GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY
AT
GERMANFEST IN INDIANAPOLIS

Join us Saturday, October 8, 12:00-6 p.m., in downtown Indianapolis for the 2011 German-
American Day celebration and GermanFest at the Athenaeum, located at 401 E. Michigan
Street, Indianapolis.

German-American Day events include proclamations by the Mayor's and Governor's Offices, and the announcement of the recipient of the Hoosier German-American of the Year award.

In years past we celebrated German-American Day on October 6 at the City Market. For the second year now we are celebrating this special, nationwide event, together with GermanFest. The Original and Fabulous GermanFest is an indoor/outdoor family festival celebrating things German.

There will be Wiener dog races every hour (sorry only Dachshunds are allowed), German music, German dancing, German food, a yodeling contest, a traditional German strongman stone lifting contest, 3rd annual 5k Lederhosen Lauf, Cultural booths, a chance to buy German-themed T-shirts, hats, books and other mementos and much more!

GET A TASTE OF GERMANY
ON OCTOBER 1

On Saturday, October 1 get ready to party like a German. The 3rd Taste of Germany fundraiser kicks off at the Firefighters Union Hall, 748 Massachusetts Avenue in Indianapolis between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Tickets are $40 per person or $75 a couple. Your ticket will admit you to Indianapolis’ own Hofbräuhaus where you can sample authentic German beers and food, and enjoy the music of Monika Herzog and her trio. There will be a silent auction and all of the Gemütlichkeit" that Germans are famous for.

A Taste of Germany is a fundraiser that supports the cultural and social ties between the people of Indianapolis and its sister city of Cologne, Germany. It also supports the "Survive Alive" a long running program of the Indianapolis Fire Department. Utilizing a state-of-the-art education facility featuring a two-bedroom home complete with simulated smoke & fire Survive Alive! teaches children the life-saving skills they need to escape a fire.

Tickets may be purchased at Café Heidelberg, Claus’ German Sausage & Meats, and the
Indianapolis Firefighters Union Hall or online at http://taste-of-germany.org/. For more information visit http://taste-of-germany.org/. You must be 21 to attend this event.

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Children will have their own play area with arts and craft areas along with many other fun filled activities including a bounce tent.

At noon the 3rd annual Lederhosen 5k Run/Walk kicks off, hosted by the Indiana German Heritage Society and Athenaeum Foundation, to raise money for the Indianapolis Children of the Indianapolis Chapter of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Visit racemyplanet.com to register for the Lederhosen Lauf.

This year there will be two stages. (Note that German-American Day activities will take place on the Biergarten Stage):

Dachshund owners are encouraged to sign their dogs up for prices in one of four different categories, divided by age:

- Cocktail Wieners (4 months to 1 year)
- Hot Dogs (1-5 years)
- Corn Dogs (5-8 years)
- Foot Longs (8+ years)

You don't have to be German to have fun at GermanFest. Everyone is welcome to attend and experience a little bit of German in Indianapolis. If you have never been to the Historic Athenaeum-Das Deutsche Haus, this is your chance to visit this majestic building, built over 100 years ago as a Turnverein by German immigrants. Both IGHS and the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center have their office and meetings rooms here.

Tickets are $5.00 in advance, children under 12 years free. At the day of the event tickets are $10.00. All proceeds from GermanFest are to benefit the Athenaeum Foundation, Inc. for the great building and its many activities there!

To register for the Wiener Dog Races or the Stone Lifting competition, go to athenaeum.org and click on GermanFest to register online or call Jim Gould 317.655.2755, ext. 1 or email jimgould@athenaeumfoundation.com.
**AMERICA'S GERMAN IMMIGRANTS**

Roughly one quarter of all Americans trace their roots to German immigrants who came to the United States in the last two centuries. President John F. Kennedy in his book *America a Nation of Immigrants* generously credits the Germans as having brought many skills to America which were vital for turning millions of acres of wilderness into productive farm land, and for essential contributions to the culture of American cities.

Germany was not a colonial power. The Thirty Year's War (1618-1648) was mainly a religious war between Protestants and Catholics of the Holy Roman Empire. Since it was fought mostly on German soil, the devastation and loss of life was great.

At that time Germans usually emigrated on their own. Germans were among the settlers of Jamestown, the first permanent English Colony. A German physician came with the original settlers in 1607; however, most of them came as workers, hired by the English for their skills. German glassblowers, carpenters and saw millwrights came to Jamestown in 1608 and 1620.

Peter Minuit, born in Germany, purchased in 1626 from the Indians what is known today as Manhattan. He was a colonizer and worked for the Dutch West India Company. He became famous as the legendary governor of the Dutch Colony of New Netherland which later became New York.

The first group immigration of German settlers arrived in Pennsylvania on October 6, 1683 from Krefeld. This day is commemorated nation-wide as German-American Day. They were followed by an influx of immigrants from the area called Rheinland-Pfalz (Rhineland-Palatinate). They were called Palatines and settled mostly in Pennsylvania. They brought with them their "pfälzisch" dialect, known today as Pennsylvania Dutch (Deutsch).

By 1830 emigration from Germany began to pick up. German-Americans represent the largest group of immigrants arriving in the United States in all but three of the years between 1854 and 1894. Before the end of the century more than 5 million Germans had arrived and in the twentieth century another 2 million came. They came from a wide geographic area and for a variety of reasons. They were a highly diversified group in terms of regional origin, religious and political orientation, education and socio-economic standing.

Although conditions in the German states were not as bad as in Ireland, crop failures, inheritance laws, high rents, high prices and the effects of the industrial revolution led to widespread poverty and suffering. Relatives and friends who emigrated first would write back and encourage others to follow. This led to "chain migrations" and group settlements. Fairly well-to-do farmers who saw a bleak future, poor ones with no future, paupers whom the authorities often paid to leave, revolutionaries after 1848 and many artisans, professionals and some adventurers made up the spectrum of the 1840s and 1850s.

The German speaking immigrants were not only the first of the large groups of immigrants to the USA whose mother tongue was not English, they are still the largest.

Ruth Reichmann
Indiana surpasses the national average of approximately "one out of four" Americans being of German descent. Our telephone directories in large parts of the state proof the point. There would be many more German names, had it not been for changes in spelling, which made Coleman out of Kohlmann, Koons out of Kunz, and Mood out of Muth. We find entries such as Wagner, Mueller, Schmidt, Meier, Mayer, Meyer, Ritter, Knecht, Bauer, Lieber, Keller, Kramer, and Schneider; and we have villages called Kramer, Keller, and Schneider.

Many other Hoosier place names reveal their German origin. One can "visit" German states, provinces, or cities, without ever leaving the confines of the state. Let's take a quick tour of "Germany in Hoosierland": Blocher, Elberfeld, Ferdinand, Foltz, Haubstadt, Heilman, Herbst, Herr, Heusler, Keller, Kinder, Kurtz, Leopold, Luther, New Otto, and Old Otto, Ober, Otterbein, Plattsburg, Rahm, Raub, St. Meinrad, St. Wendel, Stroh, Voltz (Beardstown)] Weisburg, Weishaars, West Baden, and Wirt. Some towns show spelling changes caused by a perceived need for easier pronunciation, by linguistic misunderstanding between settler groups and postal authorities (Maria Hilf becomes Mariah Hill) and by WWI hysteria which turned Germantown into Pershing--ironically General Pershing's ancestors were called Pfoersching); Leipsic (Leipzig), Millhousen (Mühlhausen), New Harmony (Neu Harmonie), and New Frankfort (Frankfurt), Schererville, Schnellville, Steubenville show a German name with a French suffix, a name formation which is common in our multicultural nation.

In Indiana there is a Germantown located between Shelbyville and Greensburg. We can stop in Hanover, Bremen, Darmstadt, Metz, Munster, Switzerland County, or Vienna. We have two Hamburgs; Westphalia, New Alsace, Oldenburg and Hessen Cassel, all related to old German provinces. Martin Luther whose 500th birthday was celebrated in 1983 is honored by the town of Luther, as is General von Steuben in Steubenville.

If you are fascinated by Indiana Place Names, get Ronald L. Baker's and Marvin Carmony's book with that title. Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann
GERMAN – AMERICAN DAY is October 6

Fill in the blanks from the following pool of words and numbers:

Albert Bierstadt  Carl Schurz  1492
Marlene Dietrich  Heinrich Steinweg  1683
Albert Einstein  Levi Strauss  1848
Walter Gropius  John Sutter  ten
Henry Kissinger  Wernher von Braun  four
Thomas Mann  Friedrich von Steuben  Bern(e)
Thomas Nast  Erich Remarque  Berlin
Daniel Pastorius  St. Patrick's  Vienna
Molly Pitcher  German-American  religious
Johann Roebling  Amish  rock
Karl Postl  Kindergarten  classical
Kurt Vonnegut  Maryland  World Wars
George Westinghouse  Pennsylvania  Concord
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe  Mayflower

1) __________________ Since October 6 ______(1), when the first group of German immigrants came from Krefeld to America, hundreds of thousands of German families have followed them. The 1980 census showed that 51.6 million U.S. citizens claim German ancestry.
2) __________________ The first group of immigrants came with Daniel Pastorius on the ship ______(2) and settled in Germantown in the State of ______(3). As did many other Europeans, thousands of Germans came because of economic hardships, the class system's injustice, the ravages of war, or ______(4) intolerance, to seek a fresh start in the New World. One such group, known as the "plain people," are the ______(5).
3) __________________ The German-Americans began contributing to the economic and political growth of the United States. Some prominent German-Americans include: ______(6), who trained George Washington's troops; ______(7)-who carried pitchers of water to the soldiers during the Revolutionary War; ______(8)-who was a friend of Lincoln and eventually became the Secretary of the Interior; ______(9)-who was a political cartoonist noted for the Republican Elephant and Democrat donkey, and "Santa Claus"; ______(10)-a German-Swiss, who found the first gold in California; ______(11)-who was a landscape painter of western motifs and painted for the White House; ______(12)-an Austrian, alias Charles Sealsfield, who wrote about "The Old West and Indians"; ______(13)-who founded a piano company; ______(14)-who wrote All Quiet on the Western Front; ______(15)-who was known as the "pope of physics"; ______(16)-who was a rocket scientist and instrumental in building the U.S. space program; ______(17)-who was secretary of State under Presidents Nixon and Ford, known as the "Shuttle Diplomat".
Settling by now in every state, the Germans brought special interests and talents with them. They loved ______(18) music and consequently, founded most of the great symphony orchestras and many choral societies in the cities. Interest in education for young children in ______(19) made this schooling another German import. Almost every state has a city named after the German city of ______(20), the Austrian city of ______(21), and fifty-two settlements were named after the Swiss city of ______(22).

Disrupted by two ______(23), close relations once again exist between Germany and the United States.

Since nearly one out of every ______(24) Americans claims some German ancestry, we do not want to overlook the German heritage and the German cultural contributions to all of you who live in the United States today.

______(25) Day celebrates the contributions of immigrants and their descendants from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and other German-speaking areas.

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**INDIANA GERMAN-AMERICA SPECIAL**

**Indiana Word Bank:**

- Athenaeum
- Lieber
- Richard Lieber
- New Harmony
- Vonnegut and Bohn
- Soldiers' and Sailors'
- Spring Mill
- (Turn) Vereine
- (1) 1683;
- (2) Concord;
- (3) Pennsylvania;
- (4) religious;
- (5) Amish;
- (6) Friedrich von Steuben;
- (7) Holly Pitcher;
- (8) Carl Schurz;
- (9) Thomas Nast;
- (10) John Aug. Sutter;
- (11) Albert Bierstadt;
- (12) Karl Postl;
- (13) Heinrich Steinweg;
- (14) Erich Remarque;
- (15) Albert Einstein;
- (16) Wernher von Braun;
- (17) Henry Kissinger;
- (18) classical;
- (19) Kindergarten;
- (20) Berlin;
- (21) Vienna;
- (22) Bern(e);
- (23) World Wars;
- (24) four;
- (25) German-American.

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**Correct Answers:**


1) New Harmony; 2) Athenaeum; 3) Vonnegut and Bohn; 4) (Turn) Vereine; 5) Soldiers' and Sailors'; 6) Richard Lieber; 7) Lieber.
SISTER CITIES NEWS

JASPER GROUP TOURS
ANCESTRAL HOMETOWN
by GREG ECKERLE

The first meeting between long-lost relatives of Jasper, IN, and Pfaffenweiler was exhilarating enough, but it was the entirely unexpected discoveries of relatives that were the talk of the 48-person group that visited Germany for the 25th Anniversary of the towns' Sister Cities connection. Most of the Jasper visitors stayed with a host Pfaffenweiler family. Two days into their stay with Gebhard Ehrath, Jasper siblings Raymie Eckerle, Gene Eckerle and Joan Knies discovered they were relatives of the host. None of them realized it until studying a family tree at Ehrath's house. On an earlier stroll down a random Pfaffenweiler street, that family trio got into a casual conversation with a village woman outside her house. Turns out she, too, was an Eckerle. But the chance connection ran even deeper. Walking along with the Jasper Eckerles were Don and Eileen Scherle, also of Jasper. Upon telling the Pfaffenweiler woman who they were and that Scherle was a descendant of a Pfaffenweiler Scherle who emigrated in 1862 to Jasper, the woman excitedly revealed that the emigrant Scherle house was next door, and she hurried to get a historical framed photo of his original house to show the Jasper group.

Joan Knies, a descendant of John George Eckerle, who left Pfaffenweiler in 1847 for Jasper, admits she didn't pay a lot of attention to the sister City relationship before. "I thought it was nice, but until this trip, I never realized how big a deal this is," she said after attending the first day of the anniversary activities. The walk with her Eckerle brothers down the random Pfaffenweiler Street became even more surreal when she spotted a mailbox with the name "Bernadette Eckerle" on it. Bernadette was the name of the sibling's late mother. And this was the house that John George Eckerle left from in 1847. After spotting the onlookers, Bernadette invited them inside to look at a scrapbook of previous Eckerles that had visited, and for a glass of wine. So even after 25 years, this sister city connection continues to sprout new personal branches. Several Pfaffenweiler families told of plans to visit future Strassenfest festival in Jasper. No doubt more new branches will grow.

From The Herald, Dubois County, IN, 26 June 2010

SISTER CITY TIES RUN DEEP
by RON FLICK

I have enjoyed reading in The Herald updates on the Jasper sister city visit to Pfaffenweiler, Germany. It is wonderful that after all those years of separation; the two communities could establish such a lasting friendship. The ties that have been formed are truly so special. In fact, my family had the pleasure to host one of last year's exchange students, Sara Guenter, who returned for a three-week visit to attend this year's graduation ceremonies and rekindle some friendships she had formed while in Jasper.

There was one bit of information that was mentioned in the June 21 article that I wanted to expand on. The article states: "Some Pfaffenweiler residents settled in Jasper in the 1850s." Although factual, it is, nevertheless an understatement.
Pfaffenweiler immigration to Jasper did begin in the 1840s, but it continued through subsequent decades until the 1880s.

The first Pfaffenweiler residents to settle in Jasper were Johann Baptist Kraus and the Dischinger family, who sailed aboard the sailing ship Herald in 1842. The Dischinger family included Joseph, his wife, Maria Anna Weber, and their six children. Six years previously, Maria Anna's sister, Franciska Weber, had settled in Jasper with the husband, Johann Georg Grammelspacher, of Bolschweill (a neighboring village of Pfaffenweiler). The Grammelspachers were one of the first dozen German families to purchase land in Dubois County in 1836, the first year that German settlers began to acquire land in the County. Five years later, in 1847, 56 more residents from Pfaffenweiler undertook a perilous journey to America aboard the sailing ship Tallahassee, ultimately settling in Jasper. The Pfaffenweiler group made up nearly one-third of the passengers registered on the ship.

On board was Karl Kraus, the brother of Johann Baptist, who had settled in Jasper five years previously. Also on board were members of the Beck, Eckerle, Eckert, Erb, Kiefer, Kraft, Schmidt, Schuble, and Baumann, the sculptor of the Deliverance Cross at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Jasper. The Eckerts made up the largest contingent of passengers, numbering 21 men, women and children. But that was not the end of the trans-Atlantic connection between Pfaffenweiler and Jasper. In the next decades, some 60 to 70 more Pfaffenweiler residents came to Jasper. Additional families represented in this continuing wave of immigration included those with the surnames of Boesch, Brucker, Burger, Daeschle, Gutgsell, Litschgi, Pfister, Salb, Scherle and Schuble. Add the Egg and Mueller families from nearby Kirchhofen and the Moerders from neighboring Unterambringen, and the list of immigrants from Pfaffenweiler and its vicinity swells to nearly 150. Quite a prestigious group!

Happy 25th anniversary to the sister cities partnership!

From *The Herald*, Dubois County, IN, 26 June 2010

**WAGSHURST AND CELESTINE**

The town of Wagshurst sent an invitation to Father John Boeglin and their friends in Celestine and Dubois County to help them commemorate the town's 875th birthday.

Wagshurst was first mentioned by Pope Innocent in a papal bull on October 28, 1136 and they celebrated the anniversary July 16 and 17. The festivities were much like that of the Schneckenfest in Pfaffenweiler with entertainment, many culinary delights and two parades.

The immigration of over 500 town residents to the USA, many to the Dubois County area, and especially Celestine, was remembered at that time. Father John Boeglin arranged exchanges and celebrations between Wagshurst and Celestine in 1993 and 1999 involving the former POW and sculptor of Wagshurst, Herbert Jogerst, who had returned after the war and sculpted among others the St. Benedict, Our Lady with Child and St. Scholastika at the St. Meinrad Archabbey Church. The huge statue of Christ on the Ohio is also by Jogerst.

**INDIANAPOLIS AND COLOGNE**

Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard has forms a group with representatives from his city’s seven Sister City organizations to plan a Celebration of their Sister City ties on September 28th.
A few weeks ago the Pfaffenweiler church choir visited Cologne including a stop at the second St. Columba Church to hold a mass there. There is an interesting relationship between two of our state's sister city partnerships: Jasper - Pfaffenweiler and Indianapolis - Cologne. These two German cities are home to the only St. Columba churches in all of Germany.

**GERA AND FORT WAYNE**

The Gera Sister Cities committee of Fort Wayne reported that they received an award for innovation in Arts and Culture from Sister Cities International. The award is displayed at Citizens Square. 13 students were traveling to Gera with Knies Kallmeyer from June 17 to July 7.

**IGHS GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY ESSAY CONTEST**

1st prize: $200, 2nd prize: $100, 3rd prize: $50 plus several prizes for runner-ups

*German-American Sporting Legends: Then and Now* is the topic for this year’s *IGHS German-American Day Essay Contest*. Physical education has always been a mainstay of German-American culture from the 19th century on. The Turners introduced physical education to the classroom and to the general public, and the 20th century saw a steady rise of German-American sporting legends. So on the occasion of German-American Day, the Indiana German Heritage Society is sponsoring an essay contest for Indiana high school students. Participants do not have to be currently enrolled in a German class in order to be eligible. However, they should be able to write a brief biographical statement in German.

Entrants should research specific persons who have had a significant impact on the world of sports and write an original essay of 750-1000 words (in English) and submit it along with a PowerPoint presentation including pictures and other images (in English). Factual evidence and personal analysis should be included equally. Applications also need to include a one page biography of the student’s background (in German), highlighting any experiences with German language and culture which have influenced their personal life and educational career, or their own German-American heritage. Winners will be asked to present or showcase their work in Indianapolis at an IGHS Stammtisch in the spring.

The *deadline for submissions is October 6, 2011*. Submit entries and questions to Dr. Claudia Grossmann, IUPUI German Program, cgrossma@iupui.edu, or call 317.274.3943.

**GERMAN FOR CHILDREN FALL CLASSES**

The Indianapolis German School starts its fall semester on September 24 in the Taurel Building at the International School of Indiana, 4330 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. Classes run from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturdays until December 10, 2011. (There are no classes Oct 15 or Nov. 26).

Classes are divided into four groups: Spielgruppe (3 - 4 year olds), Kindergarten (Pre-K & K), Grundschule (Beginners & Intermediate, 1st-3rd grade) and Mittelschule (Intermediate & Advanced, 3rd-6th grade). Fees for the classes are: One Child $130; Two Children: $230; Three Children: $300.

For additional information and to register please contact: Dr. Claudia Grossmann, IUPUI Dept. of World Languages and Cultures, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202, 317.274.3943 or cgrossma@iupui.edu. Deadline for registration is September 19, 2011.
IN MEMORIAM

We lost two great friends recently, Dr. Carl B. Sputh of Indianapolis and Gaby Botts of Goshen.

**Carl Brosius Sputh**, MD was born June 28, 1916 in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. He died July 6, 2011 in Community North Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana. His parents were Dr. Carl Brosius Sputh, Sr. and Elsa Ulrich Sputh. His father was a Professor of Physical Education and the school physician in the Lacrosse, Normal College. The Sputh family moved to Indianapolis in January 1917. Dr. Sputh was married to Ruth Agnes Means, a graduate nurse from City Hospital. They had five wonderful children: Dr. Fred (Ann), Captain Ted (Chris), Ed (Joan), Dennis (Penny), Sara (Rick).

Dr. Sputh held a degree in Ear, Nose, and Throat from the IU Medical School and entered practice with his father. He served on the staffs of all of the Indianapolis Hospitals. In 1964 he limited himself to Community Hospital where he received the Distinguished Physician Award. He received numerous Medical awards for his service to the medical community. Dr. Sputh was the President of the Sozialer Turnverein Aktiengesellschaft, established in 1868, who held the ownership to the Athenaeum. Together with Dr. Hugh Enyart, President of the Athenaeum Turners, and Rick Hofstetter of IGHS, he was instrumental in saving the Athenaeum building, establishing the Athenaeum Foundation and served as its first Chairman. In 2009, Dr. Sputh received the Spirit of Philanthropy Award from the School of Physical Education, Indiana University. He was awarded the distinguished *Hoosier German-American of the year* award in 2009. During his later years, he lived a healthy active life at beautiful Marquette on Township Line Road in Indianapolis. He is affectionately known to his ten loving grand and eight great grandchildren as their "Grosspapa". He was preceded to heaven by his beloved wife Ruth and his precious sister Charlotte.

Memorials to honor his life may be given to the IUPUI Sputh Scholarship Fund (IU Foundation, Attn: Sputh Scholarship Fund, 901 West New York Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202) or the Athenaeum Foundation, (401 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205). You are invited to visit the website [www.arncremation.com](http://www.arncremation.com) where you may share a personal memory of Carl or send a condolence to the family.

**Gaby Botts**, the longtime leader of the Sister City relationship between Goshen and Bexbach, Germany, died after a battle with cancer. She was 83.

Botts was the leader and by many accounts, the soul and backbone of Goshen's Sister City Committee. The Sister City relationship between Goshen and Bexbach, Germany, has existed for 32 years. The last visit was in September 2009, when 12 residents of Bexbach visited Goshen for the program's 30th anniversary. Botts was honored at that time for her 21 years of leadership of the Goshen committee. Goshen Mayor Allan Kauffman has known Gaby and the Botts family since he was in elementary school with her daughter. And the relationship continued when he got involved in city government, which included participation in the Sister City program. "She was the Sister City program," Kauffman said. "When anyone thinks of the Sister City program, they think about Gaby Botts. There are other great talents here, but Gaby was the backbone of that for more than 25 years." Kauffman said while Botts had stepped down from her leadership role in the program, she by no means stepped away. "She was still there, supporting everything. She was great for the Sister
now full-time Executive Director, and may be reached at (317) 652-1954. Many other programs involving Vonnegut experts are continuing. We are also working with Shortridge High School, Kurt's alma mater, to restart their newspaper.

**Atterbury POW Returns**

For many years now, the Italian-American Heritage Society together with Camp Atterbury staff, have been holding in August a Catholic Mass and picnic at the Chapel in the Meadow. Every now and then a former POW, Italian or German will come to the service. Last year it had been Heinrich Stienkemeier who spoke with Col. Todd Townsend of Camp Atterbury.

From 1944-46 Heinrich Stienkemeier was a German POW at Camp Atterbury near Edinburgh for two years and two months. At the age of 17 Stienkemeier first served in the German army in Poland. He then was sent as a communications expert and observer to a bunker overlooking the beach at Normandy. While British paratroopers landed behind the line of bunkers, the Canadian army came ashore. The Germans were surrounded and Stienkemeier and other German soldiers were captured. At first they were sent to England, then on to Scotland. It was from Scotland that the POWs were sent to the US aboard the luxurious Queen Mary. From Boston the soldiers traveled by train directly to Camp Atterbury in southern Indiana. Stienkemeier, now 85 years old, lives with his family in Bad Oeynhausen, directly next to Löhne, the sister city of Columbus. In the middle of August he returned for a short visit to Columbus and Camp Atterbury. Colonel Todd Townsend, camp commander of Camp Atterbury graciously received and welcomed Stienkemeier on his visit.

Speaking in broken English Stienkemeier shared numerous stories of his days at the camp. As a POW he worked in the camp laundry, picked tomatoes for local farmers, and worked at a canning factory in Columbus. He told how the POWs each had daily quotas of 20 bushel baskets of tomatoes. This was easily accomplished at first, but as the picking season drew to an end, it was more difficult to reach their quota, so they would sometimes pick and place a watermelon in the bottom of the basket and cover it up with the tomatoes. This did not go over well with the employees at the canning factory, but they did not know whom to blame. One of the POWs was a baker by trade and he worked in the camp bakery. In preparation for Christmas, he routinely smuggled out of the kitchen the ingredients necessary for their celebration. For Christmas the German POWs had 60 freshly baked cakes. When Col. Townsend asked how the POWs were treated, he mentioned that the rules for them were stricter than in the German Army, but their treatment was excellent, the food was good, well prepared and plentiful, chores were assigned fairly, and they were safe being far removed from the war and he got a free trip to America aboard the Queen Mary. Although the only building remaining from the original ones is the chapel built by the Italian POWs before the Germans arrived, Stienkemeier became animated and reminisced when he saw an aerial view of the original camp. “It was my absolute pleasure to meet with Mr. Stienkemeier,” writes Col. Townsend. What an honor to meet and speak with part of Camp Atterbury's living history.”

**German Thanksgiving Festivals**

Since the Reformation the "Michaelistag" on September 29 has been considered in Germany the end of the harvest season, and Erntedankfest with a special church service is celebrated on the first Sunday of October. Beautiful displays, typically of colorful fruit and vegetables as well as grains and breads, are set up before the altar as symbols of gratitude to God. Afterwards all the produce may be donated to the needy. Especially in rural areas, the
end of the harvest is cause for lively celebrations. The U.S. Thanksgiving, although originally a harvest thanksgiving festival, is now celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. It is a national holiday and coincides with the opening of the winter holiday season. It commemorates the Pilgrim's Thanksgiving to the Almighty for a plentiful harvest and is a celebration of brotherhood, where different kinds of people were breaking bread together.

Harvest celebrations were held in the Old World long before the days of our pilgrim forefathers. Erntefests are thanksgiving celebrations for the harvest of locally grown produce, ranging from grapes to grain. They are great community affairs and many have their origin in pagan rituals. They are traditionally celebrated in early October, on the Sunday after the full moon that occurs nearest to the autumnal equinox. In America that moon is known as "Harvest Moon. Through the centuries, villages all over Germany have marked the end of this period of backbreaking work with mirthful festivals that include dances, parades, games, banquets and pageants. They vary from region to region--also by name--depending on the time and type of harvest. In the wine growing areas the Winzer Fest is celebrated with cider, new and old wine, food, and dancing, when the last grapes have been picked. In the Alpine regions grain is brought into barns on big wagons, pulled by decorated oxen. On top of the wagons may be sheaves of grain, bound in the form of a figure, animal or human. The last sheaves were left on the fields so that the next harvest may be plentiful and for animals to glean. In some places these traditions still survive even though modern machinery has hastened the process of bringing in the crops. A harvest is reason to celebrate in (rainproof) festival tents, with music and dancing, food and drink and merrymaking.

In Germany the Erntedanktag (literally Harvest-Thanksgiving-Day) is an official holiday. Harvest Festival (Erntefests) are celebrated in churches and market places, in homes and dance halls. While the German-speaking countries also observe the principle of separation of church and state politically, public displays of religious holiday traditions are a part of the local culture, and are as accepted as they are expected and enjoyed by the whole community.

Ruth Reichmann

AUF DEUTSCH

One of the oldest German Christmas hymns is in dulci jubilo, German carol / Medieval Latin, 14th century, known in this country as "Good Christian friends, rejoice."

NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE

Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
poor in a manger lies;
not so brightly beameth
the sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art!
Thou my Savior art!

Come from on high to me;
I can not rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy Child;
thro' thy grace and merit,
blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
draw me unto Thee!
Draw me unto Thee!
IN DULCI JUBILO

In dulci jubilo,
nun singet und seid froh!
Unsres Herzens Wonne
leit in praesebio und
leuchtet als die Sonne
matris in gremio.
Alpha es et O;
Alpha es et O.

O Jesus parvule,
nach Dir ist mir so weh.
Tröst mir mein Gemüte,
O puer optime
durch alle Deine Güte,
O princeps gloriae.
Trahe me post te;
Trahe me post te.
Ubi sunt gaudia?
Nirgends mehr denn da,
da die Engel singen
nova cantia
und die Schellen klingen.
In regis curia
eia, wär'n wir da;
eia, wär'n wir da.

From heaven above to earth I come,
Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546).
tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Music Vom Himmel hoch, melody from Geistliche lieder auffs new gebessert und gemehrt, 1539

FROM HEAVEN ABOVE TO EARTH I COME

From Heav'n above to earth I come
to bear good news to ev'ry home;
glad tidings of great joy I bring,
whereof I now will say and sing.

To you this night is born a child
of Mary chosen virgin mild;
this little child of lowly birth,
shall be the joy of all the earth.

This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
who in all need shall aid afford;
he will himself your savior be
from all your sins to set you free.

VOM HIMMEL, HOCH, DA KOMM ICH HER

Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her,
bring euch gute neue Mär,
der guten Mär bring ich so viel,
davon ich sing'n und sagen will.

Euch ist ein Kindlein heut geborn,
von einer Jungfrau auserkorn,
ein Kindelein so zart und fein,
das soll eur Freud und Wonne sein.

Er ist der Herr Christ, unser Gott,
der will euch führen aus aller Not,
er will eur Heiland selber sein,
von allen Sünden machen rein.

Er bringt euch alle Seligkeit,
die Gott der Vater hat bereit,
dass ihr mit Ihm im Himmelreich
sollt ewig leben allzugleich.

THE MYTH OF THE
CHRISTMAS PICKLE
BY KARIN P. GOTTIER

It is about 15-20 years now that we read in various
gift catalogs, and lately even in women's magazines,
that in Germany it is customary to hide a pickle-
shaped glass ornament somewhere on the Christmas
tree. The person who discovers it receives an extra
gift.
It is a charming story, but growing up in Germany and being interested in folklore and customs from childhood on, I had never heard of it. We had no Pickle on our tree. There were glass balls, chocolate and fondant figures, wax-angels and tinsel, but no pickle. Neither did our neighbors nor my classmates.

When I read this story for the first time, I began to take an informal survey. First, I asked German-born members of the local German clubs and then inquired among German clubs in Florida, Massachusetts, Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Wisconsin. No one had heard of it. Next I wrote to my former class mates and asked them to inquire among their friends and relatives—again nothing. So I expanded to members of folklore groups in Germany. No one knew of this custom.

The next group I questioned were some museum curators and people professionally involved with folklore in Germany; none had heard of it but several made suggestions: "That it might be a custom brought back to Germany with ethnic Germans after the war". "That it might have been a personal custom practiced within an individual family", "That it might be a custom among the Wends of Lower Lusasia in the Spree Forest where growing pickles is a major industry." I followed these clues and neither the Transylvanian-Saxons, the Danube-Swabians, the Silesians nor the East-Prussians knew of this custom. Then I asked Sabine Sie, the director of the Endowment for the Sorbish People she laughed and said 'we eat our pickles, we don't hang them on the Christmas tree'.

Finally I wrote a letter to a company in Lauscha, state of Thuringen, which produces glass ornaments. They never heard of the custom and said that pickles are not very popular in Germany but that they do export large quantities of pickle-shaped ornaments to the US! One of our German national characteristics is the tendency to copy anything that is 'American', from language, clothing, music, dance and most recently 'Halloween'. It would not be surprising if, although this custom was not known in Germany, it had been created in the US, imported to Germany and now copied there.

If you have a definite source, please help me by letting me know. Meanwhile Fröhlich Weihnachten and happy pickle hunting

Karin-gottier@webtv.net

From: The German Folk Dancer, Volume 15, Issue 4 Dec. 2010

INDIANA CHAPTER OF PALATINES TO AMERICAN FALL WORKSHOP

The Indiana Chapter of Palatines to America, the German Genealogy Society presents Prof. Marianne Wokeck, on November 5 at their fall workshop. The workshop will meet in the MCL Cafeteria South Banquet Room, 3630 S. East Street in Indianapolis.

Dr. Marianne Wokeck will offer presentations on a number of subjects:

- "The Effects of War on Migration and Settlement in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Rhine Lands"
- "Relocation from the Rhine Lands to the American Colonies and Young United States"
- "What was in it for Women? The Role of Female Immigrants before and after the American Revolution"
BOOKS OF INTEREST

MASTER THESIS ON SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIPS

Mary Leah Christmas, a graduate student at Wilmington University, Dover, Delaware used the Jasper-Pfaffenweiler relationship as one of three case studies for her research. She examined Jasper as well as communities in Illinois and Missouri for her master thesis. Christmas, who pursues a Master of Science in Management with a concentration in Public Administration, wanted to find out what makes an international sister cities program successful on the business, economic, and cultural level. She was curious to learn how those strengths could be of similar benefit to any other U.S. municipality that might consider initiating a sister cities program. The title of her thesis is: Envisioning a Twin: An Exploration of How Hannibal, Missouri, Could benefit from Forming a Sister City Relationship.

Copies of her thesis can be found at the Max Kade German-American Center and the IUPUI Library, Indianapolis, the Jasper Public Library, and the Dubois County Museum.

OPERATION VITTLES REPUBLISHED!


This slim volume was originally produced by the American Women in Blockaded Berlin during the Berlin Airlift of 1949. At the end of World War II, Germany was divided and occupied by the four Allied powers. The capital of Berlin was also divided, even though it sat, like an island in the center of the Soviet zone. When the Soviets cut off all access to the city in an attempt to starve out the other allies, the US mounted an airlift which flew all of the supplies needed to keep a city of over a million people alive for over eighteen months. During the airlift, some 300,000 flights landed in Berlin. 31 Americans lost their lives in this effort, including four Hoosiers.

NCSA Literatur in cooperation with the Indiana German Heritage Society has republished this delightful collection of period recipes and insights into what life was like for Americanwives in the war ravaged city shortly after the war. This new edition features a new forward written by Col. (Ret.) Jorg Stachel, the former commandant of Camp Atterbury and a 10 year-old boy living in Berlin at the time of the airlift.

This title and IGHS’s other new cookbook, German Cooking Hoosier Style are available at Café Heidelberg and the Indiana Historical Society Bookstore in Indianapolis, Viewpoints Bookstore in Columbus and selected other bookstores around the state. All of the IGHS publications are available for purchase online at http://ighs.org/.

Join us at the St. Nikolaus Festival on December 4, 2011!
INDIANA GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE CALENDAR

STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS

Wednesday, October 12, 2011: Board Meeting, no Stammtisch, no Program. All Members are encouraged to participate in the German-American Day events during GermanFest, held on October 8 at the Athenaeum.

Wednesday, November 9, 2011: Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program: German influences on the Decorative Arts with Harold F. Mailand. Mr. Mailand holds a Master of Arts for Teachers in textiles, education, and art history from Indiana University. His special interests are historic architecture, preservation, charting German motifs in the decorative arts, and understanding the occurrences that happened in the year 1837. Aside from the more familiar decorative motifs our country has inherited from England and France, Germany has contributed greatly to the design vocabulary in many media: furniture, pottery, textiles, and objects of romance and whimsy. This illustrated presentation will include images of such objects, tie in a little familial history, and introduce some of the changes that occurred in the year 1837.

Harold Mailand’s training in textile conservation includes internships at Smithsonian Institution; Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Mr. Mailand was Associate Textile Conservator for the Indianapolis Museum of Art, and in 1986 he founded Textile Conservation Services, a textile conservation facility in Indianapolis. He is a Fellow in the American Institute for Conservation (AIC). His most recent publication is entitled, Preserving Textiles: a guide for the non-specialist. He has lectured on preservation issues in England, Italy, Germany (in German), Canada, and throughout the United States. In 2002, Mr. Mailand was selected as a Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellow to pursue research in the traditions of preserving textiles and costumes. Since 2002 he has also been the instructor for "Care of Textiles" at the Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies. In 2011 he was awarded an Arts Council of Indianapolis Creative Renewal Arts Fellowship.

Wednesday, December 14, 2011: Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program: Glass and Wax Christmas tree Ornaments with Jim Gould and Linda Frank. Both of these presenters are well known to Athenaeum Christmas Market-goers. They have displayed and sold their beautiful ware for many years. Jim Gould will talk about the rich 200+ year history of German glass Christmas tree ornaments, about their invention and early production, originating from the small Thuringian village of Lauscha. He will illustrate a sampling of the many different genres and styles from samples in his vast collection. Jim Gould is our IGHS Secretary and Athenaeum Facility, Outreach and Community Events Manager.

Linda Frank has created a select collection of fine handcrafted reproductions from original German ornaments with paints used by the old masters since 1694. Each wax piece is an original work of art and makes a distinctive addition to any collection of ornaments. Each ornament is carefully hand painted in exquisite detail to recreate the special "old world" charm of the Christmas tradition. Wax ornamentation is a beautiful centuries-old craft rich in the German tradition. German wax ornaments were originally produced by pouring beeswax into intricately carved fruitwood Lebkuchen cookie boards. The cookie boards, which could be hundreds of years old, often depicted traditional symbols of the culture including religion (nativity. scenes, angels, and saints), love (hearts and wreaths), nobility, folklore, or items of commerce. As the Christmas tradition evolved, ornaments were created to depict the symbols of Christmas. These symbols were personified in the figure of Father Christmas, Weinachtsmann, or St. Nicholas of Europe and Kriss Kringle or Santa Claus of America.
January 2012 no Board, no Stammtisch or Program

As always, the programs are held at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis. They are in English--free of charge and open to the public. An optional dinner with conversation is available at 6:30 p.m. with the program starting at 7:30 p.m. For questions contact Claudia Grossmann at the Max Kade Center 317-274-2330, cgrossma@iupui.edu.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Monday, Sept. 28, 2011. 5 to 7 p.m.: Join Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard on the Indianapolis City Market West Plaza at the inaugural Indianapolis Sister Cities September Celebration event. This event is intended to celebrates the city’s seven sister city relationships, including the long standing relationship with Cologne.

Saturday, October 1, 2011. 5 to 9 p.m.: The 3rd Taste of Germany kicks off at the Firefighters Union Hall, 748 Massachusetts Avenue in Indianapolis. Tickets are $40 per person or $75 a couple which allows you to sample authentic German beers and food, and enjoy the music of Monika Herzog and her trio. For tickets and more information, visit http://taste-of-germany.org/. (See related story on Page 1)

Saturday, October 8, 2011. 12:00-6 p.m.: Come celebrate German-American Day at GermanFest 2011 with proclamations from the Mayor and the Governor's office, the announcement of this year's IGHS Hoosier German-American of the Year, and lots of fun, food, music and Gemütlichkeit! Join us for this fun and important day! For more information contact Jim Gould at 317.655.2755, ext. 1, or jimgould@athenaeumfoundation.com. (See related story on Page 1).

Saturday, October 8, 2011. 12:00-6 p.m.: Come see, hear and experience the 3rd Original and Fabulous GermanFest, an indoor/outdoor family festival celebrating all things German at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan Street, in Indianapolis. There will be Wiener Dog Races, a 5k Lederhosen Lauf, a Bavarian Stone Lifting Contest, Food, Drink, Music, Kids Activities and much, much more! For more information contact Jim Gould at 317.655.2755, ext. 1, or jimgould@athenaeumfoundation.com. (See related story on Page 1).


Saturday, November 5, 2011: An all-day workshop sponsored by the Indiana Palatines & German Genealogy Society with presentations by Prof. Marianne Wokeck at MCL Cafeteria South Banquet Room, 3630 S. East Street, Indianapolis, IN. Info: James R. Feit 317.875.7210 or jafeit@aol.com. (See related story on Page 14)

Saturday, November 12, 2011, 5-7 p.m.: St. Martin Children's Lantern Parade at the Athenaeum. Cost is $7.00 for a single or $15.00 for a family. Help us support Collecting coats for kids! For more information contact Jim Gould at 317.655.2755, ext. 1, or jimgould@athenaeumfoundation.com.


Thursday, November 17 through Sunday, November 20, 2011: Experience the sights, sounds, smells and food of the 2011 Indianapolis International Festival in the West Pavilion of the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Info: at http://nationalitiescouncil.org. Public hours for the festival are Friday 2 p.m. – 9 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.; and Sunday Noon – 6 p.m.
Sunday, November 27, 2011. 3 p.m.: **German Advent Service** at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ, Indianapolis, at North and New Jersey Streets. For more information, call 317.257.0493 or 317.639.5411.

Friday, December 2 through Sunday December 4, 2011: Enjoy Old World Holiday shopping at the *Christkindl Market* and *St. Nikolaus Fest*; Friday and Saturday from 6-9p.m., and Sunday from 1-5p.m. For more information contact Jim Gould at 317.655.2755, ext. 1, or jimgould@athenaeumfoundation.com.

Saturday, December 3, 2011. 9:30-noon: The 3rd annual St. Nikolaus Lauf/5K Run at the Athenaeum, 401 East Michigan Street in Indianapolis. To register visit [https://secure.getmeregistered.com](https://secure.getmeregistered.com) or contact Brian Griesemer 317.276.2775 or Griesemer_Brian_Patrick@Lilly.com for more information.

Sunday, December 4, 2011. 1-5 p.m. **The 24th Annual St. Nikolaus Fest at the Athenaeum**. This inter-generational Sankt Nikolaus Fest celebrates the arrival of Sankt Nikolaus, with Gingerbread House Making, a Puppet Show, the lighting of the candles on a Christmas tree in this historic building, and then Sankt Nikolaus arrives! Admission is $7.00 for adults, Children are $5.00. Sankt Nikolaus court fills up rapidly, so reservations are must! For more information or to register your child, contact Jim Gould at 317.655.2755, ext. 1, or jimgould@athenaeumfoundation.com.


### 2011 Festivals Around the State

**Tuesday, October 18, 2011.** 1-2:30 pm.: **The Story of the White Rose Revolution.** In a time when grass root and student uprisings are cropping up all over the world, it is good to remember the lessons and costs of earlier resistance movements. The White Rose started with a circle of friends who were all students at the University of Munich when Hitler came to power. What they learned in their lectures conflicted with the realities that they saw around them. When most Germans were cowering from the wrath of the Nazis, the members of the White Rose were writing “Down with Hitler!” and “Freedom!” on the walls of the University. Their resistance became a bright spot in a time of a living hell. These young people paid the ultimate price for their beliefs at the time. Today the martyrs of the White Rose are remembered proudly as heroes of the German Nation. Your instructor offers an overview of the people and events associated with the White Rose. Presenter: Steven Schmidt, director, University Library of Columbus. This class meets in the Mill Race Center in Columbus, IN. Fee: $10. To register, contact the P.I.E. Office, 4444 Kelley Street, Columbus, IN 47203. Telephone 812.374.5244.

**Friday, Oct. 21, 2011,** 1-2:30 pm.: **German Cooking – Hoosier Style!** Not all Germans wear lederhosen and dine exclusively on wurst, sauerkraut, and dumplings. Modern Germans and their modern Hoosier descendants have also embraced new foods from other cultures, as well. New German immigrants adapted recipes and customs to the locally available foods and spices and picked up outside influences from other cultures that they rubbed shoulders with. This class offers an informative and tasty overview of modern German cooking in the Hoosier state. Instructors: Carrie Schmidt, independent chef; Steven Schmidt, director, University Library of Columbus. This class meets in the Mill Race Center in Columbus, IN. Fee: $10. To register, contact the P.I.E. Office, 4444 Kelley Street, Columbus, IN 47203. Telephone 812.374.5244.
The Indiana German Heritage Society

Please enter / renew my membership:

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

- I wish to make an additional, tax deductible gift to IGHS of $ ________
  - General Operations
  - Marie Schoch Endowment Fund
  - Publications

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

Please make checks payable to: **Indiana German Heritage Society**
Send your membership form and payment to:

**Indiana German Heritage Society**
**Membership Chair**
**401 East Michigan Street**
**Indianapolis, IN 46204**

My specific interests in German-Americana are:

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

Knowledge of German:
- None
- Some
- Fluent

Knowledge of German Script:
- None
- Some
- Good

- Yes, I am willing to help with activities!

Name(s): ________________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________________________________
State: ______________________ Zip code+4: ______________________
Telephone (Home): ______________________ (Work): ______________________
Email: ________________________________________________________________
Germany in the Spotlight at the Indiana State Fair!
Highlights on Page 4

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