LETTER FROM
THE IGHS PRESIDENT

Willkommen 2015 –

As we enter our 31st year, the IGHS will continue to carry on its mission of perpetuating German culture throughout the state of Indiana by being involved in local Indiana festivals, hosting a full line-up of interesting and diverse monthly programs at the Athenaeum (see ighs.org), preparing the organization for the state’s bicentennial celebration which starts at the end of 2015 and extends throughout 2016, awarding scholarships to candidates interested in the Youth for Understanding (YFU), German American Partnership Program (GAPP), or the Indiana University Honors Program in Krefeld (IUHP) overseas programs, and holding our first annual meeting out-of-state in nearby Cincinnati on March 20th and 21st. We are extremely excited about our annual symposium topic: Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley: Path for German Immigration to Indiana.

While embarking on the aforementioned endeavors, the organization will continue its progress on the Wyneken house restoration project in Fort Wayne, work on successfully obtaining the Athenaeum’s historical landmark designation and continue its involvement in the Indiana International Festival and the Sankt Nikolaus celebration.

As the organization continues to strategically add new board members when necessary, we have been successful and fortunate in retaining a large diverse core of our dedicated and talented board members which has allowed the organization to focus on its mission while directing its attention to membership growth, greater financial soundness, (Continued on page 2)

ON THE PATH OF
GERMAN IMMIGRATION TO INDIANA

Join us in Cincinnati on Friday March 20 and Saturday, March 21 for the 31st Indiana German Heritage Society Annual meeting and symposium. Why is IGHS meeting in Ohio? This year’s topic is Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley: Path for German Immigration to Indiana. This year’s annual meeting and symposium is presented in cooperation with IGHS, the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center and hosted in Cincinnati by the German-American Citizens League of Cincinnati.

On Friday evening join us in the legendary Munich Room in the Mecklenburg Gardens for the annual membership meeting, followed by dinner. After dinner Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, the president of the German-American Citizens League & curator of the German Heritage Museum will present a program on Cincinnati's historic German district and environs.

We reconvene on Saturday morning at the nearby Hampton Inn. Fueled by coffee and light refreshments, the day kicks off with welcoming remarks by IGHS president Brian Griesemer and Dr. Tolzmann on the behalf of the German-American Citizens League.

The morning’s programs include presentations on the North-Cincinnati Turnverein in the First World War by Dan Woellert; Entrepreneurial Networks in the 19th-Century Midwest – the German-American Experience by Dr. Giles Hoyt; and the Over-the-Rhine Brewery District by Steven Hampton, the executive director of the Brewery District Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation.

Lunch is on your own, but we invite everyone to join us at Wienerwurst Mike’s in the Christian Moerlein

(Continued on page 3)
Dear Friends, Loyal Supporters:

It is time to renew for 2015. The IGHS membership year runs concurrent with the calendar year. If you are uncertain of your status check your newsletter label or call Eleonore Harle at 317-888-8555. Please use the renewal form in this newsletter.

If you have not yet renewed for 2015 we will assume that you are no longer interested in receiving our newsletter and e-mail notices of events and we will take you off our mailing lists.

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

The Membership Committee

SUPPORT THE IGHS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Marie Schoch Endowment Fund was established for the benefit of "qualified persons wishing to gain and distribute knowledge with respect to the cultural, historic and linguistic contributions of the German American community." German language study at secondary or university level may be included.

The Daniel Nuetzel Memorial Scholarship is offered once a year, to an undergraduate or graduate student in support of a part-time, semester-long internship, at a German-American institution. It was established to honor the late Daniel Nuetzel. For more information contact Dr. Claudia Grossmann at 317-274-3943 or cgrossma@iupui.edu.

The donations are tax-exempt. Checks may be sent to the Indiana German Heritage Society, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. Please include a note stating that the contribution is intended for the Marie Schoch Endowment Fund or the Daniel Nuetzel Memorial Scholarship Fund.
Brewing Co. Taproom for lunch and some Gemütlichkeit!

Following lunch everyone gathers for an informal Kaffee reception at the German Heritage Museum, where you are encouraged to explore the museum.

For anyone who wishes to stay over in Cincinnati on Saturday night, we invite you to join us for dinner and an evening’s entertainment at the Hofbräuhaus in Newport, KY just across the river.

The Friday evening dinner, held after the membership meeting, is $25.00 per person ($30.00 if you register after March 14).

Registration for the Saturday symposium is just $10.00 per person ($15.00 after March 14). For students, with school ID, registration is just $5.00 per person. Lunch is on your own.

See the registration form and directions on page 4.

See You in Cincinnati!

CINCINNATI’S GERMAN HERITAGE
By Don Heinrich Tolzmann

A history of Cincinnati would be inconceivable without consideration of the population of German descent, as it has played such an important role in the social, economic, cultural and political development of the city. Already in the early 19th century, the city became one of the major centers of German immigration, forming the famed German Triangle along with St. Louis and Milwaukee. At that time, immigrants settled north of the Miami-Erie Canal in the area that Cincinnatians dubbed Over-the-Rhine. Although the last great wave was likely that of the Donauschwaben in the 1950s, Germans continue to come to the city. Today, almost half of the population in the Greater Cincinnati area claims German ancestry.

A countless number of sites reflecting Cincinnati’s German heritage can be found, such as the Tyler-Davidson Fountain, which was produced in Cincinnati’s sister city of Munich. Culture and language instruction is provided by area schools, which maintain exchange programs with counterparts in Germany. The heritage is also maintained by the many German church services, radio and television programs, and annual festivals.

GERMAN-AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE (GACL) AND THE GERMAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

In 1995, the German-American Citizens League was approached with an offer of an 1840 log homestead. They accepted and turned the house into a museum preserving the house and allowing them to create the German Heritage Museum serving as a focal point for presenting and displaying German-American culture in the Cincinnati area. This museum is the first of its kind in the region and a testament to the many contributions German immigrants and their descendants have made in the growth of the Ohio Valley and America. The museum focuses especially on representing the history of German-Americans in the Greater Cincinnati area, which became and remains one of the major German-American centers in the United States. In addition, displays showcase the activities of the organizations currently under the umbrella of the German-American Citizens’ League of Greater Cincinnati.

WELCOME TO THE HOFBRÄUHAUS

Welcome to the first authentic Hofbräuhaus in America, modeled after the 400 year-old Hofbräuhaus in Munich, Germany. Guests enjoy many of the traditions from Germany that have made the original Hofbräuhaus famous, from the traditionally decorated room to the beer brewed on-site, and of course the excellent German fare. Learn all about the Hofbräuhaus in America at www.hofbrauhausnewport.com.
Indiana German Heritage Society
31st ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM

20th & 21st March 2015
Cincinnati, Ohio

Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley:
Path for German Immigration to Indiana

Presented in cooperation with the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center
And hosted by the German-American Citizens League of Cincinnati

Friday, March 20th

5-6 p.m.  Annual Membership Meeting: Munich Room, Mecklenburg Gardens

6-7:30 p.m.  Dinner: Mecklenburg Gardens

7:30-8:30 p.m.  After-Dinner Program: Munich Room, Mecklenburg Gardens
"Over-the-Rhine: Cincinnati's Historic German District & Environs"
Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, President, German-American Citizens League
& Curator, German Heritage Museum

Saturday, March 21st

8:30-9:00am  Registration: Meeting Room, Hampton Inn. Coffee and refreshments

9:00 a.m.  Welcome: Meeting Room, Hampton Inn. Brian Griesemer, President IGHS
Greetings: Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, President, German-American Citizens League
& Curator, German Heritage Museum

9:15 a.m.  "Cincinnati’s North Turners and Anti-German sentiment during WWI"
Dann Woellert, author and historian

10:00 a.m.  “Entrepreneurial Networks: 19th-Century Midwestern US German-American Experience”
Dr. Giles R. Hoyt, Professor emeritus of German, Director emeritus, IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center

10:45  Coffee break

11:00 a.m.  "The Over-the-Rhine Brewery District"
Steven Hampton, Executive Director of the Brewery District Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation
12:00 noon  Lunch: *Wienerwurst Mike’s*, Christian Moerlein Brewing Company Taproom, Over-the-Rhine, 1621 Moore St.

2:30 p.m.  German Heritage Museum, 4764 *West Fork Road Cincinnati* - Empfang mit Kaffee/Reception-Coffee

Dinner & evening:  For those who wish to stay over in Cincinnati, we will have dinner and enjoy the entertainment at the *Hofbräuhaus* in Newport, KY just across the river from Cincinnati at 200 East 3rd St.

**Directions:**
For directions, search *Google Maps* or *Mapquest.com* for: Hampton Inn & Suites Cincinnati/Uptown-University Area, 3024 Vine St., Cincinnati. Mecklenburg Gardens is a short distance from the Hampton Inn.

**Lodging:**
A block of rooms have been reserved at:  Hampton Inn & Suites Cincinnati/Uptown-University Area 3024 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45219, USA TEL: 513.281.2700; FAX: 513.281.0700

Call and make your Hotel Reservations before March 10th!

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**REGISTRATION**

*Friday Evening Dinner*

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City/State/Zip:  ____________________________________________________

Email:  ____________________________________________________

Phone:  ____________________________________________________

Please make check payable to *Indiana German Heritage Society*
and mail to:

IGHS Annual Meeting
401 E. Michigan Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204.

For information, contact Giles R. Hoyt, IUPUI Max Kade Center, 317.464.9004 or mkgac@iupui.edu
MECKLENBURG GARDENS

WHERE FOOD IS AN ART
AND THE SETTING IS HISTORY

As a German city in the American Midwest, Cincinnati had to have a place where its residents and visitors could get a proper German meal, complete with silo-sized beers. Mecklenburg Gardens is that place. Their menu consists of everything from traditional German dishes to innovative American cuisine, including the famous Zinzinnati Sausages which are served with mashed potatoes and sauerkraut. Mecklenburg’s also maintains an extensive offering of beer and wine, with over 15 beers on tap and up to 80 bottled beers to choose from.

Guests will enjoy the ambiance of the 19th century building, which is on the National Registry of Historic Places. The restaurant features the original Germanic architecture including heavy timber beams, stained glass windows, fireplaces, wood paneled rooms and an immense mahogany bar. Outside in the gardens, century old grape vines flourish creating a beautiful setting for outdoor summer dinning.

OVER-THE-RHINE

The neighborhood's distinctive name comes from its builders and early residents, the German immigrants who flooded into the neighborhood during the middle of the 19th century. Many residents walked across bridges over the Miami and Erie Canal to reach their work in downtown Cincinnati. The canal was nicknamed "the Rhine" in reference to the Rhine River in Germany, and the newly settled area north of the canal became known as "Over the Rhine." In German, the district was called "über dem Rhein."

An early reference to the canal as "the Rhine" appears in the 1853 book White, Red, Black, in which traveler Ferenc Pulszky wrote, "The Germans live all together across the Miami Canal, which is, therefore, here jocosely called the 'Rhine.'" In 1875 writer Daniel J. Kenny referred to the area exclusively as "Over the Rhine." He noted, "Germans and Americans alike love to call the district 'Over the Rhine.'" The canal no longer exists, but it was located where the Central Parkway is found today. Central Parkway is one of the major citywide parkways designed by George Kessler in 1907 to replace the old canal bed with a commuter railway.

Over-the-Rhine, sometimes shortened to OTR, is Cincinnati’s oldest historic neighborhood, containing the country’s largest collection of 19th-century Italianate architecture in the United States and is a rare example of an intact 19th-century urban neighborhood. The entire 360-acre neighborhood is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and has been compared to the French Quarter in New Orleans, the historic districts of Savannah, Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina, and Greenwich Village in New York City.

The neighborhood’s name comes from the German immigrants who built and settled there. In honor of their homeland, the area became known as Over-the-Rhine with the canal they crossed daily symbolizing the Rhine River in Germany.

Throughout the 19th century, Over-the-Rhine became a primary port-of-entry for German immigrants. Its residents spoke German. They published newspapers in German, worshipped in German churches, and socialized in German beer halls. By 1850, German immigrants made up over one quarter of Cincinnati’s population; more than twice the numbers of the next largest ethnic group, the Irish. Early Over-the-Rhine residents built many of the remaining Cincinnati landmarks -- the Music Hall,
Washington Park and Findlay Market, as well as the beautiful Italianate neighborhoods that are still treasured today.

The 20th century brought changes for Over-the-Rhine. During the World Wars, many of the neighborhood’s German roots and German street names and organizations were “Americanized.” After the war, new waves of immigrants were attracted to the area’s affordable housing and job opportunities. By the end of the century, Over-the-Rhine had become one of the most economically distressed areas in the country. The poverty rate hovered near 60%, the unemployment rate peaked at 25% and a median household income fell below $10,000. In 2006, the district was placed on the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s list of “America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.”

Since then, the Chamber of Commerce and organizations like the Cincinnati Center City Development Corp have paved the way for renovation and rehabilitation in many parts of the district one block at a time. Over a hundred new businesses have opened in Over-the-Rhine in the last five years, and many organizations have helped to preserve and revitalize it. “The hundreds of millions of dollars that’s been invested in the neighborhood has not only brought along new development, but has encouraged and helped along the development projects in the area trying to get their start for decades,” said Emilie Johnson, president of the Over-the-Rhine Chamber of Commerce.

“You can really see that when people work together, the difference they can make,” Johnson said. “Over-the-Rhine has enjoyed becoming a visitor destination – not just for out-of-town visitors, but for locals wanting to bring their families to see the renaissance that’s going on.”

Today, Over-the-Rhine is a historic district and an unparalleled arts community within Cincinnati. Widely considered the fastest-growing, trendiest neighborhood in the city, Over-the-Rhine has been voted Best Cincinnati Neighborhood in 2011-2014. And while the district is far from perfect, both Johnson and Tolzmann say its future looks bright.

“For Over-the-Rhine to reach its full potential, it’s going to be step-by-step… maybe block-by-block or even foot-by-foot,” Tolzmann said. “It’s going to take some time. But I think the indication is the renaissance of Over-the-Rhine is clearly underway – and it’s only going to spread.”

NEW SIGN RECALLS ANTI-GERMAN HYSTERIA

In a Covington, Kentucky neighborhood (located just 1 mile south of Cincinnati) where hundreds of thousands of visitors pay homage to the region’s German heritage, lies a street whose name is not original. Right in the middle of Covington’s Mainstrasse Village’s business district is Pershing Avenue. But a new sign placed at the corner of Pershing & Main Street will let visitors know that there was a time in which being German was no cause for celebration there.

When World War I broke out and Germany became an enemy of America, hostility towards Germans also developed on the homefront. In Covington, Newport, and Cincinnati, three cities with a great deal of debt to its large German immigrant population, incivility grew so much that the native language was ejected from the public schools, church services were no longer offered in German, and the names of banks and streets were changed. The teaching of German was eliminated from many of the area schools in 1917. In Covington, a group known as the Citizens Patriotic League would see its membership rise to more than 1,000, with a main goal being the elimination of German and all modern foreign languages removed from elementary schools.

In Newport, KY changed the name of German Street to Liberty Street and the German National Bank became the American National Bank. And in Covington, Bremen Street, named for the German port city that saw off many of its emigrants headed to America, the last piece of Germany many ever saw was given a new name: Pershing, in honor of the general leading American forces in the Great War.

Time has erased many of those anti-German memories and the region has returned to celebrating its
German roots with large festivals surrounding its brewing heritage and even its German-centric food staple, goetta, but Pershing Avenue remains. The German-American Citizens League of Greater Cincinnati wants people to remember.

"It's important to remember the anti-German hysteria of the first World War which included the changing of street names, the elimination of German instruction from public schools, harassment of people of German descent in the area," said Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, the organization's president. "It's important especially this year as it is the one hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War"

Tolzmann, whose organization helped lead the placement of markers along streets whose names were changed in Cincinnati during the same era, contacted Covington City Commissioner Chuck Eilerman to inquire about doing the same for Bremen Street. Covington Historic Preservation Officer Beth Johnson coordinated the effort at City Hall and a sign was produced by the Department of Public Improvements after the placement was approved by the Mainstrasse Village Association board of directors. The sign reads: "FORMERLY BREMEN STREET. Renamed during World War I because of anti-German hysteria."

The sign was dedicated last July 26, two days before the 100th anniversary of the first shots being fired in the Great War. "It's a really fitting time for this to take place," Tolzmann said. "Today we celebrate and honor the German heritage which is appropriate because every other person, about half the population has some German ancestry some place in its family tree."

That includes Eilerman whose great-grandparents moved to the area from Hamburg and Hanover in the old country. They were married in the old St. Mary's Church in Over-the-Rhine in 1861 before crossing the river and opening a clothing store in Newport in 1886 and then another in Covington in 1892. "We've been involved in the history for a long time," Eilerman said. He said he was intrigued by Tolzmann's idea because of his own heritage and because of the importance of Bremen as a port city. "You can see why it was named (Bremen). It's an interesting piece of our history and ties in with what we're trying to do in Covington and Mainstrasse."

Mainstrasse is home to large Maifest and Oktoberfest celebrations every year as well as the Original Goettafest. A celebrated glockenspiel clock tower is the neighborhood's most recognizable structure. One hundred years ago, such outcrops of German patriotism would have been suddenly unwelcome. Tolzmann shared stories of how the hysteria amid World War I even filtered into the churches. The German Reform Church on Willard Street changed its name to Grace United Church of Christ and when Father Goebel at St. John's on Pike Street offered services in German, an angry mob attacked him. "What's significant about that there, if they would do that to a man of God, a man of the cloth, you can imagine what they were doing to other people," Tolzmann said.

Tolzmann said he has been in contact with Newport Mayor Jerry Peluso who is also interested in making such a designation at the former German Street, now Liberty.

"In the long run, the behavior of that time period, it was overwhelming. Some of these things stayed in place and were not changed or removed," Tolzmann said. "So I think it's good to show respect for the German heritage and the time period and what people had to go through at the time. I think it will be good for the Mainstrasse area. German heritage here, they celebrate it but I think they take it for granted."

Excerpted from an article by Michael Monks, The River City News 14 June 2014.

**NAMING KESSLER BOULEVARD**

Indianapolis’ Kessler Boulevard was named for a highly respected city planner, landscape designer, and parks consultant, George Edward Kessler. His plans can be found in 23 different states, as well as in Mexico and China. Kessler's body of work included 230 known projects, including the landscape design for the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. As most of his papers were destroyed or given to clients after his death, there may actually have been more.
George Kessler was born on July 16, 1862, in Bad Frankenhausen, Schwarzburger, Rudolstadt, Germany. He came to the United States with his parents in 1864, when he was two years old.

The Kessler family shows up in the 1870 Census in New Jersey, but eventually moved to Dallas, Texas. His father invested in a cotton plantation that would likely have made him a wealthy man, but Edward Kessler died suddenly in 1878 at the age of 46. Concerned about his future, George’s widowed mother took the family back to Germany, where she was more familiar with the educational opportunities for her teenage son. George received both private instruction and university courses for about three years, studying forestry, botany, landscape design, engineering, and civic design.

After completing his training in Germany, Kessler returned to New York City where he landed an assignment with the prestigious firm of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. In 1892, Olmsted sent Kessler to lay out a park in Merriam, Kansas, southwest of Kansas City. After two additional projects in the Kansas City area, he began to receive national recognition. By the end of the nineteenth century, he was in great demand for his support of the City Beautiful movement, which promoted beautification efforts to relieve the overcrowding and pollution that plagued many cities.

In 1908, the City of Indianapolis hired George Kessler to help it improve its park system. He spent a year studying the city’s transportation system, waterways, and existing parks. In 1909, he submitted his Indianapolis Park and Boulevard Plan, commonly referred to as The Kessler Plan.

Kessler made six waterways the cornerstones of his parks plan – White River, Central Canal, Fall Creek, Pogue’s Run, Pleasant Run, and Eagle Creek. He proposed landscaped boulevards linking the parks together. The City adopted Kessler’s plan. He led the Park Commission for the next several years, while his plan was being implemented.

In 1920, the Indianapolis hired Kessler for a new project, a major road that could quickly move traffic from one side of town to the other, however Kessler died in Indianapolis on March 23, 1920, before the project was finished. He was buried in St. Louis. The road on which he had been working on was named Kessler Boulevard in his honor.

Excerpted from Historic Indianapolis Blog
by Sharon Butsch Freeland
http://historicindianapolis.com
31 December 2013

THE INDIANAPOLIS PARK AND BOULEVARD SYSTEM

The Indianapolis Park and Boulevard System is a group of parks, parkways, and boulevards in Indianapolis that was designed by landscape architect George Edward Kessler in the early part of the twentieth century. Also known as the Kessler System, the district includes 3,474 acres in an area roughly bounded by 38th Street and Emerson, Southern, and Tibbs Avenues with extensions on Fall Creek and Pleasant Run Parkways to Shadeland Avenue. This Historic District has shaped the city through the present day. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2003.

Twelve parks within these boundaries with a total area of more than 1,118 acres are individually listed properties of the district. Riverside Park (including South Grove, Coffin, and Riverside Golf Courses), Garfield Park, and Brookside Park are the large parks in the plan; Rhodus Park and Willard Park are neighborhood parks; and Fletcher Park, Highland Park, Indianola Park, McCarty Triangle Place, and Noble Place are small parks. University Park and Military Park in downtown are included in the district, although both had previously been separately added to the National Regis-
Several other parks are included as components of a parkway: Spades Park as part of Brookside Parkway; Fall Creek and 16th, Watkins, Barton, Fall Creek and 30th parks and Woolens Gardens as parts of Fall Creek Parkway; and Orange, Christian, and Ellenberger parks along with the Pleasant Run Golf Course as parts of Pleasant Run Parkway.

Six parkways extending for 34.8 miles and containing 2,153.5 acres link the various parks and major city streets. The parkways are Fall Creek, White River, Brookside, Pleasant Run, Ellenberger, and Burdsall. Two boulevards are also part of the system: Maple Road (now named 38th Street) from Fall Creek to White River, and Kessler Boulevard.

The district contains several stone and stone-clad decorative bridges over Fall Creek, White River, and other streams. Some of these carry major streets, such as the Capitol Avenue, Meridian Street, and Illinois Street bridges over Fall Creek, and the 30th Street Bridge over White River. Others span smaller streams within the parks, such as the Crooked Creek bridge in Riverside Park and the filled spandrel concrete foot bridge in Brookside Park over Pogue’s Run.

The historic district includes 29 sites, 20 buildings, 109 structures (other than buildings), and 7 other contributing objects. Most of the buildings are within the parks, but some, such as the Heslar Naval Armory located on the White River just north of Riverside Park, are not.

Excerpted from wikipedia.org
Indiana Park and Boulevard System

**BOOKS OF NOTE**


Cincinnati was a frontier town at the start of the 19th century. The coming of the first steamboat on the Ohio River turned it into a major business center owing to its easy access to the river to transport coal, iron, limestone, and timber. Soon the industries that supported and depended upon that trade flocked to Cincinnati, soap and glycerin works, cooperages, lumber yards, foundries, stone yards, tanners & tanneries, meat packers & cabinetmakers, boot makers, potters, and dozens of breweries. The central business district quickly became crowded with businesses that were willing to pay for ready access to the river.

Later arrivals moved north, into an area around the Miami-Erie Canal, known locally as the “Rhine.” This area was populated by German-speaking immigrants and the area across the canal became known as “Over-the-Rhine.”

The German-American architectural heritage is more clearly and strongly reflected in the Over-the-Rhine district than in any place in the city. This guide for a walking tour through the district and its surroundings reveals a treasure trove of German architectural heritage. This publication serves as a supplement to the tours that Don Henrich Tolzmann has led regularly through this area of Cincinnati. The Over-the-Rhine Tour Guide features a foreword by Gregory Hardman and an introduction by Michael Morgan.
HELP INDIANA CELEBRATE
A GERMAN BICENTENNIAL

In 2016, Indiana will be celebrating its 200th anniversary. Events will kick-off in late 2015 and continue through December 2016. The bicentennial website is http://www.indiana2016.org.

In January, representatives of IGHS, the Max Kade Center for German American Studies and the Indianapolis-Cologne Sister City Committee met with members of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission to discuss how the German Heritage organizations around the state can get involved with the Bicentennial celebrations and ensure that the State’s German heritage is well represented. The meeting was a discussion on how IGHS, along with Max Kade Center and the International Center, can be involved in planning events around this anniversary.

The Bicentennial Commission will, for the most part, work with existing groups and celebrations work to promote and support community projects and programs and certify them as Bicentennial Legacy Projects. [Editor’s note: the HoosierStateChronicles.org, a project endorsed by IGHS, featuring digital versions of the Indiana Tribüne, has already received this designation]. See the Bicentennial website for the application form and instructions—http://www.indiana2016.org.

There are several things to consider:
• This is a perfect time to develop new programs/projects or to partner / network with other groups throughout the state to assist them in developing programs
• Receiving approval and endorsement on your submissions to the Bicentennial Commission brings notice to the State’s German heritage and may assist in finding external funding.
• Once you have a developed idea, apply for funding through organizations which support such projects (i.e. Indiana Humanities Council, the Institute of Arts and Humanities at IUPUI, etc. to name just a few)

The grant deadlines are just around the corner and although the Bicentennial Commission itself does not provide funding; such an endorsement would make it easier to apply for external funding.

Historically, Germans have made up the largest percentage of the Indiana Population. Therefore, the German Heritage organizations should strive to maximize the visibility of our German Heritage within the Indiana Bicentennial celebrations.

Please contact IGHS board member Steven Schmidt at Schmidt@iupui.edu if IGHS can help facilitate you in your plans.
Special Offer For IGHS Members Only

_German Life_ is a unique, bi-monthly magazine, in English, dedicated to German arts, travel, cuisine and German Americana. It provides readers with modern and historical perspectives on German-speaking Europe. Each issue of _German Life_ is comprised of beautiful full-color pictures and well researched features that you cannot find elsewhere. There is NO deadline – Subscribe any time of the year.

IGHS members qualify for a substantial savings:

- One-year subscription to _German Life_ **Non-member** $24.95 regular rate
- One-year subscription to _German Life_ **IGHS Member** $17.95 (Save $7.00!)

If you currently subscribe to _German Life_ you can save by subscribing through us, and ignore the _German Life_ renewal notice mailed directly to you.

Member Name: ________________________________________________________________

Street Address: ________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: _____ Zip Code +4: ________________

Telephone: (____) _____________

Email: _________________________________

Please check one:  ☐ NEW Subscriber or  ☐ CURRENT Subscriber.

Indicate your choice of subscription length, by checking one:

**Non-Member**

☐ $24.95  =  1 year

☐ $38.95  =  2 years

☐ $53.95  =  3 years

**IGHS Member Price**

☐ $17.95  =  1 year

☐ $31.00  =  2 years

☐ $45.00  =  3 years

Make your check out to _German Life_ and mail it to:

_German Life_
Indiana German Heritage Society
401 East Michigan Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
**INDIANA GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE CALENDAR**

**STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS**

**Wednesday, March 11:** No Board Meeting, Stammtisch, or Program. Everyone is encouraged to join us in Cincinnati for the 31st *Indiana German Heritage Society Annual meeting and symposium*. See article page 1.

**Wednesday, April 8:** Board Meeting, Stammtisch, and Program. Kristine Krause will present on *Karl Steckelmann and his collection*

Karl Steckelmann moved to Indiana from Germany in 1880. Between 1885 and 1895, when he was employed as a representative of an English trading company, Steckelmann went to Africa to secure raw materials. During his travels he amassed over 1,000 pieces of Central African art during his travels while trading rubber along the Zaire River. On his return to Indiana, he toured the German communities showing his collection which included monkeys and an African boy who took ill and died in Indiana. Steckelmann returned to the Congo and drowned in 1888. Some say that he was killed by the tribe as retribution for the death of the Chief's son. Today parts of his collection is at the Indianapolis Museum of Art and part is at the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Kirstine Krause Gotway attended received her BA in art history and a BA in anthropology from IU. In 2008, she received a MA from University of Chicago. Since then, she has been employed at the Indianapolis Museum of Art in the curatorial department working with the American, African, Asian, Native American, and Design collections.

**Wednesday, May 13:** Board Meeting, Stammtisch, and Program. *My Fulbright Year in Hessen* by Fulbright scholar Emily Krauter. Krauter will explain the Fulbright program and discuss her experiences as a German-fluent, German-American teaching English in Germany.

**Wednesday, June 10:** Board Meeting, Stammtisch, and Program. *Brother Adrian Wewer, Long Forgotten and Rediscovered: A Celebrated Ecclesiastical Builder for German-America Catholicism* by Dr. James Harmon.

Sought after and celebrated throughout half a century of building for German-American communities, the Franciscan Brother Adrian Wewer OFM (1836-1914) and his nation-spanning career all but disappeared from memory by the late 20th century—leaving no record of him or his career in America beyond that in his Franciscan friary only to have his importance rediscovered in the 1990s. A conference in October 2014 in Indianapolis marked the close of centennial celebrations of his life and building career.

Dr. James A. Harmon is Professor Emeritus of Art History from Truman State University. He earned his BA from DePauw University in 1964 followed by a Masters from IU Blooming and a PhD from Ruprecht-Karls Universität, Heidelberg, Germany. Dr. Harmon’s research on the life and architecture of Brother Adrian has produced numerous conference presentations, as well as several print and Internet publications. In 2013 Dr. Harmon was keynote speaker at the kickoff of Brother Adrian centennial year celebrations as well as a speaker for the centennial closing conference in Indianapolis.
Wednesday, July 8: No Board Meeting, 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. Optional dinner and conversation at 6:30 p.m. with the program at 7:30 p.m. Dinner costs $14.00 per person (tax, non-alcoholic beverage, and gratuity included). RSVP for dinner to Claudia Grossmann, 274-3943, cgrossma@iupui.edu.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Tuesday, March 3, 7-8 p.m: New Ways of Finding Indiana’s German Roots with the help of the Indiana State Library by Steven Schmidt. German American Klub of Indianapolis, 8602 S. Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46217. For information, contact Merrill D. Simmerman at MAJDOC98@aol.com.

Friday & Saturday, March 20-21, 2015 Join us for the IGHS Annual Meeting and Symposium in Cincinnati. The topic of the annual symposium is Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley: Path for German Immigration to Indiana. The program and other information can be found on page 4 & 5 of this next newsletter.

Friday, April 3, 10 a.m. Good Friday (Karfreitag) Worship for the German Community at Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ. A German language Service with easy to follow translation. Everyone is Welcome! Zion Evangelical Church is located at 603 North New Jersey Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Info: 317-639-5411 or zion@zionoffice.org.

Saturday, April 18, 6-11 p.m. We look forward to seeing you in the Athenaeum theater, when we welcome the Spring Beer with St. Benno and Herr Bock! An announcement of the Turner’s St. Benno Fest of 1913 states: This year St. Benno will solemnize the arrival of the new beer in the Löwenbräukeller of the Deutsche Haus; now the Kellersaal of the Athenaeum. In 1913 those present were promised a first taste of the wild, rich flavor of the Bock Bier. Everyone was assured of the best in German culinary endeavors, the best of German Bier, and a festive evening of music and dancing featuring - The Chardon Polka Band!!.

Following the traditions of our founding families, St. Benno and his goat, Herr Bock, will officially tap the keg with the ceremonial chugging of 2 beers. Party and dance and then Get Your Yodel On with St. Benno in the yodel contest. Get your groove on and come party! All proceeds from this event benefits the care and maintenance of the Historic Athenaeum. Wine and other are beverages available. For more information visit www.athfound.org.
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
- Family  $25.00
- Benefactor  $1,000.00
- Library Rate  $15.00

I wish to make an additional, tax deductible gift to IGHS of $ ________

- General Operations
- Marie Schoch Endowment Fund
- Daniel Nützel Memorial Scholarship
- Publications

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
- Other: ________________________________________________________________

- German Language Programs
- History
- Local Community/City
- Music
- Teaching Materials
- Traditions & Folklore

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: ________________________________________________________________

I would prefer to receive the newsletter:  

- by US Mail
- by Email

[Please select one]
See You In Cincinnati!

March 20th & 21st