchange for students of international business between the State of Indiana and the German State of Baden-Württemberg based on a sister state agreement is being initiated. On July 1, we will welcome Paul Awe, Ruth Maute and Axel Schleusner with a dinner and program at the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum. At 7:30 p.m. Eberhard Reichmann will speak about "The Hoosier Germans." On May 15, our own Baden-Württemberg-bound students, Pat Hall, Eric Staab and Dianna Wiedenhoeft were treated to a dinner at the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum, and Eberhard Reichmann introduced them and the audience to the delights of the Swabian mentality, humor and dialect. These programs, organized by Ruth Reichmann, are part of a series of seminars and excursions for the German and the American participants.

This business student exchange is a first step of what is envisioned as a sustained, long-term development of business students exchange programs. It is the result of negotiations by the Ministry of Science and Culture of Baden-Württemberg and Indiana University-Indianapolis for establishing an exchange between the business schools (Berufsakademien) at Villingen-Schwenningen and the Indiana University system. The program is directed by Giles R. Hoyt, Department of German, IUPUI, and links in a very unique way Sister Cities International, the schools of Business, Liberal Arts, and International Programs of Indiana University in Bloomington and Indianapolis, and the Trade Division of the State of Indiana, the mayor's office, business people, private citizens, and organizations, such as the Indiana German Heritage Society.

For further information call Giles Hoyt at (317) 224-2330.



## IN SEARCH OF THE DESCENDANTS

The Süoldenburgische Heimatbund will arrive in Oldenburg by bus on August 23, and leave for Cincinnati August 25. In search of the descendants of the Oldenburgers who came to the Midwest in search of a better life, they are following the trail of emigrants. They would like to learn about the German immigration and meet the descendants of the Oldenburgers. Visits to Teutopolis, Ill., Oldenburg, Indiana and Cincinnati are planned. While in the Batesville area they will be hosted by Oldenburg Sister Cities and Huntersville St. John's Church.

She was employed in the Marketing Division of Paul Harris Stores at the Home Office in Indianapolis. He was an exchange student from Germany during the school year 1985-1986, working as a young professional at the Fox Studio, creators of original works of stained glass in Indianapolis.

Ten of Martha Ann's lines came from Germany, and her paternal Grandfather from Austria. He came shortly before or after World War I. Some were among the very early Krefelders who settled in Pennsylvania in the late 1600s. Others came from the Duchy of Schwarzburg, Thuringia, and Gotha, Duchy of Saxony.

Martha Ann Hiti attended many of the Stammtisch programs at the Athenaeum. So did Markus Strobl, and you may have met them. They were married January 12 and the young couple is now residing at Saar Strasse 75, 5500 Trier, West Germany. Helen Moore reports that her niece is taking German for foreigners in a private school five days a week. Helen is also studying German. She wants to be able to communicate when she visits Martha Ann and Markus Strobl.

WE WISH THEM BOTH OUR VERY BEST. ALLES GUTE!

INDIANAPOLIS DEUTSCHSCHULE  
INDIANAPOLIS GERMAN SCHOOL

Registrations are being accepted now through the end of August for children in kindergarten (and earlier) through eighth grade who wish to study German. The classes meet Saturday mornings from 9:00-11:30 AM on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. For information and enrollment forms, contact Dr. Claudia Grossmann, Dept. of German, IUPUI, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or call 274-2330.

#### GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY OBSERVANCE

In 1983, Indiana joined the celebration of "300 Years of German Immigration to America." As IGHS members we mark October 6 as German-American Day and celebrate the first weekend in October.



RICHARD G. LUGAR  
INDIANA  
5110 SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4814

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 29, 1987

Ms. Ruth Reichmann  
President  
German Heritage Society  
Route 5 Box 175  
Nashville, Indiana 47448

Dear Ms. Reichmann:

I appreciate hearing of your support for designating October 6, 1987, as German-American Day. This resolution provides us an opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions and achievements of German-Americans to our society. The number of American citizens of German ancestry has grown to over 50 million since the first German immigrants arrived in this country over 300 years ago.

In addition, this resolution highlights plans to dedicate the German-American Friendship Garden on October 6, 1987. The garden, which is located in the District of Columbia, will symbolize the friendly relations between West Germany and the United States.

I am pleased for our agreement on the significance of this resolution, and I am honored to be able to acknowledge the contributions of German-Americans to the United States.

Sincerely,

*Richard G. Lugar*  
Richard G. Lugar  
United States Senator

RGL/vw  
Enclosure

COMMITTEES:  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

HOUSE CLEANING CAN BE DISASTROUS

Stanley Pargellis, in "Our Innocent Arsonists" (*Indiana Magazine of History*, XLII, 117-124), gives an interesting account of some house cleanings. An elderly lady came to his office with a copy of a small book which she found in cleaning the old house. Since he was interested in old houses, he questioned her and learned that her family had settled in Michigan in the 1830s and she was related to the Chases. That morning she had burned a bushel basket full of letters to her grandfather, Philander Chase, first Episcopal bishop of Ohio and later of Illinois, founder of Kenyon college. Almost no letters of Bishop Chase have survived. That morning she had burned "not a human soul but the record of one."

The priest of one of the oldest Catholic churches in Illinois, in one of the oldest towns, climbed into the convent attic, found many old papers and had them destroyed. Probably there were documents of Dominican Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, who built the church and convent. He is unknown today in the Midwest and "if his bungling successors continue their work," he will "sink deeper into the shadowy limbo of oblivion, from which, on this earth, there is not recall."

An Eastern professor wrote on the business career of Jay Gould, using newspaper sources because few manuscripts of Gould's were known. However, in the Burlington Archives of the Newberry Library, he found a wealth of material for one phase of Gould's career, including many of Gould's letters. As a result, he completely rewrote several chapters. The part "written from newspapers was shallow, dull and untrue, in contrast to the solidity and interest of the sections based on manuscripts."

Before one destroys old letters, records, photographs, etc., which may be inherited through one circumstance or another, a knowledgeable person should examine the material. There is not a better place than a reputable university or historical society library to deposit material of historical value. The professional staff has the facilities for their proper preservation. Elfrieda Lang



THE "BIG TEN"

As a percentage of a state's population, how do Hoosier Germans compare with German-Americans elsewhere? According to the Bureau of the Census, D.C. is lowest with 5.3%. Here are the "Big Ten": WI 51.3%, N.D. 47%, S.D. 46.9%, NE 46.1%, IA 45.7%, MN 43.3%, PA 34.2%, OH 33.4%, MT 32.4%, IN 32.3%. Yes, we are in the big league!

Indiana German Heritage Society

MEMBERSHIP

401 East Michigan Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

TREAT A FRIEND TO A MEMBERSHIP! Please make check payable to the Indiana German Heritage Society and send with this statement. Contributions are tax deductible on itemized returns.

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

___ Individual	\$10.00
___ Family	\$15.00
___ Organization	\$25.00
___ Patron	\$50.00
___ Corporate	\$100.00
___ Sponsor	\$500.00
___ Benefactor	\$1000.00

My areas of interest are: (e.g. genealogy, family history, local and state history, religious history, traditions, education, cultural and educational exchanges, etc.)

I want to be active in my local and/or regional area. Please check.

- |                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ___ Gary/Hammond  | ___ Indianapolis*                 |
| ___ Goshen        | ___ Evansville                    |
| ___ Ft. Wayne     | ___ Tell City/Jasper              |
| ___ Lafayette     | ___ Bloomington/<br>Columbus      |
| ___ Kokomo/Tipton | ___ Madison                       |
| ___ Muncie        | ___ Jeffersonville/<br>New Albany |
| ___ Richmond      | ___ Vincennes                     |
| ___ South Bend    |                                   |
| ___ Terre Haute   |                                   |

\* If you wish to belong to the Indianapolis Chapter, please include an additional \$5.00.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

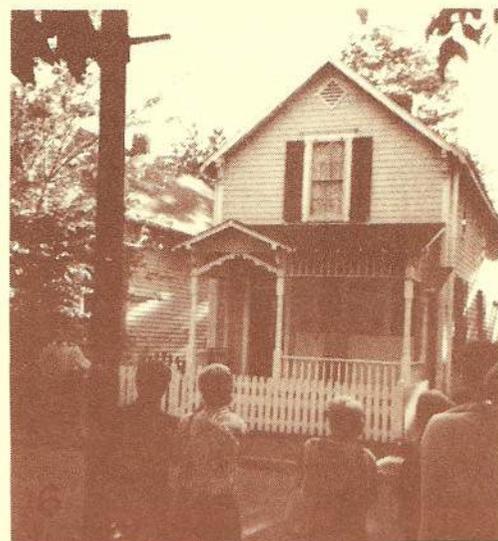
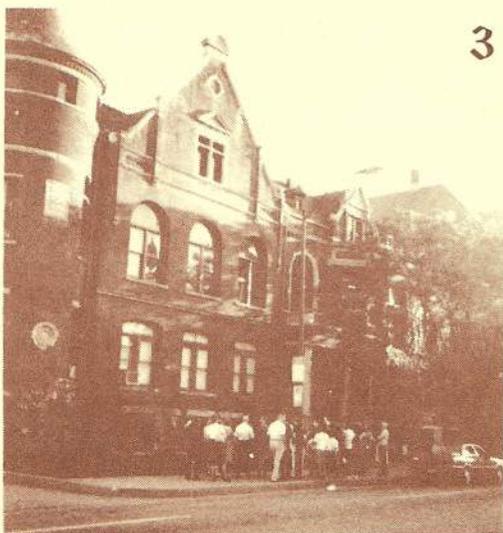
City \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

*Landmarks of Democracy:  
Road to Preservation Isn't Always Easy*

Preservation Week, May 10-16, 1987  
NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION



LOCKERBIE SQUARE HISTORIC PRESERVATION WEEK TOUR, MAY 1987: 1. Bill Selm, Indpls, Historic Pres. Commission, Lockerbie Sq. United Methodist Church, Former Erste Deutsche Evangelische Kirche 1882-83; 2. Joseph Staub House 1859, First Merchant Tailor (Alsace, via Cincinnati 1854); 3. Das Deutsche Haus, East Section 1893-94; 4. James Whitcomb Riley Home Museum (Chas. Holstein, Owner); 5. August Spiegel House, 1860/1870. Partner, Spiegel, Thoms & Co. Furniture Mfgs.; 6. George Holler Cottage, 1863, German-born Plasterer, Subscriber, German-English Independent School in 1860.



### THREE GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES TO BE REMODELLED

St. Benedict Church in Terre Haute, St. Joseph in Jasper and St. Louis in Batesville are slated to be remodelled. Of these St. Joseph's is on the National Register of Historic Places. We hope that the principles of historic preservation will be the guiding light in the remodelling process.



### BOHLEN COLLECTION

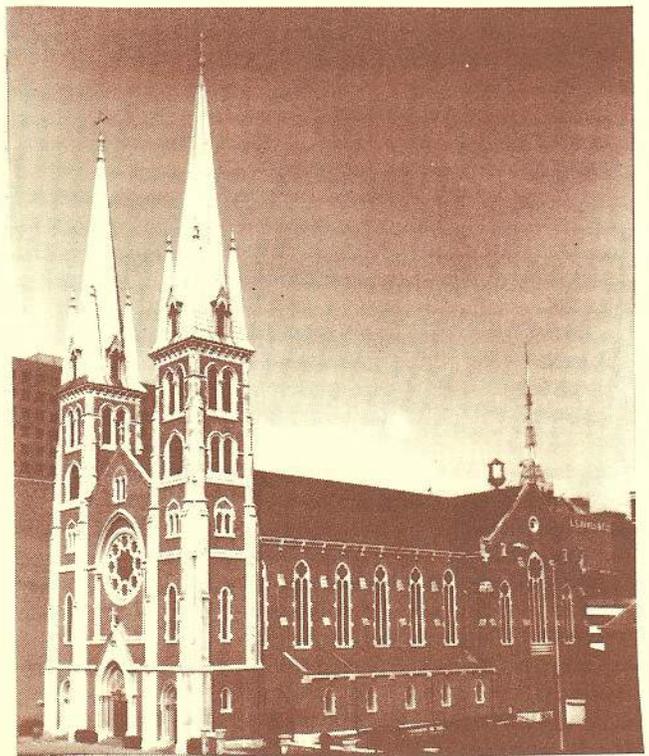
The Indiana Historical Society announced a recent addition to its Architectural Archives: The Bohlen Collection. It includes the original drawings of an architectural firm that is believed to be the oldest continuously operated architectural firm in the country.

The firm of Bohlen, Myer, Gibson, and Associates, Inc. was begun when Dietrich August Bohlen (1827-1890) established his office in April, 1853. Born in Hanover, Germany, Bohlen emigrated to the United States at the age of twenty-four and soon settled in Indianapolis. For a short time he practiced under noted architect Francis Costigan and worked on the Asylum for the Blind. His earliest documented buildings were those for St. Mary-of-the-Woods College near Terre Haute. The architect's work in Indianapolis spanned a period of four decades and included a full range of building types, private residences, commercial architecture, academic buildings, churches, and institutional buildings, many of which still survive as landmarks of the community.

In 1884, Oscar Bohlen (1863-1936), an 1881 graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, joined his father's practice. The firm name was changed to D.A. Bohlen and Son, a name that endured for nearly eighty years. In all, four generations of the Bohlen family were involved in the firm's development. Buildings designed by D.A. Bohlen for Indianapolis include St. John's Catholic Church on South Capitol Street, Roberts Park Methodist Episcopal Church on North Delaware Street, and the original St. Vincent's Hospital located on Fall Creek Parkway (now demolished). In partnership with his son, D.A. Bohlen was responsible for Tomlinson Hall, for many years the only public assembly hall in Indianapolis (now demolished), and the City Market.

The current principals of the firm are Melvin B.G. Meyer, John M. Gibson, Michael E. Rogers, and Hans P. Mengerling.

From Indiana Historical Society News, Vol. 2, No. 2, 1987.



ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
D.A. Bohlen, Architect



### PRESERVATION OF CHURCH RECORDS

As part of a statewide preservation effort, the older Lutheran and Evangelical (now U.C.C.) congregations in Dearborn, Ripley, Ohio, Franklin, Decatur, Jackson, and Bartholomew Counties will have their historical records microfilmed at no cost to congregations. Registers of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and deaths, together with the minutes of the official board before 1920, will be microfilmed at the Batesville Middle School in Batesville Monday, June 15 through Friday June 19. Pastor David Johnston of St. John's U.C.C. (Crossroads Church) is the coordinator of the program in Batesville. He can be reached at (812) 934-4144, 822 Columbus Avenue, Batesville, IN 47006. The middle school is located next door to St. John's Church.

Older records will be preserved against loss and made available for research by historians and genealogists. Copies of these microfilmed records will also be placed in the Institute for Emigration Research at the University of Oldenburg in North Germany and in the Archives of the Evangelical Church of Hannover, the area from which many of Southeastern Indiana's German settlers came.

If the records of your church have not yet been copied, your congregation may contact: William Harris, Director, Genealogy Division, Indiana State Library, 140 North Senate, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

CITY'S 1905 ATHLETIC FESTIVAL  
RIVALED PAN AM IN SPIRIT

"Athletes Of the World Will Be the Guests Of Indianapolis This Week," read the pagewide headline in The Indianapolis Star.

It may sound like a preview of next August when the Pan American Games will create sports and cultural festivities in Indianapolis and attract athletes from throughout the hemisphere.

But this headline was in 1905 when 2,500 athletes came here for the 29th North American Gymnastics Union festival.

Newspaper accounts of the time say it was the largest festival of its kind and reveal much more. That event introduced several innovations in sport and prompted at least one invention.

The week of sports soon would dim in memory. But in those distant days long before the city sought the title of amateur sports capital of the nation, the spirit was already there.

The athletes came from Germany and from cities all over the United States. Their contests were part brawn and part show business; a dash of speed matched with a handful of theatrics; skill intermingled with banner waving.

Heroic 18-foot-tall statues of athletes in action were stationed near Monument Circle to set the tone of the competition. There were dancing girls, songfests, banquets, plays and judging of the best team headquarters in the tent city erected at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. More than 2,000 participants marched under torchlight through downtown Indianapolis, accompanied by floats.

"It is not to be a parade of tinsel and tawdry colors," one reporter wrote, "but one of artistic merit, the result of months of study and work on the part of its originators, and the expenditure of several thousand dollars."

The enthusiasm had something to do with the times, German physical culture theory and Indianapolis heritage. The city had a large and health-conscious German population.

The city had several Turner organizations, a term derived from a German word for gymnastics. Such memories that survive include South Side Turners and the German House, now known as the Athenaeum.

In that atmosphere of fun and sports, there was a large audience for the group precision drills that were part of the games. Jumping, running, climbing, vaulting, fencing, wrestling and swimming also were part of the festival.

"The Turners aren't record breakers," explained one reporter. "All they contend for is all-round development of the body."

Communities near Indianapolis with large populations of Germans--Chicago, Milwaukee, Cincinnati--sent major contingents to the festival.

The crowds turned out.

A grandstand audience of 12,000 on Saturday, June 24, bettered the previous record crowd at a turnfest by 3,000.

The population of Indianapolis then was barely 170,000.



The Indiana State Fairgrounds was only 13 years old and its surroundings still were bucolic enough to provide room for a city of tents to house the athletes.

Indianapolis had personnel and talent ready-made for such an event. It didn't hurt, first of all, that the Indianapolis mayor had a name of teutonic tenor -- John W. Holtzman.

Statues and floats were created by Rudolph Schwarz, a noted sculptor whose accomplishments included supervision of Monument Circle's creation.

His turnfest figures of a racer at full speed, a shot putter, a hurdler-jumper and a weightlifter were inspired by Edward Liehr, an Indianapolis amateur athlete Schwarz had observed in action at a Turners gym. Liehr, 5 feet, 8 inches tall, weighing 160 pounds, found his image enlarged to 12 feet.

Schwarz also supervised a dozen crewmen working for more than a month in an old rolling mill near West McCarty Street on parade floats.

One was called "the Emigrants of '48" and memorialized heavy German movement to America in flight from the German revolution. Another float was "Turner Pioneers of the '50s." The Republic was saluted by one float and another depicted Civil War camp and battle scenes, saluting Turners who had served in that war.

The bust of Father Jahn adorned a float and also had a place of honor across from the German House. Jahn was considered the father of athletics in Germany. Strings of arbor vitae and lights stretched along Michigan Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

Besides Schwarz, many other familiar German names in Indianapolis were involved -- Herman Lieber was president of the North American Gymnastic Union.

William H. Kershner combined a good German name with great cooking talent. As the man in charge of feeding the Indiana National Guard, he was assigned to prepare the 11 restaurant-quality meals required by festival athletes.

And John C. Truemper of Indianapolis turned inventive.

He devised a sophisticated timing system that allowed eight lanes of runners to compete almost independently. The clock started the instant a runner's foot left the starting block. When a runner touched the tape the clock stopped. Starting guns were unnecessary.

Twenty-four stopwatches were used as a back-up. The system, which reveals that today's electronic timing isn't that new, cost \$750.

The Schwarz statues cost \$1,200.

The turnfest budget of \$25,000 was easily met in an era when the Indianapolis mayor made only \$4,000 a year and working men could earn from \$1.50 to \$2 a day.

Subscribers kicked in \$13,000. Season tickets raised \$5,000, augmented by single admissions at 25 cents a person. The souvenirs were watch-fobs and badges.

The festival easily broke even.

It was all old hat to Adolph Frey. Frey had attended turnfests since before the Civil War and still had a belt he had worn at the Cincinnati event in 1854. His mementoes included an original poem he recited at Pittsburgh in 1856, and a ring he got as a prize in 1857.

After years in Cincinnati as a teacher and newspaperman, he had moved to Indianapolis.

A team of nine, selected to represent Germany, was proclaimed by leader Franz Kessler to be "the best gymnastic product of the German empire."

The Germans were celebrities when they arrived. The team included: Julius Keyl, a Munich Lawyer; sprinter August Mayer, a Stuttgart businessman; Herman Kuhr a high school teacher from Leipzig; Karl Gutsch, a Berlin gymnastics teacher; Friederich Wolf, Hanover; Heinrich Berger, Frankfurt; Adolph Schirmer Pforzheim; Theodor Brandenburger, Kiel; and George Bade.

They were impressed by Monument Circle and the heat.

"We never expected to see any statue of such magnitude in this country," said one team member.

There was an aura of good fellowship. At least half the 244 gymnastics clubs in the nation vowed to send representatives and the populace was primed for an outstanding display.

The athletic displays were set for the fairgrounds, except for swimming events, which were at the Broad Ripple pool. The cultural side was splashed all about downtown.

There were songfests at the German House. The Park Theater presented The Glorius Three, which was called the town's largest stage endeavor ever.

Depicting the difficulties of choosing life's roads, the play was said to sum up the German physical culture idea.

Arriving athletes were greeted by a trombone quartet atop the Soldiers and Sailors Monument playing The Star-Spangled Banner, America and Die Wacht am Rhein.

The teams and their followers--800 from Cincinnati, 500 from St. Louis, 400 from Davenport, Iowa--mustered outside Union Station for official welcoming ceremonies, marched to the German House for more felicitations and eventually reached the fairgrounds.

In the tent city, a military manner prevailed. Reveille aroused the campers. Signals sounded for meals and lights out.

Comfort and spirit were plentiful. Some teams erected large pillars and stretched banners across them. The California tent had a recreation room outfitted with cigars and magazines.

Others went to the opposite extreme. The Englewood delegation from Chicago could set up its spartan camp in half an hour. Other campers took hours to establish their stylish settings.

The Englewood cook, William Giere, dug two holes in the ground, put an iron bar across them and called it his stove. Another hole filled with ice was his refrigerator.

The tents of the Dayton, Ohio, team were dubbed the fanciest. They included a refrigerator, a barber shop, hospital, reception room, and had matting on wooden floors. It was called Camp Froehlich (the German word for merry).

St. Louis had its own dining tent and brought its own bottled water. Its reception tent, observers noted, attracted a steady stream of female visitors.

Like all cities, tent city had its problems.

Early in the week, the camp committee found they were short 50 tents. They scurried about and found smaller replacements.

Noisy music disturbed campers who preferred quiet relaxation and excitement was heightened by people like Chris Ketler of Kansas City, Kan. An Indian club juggler, Ketler substituted torches at night and tossed them about to the delight of an expanding crowd.

Watching the turnfest probably was like a three-ring circus and the opening ceremonies of the Olympics all at once. There were activities everywhere.

With 187 judges for the gymnastic events alone, sometimes the athletes were lost in a crowd of officials.

Spectators were guided by a 32-page program published in English and German, the first time such programs were used at a turnfest.

The home folks cheered 150 boys of the Indianapolis gymnastic societies doing mass exercises.

Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks attended the Saturday show.

Although scoring was supposedly unimportant to the Turners, there was excitement Sunday when, after the festival was over, the results were to be announced.

But William Stecher of the Indianapolis committee noted miscalculations in the official results. Some athletes had at least 10 points more than they were due. Adding machine errors were blamed. Announcement of the final standings was postponed.

Reporters could only learn that Henry Kraft of Chicago won the fencing and Henry Krulle of Cincinnati was tops in wrestling.

The local hero was Max Emmerich of the Sozialer Turnverein. He was second in the broad jump and second in the 100-yard dash.

Emmerich's showing gains more luster since this was the first turnfest in which every athlete had been required to take part in every event.

The week was over.

The German team left on a tour of several cities.

Since the athletic village was merely tents, it vanished with barely a trace. There were pleas to save Schwarz's statues, but they eventually disappeared into memories, too.

-Courtesy INDIANAPOLIS STAR by  
Fred D. Cavinder, 3/23/1987 p. 34.

#### INDIANAPOLIS GROUP SELLS PAN AM TICKETS

Purchase your tickets for the Pan American Games at a not-for-profit group rate and help raise funds for Indianapolis chapter activities. For each dollar's worth of tickets we purchase as a group, PAX-Indianapolis will return a 20% commission. The ticket offer includes all 392 sporting sessions and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Seats will be sold on a first-come basis, so hurry and order your tickets now. If you don't know yet what events you wish to attend, gift certificates for \$100, \$50, \$25, and \$10 can also be ordered at the 20% commission rate to our society. Send checks payable to IGHS to Jim Hermsen, 4278 Pisa Court, Indianapolis, IN 46236.

The 12th National Conference **Palatines to America** will be held June 25 - 27 at Illinois State University in Normal, IL. The goal of the organization is to aid those who are researching their ancestors from the Palatinate area of Germany. This year's National Conference is hosted by the Illinois Chapter of the **Palatines to America**. Information: Dick Roller, 607 Driskell Street, Paris, IL 61944 or call (217) 466-6380.

**Harvest of History 1987, "A Conference for all People"** is the theme of an interdisciplinary conference on genealogy and history to be held July 8 - 11 at the Clarion Hotel, Cincinnati, OH. This national event is sponsored by The Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Miami Valley Council on Genealogy and History. Information: Vicky Frazer Arnold, Conference Chair, 4290 Honeybrook Ave., Dayton, OH 45415, Tel. (513) 222-5330 or 890-2811.

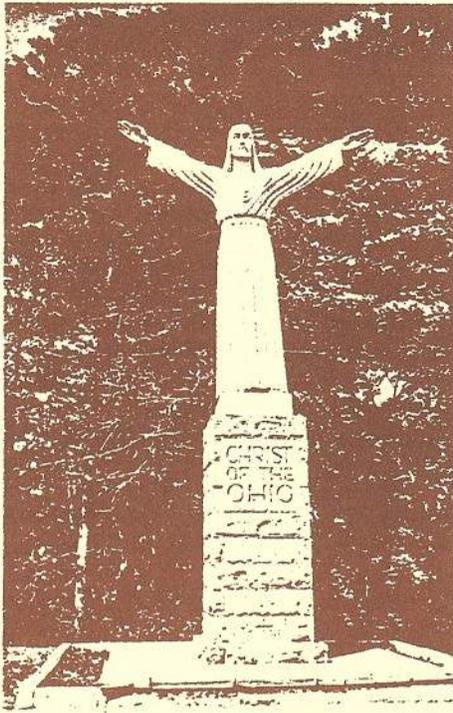


THIRD ANNUAL MEETING PHOTO: From left to right Keynote speaker, Prof. Antonius Holtmann, Vice President Halbert Kunz, President Ruth Reichmann and Wolfgang Grans, Assistant to Prof. Holtmann, both from Oldenburg University, Germany.



#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Annual Meeting of the Indiana Historical Society will be held on November 7, at the Airport Holiday Inn, Indianapolis. Anyone wishing to present a paper in the Indiana German History Section should notify Eberhard Reichmann (812 988-2866) no later than June 30.



*Christusstatue über dem Ohio. Sie steht an der Stelle, an der die Einwanderer an Land gingen. Geschaffen von Herbert Jockerst in den 60er Jahren dieses Jahrhunderts. Foto: G. Auer*

ON SCULPTOR JOCKERST'S 75TH BIRTHDAY

At St. Meinrad's Archabbey one may see the quiet splendor of "Mary and the Child," "St. Scholastica," "St. Bede," "Christ the King," and other statues from the distinguished German sculptor Herbert Jockerst. When approaching Troy on the Ohio the traveller is greeted by his huge "Christ on the Ohio" erected on a bluff above the river where the immigrants went ashore.

One of the very few German soldiers who survived the Battle of Stalingrad, Herbert Jockerst was reassigned to the Afrika Korps under the "desert fox", General Rommel. He was captured and brought to Camp Breckenridge, Ky. with other German p.o.w.s. On October 15, 1949, he returned to America, destination St. Meinrad.

His second, and voluntary, trip to this country was dedicated to the creation of a series of statues, especially for the Archabbey Church. Since Rudolph Schwarz, who sculpted the figures at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis and many others, no other German sculptor has enriched us as much as Herbert Jockerst. He lives in Wagshurst, Germany, where Lillian Doane of Jasper visited him last year. On May 1, he celebrated his 75th birthday. His most interesting life and his work, particularly in Indiana, deserves a monograph.

Thanks for sharing your wonderful religious art with us, und alles Gute zum 75. Geburtstag, Herr Jockerst!

EbR

It is with a sense of loss and much appreciation that we remember Norman Kleifgen and Harry Zaklan.

Norman Kleifgen suddenly died of a heart attack on January 9 at age 72. Together with wife Mary, he was a Charter Member of the Indiana German Heritage Society and a founder of its Indianapolis Chapter. Mary served as the Chapter's interim Secretary. Norman and Mary were always there when advice or help was needed. Norman made a project of promoting the organization and raising funds. We will miss him.

Harry Zaklan died on January 19 at age 71. He was a lifelong Indianapolis resident, a lawyer for 40 years and served a term as Municipal Court Judge. A staunch believer in the Hoosier German heritage, he supported the German-American Tricentennial Celebration in 1983. He was a Charter Member of the Indiana German Heritage Society, a member of the Federation of German Societies, the German-American Klub, the Heimat Society and the Preussen Society.

With them a great support, a good source for oral history and a link to the past has gone. We remember them.

Ruth Reichmann, President

THANKS

We are grateful to the following volunteers who assisted us with the registration and membership for the Third Annual Meeting of the Indiana German Heritage Society: Frances Dickinson, Dr. Hugh Enyart, James Hemsen, Gail Hunt, Esther Jackson, Max R. Jackson, Juanita Keith, Louis J. Kigin, Lee McDougal, Dr. Robert McDougal, Lawrence T. Mosser, Walter F. Noot, W. D. Renner, Morley Ringer, Ruth Ringer, Verna Robinson, Ruth Schumacher, Hazel Shear, James C. Talley, Patricia Talley.

Martha B. Enyart, Membership Chair

GENEALOGY QUERIES

Information requested on the **Hoffman** Family.  
**George William Hoffman, Sr.**: b. 19 Sept. 1845  
 in Trapp or Trappsboro, Montgomery County, PA  
 His parents: **Philip Hoffman** and **? Wagner**  
 He married **Martha Anna Lowater** 23 April 1874 in  
 Jackson County, IN  
 Martha's parents: **William Lowater** b.21 Sept  
 1821 Germany and **Catherine Elizabeth Bosche**  
 b. 13 May 1822 Germany  
 Other family names: **Keifer, Fauber, and Sieg.**  
 Write to: Mrs. Betty Hoffman, 3102 Beacon  
 Drive, New Albany, IN 47150

Information requested on **John L. Schreiber.**  
 He is listed in the 1880 Crawford Co. census at age 2. His father was **Benjamin Schreiber** and he had a brother named Benjamin.  
 Write to: Linda Lockhart, P. O. Box 243,  
 Paoli, IN 47454

# Calendar of Events

- June 20 2:00 p.m. Visit of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Indianapolis. Lectures: Bill Selm "The Architecture of the Church," Giles Hoyt "The History of the Parish," Charles Spencer "The Problems of Translating the Church History." Presentation of translation of church history followed by reception. The church is on 1530 Union St., just East of Meridian St. near Shapiro's Delicatessen.
- July 1 6 p.m. Dinner and program at the Athenaeum with Baden-Württemberg exchange students.  
7:30 p.m. Eberhard Reichmann will speak about "The Hooser Germans." For reservations call (317) 636-0390.
- July 2 4:00 p.m. Board/membership meeting at Ron Koch's Brauhaus. Slide presentation by Luke Knapke: "From the Old Country to the New as portrayed by Liwvet Boeke, Pioneer Woman, Artist and Writer" and Antonius Holtmann: "The Supreme Sacrifice: Heinrich Brandes of Oldenburg in the Civil War."  
6:00 p.m. dinner at the Brauhaus.  
7:30 p.m. Pageant at the ICA Auditorium.

- July 3 2 p.m. "Homesteads, Then and Now in Oldenburg, Germany", slide presentation by Antonius Holtmann, Oldenburg Elementary School, School Cafeteria.
- July 25 9 a.m. Breakfast and a program at the Sherman House in Batesville. Robert C. Rau "The History of German Protestant Congregations in Cincinnati and Southeastern Indiana", David S. Dreyer on "Searching for Ancestral Roots in Lower Saxony". Obst for buffet \$5.70 per person. Send your check, made out to David S. Dreyer, no later than July 22. Mail to 4010 North Park Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205.
- August 22 1:00 p.m. Meet at the Oberlander Club for visit to Debs Museum, St. Benedict's Catholic Church, the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.  
6:00 p.m. Dinner-dance (both for \$7.50) at the Club (see PLACES OF INTEREST IN TERRE HAUTE for directions). For further information contact Hilde Crisp at (812) 466-4486.
- August 26 6 p.m. Dinner and program for Baden-Württemberg exchange students at the Athenaeum. For reservations call (317) 636-0390.

## OFFICERS

Ruth M. Reichmann, President	(812) 988-2866
Halbert W. Runz, Senior Vice President	(317) 632-6367
Richard B. Hfstetter, Vice President/Counsel	(317) 632-4448
Helen Moore, Recording Secretary	(317) 932-2297
Joe Salmons, Corresponding Secretary	(317) 494-7691
Giles R. Hoyt, Treasurer	(317) 274-2330

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## DIRECTORS

Martha Eryart	(317) 253-3308
Robert A. Frederick	(812) 332-9064
James G. Hensen	(317) 635-4391
Carol Kastner	(317) 881-5055
James M. Kleifgen	(812) 359-7181
Elfrieda Lang	(812) 332-8134
Doris Leistner	(812) 547-2797
Rosalind Broun McCart	(317) 846-8613
Charles Niehaus	(317) 926-2301
Walter Noot	(317) 882-5702
Eberhard Reichmann	(812) 335-0679
W. D. Renner	(317) 873-2384
Ruth Scanland	(317) 359-1378
Lorra Schroeder	(317) 535-7081
William L. Selm	(317) 283-7820
James C. Talley	(317) 675-8500

## Indiana German Heritage Society

Newsletter Return Address  
352 Wilmington Court  
Bloomington, IN 47401

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## SUMMER PROGRAM 1987

CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES