ANNUAL SANKT
NIKOLAUS FEST AT
THE ATHENAEUM

This Old World tradition will
take place on Sunday, Dec. 6, at
the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum in
Indianapolis, 401 E. Michigan St.
It begins at 1:00 p.m. in the first
floor auditorium with a reception,
traditional German refreshments
and music, and ends at 5:30 p.m.
after the tree lighting ceremony
and singing of Christmas songs.
There will be children's games,
videos and numerous activities
for the young and the young-at-
heart. As he always does, the
Saint will make a stop with
Ruprecht at his side. There will
be little gifts from St. Nikolaus
for the good children and
switches from Ruprecht for
naughty ones. Sunday Admission:
$5.00 adults, $3.00 for children
under 13. It includes the tree
lighting ceremony with real
candles on a real tree.

Our Old-World Christkindl
Market with German and
International gifts will be Friday
and Saturday, Dec. 4-5 from
6:30-9:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec.
6 from 1-5:30 p.m. Come and
visit the IGHS booth and join the
in the holiday spirit. There will
also be Gluehwein or mulled
 cider and Stollen.

For further information: The
Athenaeum Foundation (317)
630-4569

MESSAGE FROM ST.
NIKOLAUS

We received the following letter
and were asked to pass it on:
Thank you, Marilyn Nathan of
Dubois County, for the beautiful
mitre. St. Nikolaus very much
needed this mitre and will remem-
ber your special gift to him, as he
remembers the good deeds of all
of the children! Sankt Nikolaus
(sig.)

GERMAN CHRISTMAS
SERVICE AT ZION,
INDPLS.

On Sunday, December 13, at
3:00 p.m., the Annual German
Christmas Service will be held at
Zion Evangelical United Church
of Christ, 416 E. North St.,
Indpls. Although conducted in
German, the service is easy to
follow. The hymns are familiar to
most churchgoers and the sermon
is printed in English for partici-
pants to follow. -- The
congregations first church was
built in 1845. We appreciate the
opportunity to attend a German
service in this beautiful house of
worship, and our thanks go to
those who make it possible.

OLDEST KNOWN
"SILENT NIGHT"
MANUSCRIPT
DISCOVERED
by Bill Egan

A "Silent Night" manuscript by
Josef Mohr, who wrote the
original words to this world-renowned carol, has been discovered in Salzburg. The existence of this manuscript was unknown until a volunteer at the city's Carolino Augusteum Museum casually mentioned that she had a framed manuscript of the world-famous carol handwritten by Mohr.

The discovery of this manuscript is of special significance since it is now the earliest known version of "Silent Night." The hymn was created on December 24, 1818, when Franz X. Gruber added music to a poem which Mohr had written two years earlier. The authentication of the Mohr arrangement also puts to rest some of the erroneous tales written by sentimental romantics to elaborate the circumstances surrounding the origin of "Silent Night." Many of these anecdotal stories claim that Mohr wrote the words on Dec. 24, 1818 in order to provide a guitar-accompanied carol for Midnight Mass since the organ in Oberndorf's St. Nicholas' Church was not working. Others have attributed the melody to Haydn, Mozart, or Beethoven rather than its real composer, Franz Gruber. The newly found manuscript bears the signature of Josef Mohr, in the lower left hand corner, followed by "1816" which shows that he wrote the lyrics before his assignment to the church in Oberndorf. (In 1816, the young curate, Mohr, as assigned to a pilgrim church in Mariapfarr in the southern area of the province of Salzburg.) In 1820, when he wrote this arrangement of Gruber's melody, he placed the words, "Melodie von Fr. Xav. Gruber," in the upper right hand corner. This silences any doubts about who wrote the music for this world-famous carol. Handwriting experts have determined that Mohrs arrangement of the Gruber melody was set down on this manuscript around 1820, after he departed Oberndorf.

Today, visitors to Austria can visit several sites connected with the two men who created "Silent Night." Opened for the first time in November 1996, there is the "Josef Mohr Birthplace Exhibition" at Steingasse 9, in the city of Salzburg. In nearby Arnsdorf, one can view the schoolhouse where Franz Gruber lived with his family and the church where he was the organist and choir director. About four miles away is the Silent Night Memorial Chapel and Museum. The chapel is located over the site of the nave of St. Nicholas' Church which was torn down earlier this century. Every year on December 24, at 5 p.m. a special service is conducted here which ends with a rendition of "Silent Night" in its original format.

South of the city of Salzburg is the charming, medieval town of Hallein where the "Franz Gruber Museum" is located in his former home. His grave can be visited outside in the courtyard across from the church where he was choir director. In the ski hamlet of Wagrain, one can attend services in the church where Josef Mohr preached and view his grave located in the churchyard across from the Josef Mohr School.

Arrangements to visit these sites can be made through your local travel agents with Salzburg Panorama Tours. For further information contact the Austrian National Tourist Office, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10110, phone (212) 944-6880 or, Fax (212) 730-4568.

From the website http://www.austria.org/ dec96/silent.html E-mail Bill Egan <snight@njcenter.com>

THE TRADITION OF BELSNICKEL

In German-speaking countries, and Holland and Belgium as well, December 6 is St. Nikolaus Day, on which children receive sweets, nuts, and other little gifts. The real St. Nikolaus was the fourth century bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, who died on December 6, 343 and was later venerated by the church. In Germanic celebrations, St. Nikolaus was a distinguished gray-haired man with flowing beard, bishops raiment and pastoral staff who knocks on doors and asks about the behavior of children.

As with the Christmas tree, St. Nikolaus was brought to this country by German immigrants in the 1830s and 1840s. They helped weave the legend of Santa Claus, the jolly good fellow
created-- on the basis of Clement Moore's poem, "T'was the Night before Christmas"--by German-American cartoonist Thomas Nast. "Der Belsnickel," known to nineteenth-century children as a servant of Saint Nicholas, carried a switch as he made his rounds to check on the behavior of all boys and girls. He would have a large book in which the names of the children are kept. If the children were good, they received some fruit or sweets, but if they were bad---they got a switch! Belsnickel may have a band of Zwart Piets, or Black Peters, to help distribute his gifts to the visitors. Bells adorned the outfits of all of our nineteenth-century characters.

Old timers in Indiana still remember Belsnickel, the Pelznickel (literally "Furr-Niklaus") of Northern Germany. His name appears in many variations such as Bells Nickel, Belschnickle, Belsnigles and Belsh Nickle. Not only did the spellings vary but changes also occurred in his appearance and his antics from one community to another. He made his appearance, dressed in a long coat belted at the waist and a fur cap such as a black bear skin hat, both of which were decorated with bells. The bells would be the sounds the children would hear identifying Belsnickel's approach before he would come into view.

When Belsnickel appeared at the door, he represented a nostalgic reminder to the adults of their childhood days. However, the children viewed him with mixed feelings. Only good children were to receive treats. If a child had been naughty he could also receive a lump of coal or a stick as a reminder to behave in the future. The personality of Belsnickel varied from mischievous to nasty, but most were kind and loving toward the children.

At each house he would visit, Belsnickel received some refreshments such as cider, beer or wine. However, after too many visits and after a long evening, the many refreshments would weaken his judgment and his punishment to the children could be a painful remembrance of his visit. A community sometimes had several Belsnickel roving about, and at times a woman would have to portray this important character. The custom of Belsnickel was quite common until the early 1940s. As the Santa Claus legend and custom developed in America, Thomas Nast's portrayal of Belsnickel took on the features of Santa Claus, who then became the dominant symbol of a secularized Christmas.

Ruth Reichmann

CHRISTMAS STOLLEN

AT ALDI

Every year in October, Kaiserpfalz Christmas Stollen, very reasonable priced, are offered at ALDI stores. The name ALDI--stands for Albrecht Discount. Founded in Germany 1948 by the brothers Karl and Theo Albrecht, this expanding supermarket chain with 4,000 stores in Europe, is Europe's top private-label, deep-discount food retailer. The list of the ten richest people in Germany includes the Albrecht brothers with $11.7 billion. Theo’s sons, Theo Jr. and Berthold, run the show. Formula? Buy cheap land on city fringe, build cheap, superstore-size warehouses, stock with pallets full of products in bulk.

In 1976, ALDI's opened their first store in the U.S. Today, the company operates 509 U.S. stores in 15 Midwestern states. Most are located in KS, MO, IL, IN, OH, and PA region. Their HQ is in Batavia, IL. They also have an 11% stake in Boise, Idaho-based Albertson's grocery chain.

As you enter the store you find staple goods piled warehouse style in cartons. The one or two checkout personnel are the fastest in the trade. Recyclers save 10 cents for a shopping bag, or one can use empty cartons. It is frugality to the nth degree. German items are not conspicuous at all. We wished there were more. But at Christmas time, their imported "Stollen" is worth standing in line for. Even though Aldi is a privately held German company, it seems to have no need for bilingual managers or directors. A touch of German Americana would add a little character to the unromantic box pile atmosphere.

Eberhard

and Ruth Reichmann
LOUISE LAMKIN'S
CHRISTMAS STOLLEN

This is one of my Mother's Stollen recipes. It is from the journal which I have written for our family.

Stollen is a German Christmas bread-coffee cake. There are many different recipes for Stollen. The following is one of Oma's. Rose water gives it that special flavor-texture.

5 1/2 to 6 C unsifted flour 3/4 C chopped walnuts
1/2 C sugar 3/4 C candied citron
1 1/4 t salt 1/3 C golden raisin
2 pkg. active dry yeast 1/2 C Muscat
raisins
3/4 C scalded milk 1/2 C dried
currents
1/2 C warm water 2 T grated
orange rind
2/3 C margarine 1/2 C red, or
red and green
3 eggs (room temperature)
candied cherries
2 T rose water

Softened yeast in warm water.
Melt margarine in milk in large
bowl, cool; then add eggs, sugar,
salt and rose water. Add the
yeast and water and gradually
add enough flour to form a stiff
dough. Add the nuts, citron,
raisins, currents, cherries, orange
rind and mix thoroughly.
Knead on a well-floured surface
until smooth and satiny, about 5
minutes. Place in a greased bowl
and cover. Let rise in warm
place until light and doubled in size,
about 1 1/2 hours.
Divide into three parts; roll each
to a 12x7 inch rectangle. Lift the
12 inch side and fold over to
within 1 inch of opposite side for
typical Stollen shape. Cover. Let rise in
warm place until light and
doubled in size, about 1 hour.
Bake at 350 for 20 to 25
minutes until golden brown.
While warm, brush with butter
and sprinkle with powdered sugar.
or
Frost with confectioner's sugar
frosting and decorate with nuts
and candied cherries.
Serve thin slices for breakfast or
afternoon coffee time.

My Mother, Erika (Mendel)
Theilig, born in Bitterfeld,
Germany, spent her childhood in
Luckenwalde b. Berlin. She
came to the United States
(Indianapolis, Indiana) in 1925 at
the age of 15. During her
childhood they had very little
food, so they knew nothing of
Stollen. This recipe she
developed over the years. Her
Mother's family (Schaefer) is
from Schluechtern in Hessen.
(The Schaefer family were the
"bakers" of these good things).

MEMBER CHRISTMAS
SPECIALS

Share your interest in your
heritage. This Christmas give a
gift that keeps on giving: Give an
IGHS membership and win a new
member! For a membership,
 use the form in this newsletter
and send it to the membership
chair.

Or consider our publications for
gift giving occasions. Yes, we
still have copies of everything we
have published. If you pick up
books at our December events,
the Christkindlmarkt (December
4-6) or the Stammtisch program
(Dec. 9) at the Athenaeum, there
will even be more savings. At the
Christkindlmarkt--come for a cup
of "Glühwein" and "Stollen"--
we'll have books from other
publishers--at great discounts.

A real IGHS stocking stuffer is
still our Hoosier German Tales--
Small & Tall (1991). The
collection of stories about and by
Hoosier German-Americans by
Eberhard Reichmann. 278pp.
($6.50). He will autograph your
Christmas order on request.

George T. Probst/Eberhard
Reichmann: The Germans in
212pp., ill., index. ($14.00).

Theodore Stempfel's 1898
Festschrift: 50 Years of
Unrelenting German Aspirations
in Indianapolis 1848-1898
(1898). Bilingual G/E Edition
1991 by G.R. Hoyt, Cl.
Crossmann, E. Reichmann and E.
Lang. 158pp., large format, ill.,
index. ($12.00).
Willi Paul Adams: The German-Americans. An Ethnic Experience (1993), trans. & adapted from the German by La Vern J. Rippley/E. Reichmann. 46pp., large format, ill. ($3.00).


******

Additional discount: We pay shipping and sales tax!

Send your order to Eberhard Reichmann, Editor-in-Chief NCSA LITERATUR * 430 Kelp Grove Rd., Nashville, IN 47448 Tel. 812-988-2866 ** E-Mail: reichman@ucs.indiana.edu Orders will be mailed in early December.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: http://www-lib.iupui.edu/kade/

DEDICATION OF HISTORICAL MARKER

This is a report on the dedication of the German Gardeners' memorial marker. Dr. Robert A. and Lee McDougal and Giles Hoyt represented IGHS at the ceremony.

"There were upwards of 100 people, young and old, gathered in Bluff Park on the southwest side of Indianapolis on the afternoon of Sunday, 4 October 1998, for the dedication of German Greenhouses and Truck Gardens Historical Marker. The Park is located at the corner of Bluff Road and Hanna Avenue, formerly the site of a school where many of the audience had attended. It is to celebrate the presence of numerous German-American families who had gardens and greenhouses in the area, some of which are still active. The Marker was authorized by the Indiana Historical Bureau, whose list of markers can be seen at http://www.statelib.lib.in.us/ihbmarkers; this one is 49-1998-3.

It reads: "Many of Indiana's German immigrants settled in southwestern Marion County during the mid-1880s and began greenhouses and truck gardens on Bluff Road; area grew to major boundaries of Harding, Raymond, Madison, and Banta streets. Family owners formed organizations for collective bargaining power, uniform product quality, and members health and death benefits. German Gardeners Benefit Society founded 1867. Hoosier Boy trade name used by 87 businesses of Marion County Greenhouse Growers Association, founded 1920. Area was one of the largest concentrations of winter tomato and lettuce production under glass in U.S. Refrigerated transportation contributed to closure of many growers businesses. Greenhouses still a part of the economic life of this area."

The ceremony was presented by Donna Rosebrock Gordon, who introduced representatives of the Indiana Historical Bureau, Gardeners Benefit Society, Marion County Greenhouse Growers Association, and Indianapolis Vegetable Growers Association; she also introduced the oldest and youngest to attend, and as an entertaining speaker, her brother, now located in Hollywood. He related his experiences working in his family gardens as a youth.

*Many of the archives of the Gardeners Benefit Society are located in the Ruth Lilly Special Collections and Archives, in the Library at IUPUI. The names in these archives were indexed (by Dr. McDougal) by year as a project of Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America, and are available for $3 from him. Send a check made to Palatines to America, Indiana Chapter to him at 430 N. Park Ave., #411, Indianapolis, IN 46202-3679."

GERMANY IN US PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

At the German-American Day Celebration Ann Whitlock Swedein of the Indiana Humanities council made the following announcement:
The Indiana Humanities Council will launch a new statewide program in 1999 entitled, "GERMANY IN US." It will celebrate the ties between Indiana and Germany and other German-speaking countries. It will explore the rich and diverse German heritage of Hoosiers and their communities. GERMANY IN US will be a multifaceted program offering a virtual exhibit on the World Wide Web, a traveling lecture series, film series, readings and discussion groups integrated with public programs and projects developed by and for participating communities. These programs will introduce all ages to German heritage, culture, points of view and economic endeavors. GERMANY IN US is made possible through funding from Lilly Endowment, Inc. and is directed by Ann Whitlock Swede, Director, International Programs, Indiana Humanities Council. IU will involve numerous partner organizations, including the Indiana German Heritage Society.

For information on the program contact Giles Hoyt at 317 278-1265

GIRES HOYT RECEIVES TURNER AWARD

Professor Giles Hoyt recently received the Turner District Honor Award for outstanding service. He serves as vice president of the Athenaeum Turners and has contributed countless hours to the preservation of the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum and the Turner organization. At most Athenaeum social events he can be seen serving as Master of Ceremonies.

FORT HARRISON HISTORY: PRISONERS OF WAR

When the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs acquired the Fort Harrison property from the U.S. Army, they accepted the responsibility to preserve and protect not only its natural resources, but its unique cultural and historic resources as well. Hundreds of German and Italian prisoners of war (POWs) played a role in the story of what has become Fort Harrison State Park.

In the New Fort Harrison Interpretive Center the POW component will tell the Italian and German POW story with label text of 40 words and rely greatly on archives and artifacts. Interpretive programs will be used to expand on the POW story, and a brochure to illustrate it is planned.

German soldiers from "Desert Fox" Rommel's "Afrika-Korps" were among those who were held there in 1944. Researchers hope to hear from anyone who has first-hand knowledge of the camp, or perhaps, growing up, heard stories about it. Contact Larry B. Helkema at 317 591-0122.

CAMP ATTERBURY MUSEUM

Members of the Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial and Museum Association are seeking artifacts and memorabilia for use in the new indoor museum being built at Camp Atterbury. The museum will feature displays pertaining to the landowners who lost their land to the camp. civilian workers, POWs (Italian and German), to Wakeman General Hospital and to the units that have or are training at the camp, WWII-83rd, 92nd, 30th and 106th Divisions; Korean conflict-28th and 31st Divisions; and today the 38th Division. Anyone wishing to donate items to the museum should send them or call: CW3 Myles W. Clayburn, Camp Atterbury, Building 1, Edinburgh, IN 46124-1096; 812 526-1103.

GERMAN POWS IN THE USA

Only about 380,000 of the 3.8 Mio German POWs in American hands between 1942 and 1945 were brought to the US. Their fate was distinctly different from the vast majority of their comrades who were captured or who surrendered toward and after the end of hostilities in Europe.

The 380,000 men had the good fortune to be kept in a country that did not suffer directly from the war. Their life in captivity was incomparably better than
what most other POWs had to go
trough, especially those in
American (yes, American!) postwar camps in the Rhineland
where thousands died from
starvation-inflicted diseases.

One third of the stateside POWs
were members of the German
army units in Africa - of which
the "Deutsche Afrika-Korps" was
most famous. They had
surrendered in May 1943 in
Tunisia. While their sojourn in
America was without any
problems for the group as a
whole, their "repatriation" after
the war turned out to be a shock
for many who were not released
to go home but were instead
handed over to French and
British authorities. For many this
meant a continued POW
existence for up to three years.

From Hermann Jung, Die
deutschen Kriegsgefangenen in
amerikanischer Hand: USA
(1972)

INDIANAPOLIS
GERMAN SCHOOL

Mary Cable Building, Blackford
at Michigan St. IUPUI

GERMAN FOR CHILDREN
Saturdays 9-11:30 a.m.

Kindergarten (4 1/2 to 6 years);
Beginners (7-8 years);
Intermediate (8-10 years);
Advanced 10-12 years.

GERMAN FOR
PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES
(can be taken for credit)
Saturdays 9-11:40 a.m.

Classes will begin again in
January.

For registration information
contact
Dr. Claudia Grossmann, IUPUI,
Dept. of Foreign Languages
425 University Blvd.;
Indianapolis, In 46202; 317 274-
2081 or 274-0062

CALENDAR
Fri./Sat. December 4-5, 6:30-
9:30 p.m. Old World Christkindl
Market at the Athenaeum
Call 317 630-4569

Sunday, December 6, 1-5:30 p.m.
Old World Christkindl Market at
the Athenaeum

Sunday, December 6, 1-5 p.m.
Sankt Nikolaus Fest at the Athe-
naeum, Call 317 630-4569

Wednesday, December 9, 4:30
p.m. IGHS Board meeting
6 p.m. Stammtisch and Program

Sunday, December 13, 3 p.m.
German Christmas Service at
Zion Church in Indianapolis

Wednesday, January 13, 4:30
p.m. IGHS Board meeting
No Stammtisch and Program!

Monday, January 18, 7 p.m.
German Folk Dancers,
Athenaeum

Saturday, January 23, Karneval
at the Athenaeum
Call 317 630-4569

Wednesday, February 10, 4:30
p.m. IGHS Board meeting
6 p.m. Stammtisch and Program

Monday, February 15, 7 p.m.
German Folk Dancers,
Athenaeum

Fri./Sat. March 19/20, IGHS
Annual Meeting

SGAS Annual Symposium April
22-25, New Ulm

STAMMTISCH AND
PROGRAMS
Stammtisch on the second
Wednesday of the month at 6
p.m., prior to the program, at the
Athenaeum Rathskeller
Restaurant - good food and good
talk!

December 9, 7:30 p.m. "A
German Christmas and German
Christmas Traditions" with
Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann.

January no Stammtisch

February 10, 7:30 p.m. "The
45th New York or Plattdeutsch
Regiment, also known as the 5th
German Rifles, during the Civil
War," with Kathryn Lerch.

For further information call
President Ernestine Dillon at
317 861-5831
immigration and the California Gold rush." SGAS is an international professional association of individuals and institutions interested and involved in the field of German-American studies. For further information contact Ruth Reichmann at 812-988-2866 or Giles Hoyt at 317-274-2081.

KÖLNER KARNEVAL BALL IN INDIANAPOLIS

The German American community invites you to the Kölner Karneval Ball in Indianapolis (German Mardi Gras) at the Athenaeum, Kellersaal, 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis on Saturday, January 23, 1999 at 6:00 p.m. The evening activities include music by Die Freude Macher from Fort Wayne, great German music and dancing, and performances by the Athenaeum Pops Orchestra, the Männerchor, the Liederkranz, the Mäedchengearde of the German American Klub, the dancers from the Erste Karnevals Gesselschaft of Cincinnati, and the Hemdglonckner Brigade (nightshirt stomp dancers.)

Costumes are enthusiastically welcomed, business dress is optional.

Admission, which includes a German style buffet dinner is $22.00 if reserved by Monday, January 18, and $25.00 at the door.

Proceeds benefit the Athenaeum Foundation. For reservations, call or write the Athenaeum Foundation, 401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204, 317-630-4569.

Karneval in Indianapolis is sponsored by the Athenaeum Turners, Athenaeum Foundation, Athenaeum Pops Orchestra, Indianapolis Männerchor, and the Indianapolis/Cologne Sister Cities Committee.

Sister Cities Around the State

INDIANAPOLIS - COLOGNE

German-American Day had special significance in Indianapolis this year. Mayor Stephen Goldsmith had proclaimed October 6, 1998 as German-American Day in Indianapolis. Governor Frank O'Bannon proclaimed October as German-American Month in Indiana. However, on October 6, in addition to events traditionally sponsored by various local organizations, there was a gala reception at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in honor of the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Sister-City Partnership Agreement between Indiana's capitol and Cologne, Germany in 1988.
The reception featured the 48-member International Choir of the Deutsche Welle, Germany's international broadcasting service, located in Cologne. A delegation from Cologne, including Lord Mayor Norbert Burger and Volkmar Schultz, who represents North Rhine-Westphalia in the German Bundestag, with Dr. Michael Vorwerk, the German Consul General in Detroit, and Horst Winkler, the honorary German Consul in Indianapolis were joined by Stephen Goldsmith, the Mayor of Indianapolis, to reaffirm the partnership agreement of 1988. Carlton Curry, City-County Councilman, served as master of ceremonies. Also present was City-County Council President Dr. Beurt SerVaas. After the concert and reception, the Cologne delegation were guests of the Indianapolis-Cologne Sister-City Partnership Committee at an Athenaeum Rathskeller dinner.

The Cologne officials were in Indianapolis October 4-7 for a series of meetings with Indianapolis officials and to identify areas of common interest. For a decade the Indianapolis-Cologne Sister-City Partnership Committee has been actively promoting exchanges between the two cities, including sporting events, art exhibits, study tours and trade opportunities, for a decade. Sven Schumacher chairs the all-volunteer Sister-City committee.

Related events on October 4 included performances by the Deutsche Welle International Choir at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ and an open house sponsored by the German-American Klub at German Park, as well as the dedication of a marker in Bluff Park to German immigrants by the Greenhouse Growers Association. There was a luncheon sponsored by the Indianapolis Eric M. Warburg Chapter of the American Council on Germany on October 5, and German-American Day ceremonies organized by the Indiana German Heritage Society at the Indianapolis City Market on October 6.

VINCENTENS AND WASSERBURG

In Spring a delegation from Wasserburg, representing the school, mayor's office and city council, visited Vincennes. They were looking for ideas to put to work in their own town.

In June IGHS President Ernestine Dillon and husband Frank visited Wasserburg. While there she met with Deputy Mayor, Dr. Ludwig Scheidacher and he requested her help. He wanted to compare the merits (types and costs) of obtaining electrical energy from private vs. public sources. How do American towns of comparable size deal with this? She is working on getting him the answers.

The Dillons visited with the president of the Wasserburg Trachtenverein Almrausch and attended a Trachtenfest where 42 such societies met. The day began with a Catholic Mass in a field, followed by addresses of representatives from the State of Bavaria, the country and the town, and a parade through town.

Ralph Ruppel of Vincennes spent time in Wasserburg in September and assisted in the planning of new exchanges. He met with the Trachtenverein. They plan to come to Indiana end of July 1999, first to Indianapolis, then to Jasper to participate in the Strassenfest, and finally to Vincennes for the Germanfest. The Trachtenverein visited Jasper, Vincennes, Indianapolis and Goshen in 1992 and entertained in all four places. Ernestine Dillon was their guide at that time.

NEW HARMONY AND WIERNSHEIM

In June the Pinache Maennerchor from Wiernsheim performed in New Harmony and in Evansville at the Germania Maennerchor.

Of interest on both sides of the ocean is the restoration of the "Old Granary" in New Harmony. The massive sandstone, brick and wood structure, often referred to as a Fort-Granary, was built by German immigrants from the Wiernsheim area at a time when Indiana gained statehood. It represents a rare rural
architectural structure from the 1800s and is the largest granary of its type built by German craftsmen in the United States. Completed by the Harmonists in 1818, the Granary was five stories high, 40 feet wide and 70 feet long, with a tile-covered German-style hip roof. Restoration plans include a geological museum with exhibits focusing on the building's use during the David Dale Owen period and unique meeting facilities, as well as exhibits reflecting its German heritage. The dedication of the building will be April 24/25, 1999. While traveling in Germany Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann will also visit Wiernsheim in search of information for the Harmonist exhibit to be housed in the restored Granary.

For information on the Granary visit the New Harmony Website: http://www-lib.iupui.edu/kade/newharmony/home.html

Lichte helped dozens of families in St. Paul Lutheran Church establish links with their ancestors from his home parish in Gohfeld, Germany. The congregation went ahead with the 150th anniversary services. The Rev. William Stache noted that despite the tragic death of Lichte, he felt this could be a celebration of his life as well as the anniversary of the church.

Herr Lichte was by himself at the Schwenk home when he passed away, and due to illness in Loehne, his family was not able to come to Columbus. Art had to handle all the arrangements, with the help from a cousin of Edith Lichte's in Kansas City. Together with the Lichte cousin he returned the remains of Hans-Guenter Lichte and attended a memorial service there.

COLUMBUS-LOEHNHE

Art Schwenk, Chair of the Columbus-Loehne partnership, and his family had a tragic event at their house on September 27. Hans-Guenter Lichte, the man behind much of the Columbus-Loehne partnership, died at their home in his sleep. He was to be the guest of honor at the St. Paul Clifty, 150th anniversary celebration later that morning and to receive a gift of a special history written for the occasion.

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

Have a question: Contact Eberhard and/or Ruth Reichmann at: reichman@uhs.indiana.edu

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/
Indiania German Heritage Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For joining or membership renewal, please use this statement and make checks payable to the Indiana German Heritage Society. To increase Society support, you may wish to designate a higher category. All contributions are tax deductible

ANNUAL DUES

Student $5 ________ (School) ____________________________

Individual $12 ______

Family $20 ______

Organization $25 ______

Patron $50 ________

Corporate $100 ______

Sponsor $500 ______

Benefactor $1,000 ______

New Member ________ Renewal ________________

Name: _____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

City, State, Zip ____________________________________

Business Phone: _____-_________ Home Phone: _____-_________

E-Mail __________________________

Send payment with this statement to: Membership Secretary IGHS, 401 E. Michigan St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
The Christkindl Market in Nürnberg, 1976. From Christmas in Germany.