REMEMBERING THE FIRST GERMANS TO AMERICA

GERMANTOWN,
Pennsylvania
by Betty Randall

The settlers to Germantown came from the Lower Rhine where German and Dutch cultural ways mingled. These thirty-three settlers from Krefeld, Germany, who established the first sizable, stable and distinctly German settlement in America at Germantown, PA in 1683, followed more than seven million immigrants to our shores from German-speaking countries. The city of Krefeld west of the Rhine near Düsseldorf, known for the manufacture of silk and linen, prided itself on being a haven of tolerance during the 17th century, and a refuge for those suffering religious oppression. When changes in the rule of the region caused the spirit of religious acceptance to diminish, some among the Mennonite and Quaker families decided to accept the invitation of William Penn to settle in America.

The English Schooner which brought these German settlers to the port of Philadelphia was named the Concord, an appropriate symbol of the immigrants' friendly cooperation with the English and Dutch aboard. All the passengers, attached to religious groups outside the established churches, answered the call of William Penn to share the "Holy Experiment" and settle on the land granted to William Penn's father for his services to the English crown.

When the thirteen Mennonite families from Krefeld landed in Philadelphia on October 6, 1683 after a 75-day voyage, they were greeted not only by Penn but also by a young, 32-year old German lawyer, Francis Daniel Pastorius, who had become close friend with Penn since his arrival on August 20, 1683 on the ship America with about a dozen people, among them his personal servants.

When Pastorius, a well-traveled scholar, had heard about Penn's visits to the Rhineland in 1671 and 1677 to recruit a group of religious and affluent Pietists, he decided to associate himself with the group. But plans with the Frankfort Land Company did not materialize. Instead, Pastorius became the leader of thirteen more modest families, who wished to escape religious intolerance, and settle where they could lead a quiet and god-fearing life, free from religious controversy and with the promise of liberty. That place was to be Germantown, PA.

Pastorius arranged with Penn for the Krefelders to settle on a parcel of land six miles north of newly founded Philadelphia. Cellars were dug into the ground and covered and these were their shelters for the first winter. Even though that winter brought many hardships, the new settlers endured. The nickname for the new town, "Armentown" (town of the poor) was soon made obsolete by their hard work and skills in the trades of weaving, tailoring, carpentry, and shoemaking.
They built homes first of logs and later of native stone; they raised flax, built looms and set up their spinning wheels. Many were accustomed to growing vines and when they saw wild grapes, they establishing vineyards. The official seal of Germantown bears at its center a trilobium having a grape vine on one leaf, flax blossoms on another and a weaver's spool on a third with the inscription "Vinum, Linum et Textrinum," to show that the people lived from grapes, flax, and trade. The Germantown Fair, first held in 1701 became a center of exhibiting and selling the products of these craftsmen.

Penn had advised the new settlers not to reside on scattered farms, but to follow the European pattern of living together in a town. By the end of the 1600s Germantown had a wide Main Street bordered by peach trees, a central market and on opposite ends of town were burial grounds. Along the several streams were a number of mills. More than fifty families built spacious farm buildings and tended their three acre town plots growing vegetables and flowers. The fields of the town lay to the north and south. These Germans had a love and respect for the land unequaled by other immigrants and so they gained the reputation for caring for the land exceedingly well.

In a few years the population of Germantown had increased so that additions were made: Kriegsheim with 884 acres (named for the home of the Palatine Quakers), Sommerhausen with 900 acres (in honor of Pastorius' birthplace), and Crefeild with 1166 acres were added to the 2750 acres of Germantown. All were on the same road; Germantown was the nearest to Philadelphia and Crefeild was beyond Chestnut Hill in present Montgomery County.

On August 12, 1689 Germantown was incorporated and its first burgomaster, Pastorius, made many lasting contributions to the community. Among them he is credited with the establishment of a school system in which he became a teacher. Since Mennonites considered education important, school houses were often built first with worship held there until meetinghouses could be built. Another of Pastorius's contributions was the writing of the first resolution in America against Negro slavery*. As Germantown prospered, its administration, founded on self government and civic responsibility, became a model for later German settlements in America.

In 1883 America remembered the Germantown settlement and on Thanksgiving, November 29, 1884 William Penn's statue was completed in Philadelphia. Today one can visit the rebuilt home of Penn called Pennsbury Manor which is about 26 miles from Philadelphia.

In 1983 ceremonies were held throughout the U.S. to commemorate the first organized settlement and books were published to tell the story of German-American involvement in the founding and development of America. The U.S. and Germany issued postage stamps of the ship Concord to salute the courage, stamina, and motivation of those immigrants and all who followed in their footsteps.

On this 300th anniversary of the arrival of the German pioneers the home of the father of Franz Daniel Pastorius in Germany was acquired by the Pastorius Home Association. The historic building was restored to its original charm by a combined, voluntary effort of German and American citizens. It contains a lecture hall, library, and facilities for guests. The home is open all year round for travelers, and educational programs are scheduled throughout the year.

Since 1983 several landmarks in Germantown have been restored, among them Rittenhouse Square which marks's America's first paper mill, established by Wilhelm Rittenhouse in 1690. A U.S. postcard was also issued showing the Rittenhouse mill.

In 1988, under the leadership of the Greater Germantown Housing Development
Corporation, the Germantown community initiated a comprehensive economic development program for the area which was suffering urban decay. Plans called for the renovation of the 49 houses along Germantown Avenue and the creation of new job-producing enterprises in the neighborhood. In the center was to be a town square and historic park dedicated to the 1688 slavery protest and to the thirteen pioneer families. It was also fitting that thirteen "family trees" were planted.

On a marker, previously placed for the families in Germantown, is written: In commemoration of the Landing of the German Colonists, October 6, 1683, FRANZ DANIEL PASTORIUS, Dirk, Herman, Abraham Op Den Graeff*, Tuenes Kunders, Lenert Arens, Reintert Tisen, Wilhelm Strepers, Jan Lensen, Peter Keuris, Jan Siemens, Johann Bleikers, Abraham Tuenes and Jan Lucken with their families.

* Betty Randall is a descendant of Abraham op den Graeff, one of the original Krefelders, who was also one of the signers of the "Protest Against Slavery." Ms. Randall is a long-time member of IGHS and also a member of the DAR.

Information taken from articles in: Krefeld Immigrants and Their Descendants, Links Genealogy Publications, Sacramento, CA, Iris Cater Jones Editor ijones@n.s.net (ISSN 0883-7961)

THE PASTORIUS-HAUS IN BAD WINDSHEIM
Are you planning to travel in Germany? Why not stay a day or two in the PASTORIUS-HAUS in Bad Windsheim, ideally located in Southern Germany near Rothenburg and Nuernberg. Members and friends who visit Germany can stay at the Pastorius Home for the nominal fee of $25.00 per night, which includes a great breakfast.

The building is a lovely, restored Fachwerkhaus (half-timbered house). It can easily accommodate groups; it has 7 double rooms, 3 single rooms and 2 dormitories with 13 beds each. It offers a seminar room and a day room with TV. And Bad Windsheim has its own Heilbad (spa)—just the thing to relax.

The Pastorius Haus was originally built in 1668 by the father of Franz Daniel Pastorius, then mayor of Windsheim. (Franz Daniel Pastorius was the leader of the group that arrived in Philadelphia, October 6, 1683 and founded Germantown, PA.) Its original purpose was to house the unmarried women of the town after the 30 Years War in Germany. Over the centuries it has served as barracks for French soldiers under Napoleon, as housing for the poor and to lodge refugees of both world wars. The building enjoys historic preservation status. It was acquired by the Pastorius Home Association from the city of Bad Windsheim in 1983, the year of the Tricentennial of German Immigration, and restored at a cost of over one million dollars. Today the building serves as an American-German educational and cultural visitors center. Students and adults of all ages can make use of the home when they travel to Europe, study or just spend an enjoyable time. The Pastorius Home Association also offers tours, flights and car rental at bargain prices. To contact them: Pastorius Tours/ Home/Center Information, American-German Union, PO Box 66, Germansville, PA 18053-0066. Tel. (610) 767-6981 FAX (610) 767-6981; E-mail geramunion@aol.com Sylvia Graybill.

In Germany contact Rosmarie und Dieter Hill, An der Heuwaag 191438 Bad Windsheim, Tel 09841/ 7078

1848 IMMIGRATION SESQUICENTENNIAL IS THEME OF NATIONAL STUDENT CONTEST

A contest has been announced that invites students to work on the topic: "The German Forty-Eighters and their Impact on American Society". Organizers are offering $500 and a trip to Minnesota in April 1999 for the grand prize winner. Students from 6th grade through early
college will compete in three divisions on the Sesquicentennial of this influential group of immigrants.

The contest was announced at the Annual Symposium of the Society for German-American Studies in Indianapolis on April 25, 1998. The Society chose the focus on 1848 because of the 150th anniversary of this unique group of immigrants. In the first half of the 19th century, anti-democratic rulers suppressed expressions of freedom in the German-speaking areas of Europe. This led to uprisings culminating in the German Revolution of 1848. Revolutionaries were prosecuted and fled to Switzerland or France, from where many of them emigrated to North America, bringing with them ideas that are still alive in this country 150 years later.

The contest organizers are looking for local research on the 1848ers and their influence. Contest projects can focus on individuals, groups, or institutions affected by this immigrant group. Entries can be a paper, a media project or a video and will be judged for knowledge, organization, and originality. Contest participants must identify and work with an adult sponsor, such as a teacher or parent. They must submit an intent form to the German-American Day Contest Committee by October 30, 1998. The deadline for submission of the paper or project is January 17, 1999. The grand prize winner will be informed in early March to travel to New Ulm, Minnesota, to present the paper or project to the next annual conference of the Society.

To cover the expenses of the contest, donations to the Contest Committee are solicited. Details of the contest and submission forms can be received from Ruth Reichmann, 401 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Tel. 812 988-2866. E-mail Reichman@ucw.indiana.edu

JOHANN BAPTIST SCHEZINGER, REVOLUTIONARY
Of interest to students who are researching the forty-eighers may be long-time IGHS member Wm. R. Schertzinger. In 1994 he wrote to Rastatt, Germany to verify information he had about his 1848er great-grandfather Johann Baptist Scherzinger, born in D*rlinbach, Baden on May 8, 1818. According to the Archives in Karlsruhe, he had been a soldier of the Baden Militia of the 3rd Regiment in the District of Ettenheim. A warrant for his arrest was issued by the Prussian Army from Ettenheim, Feb. 1, 1851 for being a.w.o.l. On the passenger list of the ship St. Dennis it states: Johann Scherzinger, age 32, Le Havre, France, July 22, 1850 for New York City.

Given below is an excerpt of the letter of Nov. 22, 1994, written by Franz Mors from Rastatt.

It's a fact, your great grandfather Johann Baptist Scherzinger had been involved in the German Revolution of the year 1849. He was among the soldiers held in Fort Rastatt, 23 July 1849. The Prussian army put all the revolutionary soldiers in prison. In the archives of Rastatt we found a list with all the names of the prisoners at Fort Rastatt. The list was published in August/September 1849. As you can see nr. 2137 in Fort A was your great grandfather John. Bap. Scherzinger. So we have a document that indicates, that your great grandfather was in Rastatt (1849) at the same time and because of the same reasons like Carl Schurz. I think this new information is real interesting for your family history.

There will be commemorations at Fort Rastatt and many other places throughout 1998/99, remembering the failed Revolution and the Revolutionaries of 1848/49. While traveling in Europe this year and next it is good to keep this in mind.

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY CELEBRATIONS
October 6 is German-American Day. Just as Irish-Americans celebrate St. Patrick's Day and invite everybody to participate in the celebration, on German-American Day we invite everyone to celebrate with us. On Tuesday, October 6, we will
have our usual public celebration at the City Market. The music will be provided by "Die Doppel Adler Musikanten," and there will be folk dance demonstrations by "Die Fledermäuschen." The Deutsche Welle International Choir from Cologne will be celebrating with us as will a delegation from the sister city Cologne.

At Tuesday at 3 p.m., there will be a reaffirmation ceremony of the sister cities relationship between Indianapolis and Cologne at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, where the initial signing of the agreement took place. It will be followed at 6 p.m. by dinner with the guests from Cologne at the Athenaean Rathskeller. Everyone is invited! For further information call me at 317 861-5831 or Buddy McCart at 317 846-8613.

Since October 6 this year falls on a Tuesday, the German-American Klub has invited, once again, the German-American community and friends to gather on Sunday, October 4 at 1 p.m. for a celebration at the GAK on South Meridian St., Indianapolis. This is a time to come together and to celebrate our German Heritage with song and dance. For more information contact Gloria Webster at 317 846-8440 or Karen Anderson at 317 887-9674.

Please, help us publicize these events. Mark them on your calendar and bring a friend. This is our chance to celebrate our heritage and share it with others.

The Indiana German Heritage Society has been the catalyst for this celebration. However, our role is strictly one of coordinating the public event, and of reminding others to celebrate this day in their club, their organization or church. Americans of German descent have contributed much to the growth, strength and vitality of the Hoosier State. With 37.5% of our population claiming some German ancestry we are still the largest ethnic group in the state.

Ernestine Dillon, President

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY OPEN HOUSE WITH THE DEUTSCHE WELLE INTERNATIONAL CHOIR CELEBRATING 315 YEARS OF GERMANS IN AMERICA SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1998 NOON TO 5:00 P.M. AT THE GERMAN-AMERICAN KLUB 8602 S MERIDIAN, INDIANAPOLIS PRESENTING A SHOWCASE OF GERMAN TALENT

Athenaean German Band
Die Fledermäuschen Tanzgruppe
Indianapolis Männerchor
Indianapolis Liederkranz
Die Kindertanzgruppe
Indianapolis Liederkranz Damenchor
Sing-Along
AND

DIE DEUTSCHE WELLE INTERNATIONAL CHOIR from our sister city Cologne!!! Beginning at noon a Buffet is available at the GAK Restaurant.

$12.00 with non-alcoholic beverage per person (includes tax and gratuity)
BAND will start playing at 1:00 P.M.
For further information contact Gloria Webster at 317 846-8440 or Karen Anderson at 317 887-9674.

THE DEUTSCHE WELLE INTERNATIONAL CHOIR
Indianapolis is very fortunate to have the Deutsche Welle International Choir from Cologne to help celebrate German-American Day and the tenth anniversary of the Indianapolis - Cologne Sister Cities partnership. The Choir will perform on October 4 at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ at both the 8:30 am and 10:40 am services and at the German-American Klub (GAK) in the afternoon of the 4th. On October 6 they will be at the City Market at noon and perform at the reaffirmation ceremonies at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in the afternoon.

IGHS members are invited to the gala reception in honor of the 10th anniversary signing of the Sister City Partnership agreement between the city on the Rhine
River and the Hoosier capital. Norbert Burger, the Lord Mayor of Cologne, Volkmar Schultz, North Rhine Westphalia representative to the German Bundestag, Stephen Goldsmith, mayor of Indianapolis, Horst Winkler, honorary German Consul in Indianapolis and other dignitaries will participate along with city officials involved in the original signing, also held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, in 1988.

**DEUTSCHE WELLE INTERNATIONAL**

Deutsche Welle TV (and radio), Germany's world-wide broadcasting can be received via satellite in North America. Whenever you see the DW sign you know that it is a DW broadcast. Some DW programs come via PBS and some cable companies offer DW on a whole or half day basis. However, for the full program you need to have a special dish.

Unlike on most cable systems, DW <http://www.dwelle.de/> via satellite is broadcast 24 hours a day (in English, Spanish, and German). In the latest issue of GERMAN LIFE (a very good bimonthly US magazine that I highly recommend) there are two ads for DW sat installations, one starting at $229 (incl. $S/H) for an Intelsat Ku-band (3 ft) dish - which can only be used in the eastern half of the US. A system for the GE-1 satellite (which requires a 5 ft dish, and covers all of the US) goes for $339. A more expensive Ku-band system is advertised for $599 (+S/H). Additional costs would depend on whether you install it yourself or have it done.

For those interested in getting Deutsche Welle via Direct TV provider, there was a survey in the August Direct TV guide. If there were a concerted effort to ask for German programming in this survey, perhaps we'd have a chance of having them add it.

DW will be doing extensive coverage of the upcoming German elections (27 Sept.) - which among other things will decide if Helmut Kohl can continue to break the record for the length of time in office as German Chancellor.

**DEUTSCHE WELLE INTERNATIONAL CHOIR TO PERFORM AT ZION IN INDIANAPOLIS**

On Sunday, October 4, the Deutsche Welle International Choir will perform at two German-American Day services at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ. The first service begins at 8:30 am and the second service at 10:40 am. Zion Church is located at North and New Jersey Streets at 416 E. North St. in Indianapolis.

For further information call Louise Lamkin at 317 257-0493 or Charles McDonald at 317 283-2730.

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**The Germans of Indianapolis Remembered**

**SHAPING THE CIRCLE**

They shaped the musical culture of Indianapolis. They designed many of the landmark buildings of Indianapolis. They helped make physical education part of schools’ curriculum. They became part of mainstream America but retained a sense of their European heritage. “They” are the German-Americans of Indianapolis. The IUPUI University Library celebrates their contributions to the city with its first digital imaging project, “Shaping the Circle: German-Americans in Indianapolis, 1840-1918.”

Prepared by the University Library’s Digital Libraries and Special Collections Teams, the exhibit uses photographs, letters, publications, artifacts, and narrative text drawn from the collections of the Ruth Lilly Special Collections and Archives to highlight the ways German immigrants and their descendants influenced the development of Indianapolis.

Among the groups and individuals featured in the exhibit are:

- The Indianapolis Maennerchor, founded in 1854 and the oldest continuously active singing
society in the United States.
- Architects such as Bernard Vonnegut and Arthur Bohn, who designed the Athenaeum and the Herron School of Art Museum Building; and Diedrich Bohlen, founder of the architectural firm of Bohlen, Meyer, and Gibson & Associates, the oldest architectural firm in Indiana.
- The Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union (now the Indiana University School of Physical Education), the nation's oldest continuously operating school of physical education.

The exhibit is designed for use both by academic researchers and for grades K-12. It includes both a bibliography and links to other sources on the Web.

Shaping the Circle: German-Americans in Indianapolis, 1840-1918” may be viewed at: http://www.lib.iupui.edu/special/hdip/home.html or find the link under “Full-text publications” on the SGAS home page at: http://www.lib.iupui.edu/kade. If you have questions about the Web site, contact Allison Kopczynski at 317-278-2330 or at arkopczy@iupui.edu. If you have questions about the materials used in the exhibit, contact the Ruth Lilly Special Collections and Archives at 317-274-0464 or at archives@library.iupui.edu.

HISTORIC GERMAN INDIANAPOLIS

By 1890 the town had both, German-Americans whose forebears had immigrated, and more recent newcomers of various political and religious persuasions. Comprising 25% of the town's population, the German-Americans were paying 40% of the taxes. The German-language Sunday paper sold 11,000 copies.

Street names are reminders of this presence--Hamburg, Kessler, Schiller... Landmark buildings and boulevards, designed by the Bohlen's, Vonnegut & Bohn, Schreiber, Scherrer, Kessler, and others, add a historic note to the cityscape. Among formerly all-German downtown churches, and still existing, are St. Mary's and Sacred Heart (Cath.), St. Paul's (Luth.), and Zion (UCC). Church rosters and membership lists of German organizations still include descendants of the early German residents.

The Schnulls started the Wholesale District. Half the town's bakers and butchers spoke German. Vegetables came from the Southside Gardeners, and the Home Brewing, Indianapolis Brewing and American Brewing companies had the beer. Germans built the first theater, started the Symphony, and introduced vocational education. Stutz and Duesenberg made automotive history.

Indianapolis, the "Amateur Sports Capital of America," is indebted to the Turners, pioneers of fitness and physical education. Their Turnvereins--gymnastic and social clubs--shocked Puritan Anglophones who opposed dancing, drinking and smoking, especially on Sundays. Indianapolis today? A metropolis with a high quality of life.

The German-Americans of Indianapolis helped shape the built environment of the city. Their architects, designers, sculptors and builders could express the desires of their clients. Expressions of German pride and identity were very clear before the First World War, but went underground as organizations disbanded, building names changed and German inscriptions were chiseled away.

INDIANAPOLIS WHOLESALE DISTRICT

Before the first railroad line reached Indianapolis, the town merchants were mostly retailers. In 1847 the first train arrived in Indianapolis and in 1853 the first Union Station was built. When railroads began to connect the city with the outside region, wholesale merchants began to open their doors. After the Civil War and subsequent business boom wholesale trade expanded. By 1881 the station was accommodating over 85 trains per day. The subsequent advent of automobiles and trucks led to the decline of the railroad and the
wholesale district.
The Indianapolis Wholesale
District between Maryland and
South and Illinois and Delaware
draws its name from the
wholesale businesses that lined its
streets around 1900. It was born
in 1855 when two Westphalian
emigrants, the brothers August
and Henry Schnull, built the first
wholesale house, Schnull's Block,
the southwest corner of S.
Meridian and W. Maryland
Streets. The Schnulls bought
other properties and built
speculative commercial buildings
to house their other wholesale
enterprises. With the profits from
their enterprises the brothers
founded Merchants National
Bank in 1865. August returned
to Germany and Henry remained
to be one of the city's most
successful businessmen of the
19th century. He won the epithet
"Father of the Wholesale
District." The wholesale trade
and district attracted many
German-Americans whose names
are associated with some of the
district's surviving historic
buildings.

**LOCKERBIE SQUARE -
GERMANTOWN**

The area now known as
Lockerbie Square began to
develop in 1850 when property
owner Janet McOuat, a
Scotswoman, platted her
property and created Lockerbie
Street framed by house lots. The
area was ripe for development
and surrounding parcels of real
estate were quickly platted and
readied for sale as German
immigrants filled up the blocks
immediately to the south with
their wood-frame cottages and
gardens. An 1849 newspaper,
The Locomotive, described
"Germantown" as a four block
area bound by College Avenue,
New York, Market and East
Streets. Poet Riley spent the last
23 years (1893-1916) of his life
at 528 Lockerbie Street as a
paying guest of Major and Mrs.
Charles L. Holstein in the
Nickum-Holstein House/James
Whitcomb Riley House (1872,
Robert Plat Daggett, architect).
With the encroachment of
industrial buildings, interstates
and parking lots, old
Germantown vanished and
Lockerbie Square succeeded it as
the cradle of German
Indianapolis.

German-Americans had a
significant share in shaping the
community, its history and
culture, and creating many
historic landmarks that define
Indianapolis. The two-and-a-half
decades before the Civil War saw
the Germanization of the Hoosier
capital as immigrants from
German-speaking empires,
kings and duchies found
opportunities here in the rapidly
growing city. These Germans
were of diverse backgrounds:
Lutherans, Reformed, Catholics,
Methodists, Jews, and
Freethinkers, laborers and
businessmen, craftsmen and
academics, radicals and
conservatives. The sites noted in
the Wegweiser illustrate this
diversity with monuments,
cemeteries, churches, commercial
buildings, meeting halls and
houses.

*William R. Selm*

The guide of the Indianapolis
tour, the "Wegweiser," designed
by William R. Selm, and
published by Eberhard
Reichmann is available at the
Foundation office of the
Athenaeum. The project was
funded, in part, by a Historic
Preservation Education Grant,
jointly funded by Historic
Landmarks Foundation of Indiana
and Indiana Humanities Council.
It is reprinted on pages 11-14 of
this Newsletter.

**GERMAN AMERICANA
ON THE WORLD WIDE
WEB**

Max Kade German-American
Center
http://www-lib.iupui.edu/kade/

Robert Shea's German-
Americana Website: http://
serve.com/shea/germusa/
germusa.htm

German Corner/Deutsches Eck
http://www.german-usa.com/
german/

Indiana Chapter AATG
Cyberblatt
http://www.bsu.edu/xtranet/
IFLTA/german/iatg.htm

Have a question: Contact
Eberhard and/or Ruth Reichmann
at: reichman@ucs.indiana.edu
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Friday, October 2, 6-11 p.m. Oktoberfest in the Biergarten, Athenaeum, call 317 630-4569

Saturday, October 3 - Schlachtfeast at the Liederkranz, Inpls.

Sunday, October 4, 8:30 am and 10:40 am Deutsche Welle International Choir at Zion Church, Inpls.

Sunday, October 4, 1-5 p.m. p.m. German-American Day at the GAK, Inpls.

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 12 noon - 2 p.m. German-American Day at the City Market, Inpls.; 4-6 p.m. Gala Reception in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 650 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis. Call 317-297-0502 or 317-259-7053.

Wednesday, October 14, 4:30 p.m. IGHS Board Meeting
6 p.m. Indianapolis Stammtisch and Program

Monday, October 19, 7 p.m. German Folk Dancers, Athenaeum

Saturday, October 31 - Harvest Ball at the GAK, Inpls. call 317 888-6940

Wednesday, November 11, 4:30 p.m. IGHS Board Meeting
6 p.m. Indianapolis Stammtisch and Program

Monday, November 16, 7 p.m. German Folk Dancers, Athenaeum

Nov. 7 150th Anniversary Dinner - call 317 579-3167


Dec. 4-5 - Athenaeum Christmas Market, Indpls.

Dec. 6 - St. Nikolaus Fest
Athenaeum, Indpls.

PROGRAMS
A variety of programs are planned for the second Wednesday evenings. They are held at 7:30 p.m. in the Max Kade Seminar Room on the first floor of the Athenaeum, 401 East Michigan Street.

Wednesday, October 14: Ruth Reichmann will show the video "Banished Into Paradise." It is in English and depicts the emigration from Pfaffenweiler to Jasper, Indiana.

Wednesday, November 11: "Karnival, Fasching, Mardi Gras" with Ernestine Dillon and participants in the Cologne Karneval.

You are invited to the "Stammtisch" prior to the program. Join us for good German food and talk at the Athenaeum's Rathskeller Restaurant.

For further information call President Ernestine Dillon at 317-861-5831

OKTOBERFEST AT THE ATHENAEUM
October 2 - 6-11 p.m. Oktoberfest at the Athenaeum. Two bands at the Biergarten and the Kellersaal. Activities and fun for all. Advanced Admission is $17.50 for adults, $6.00 for children 3-11. Call 317 630-4569

THE GERMAN HERITAGE DANCE GROUP
- every 3rd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
- We meet in the Small Auditorium
- First floor of the Athenaeum
- 401 East Michigan Street
- Indianapolis

If you know how to polka, waltz, do the Rhinelander, and if you enjoy German folk dancing, get your partner lined up, your shoes dusted off, and join.

For information contact
Ginni Bullard at 812-597-4932

IGHS PROGRAM AT IHSS FALL MEETING
IGHS will again be presenting a program at the Indiana Historical Society’s Annual Meeting on 7 November 1998 at the Indianapolis Athletic Club. Programs and speakers will be David S. Dreyer (IGHS member) and Claudia Grossmann (IGHS member and IUPUI German professor). Dreyer’s paper is titled “A Homage to Herrmann” and will relate German history to Hoosier genealogy and Hoosier German artifacts. Grossmann will speak on the Freethinkers in Indianapolis and their impact on education. The program will be held in the
morning. Following the Historical Society’s luncheon and busi-
ness meeting, conference goers are invited to take a private,
seam preview tour of the Society’s new headquarters at 450 W.
Ohio. The new building will not be opened to the public until
Summer, 1999.

For more information, contact the Indiana Historical Society,
315 W. Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or phone 317-233-
5659. All registration information is handled through the IHS,
please do not contact the IGHS to register.

DAN WAKEFIELD TO
SPEAK AT ATHENAEUM’S
1894 PARTY

One of our city’s favorite sons—author Dan Wakefield will be the
featured speaker at the third annual 1894 Party and Dance, to be
conducted Friday evening, October 23 in the Athenaeum’s Keller-
saal.

Wakefield wrote “Going All The Way,” which was made into a
movie, using the Athenaeum’s Biergarten for one key scene.

The Party will feature scenes from the movie, which shows
what the Biergarten looked like in 1954. In addition, Mr. Wake-
field will sign his book and be involved in other events being
planned.

Cost for the event is $18.94.
Phone the Athenaeum office at 630-4569, ext. 1 for reservations.

GERMAN-AMERICAN
SHOPPING IN CHICAGO

Usher in the holidays with a
German-American twist by
joining us for a Christmas shop-
ing excursion on Saturday, 12
December. Included is roundtrip
motorcoach transportation, a
bracing 3-course lunch, a stop in
an Austrian specialty store,
browsing through the old German
enclave of Lincoln Square and
finally arrival at the Christkindl
Market and the Magnificent Mile.

Departure is 7.00 AM and return
is around midnight. Two pick-up
locations are planned in Indi-
anapolis. Bring warm wraps and
comfy shoes. The price is $58.00
per person, a small portion of
which supports the German-
American Cultural Center and
Klub, the trip sponsor.
Call Jennifer Caskey at 317-573-
3600 or 800-821-3484 to enquire
and make reservations.

PAL-AM ROUND ROBIN
WORKSHOP

Betty Warren, Vice-president and
Program Chairperson, has an-
nounced that the Fall 1998 con-
ference of the Indiana Chapter,
Palatines to America, will be on
Saturday, 17 October, in the
Johnson County Museum of His-
tory, 135 North Main Street,
Franklin. There will be a $5
charge for members and $10 for
non-members to attend this
“Round Robin” conference which
will have six experts rotating
amongst several groups dis-
scussing their fields and expecting
input from participants. The fac-
ulty will include Julie Cole, cura-
tor of the Johnson County Mu-
seum of History, talking about
textile preservation, Dan Krupp,
a Pal-Am member from
Evansville and now the Computer
Systems Manager for their li-
brary, on computers in
genealogy, land records with
Betty Warren, Donna Kuhlman of
the Clerk’s office of
Bartholomew County on court
house research, Larry LaFollette
from the Indiana Commission on
Public Records (State Archives)
on preserving your family
records, and Pal-Am President
James Feit on beginning your
German research. Bring your
questions, problems, and your
own special expertise. This con-
ference will aid beginners as well
as more experienced researchers.

Franklin is the seat of Johnson
County and is on US 31 south of
Indianapolis and Greenwood, and
just west of I-65 (exit 90, go
west on Indiana Route 44 to the
Court House and turn north).
Lunch will be a “brown bag”
affair—bring your own! Please
plan to attend! Workshop is limi-
ted to 40 people. Contact Nancy
I. Meyer, 234 Jefferson St.,
Tipton, IN 46072 -1850.

The Indiana German Heritage
Newsletter is published quar-
terly by the Indiana German
Heritage Society
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Indianapolis, IN
1. Athenaeum/Das Deutsche Haus (1893-1898) - 401 E. Michigan St.
Indianapolis' oldest Turnverein (1851) built this fine example of German Renaissance Revival Style. The Turnverein movement came to the US after the failed German Revolution (1848-49). Reflecting the Turnverein motto, "A sound mind in a sound body," the Vonnegut & Bohn design provided for physical, cultural, and social pursuits with a gymnasium, concert hall, auditorium, meeting rooms, Rathskeller and Biergarten. Note the stepped up gables and Jugendstil art-glass. A cultural center for liberal-minded German-Americans and Indianapolitans, the Deutsche Haus became the Athenaeum in 1918 (WW I). Today it is the home of the Athenaeum Turners, Damensverein and orchestra, Athenaeum Foundation, Indiana German Heritage Society, Max Kade German-American Center, Maennerchor, YMCA, American Cabaret, and other groups.

2. Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ (1912/13) - 601 N. New Jersey St.
The present church, designed in Gothic Revival Style by D.A. Bohlen & Son, is the third house of worship for this congregation founded as the German United Evangelical Protestant-Lutheran & Reformed Zion Church (1841). The German Reformed Church merged with the Congregationalist Church in 1857 to form the United Church of Christ. Zion's woodcarved altar features "The Lord's Supper" by Alois Lang (b. 1871 in Oberammergau), a nephew of Anton Lang who repeatedly played Christ in the Passion Play. Alois also did the statues adorning the pulpit.

3. Turnverein Apartments/Unabhängig Turnverein (1913/14) - 902 N. Meridian St.
Swiss-born Adolf Scherrer (1847-1925) designed this second home of the Independent Turnverein combining German Renaissance Revival and Germanic Style elements. The sculptured limestone entrance way once had German inscriptions and the cornice at the base of the Turns. Complete with swimming pool, gymnasium, Rathskeller and meeting rooms, the Hoosier Athletic Club—another World War I name change—fell on hard times and faded away. It was used by Purdue University (1945/1981) and then reopened as Turnverein Apartments (1985).

4. Scottish Rite Cathedral (1927/29) - 650 N. Meridian St.
George F. Schreiber's Tudor Gothic-style landmark is rich in Masonic symbolism. The basic measurement of 33 ft. and multiples thereof resembles the Masonic 33 Degrees and the world's tallest buildings. The Huntsman's woodwork and a 2,000-lb. crystal chandelier are two of the many attractions of the interior. Schreiber (1873-1950) was born and educated in Aachen.

5. Indiana State Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument (1888/1901) - Monument Circle
This Civil War monument was designed by Berlin architect Bruno Schmitz (1838-1916), winner of the state's international competition. The limestone sculptures are by Vienna-born Rudolf Schwarz (1865-1912) who also designed and made Civil War memorials in Indiana and Dayton, OH. Schmitz remained in Germany and became its leading monument designer, e.g., Deutsches Eck/Koblenz, Volkerachsenkenskenmen, Kyffhäuser. The bronze Army Astragal sculptural band above the base is by Nikolaus Geiger (1849-1897), also of Berlin. Annually the monument turns into the "world's largest Christmas tree."

6. Indiana State Capital (1880-1888)
Edwin May (1823-1880) was the winner of the state design competition for this state house. After his premature death, his chief draftsman, Adolf Scherrer (1847-1925) became the supervising architect and completed the construction drawings. The sculpture atop the south portico depicting Indian, pioneers, farmers and a blacksmith is by German-born Hermann C. Mueller (1834-1914). The statehouse was restored in 1988 in observance of its centennial.

7. Indianapolis Wholesale District
It was born in 1863 when two Westphalian immigrants, August and Henry Schull, built the first wholesale house, Schull's Block, the southwest corner of S. Meridian and W. Maryland Sts. The Schnulls built additional commercial buildings and also founded Merchants National Bank (1865). August returned to Germany and Henry won the epithet "Father of the Wholesale District." German-American names are associated with many of the district's surviving buildings.

8. Omni Severin Hotel (1912/13) - 40 W. Jackson St.
Another Vonnegut & Bohn design. Enlarged and reopened in 1990, the hotel retained the historic name, after Henry Severin, Jr., son of an immigrant merchant.

This flagship of Deschler's wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco firm was designed by Adolf Scherrer in the German Renaissance Style.

10. Reinhardt Bldg. (1864) - 133 S. Illinois St.
Built by owner-occupant Peter Joseph Reinhardt, a locksmith.

11. Hampton Inn/Big Four Bldg. (1929/30) - 105 S. Meridian St.
Originally designed by D.A. Bohlen & Son, with ornamentation by Alexander Sangngnebo, as office building for the Big Four Railroad. It opened as a hotel in 1996.

Constructed for investors led by John W. & Edward Schmidt, sons of the brewer Christian F. Schmidt, the Century was designed to house the largest presses of multiple printing companies.

The city's first skyscraper and tallest building until 1913. Designed by D.A. Bohlen & Son for the Indianapolis Gas Co.

A D.A. Bohlen & Son Romanesque Revival design for Schrader's wholesale grocery firm. The builder was William P. Jungels, the city's leading contractor.

15. Slippery Noodle Inn/Germania House (1863/64) - 372 S. Meridian St.
Originally built as a hotel and tavern, this was first named Concordia House.

16. Rusch Bldg. (1867/68) - 234-247 S. Meridian St.
This first-generation wholesale house was an investment of Westphalia-born Frederick P. Rusch.
   Designed by Vonnegut & Bohn, this is the largest of the historic wholesale buildings. Louis Hollweg founded the dry goods firm with Hibben in the 1890s, but had already established his reputation as a wholesaler of china and glassware.

   Built for Henry Schnull, it housed a variety of wholesale businesses over time. When its facade was dismantled, reconstructed and integrated into the Circle Centre Mall.

19. Vajen's Exchange Block (1872) - 200 Block S. Meridian St.
   Hardware merchant, John H. Vajen (1828-1917) of Bremen, had a spectacular building on 124-126 N. Pennsylvania St. housing retail shops and a grain exchange. It had a three-story cast-iron Italianate facade. The building was demolished in 1980 to make way for the Bank One Tower.
   Of the block's 13 bays 11 were integrated into the Circle Centre Mall (1994).

   The "Ko" and the "Ba" represent the names of Kothe and Bauer, partners in the wholesale grocery business.

   As Ko-We-Ba prospered it built a larger facility. Note the name above doorway.

22. Immanuel Church (1894) - 412 E. Prospect St.
   German Protestants founded this Evangelical Reformed Church in 1830. The present Rundbogenstil-designed church has a distinctive bell tower and a number of German inscriptions.

23. Southside Turners Hall/Südseite Turnverein (1900) - 306 E. Prospect Ave.
   The Southside Turnverein (1893) had Vonnegut & Bohn design this German Renaissance Revival hall complete with gymnasium, meeting rooms and Rathskeller. The heraldic pediment sculpture with a shield bearing the portrait of Turnvater Jahn is by Rudolf Schwarz. The Turners are no longer occupants. Note German inscription on steps.

24. Sacred Heart Catholic Church/Herz Jesu Kirche - 1530 S. Union St.
   This southside parish was founded in 1875. The first building, designed by Adrian Wewer, O.F.M., served as a home for the Franciscan priests and friars, parish school, and church. The Gothic Revival Style church (1883/85) and the twin spires (1891) are also by Friar Wewer, who later designed the Benedictine Archabbey church of St. Meinrad in southwest Indiana. Sacred Heart's magnificent interior is intact with wooden gothic altars, statuary, art-glass windows, and a polychromatic ceiling and wall paint scheme. The parish complex once included a German parish school, girls school and high school.

25. CEMETERIES
   St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, 435 W. Troy Ave.;
   Hebrew Cemetery, 20 W. Kelly St.;
   Concordia Lutheran Cemetery, 2703 S. Meridian St.
   Many German-speaking immigrants are buried in these southside cemeteries. German inscriptions are found on stones, esp. at St. Joseph Cemetery, with its attractive mortuary chapel (1874). The Irish Catholics used the nearby Holy Cross Cemetery. North of the Catholic cemetery is the Hebrew Congregation Cemetery. This congregation was largely founded by German-speaking Jews (1856). Inscriptions in nearby Concordia Lutheran Cemetery, founded by St. Paul German Evangelical Lutheran Church (1879), offer lots of information.

   After the Civil War, Indianapolis Germans followed the Cincinnati example by forming the German General Protestant Orphanage Association (1867). D.A. Bohlen's design exhibits German Gothic details. The home was self-sufficient with gardens, orchard, dairy barns, livestock and bakery. Renamed to General Protestant Orphans' Home and later Pleasant Run Children's Home, it served as an orphanage until 1981 and is now a substance abuse center.

27. City Market (1886) - 222 E. Market St.
   Hannover-born Diedrich A. Bohlen designed this market house for the City in the round arch style (Rundbogenstil), popular in Germany for markets, train stations and other institutional buildings. Adjacent is an archway ruins, a surviving fragment of Tomlinson Hall, designed in tandem with the Market by Bohlen, the founding father of America's oldest continuing architectural firm.

28. LOCKERBIE SQUARE/GERMANTOWN
   This area began to develop in 1850 when Janet McQuat, a Scotswoman, created Lockerbie Street. German immigrants filled up the blocks to the south with their cottages and gardens. An 1849 newspaper, The Locomotive, described "Germantown" as a four-block area bound by College Ave., New York, Market and East Sts. With the encroachment of industrial buildings, interstates and parking lots, old Germantown vanished. Lockerbie Square succeeded it as the cradle of German Indianapolis.

29. Warren Tate House - 228 N. East St.
   Indianapolis-born Charles G. Mueller designed this imposing German Renaissance Revival house.

   Constructed during the Civil War, Württemberger William Kuhn operated his Bäckerei here and lived above it. It later was named "Marburg Apartments."

31. Lockerbie Square United Methodist Church - Erste Deutsche Evangelische Kirche (1881/83) - 237 N. East St.
   This congregation was formed in 1853. "Germantown" had a number of other German Protestant churches. The present one was designed by D.A. Bohlen in Rundbogenstil. Features include polychromatic brickwork (black-red-gold) and limestone accents. G.I. Ittchenbach & Co. did the stone work. The interior remains unaltered from a 1928 remodeling. The German cornerstone inscription fell victim to WWI.

32. Nicholas Hofmeister Bldg. (1863/64) - 650-660 E. New York St.
   This Italianate commercial building was first constructed by Hofmeister, then enlarged in the 1870s and 1890s. Hofmeister lived above his grocery store.
Sectional Map of Indianapolis - 1998

-A self-guided tour of German-American sites in Indianapolis -
33. Frederick Simon Bldg. - 330 N. College Ave.
The Simons lived above their grocery store built in 1860
with the Italianate facade added in the 1870s.

34. Staub House (1859) - 342 N. College Ave.
Alsatian tailor Joseph W. Staub built this imposing house.
He arrived in 1854 from Cincinnati to become the city's first
merchant tailor.

35. Mode Double Residence (1905) - 417-419 N. College
Ave.
This brick double residence was built by Michael Mode,
proprietor of Michael Mode's Shoes. He was succeeded by
his sons in Mode Brothers Shoes.

36. St. Mary Catholic Church/Marienkirche (1910/12)
317 N. New Jersey St.
The parish of St. Mary was founded in 1857 as a German
National Parish. Designed by Hermann J. Gaul (1869-1949)
of Cologne, this Gothic-Renaissance church in Indiana limestone
was "to bear the stamp of the great cathedral of Cologne." The
façade sculpture is by Alexander Sangermebo and the
stone work by G. Ittenbach & Co., founded by Gerhard
Ittenbach in Königswinter. Note the German-made art-glass
windows and the statues of Mary, St. Boniface and St.
Henry in the gables.

37. Despa House (1863) - 538 Lockerbie St.
This attractive brick house was built by Johann Ernst Despa,
a painter and active in German-American organizations.
Note the ornamental entryway.

38. Thoms House (1860) - 353 N. Park Ave.
Similar to the Staub house, this imposing late Federal Style
house was built by Friedrich Thoms.

Augustus Spiegel was a partner in Spiegel, Thoms & Co.,
makers and dealers of furniture. The house was enlarged
in 1870.

40. Lieber Cottage (c.1860) - 407-409 N. Park Ave.
This Alpine Chalet was built by Düsseldorfer Hermann
Lieber (1832-1908), founder of the H. Lieber Co. that
prospered with picture framing, an art emporium and
photography supplies. Lieber, "Father of the German
House" and a central figure in local German activities, was
also the patron of T.C. Steele and other Indiana artists who
studied at Munich's Royal Academy.

41. Ruskaup House (1892) and Store (1873) - 711 & 715
Dorman St.
The well-preserved Frederick Ruskaup residence (1892) was
designed by Vonnegut & Bohn in German Renaissance
Revival Style, complete with corner turret and stepped
gable. Ruskaup, a Hannover-native, built the Italianate
commercial building to the north in 1873 as their grocery
store and prior home. Vonnegut & Bohn also designed the
nearby wood-frame double residences for Ruskaup.

Wegweiser

A SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF
GERMAN-AMERICAN
SITES IN INDIANAPOLIS

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Shaping the Circle
German-Americans in Indianapolis: 1840-1918

See the article on page 6 for a description of this exciting new digital image exhibit from IUPUI.