



Indiana German Heritage Society & IUPUI Max Kade German American Center



Newsletter

Volume 37 Number 2

Spring 2021

IGHS President's Message

As we are all aware, the Covid-19 pandemic is very much still with us and has negatively impacted so many of our personal activities and programs during this past year. IGHS has been no different.

We had to cancel our highly anticipated annual meeting in Batesville and Oldenburg.

We reduced participation in our annual German-Fest, even resorting to recorded Dachshund races instead of the live events which are so popular, and our late summer Stammtisch was reduced to a socially distanced concert by the Liederkranz Brass Band at German Park. While these events were significantly reduced, the Carmel Christkindlmarkt was completely cancelled. Such a huge disappointment after the great 2019 Christmas market.

The good news is that our board meetings and several Stammtisch events have thrived in the virtual world with some positive aspects.

- Board attendance and participation has been equal to or better than the live meetings.
- Stammtisch programs have been highly attended or exceeded normal levels. For example, Allison Singleton's "Finding Your German Family History" drew over 150 virtual participants.
- College Essay Contest drew a large, record number of participants.
- Our Wegweiser has continued its journey around the various libraries of Marion County.

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IGHS Annual Meeting & Symposium



other halls and chapels.

This village of Spires is, of course, Oldenburg, located in southern Indiana, and regretfully imagine yourself touring this lovely and historic village may be your only option for a while.

Once again, COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to cancel our plans for a face-to-face meeting in this delightful town. Last year, we were forced to cancel the annual meeting and symposium entirely, but thanks to the lessons we have learned over the past year, we are planning to go forward with a virtual annual meeting and symposium. Check out the full details on page 4 of this newsletter.

The 2021 IGHS virtual Annual Business meeting will begin at 5 pm on Friday, March 19th. IGHS President Jim Kienle will call us to order and lead the way through the agenda. The two most important things to be voted on are the confirmation of our 2021 budget, and the election of new board members, or in some cases, the reelection of some of those members.

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TIME TO RENEW YOUR IGHS MEMBERSHIP!

The IGHS membership runs concurrently with the calendar year. This means that once again it is time to renew for 2021.

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

Renew online at www.ighs.org/renew.html or use the renewal form located at the back of this newsletter. You can also use the same forms to give the gift of an Indiana German Heritage Membership!

If you are uncertain of your membership status, check your newsletter label. You can also check by sending an e-mail to ighsmembership@gmail.com.

Please renew right away. Thank you!

The Membership Committee

SUPPORT THE IGHS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Daniel Nützel scholarship was established by IGHS, IUPUI Max Kade Center, and the Athenaeum Foundation in memory of Dr. Daniel Nützel, former German professor and Director of the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center, to honor his contributions to the German Program at IUPUI and the German -American community of Indiana. The scholarship supports undergraduate or graduate students with the pursuit of a part-time professional internship at a German-American organization or institution for the duration of one semester or over the summer.

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 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.
Thank you for Supporting IGHS!

MKGAC GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

The Max Kade German American Center (MKGAC) offers the following grants and scholarships to IUPUI students on an annual basis. All applications are due February 1 unless otherwise stated and all complete application materials should be mailed to nmneuman@iu.edu. For additional information, please see the Max Kade website at <http://maxkade.iupui.edu> or email nmneuman@iu.edu.

Dan Nützel Memorial Scholarship / \$1,000

Co-funded by the Indiana German Heritage Society and IUPUI Max Kade Center. For junior or senior full or part-time undergraduate students enrolled at IUPUI with a major or minor in German, or a graduate student with a proven interest in German Studies. Internship requirement (ca. 2 hours / week for academic year; or 4 hours/week for semester). Minimum 2.75 GPA (4-point scale) required. Submit resume, Personal Statement, one faculty

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Indiana German Heritage Society
&
IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center

The Indiana German Heritage Society was founded in 1984 as a statewide historical and educational membership organization aimed at preserving and celebrating Indiana's German heritage. The Society is headed by a volunteer board of directors. It is a non-profit organization and qualified for tax-free donations.

The IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center provides support to maintain an interdisciplinary research center for German-American Studies. Its mission is to support this field through research into German-American history and heritage with primary emphasis on Indianapolis and the Hoosier State, and through teaching and service.

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Back issues of the IGHS Newsletter are available online at <http://IGHs.org>.

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Letter of Recommendation, and unofficial transcript by Feb. 1 to: nmneuman@iu.edu

Max Kade German-American Center Scholarship for Interdisciplinary Studies / \$1,000

For undergraduate students enrolled at IUPUI with a declared major in German and another IUPUI major. Completion of German minor requirements and 2.75 GPA minimum (4-point scale) required at time of application. Submit Statement of Purpose, two faculty Letters of Recommendation (one from each major area), and an unofficial transcript to nmneuman@iu.edu by Feb. 1.

Max Kade Graduate Scholarship* / @ \$10,000

Two Max Kade Center graduate scholarships are available each academic year. Knowledge of German at an advanced level as evidenced by coursework or other required. Graduate thesis with research concentration in an area of German or German-American Studies. Applications to nmneuman@iu.edu by Feb. 15. See <http://maxkade.iupui.edu> for additional requirements and application materials.

IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center Study Abroad Scholarship / \$500

Though IUPUI's German Program will not offer its summer study abroad program in Heilbronn and Berlin, you may apply for this scholarship if traveling to Germany with another IUPUI approved study abroad program in summer or fall 2021 or spring 2022. Application details and more information available at <http://maxkade.iupui.edu>. All application materials should be sent to nmneuman@iu.edu.

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**Have you renewed your
IGHS Membership for 2021?
<https://www.ighs.org/renew.html>**



GILES & DOLORES HOYT HONORED

On December 8, 2020, Indiana University, Indiana University Foundation, IUPUI, and the School of Liberal Arts honored Drs. Giles and Dolores Hoyt by presenting them with the Indiana University Bicentennial Medal. The Bicentennial Medal is a special initiative

on recognition of Indiana University's 200th anniversary. It is awarded to organizations and individuals in recognition of people of vision, character, high achievement, and distinguished service to the university and the community, around the state, nation, and world.

Dr. Giles Hoyt, together with his wife, Dr. Dolores Hoyt, were recognized for the work they have done for German and Philanthropic Studies, the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Research and Resource Center, University Library, the School of Liberal Arts, Indiana University, and the State of Indiana. Together with Drs. Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann, they were recognized for endowing the Hoyt-Reichmann Faculty Chair in German American Studies and German Language and Culture at IUPUI, established the Giles and Dolores Hoyt Student Opportunity Fund to benefit University Libraries student workers, with a preference given to those working with the German-Americanica Collections, and for their shared, lifelong dedication to developing the study of German language and culture within the university and across Indiana.

The virtual presentation was lead by Interim dean of the School of Liberal Arts, Rob Rebein.



36th ANNUAL VIRTUAL IGHS MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM



Indiana German Heritage Society, in cooperation
with the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center

Advance registration is required for attending both the IGHS Business meeting and for the evening's presentation. You can use the same link to register in advance for both sessions:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIqcemppzMsE9QQg6jQBTGmtOX3x-icWZzn>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing instructions for joining the meeting and for the evening presentation.

Friday, March 19, 2021

Agenda

5 pm IGHS Annual Business Meeting

- Call to order and welcome
- Declaration of quorum
- Approval of minutes of last annual meeting
- Committee reports
- Treasurer Report 2020 and 2021 Budget
- Membership Committee Report
- Education Committee Report
- NCSA Literatur Report
- Public Relations Committee Report
- Nominations Committee Report
- Election of board members (in camera session)
- Adjournment

6 pm Dinner and drinks on your own

7 pm *A Virtual Conversation with Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann: The Current German-American Scene.* Hosted by Dr. Giles R. Hoyt.

Dr. Tolzmann will discuss recent research and publications, what's going on in the German-American world generally, how we see the future for our organizations and for German-American studies generally.

Pre-registration is required. Use the above link to register for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing instructions about joining the meeting. And the presentation.

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The bylaws requires that this election vote must be held *in camera*; in other words only current IGHS members are allowed to cast a vote, however everyone is invited to join us during the business meeting and for the evening's presentation.

This year's slate includes the re-election of Ron Flick, Brian Griesemer, Claudia Grossmann, Janice Miller and William L. Selm for 3 year terms. There are also two open seats on the board, one for a 3-year term and one for a 2 year term to complete term of Louise Lamkin, who regretfully had to resign from the board.. Candidates are needed for both of these slots. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

This year's slate of officers up for re-election are:

President	James T. Kienle
VP	Brian Griesemer
Treasurer	Michael Albrecht Hirt
Secretary	Janet Price

Following the business meeting there normally is a period of *Gemütlichkeit* before the start of the evening program, where guests and members share a meal. Frequently there is beer involved in this activity. This year, again because of COVID-19, dinners and drinks are on your own.

Then at 7:00 pm we will reconvene virtually, using the same link you received when you pre-registered for the business meeting to hear from the scholar and long-time friend of the Indiana German Heritage Society, Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann. Dr. Tolzmann will present a virtual conversation on the current state of the German-American Scene. He is expected to dis-

cuss recent research, and German-American studies generally.

He will also look at some recent publications, including his recent *Cincinnati, Ohio: "The El Dorado of the German Emigrant" Writings about the Queen City of the West*, featuring new translations of some of the writings by the German Travel Writer, Friedrich Gerstäcker (1816-1872). Tolzmann has selected a range of Gerstäcker's writings about Cincinnati where he spent considerable time and for which he had a particular affection. This book adds an important dimension in the history of German immigration to the Midwest, as well as Gerstäcker's fascinating life, and is a very enjoyable read. Dr. Giles R. Hoyt will moderate the discussion.

There is one other difference between this year's annual meeting and symposium. The 2021 session is free to all comers, but pre-registration is required. Use the above link on page 4 of this issue to register for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing instructions about joining the meeting and the evenings presentation.

We are looking forward to seeing you there, virtually!

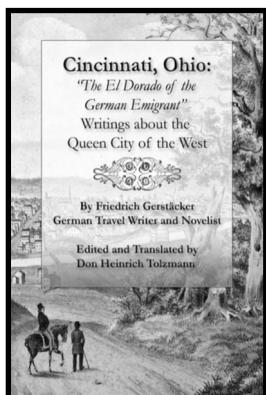


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KEEP IN MIND FOR SUMMER 2022!

Max Kade Foundation German Language Study Abroad Travel Grants* / \$1000

If you want to go to Germany with IUPUI in Summer 2022, keep February 2022 in mind as the deadline for a grant to support your IUPUI study abroad trip.



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- We had a “live” presentation in the Biergarten of the Hoosier German American of the Year to the “Friends of Wyneken” and the reading of the Governor’s and Mayor’s proclamations at GermanFest to a fairly large attendance, introducing IGHS to many non-members.
- The annual St. Nicholas Fest was done totally virtually, in collaboration with the Atheneum Foundation.

Since our organization exists to point out and encourage the links between Germany and the U.S., I thought that it would be interesting to compare how Covid-19 is impacting each country and how they are handling it. Let’s take a look:

	Germany	United States *
Total Cases:	2,194,562	25,762,198
Deaths	55,880	433,195
Population	83,166,711	328,239,523
% Population	2.64%	7.85%

Germany’s rate is 1/3 the death rate of the U.S. What contributes to the extreme difference would lead to some very interesting discussions. Social attitudes, Cultural characteristics, Governmental policy or Demographic characteristics? What do you think?

Some of the German policies and governmental activities to consider are:

- Contact restrictions: one household is allowed to host only one additional person.
- Masks: N95 or surgical masks required in stores and on public transportation. Not wearing a mask in crowded public areas results in a fine of 150 Euro (\$182)
- Testing: Covid-19 tests are readily available at airports, shopping centers, plus the usual medical facilities. The charge for COVID tests is 50 euros.
- Hospitals: 16% are COVID only beds, 68% other patients, 16% are free of cost for the public.
- Restrictions are based upon a rolling aver-

age of Covid-19 positive patients. Green is the least restriction with 35 people infected per 100,000 population. Yellow is 35 to 50 people and Red light is 50 people and above.

- People are required to disclose contact information when flying or going on public transit or other crowded situations.

Non-essential stores are closed, most schools operate on remote learning but in person is high priority once case numbers decline as determined by governmental units. In case of job loss or reduced working hours, each person is eligible to receive 60% of their take home pay for short layoffs. The amount of assistance increases for longer periods, and for each child in the household.

I believe that the above is enough to promote thought and discussion. I found this information gave me some insights and perspective on the difference and showing that Germany is having more success in broad societal terms. I hope that this is useful and thought provoking information.

Not letting Covid-19 hinder us, IGHS is pushing ahead with virtual board meetings and exciting Stammtisch programs and our first virtual annual meeting. Up coming events include:

- Zoom Stammtisch featuring a Jasper native, former Indiana Poet Laureate, Norbert Krapf
- Our first virtual IGHS Annual Meeting will kick off on March 19, 2021 at 5:00 pm, with a presentation following at 7:00 pm.
- Then in April Zion Evangelical Church of Christ will be offering its annual Good Friday worship service in German. A detailed description of these events is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

Other virtual Board meetings are being planned for April, May and June that will take us up to the July summer break. It is our hope that the Fall programs will be able to return to in-person, live events. Looking forward to seeing all of you at our winter/spring/summer & fall events, whether in person or virtually.

Good Health and Best Regards,

Jim Kienle
IGHS President

* Data per John Hopkins School of Public Health Dashboard as of January 25, 2021.

A Brief History of German Education in Indiana

Through formal and informal education, a social group attempts to pass on to the next generation its values, knowledge, skills, and a whole range of shared behavioral patterns. For 19th century immigrant families, often involved in building homogenous German communities, this called for continuing with educational practices from the fatherland, both in the home and the school.

In the absence of a functioning Indiana public school system in the first half of that century, hired school masters and the immigrant churches of the various denominations provided basic education in the "4 Rs"-- readin', writin', 'rithmetic, and religion--all in the accustomed mother tongue. English was a subject rather than the language of instruction. In a way, this was like in Germany where the public elementary school (Volksschule) was either katholisch (catholic) or Evangelisch (protestant). So were the leaders of parochial education in Indiana: the Catholics, notably with Franciscan and Benedictine sisters centered in Oldenburg, Franklin Co. and Ferdinand, Dubois Co., and the Lutherans centered in Fort Wayne, the place of their seminary.

The first and most comprehensive German educational setting was that of the pietistic Harmonists under Johann Georg Rapp in today's New Harmony from 1815 to 1825, the year they moved back to Pennsylvania to found their third town in America, Old Economy.

Remarkable also is the way the German speaking Amish in Northern and Southern Indiana continue to raise their children to become useful and faithful members of their families and communities.

The 1886 statistics on the German-American schools by Carl E. Wolffradt show 30,038 Indiana students being taught in German, of whom 12,505 were enrolled in Catholic schools, 7,448 in Protestant schools, 9,776 in public schools, and 210 in private schools. Nationally, Indiana ranked 7th in German instruction; her neighbor Ohio had the largest number

with 76,723 students, and Illinois was 2nd with 61,028.

Beginning in 1839 with Pennsylvania and Ohio, then followed by a number of states including Wisconsin and Indiana, legislation mandated German language classes in public schools wherever there was a substantial demand. Some cities such as Cincinnati, Cleveland, Baltimore and Indianapolis with large German segments went one step further by offering bilingual education; unfortunately, this pedagogically sound concept became a casualty of WWI.

The demand for qualified teachers in both parochial and public schools prompted the German-American Teachers Association (organized in 1870) to start a seminary in 1878 in Milwaukee, the city that already had its German-English Academy and the Normal School for Gymnastics of the Nord-Amerikanische Turnerbund; the latter was moved to the Deutsche Haus [Athenaeum] Indianapolis in 1907, offering a well rounded academic training. When taken over by IU in 1941 it became the center for the university's School of Physical Education.

Anti-clerical Free-thought orientation was characteristic for both the Turners and the elite German-English School of Indianapolis (1860-1882). On the side of the churches, seminaries and normal schools provided training for clergy and teachers. The Lutheran Concordia College in Fort Wayne and Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, IN have their roots in such early institutions.

The Anglo-Americans recognized the superior methodological preparation of the German-trained graduates but, as the Forum editor, Jos. M. Rice, observed around 1910: "To exchange our spirit for the German's technique would, I think, be taking a backward step. We must not be content until we have both."

Toward the close of the 19th century, increased German language instruction in public schools and a drop in German immigration brought about a predictable de-cline in enrollments of urban parochial schools. WWI spelled the end of German-language instruction and the ethnic-German orientation of parochial schools.

Unbiased historians have credited German-Americans with significant contributions in the field of American education. The kindergarten was intro-

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2020 DUBOIS COUNTY GERMAN HERITAGE ESSAY CONTEST

[Excerpted from *Die Zeitung*, December 2020, published by Deutscherverein, Jasper German Club]

Jasper Deutscher Verein, Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. and the Jasper Partnership Commission celebrated their German Heritage in October with the observance of German-American Day on October 6.

As part of this observance and with the German-American Bank as the financial sponsor, an essay contest was held for the County seniors giving them an opportunity to honor their German heritage. All winners received \$250.00 from the bank. We are publishing here two of the winning essays.

GERMAN HERITAGE

By Kendra Hoffman

My family roots are straight German. Both sides of my family have German ancestors. My parents like to tell me stories about my grandparents. They used to talk in German when they did not want the kids to understand what they were talking about. I think that is so cool! My parents know a few German words but not many, which I think is sad. I wish I knew more about how to preserve and promote my German family roots!

Living in Dubois County has made me realize that there are more people with German ancestors than I ever knew. Living here has made me so proud of my German heritage. You can tell when you are interacting with the older members of our community that they have German roots. They are strong-headed and very opinionated, just like my grandmother was. I can tell that I also have the same traits; this makes me happy because I will be able to pass that on to my children.

I believe that good, strong German families should pass down the German language through every generation. I would love to speak German! My friends also think it would be so cool to be fluent in another language especially

one that holds so much meaning for my ancestry! The few words that my dad knows he will say at random times. However, I have never really soaked in that knowledge to the best of my ability. However, if our ancestors passed on the language to our parents and our parents to us, this could make a major difference in preserving the language from our family roots.

We also could have a get-to-know your history fest. This could have people from Germany that have moved to America tell their stories. Also, we could have interactive stations where you learn what it would be like if you were still living in Germany. German families could prepare authentic food from their family recipes. It could be a lot like the Strassenfest but more hands-on and history activities involved.

As you can see, Dubois County does do certain things to preserve our amazing heritage. However, there is plenty more than can be done to make German Heritage more known. We need to do our part to protect the roots of our ancestors before children do not know their history at all.

Kendra is the daughter of Greg and Bonnie Hoffman and attends Forest Park Jr.-Sr. High School

WHAT IS MY ROLE IN PRESERVING AND PROMOTING OUR GERMAN HERITAGE IN DUBOIS COUNTY

By Lauren Verkamp

As long as I can remember, Germany has been on the forefront of my mind. When my dad was in high school, he went on a summer exchange program to Germany, and discovered he was distantly related to his host family. Since then, he has kept in close contact with the family, and shared his love for the German people and culture with our family. Because of my close connection, I was ecstatic to begin learning German in 8th grade. As soon as we began learning, I fell in love. Because I had visited Germany once before, and had so much exposure to the language, learning it came easily to me.

When I was given the opportunity to go on the same exchange my father went on, I knew I could

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duced by Carl Schurz's wife Margarethe in 1855 at Watertown, WI. The first one however, might have been the one started by Caroline Louisa Frankenberg in Columbus, OH. Graduate school was first established at John Hopkins University and followed by Harvard. Music, gymnastics and physical education in the schools and communities had no stronger supporters than the Germans; and the concept of the Manual or Technical High School, as developed in Indianapolis by Charles Emmerich, found a nationwide echo.

In Gary, IN--the then young center of Indiana's heavy industry--Superintendent William Albert Wirt radically redefined the school's functions by introducing his tripartite "work--study--play" plan. Equally innovative was Germany-trained Dr. Edward A. Rumely, with this educational concept for boys of all social strata to live self-sufficiently with nature. He realized this in Interlaken, MI. When Indianapolis School No. 9 was dedicated to Clemens Vonnegut (1911), Lucius Boris Swift's address paid tribute to this German immigrant who was passionately dedicated to education and served on the capital's school board longer than anybody before or after him.



The Villages of Spires

by William L. Selm

Oldenburg is a gem. It was founded in 1837 as a North German Catholic town. Indiana is dotted with towns and villages founded by German immigrants. What distinguishes Oldenburg from all of them is its importance as a German Franciscan Center and the buildings and skyline that expresses this Catholic institutional history and the role of the visionary immigrant religious leaders.

Oldenburg was the idea of missionary priest Father Joseph Ferneding. This native of the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg in northern Germany.

Living in the saddle, he rode throughout southeastern Indiana, ministering to German farm families, and founding numerous parishes. Ferneding sought help from fellow Oldenburgers who had the capital to buy the land, survey, and plat the town of Oldenburg, creating a Catholic center, and focal point. Ferneding's successor, Father Franz Joseph Rudolf from Alsace was visionary and builder who founded Oldenburg as the Village of Spires.

He built the stone church with the onion dome in 1846-48, replacing the original log church. Rudolf changed the course of Oldenburg history by recruiting a German-speaking Franciscan sister, Sister Theresa Hackelmeier O.S.F. of Vienna to Oldenburg. Together they founded the Order of Saint Francis of Oldenburg which staffed parish schools throughout the Midwest, eventually establishing Marian College in Indianapolis.

In 1858, Rudolf recruited the Baden-born brickmaker William Gehring to relocate to Oldenburg and to produce the millions of bricks to transform Ferneding's Oldenburg into Rudolf's Village of Spires. Bricks were used to build the 1862 Church of the Holy Family, the many additions to the convent and academy, the seminary and friary, houses, shops, summer kitchens, sidewalks, convent and friary walls, factories, town hall, the convent barn, and even Gehring's corn crib.

The skyline of Rudolf's Village of Spires was pierced by the onion dome of the stone church (now a friary), the Gothic Revival spires of Holy Family Church, the town hall, the convent chapel, convent, academy, and numerous halls and chapels in the convent complex and cemeteries.

Oldenburg was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983 and is recognized as an exceptional historic site with its collection of brick, stone, and half-timber buildings. It is thoroughly a German Village of Spires founded and built by and for the German Catholic immigrants and their descendants.

**TODAY IS A GOOD TIME
TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP IN IGHS**



Archeological dig in Cologne's medieval Jewish quarter, now the site of MiQua., the LVR-Jewish Museum adjacent to the Rathaus.

1,700 years of Jewish life in Germany

By Nicole Glass, German Embassy

This year, we are commemorating 1,700 years of Jewish life in Germany. Throughout 2021, we will look at Jewish history, culture and traditions dating back to the 4th century in the region now known as Germany.

Evidence of Jewish life in Germany can be traced back to the year 321, when the Cologne City Council issued a written edict permitting Jews to join the Council. But archeologists have found many other traces of Jewish life and history in Germany, including the remnants of an 11th century synagogue in Cologne.

The archeological site of these remnants – which was part of a complete medieval Jewish quarter – is now being used to build a museum that is scheduled to open in 2024. Cologne has applied to have the quarter listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

From Augsburg to Trier, evidence of Jewish early Jewish life exists in many different German cities. Andrei Kovacs, managing director of the anniversary year, told Deutsche Welle

that he wants to “make Jewish life visible”, which is particularly important at a time of rising anti-Semitism.

“Anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism are probably over 1,700 years old,” he said. “But we also want to show what Jews have contributed to society in those years. There are many great initiatives today to create conversations between Jewish and non-Jewish people in our society.”

“We want to counter the often difficult and tragic past with something positive,” he added.

The yearlong celebration of Jewish life will include performances, theater and food tasting events, but online alternatives will be set up in the case of additional or continued lockdowns.



Take a Virtual trip to
MIQUA

The LVR-Jewish Museum
in the Archeological Quarter of Cologne
Opening 2021
<https://miqua.lvr.de/de/index.html>

AMERICA'S VOICE GOES SILENT IN BERLIN AS LAST U.S. RADIO STATION CLOSES

by Nette Nöstlinger, *Politico*

American radio is a Berliner no more. The postwar American presence on Berlin's airways that began in the summer of 1945 when the city was still digging itself out of the rubble of World War II ended this month as the last U.S. radio station in the German capital ceased operation. For years, the station, known in its final iteration as KCRW Berlin, offered listeners a daily helping of local English-language news and eclectic music.

The idea behind the station was to deliver Berliners a dose of unfiltered Americana and to serve as a transatlantic bridge. Even in an era of podcasts, the offering found a loyal if small audience, from daily commuters to American expats.

Politico, 29 December 2020



Gov. Holcomb poses with Wegweiser in happier times.

Society has been featured at many venues around the state in schools, libraries, and festivals. In 2020 the exhibit was on view in the beautiful Rotunda of the Indiana Statehouse in the month of February during the legislative session. Hopefully legislators, staffers, and maybe the governor stopped to read about the impact of Germans on the landscape of the state. Numerous persons have paused, read, and have posed for selfies with the attractive exhibit after spotting the name of their town or village on one of the directional signs on the eight-foot high post.

After a month in the Statehouse, Wegweiser went to the lobby of the Warren Twp. (Indianapolis) branch library during March, but the Pandemic happened. The library closed in mid-March and the exhibit was locked up until the end of July, when it moved to the Irvington branch library for August and September. Wegweiser was exhibited at the Athenaeum Germanfest on 3 Oktober and then for a month in the Garfield branch library. The Beech Grove branch library hosted the exhibit in November and December.

During the month of January 2021 Wegweiser was out of the city, and in the Great Hall of the beautiful Rushville Public Library.

Librarians have reported that the exhibit was popular with library patrons. IGHS added two features to compliment the exhibit: complimentary copies of the popular *German Life* magazine and a suggested reading list. Wegweiser exhibits the names of Indiana towns and villages taken from cities and states in German-speaking Europe, such as Oldenburg, Hamburg, Berne, Vienna, Darmstadt, Frankfurt, New Alsace, and other places. Germans settled everywhere!

In March Wegweiser is bound for the Greenwood Public Library. We are grateful to the kind librarians who have hosted the exhibit.

William L. Selm

WEGWEISER SHOWS THE WAY

Wegweiser: German Place Names in Indiana has been educating the curious since it was unveiled in 2012. This traveling exhibit of the Indiana German Heritage

"Some More"
8 sticks
16 graham crackers
16 bars plain chocolate (any of the good plain brands broken in two)
16 marshmallows

Toasting instructions: Toast two marshmallows over the coals to a crisp gooey state and then put them inside a graham cracker and chocolate bar sandwich. The heat of the marshmallow between the halves of chocolate bar will melt the chocolate a bit. Though it tastes like "some more" one is really enough.

TRAMPING and TRAILING with the GIRL SCOUTS

THE GERMAN MATSCHBRÖTCHEN, THE GRANDFATHER OF THE AMERICAN S'MORE.

Many people have adapted their Saturday nights from dinner on the town to family fire pits and backyard grillouts. Hand in hand with the firepit comes making a batch of OGD (Ooey Gooey Delicious) S'mores, the dessert of summer. Alt-

(Continued from page 11)

ough its invention is credited in 1927 by Girl Scout Troop leader Loretta Scott Crew in her book *Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts*, it is part of an ancient family tree of marshmallow cake treats that goes back centuries or more and started in Germanic Europe.

The S'more or "Some More", as Ms. Crew called them in her cookbook, are part of a family of desserts that follow a three part rule. They must be a chocolate covered cream - be it meringue, marshmallow, or something even more gooey - over a cake, cookie, or biscuit. The s'more takes this formula to another level with the roasted marshmallow which then creates a melty chocolate goo when taken off the roasting stick and smashed between two Graham Crackers. The American roasted marshmallow as a treat came about in the 1890s when resort towns hosted marshmallow roasts, designed as a way for singles to meet each other. They were advertised as "excellent opportunities for flirtation because you could nibble off of someone else's stick."

Around the interwar period, this chocolate covered marshmallow formula spawned a worldwide marshmallow snack cake industry, that was born out of the American South. Many food historians believe that Ms. Crew's recipe was created as a homemade version of the commercially made Mallomar and Moon Pie. The Mallomar was the first commercial American marshmallow pie and was introduced to the public in 1913, now made by Nabisco. The even more popular Moon Pie came to the market in 1917, from the Chattanooga Bakery and named by a Kentucky coal miner. Both are forms of a chocolate marshmallow pie, which differ from the European version, in that

they are sandwiched top and bottom with a cookie, before being robed in chocolate, as opposed to just a bottom cookie.

The Germans have had a chocolate covered marshmallow with a bottom cake or cookie since at least the 1820s. They were commercially available in 1920. Most recently they have been renamed Schaumkuss,

(Foam Kiss) or Shokoladenkuss (chocolate kiss) to be more culturally appropriate from their older names of the same treat Mohrenkopf (Moor's



**Schaumkuss,
(Foam Kiss)**

Indiana German Heritage Society Newsletter

Head). And other non-pc epithets. Approximately 1 billion Schaumkuss are made in Germanic Europe annually. They're available at supermarkets, bakeries and at local fairs.

Of the 1 billion Schaumküsse Germans eat every year, the average child eats around 100 of them. German children eat them squashed between 2 halves of a Brötchen which they call Matschbrötchen", "Klatschbrötchen", "Datsch" or "Schokokussbrötchen". This is the formula of the s'more and the American chocolate covered cookie-pie. So are the Germans responsible for two of our most American treats - the s'more and Moon Pies too? Well, yes.

Excerpted from
dannwoellertthefoodetymologist.wordpress.com

SCHUYKILL COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA: HOME OF THE EASTER BUNNY AND THE BOILO COCKTAIL

Schuylkill County in northeastern Pennsylvania is coal country. It is the area along the Schuylkill River and the Pocono Mountains. But it is also known for two other prominent things - the birth of the American Easter Bunny, and a regional cocktail called Boilo that's finally being commercially bottled.

The area was first settled by immigrants from the German Palatinate and by Moravian missionaries from Saxony in the 1700s. One was a schoolmaster Johann Conrad (1734-1812) who made at least two known images of the *Oschter Haws* or Easter Hare carrying a basket of eggs (that according to German lore, he laid) as rewards for his students around 1810. That dates the Easter Bunny image about 40 years prior to that of Santa Claus, first made in the United States by another Germanic immigrant - Thomas Nast - who drew the jolly old elf in the 1850s. One of these images of the Easter Bunny is at the Winterthur Museum in Berks County, PA, and the other is at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia.

Now after the wave of Germanic immigrants in the 1700s, there was a more recent wave of eastern European immigrants from Poland and Lithuania, most of whom found work in the coal mines. The eastern Europeans shared an Easter tradition with the Pennsylvania Dutch, that of scratching elaborate designs in eggs dyed with natural materials like onion skins.

But unlike the teetotalling Pennsylvania Dutch,

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

the eastern European coal miners needed an alcohol fueled cocktail to warm them through the cold winters. So, they adapted their honey liquor called *Krupnikas*, to local ingredients and created *Boilo*. It quickly became a holiday standard and spread outside of the Lithuanian community, also serving as a cold and flu remedy. It is a strong liquor spiced with warm spices you might find in a gingerbread cookie, with herbal notes to temper the sweetness. And there are hundreds of variations in the area from the many families who make it themselves.

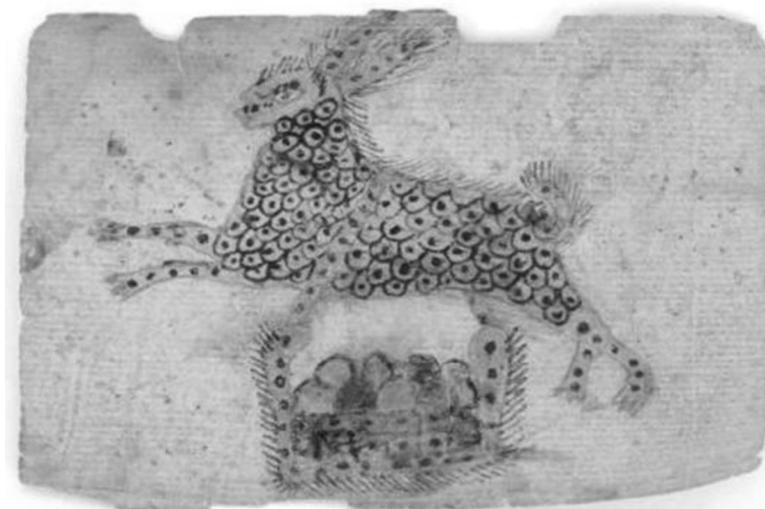
A typical recipe calls for orange juice, ginger ale, cinnamon sticks, oranges, lemons, honey raisins and cloves. And the alcohol part comes typically from Four Queens whiskey, formerly made in the area, with a glup of Everclear for good measure. Most don't boil with the alcohol, but some do. And others add variations like apples, peaches, blueberries, pink peppercorns, or even schnapps.

Only in the last five or so years, with the boom of craft cocktailing and micro distilleries, have people started to commercially bottle it.

Although originally a holiday drink, many families in the area have been making their own version of this hooch over the last month in quarantine and posting pics of their batches on social media. Sounds like a good way to pass the time!

Excerpted from

dannwoellertthefoodetymologist.wordpress.com



The earliest known image of the Easter Bunny ca. 1810.



INTERNATIONAL GERMAN GENEALOGY PARTNERSHIP

Is German genealogy one of your New Year's resolutions for 2021? If so, be sure to mark your calendars for 17-24 July 2021. The IGGP Conference, which only takes place every two years, is your chance to take a deep dive into all things German genealogy - and learn from the experts themselves.

This year, our conference will be virtual, which means you can tune in from anywhere in the world! While we will miss seeing all of you in person, this virtual format allows for a greater number of connections with your cousins from abroad. We are especially excited about our "Connections" break out sessions to help you meet up with people from all over the globe who share your regions of interest!

For more information, check out our flyers:

- English Flyer: <http://bit.ly/IGGCflyer>
- German Flyer: http://bit.ly/IGGCflyer_German

We are looking forward to celebrating German genealogy with you!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Katherine Schober
IGGP Virtual Conference
Publicity Chair
language@sktranslations.com



Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America 2021 Spring Meeting



The Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America, will hold their 2021 Spring Meeting on Saturday, April 24 via Zoom.

The featured speaker will be James Beidler, who is a well-known lecturer at regional and national conferences. He is the author of *The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide* and *The Family Tree Historical Atlas of Germany* as well as a number of other books. Living in Pennsylvania, he is quite active in organizations within the state and in publishing numerous articles about Pennsylvania research. He will give 4 presentations:

- Pennsylvania's Launching Pads into the Midwest
- Researching German Families in Pennsylvania
- Digging Pennsylvania Roots from Your Desktop
- Go with the Flow: Finding All the Newspapers You Need!

For a flyer with full details and a registration form see: <https://inpalam.org/eventListings.php?nm=52#er4>.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: indianapalam@gmail.com

(Continued from page 8)

not resist. German exchange taught me an abundance of lessons. I learned independence, confidence, and appreciation for our differences. A month away from home forced me to step out of my comfort zone, and learn to do things for myself. In addition, I embraced my mistakes. Although I sometimes would mess up my words, I would learn from them, and it ultimately was a great experience. In order to remember my great memories forever, and

share them with others, my friend and I put together a video of some of our favorite aspects of the trip. We hope this video will be used in the future to promote the exchange to younger high schoolers.

Since I returned, I have wanted to do everything I could do to promote the importance of my German heritage in the community. My first step in doing this was within my own school. Last year, I was the president of the high school German Club. I recruited many new members, including those not even enrolled in German classes. I organized creating German themed t-shirts, as well as going to Rosenvolk, a medieval themed festival, and visiting the Evansville art museum. The year before, I organized and created a German themed day at the local museum for young children to learn about German traditions. It was entitled Kinder Karneval, and reflected the German holiday called Fasching. This is similar to Mardi Gras. This process was extremely rewarding for me because I was able to learn more about other cultures, and share it with others.

My German heritage has always been a big part of my life, and I want to share that with as many people as possible. I think it is so important for everyone to learn new languages, whatever it may be and experience different cultures. Being educated on other ways of life and immersing yourself in these seemingly strange traditions is something I believe everyone should experience. This is why I have done so many things through the years to promote German, and I hope to continue sharing my love of the beautiful culture.

Lauren is the daughter of Max and Jen Verkamp and attends Jasper High School

Celebrate Your German Heritage



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or

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Indiana German Heritage Society Membership *Today!*

www.ighs.org/membership.html



STRASSENFEST 2021 TO CELEBRATE RECENT CULTURAL INNOVATIONS



The 2021 Strassenfest will celebrate the recent cultural and art-centric developments in the city.

With the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center and the renovated Astra Theatre bringing performance and visual arts into the city's downtown, the Strassenfest Committee chose Jim and Pat Thyen as the 2021 Hofmarschall and Grand Marshall in recognition of their philanthropic support of those projects as well as leadership in developing and cultivating the arts in the community.

The 2021 theme — Jasper Strassenfest — A Cultural Experience — brings the nearly completed Thyen-Clark Cultural Center to the forefront as a vision for Jasper as a culturally relevant and growing city in Southern Indiana.

As a tie in to the overall theme, the committee chose the Thyens as the Strassenfest Hofmarschalls to preside over the 2021 festival and to lead the parade as grand marshals on Sunday. The Thyen's were nominated and chosen to serve jointly as Hofmarschalls because of their philanthropic generosity and efforts to promote and preserve the cultural arts and arts-related facilities in Jasper.

Jim and Pat's philanthropic generosity made it possible to not only complete the renovation of the downtown Astra Theatre but also provided the final push to move forward with the construction and ultimate completion of the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center.

In making the announcement, the committee reflected on the tough decision to cancel the 2020 Strassenfest.

"The decision to cancel the 2020 Jasper Strassenfest was no doubt the toughest decision the Strassenfest Committee has ever had to make in the 16 years I've been on the committee," said 2021 festival chairman, Bob Bleemel.

"But following that decision in late May of last summer, the committee immediately started planning for the 2021 festival," he added. "The committee continues to meet every month, moving forward with planning for the 2021 Strassenfest to be held August 5th through

8th, in and around downtown Jasper."

The attached official button design features the wording of the theme along with a background facsimile of the front entrance of the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center.

The committee is also moving forward with a half-pot ticket fundraiser for this year's Strassenfest, with ticket sales beginning in late June or early July, with the final drawing to be held on August 11th. A percentage of the net proceeds from the half-pot will go towards the Dubois County Scholastic Excellence Award Scholarship fund to benefit Dubois County students attending VU Jasper, as well as future improvements to the Jasper Strassenfest.

For more information about 2021 Jasper Strassenfest activities and events, contact the Jasper Chamber of Commerce at 812-482-6866, visit jasperstrassenfest.org or follow the Strassenfest on Facebook.

STRASSENVORFEST A “PREP FOR THE FEST” EVENT

The Jasper Deutscher Verein (Jasper German Club) will have a community, family friendly event, StrassenVORfest on Sunday, July 11th, from noon to 3pm at the Moose Lodge in Jasper. This will be a "Prep for the Fest" event.

StrassenVORfest will help usher in the 2021 Strassenfest which will be held in Jasper on August 5 to August 8.

There will be German dancing, singing, and German themed coloring for kids. The Strassenfest wood cut-out will be available for those who wish to take pictures.

There will be 2021 Strassenfest buttons and mugs for sale as well as various sizes of Strassenfest bunting, slightly used and new traditional German clothing items. Also available will be a variety of vintage Strassenfest souvenirs and German themed bows for sale.

Come for lunch. The Jasper Moose Lodge will have items from their menu available for sale. And enjoy the afternoon with us!!!!

For more information, contact Paul Siegel at 812-499-9690. The address for the Moose Lodge #1175 is 2507 Newton Street, Jasper. On US 231 N. A pleasant drive south using I-69!!



INDIANA GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE CALENDAR



STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS

Wednesday, March 10: Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program: *The Poetry of Norbert Krapf*

ZOOM Presentation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pf-muqDojHNYvc1Y3xLfU5Ra0QqVSkmhg>. Register in advance for this session. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



Indiana Poet Laureate (2008-2010) Norbert Krapf will read a selection of poems from his 2019 *Indiana Hill Country Poems* and his new (2020) *Southwest by Midwest*. Herr Krapf is well-known for his descriptive verses drawn from his Dubois County Heimat and his family roots in Franconia. Decades ago he wrote reflections on his family history in *Finding the Grain*, a must-read for anyone interested in the German-American experience at a personal level. His volumes of poetry are published by Dos Madres Press of Loveland, Ohio. *Finding the Grain* is available from NCSA Literatur.

Wednesday, April 14: *The Germans of Haymarket: The Impact of German Radicals in the Struggle for the Eight-Hour Workday and the Making of May Day.*

ZOOM Presentation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZModuChpjIvGN1hD6guuQ32rgmC-NGyw7oB>. Register in advance for this session. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Nikolaus Selm presents on the origins of May Day as the International Labor Day. German-immigrant labor leaders, political radicals, and anarchists organized mass demonstrations in Chicago in support of the radical idea of the eight-hour workday. The demonstration and riot of 4 May 1881 was famous worldwide. Germans are found throughout this story, even the sculptors of the memorials to the police and the radicals.

Wednesday, May 12: *Api's Berlin Diaries: My Quest to Understand My Grandfather's Nazi Past*

ZOOM Presentation: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdeyvqzkpEtNxVkp3BzIjj6R5IB_8vJjX Register in advance for this session. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Professor Emerita (IU South Bend) Gabrielle Robinson presents her 2020 memoir addressing her grandfather's wartime diaries. He was a physician in 1945 Berlin. Dr. Robinson is a Berlin native and authored *German Settlers of South Bend* in 2003.

Wednesday, June 9: *German Landmark Preservation in Dubois County*

ZOOM Presentation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrdeqvqDMpHdYF54S-tvJh8AiKj1JIMywP>. Register in advance for this session. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



Architect and Jasper-native, Ron Flick, reports on recent efforts to preserve German landmarks, such as the 1903 Dr. Alois Wollenmann House and the 1877 Chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows, both in Ferdinand.

For the immediate future all Stammtisch programs will be held virtually via Zoom. They are in English, free of charge, open to the public, and begin at 7:30 PM. Please register in advance for each session. You will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Friday, March 19: *The 2021 IGHS virtual Annual Meeting and Symposium* will begin with the Business Meeting at 5 pm. For information see the Newsletter, Page 4

Friday, April 2, 10 am: *The annual Deutschsprachiger Karfreitags-Gottesdienst (German Language Good Friday Worship Service)* at the Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ, 603 North New Jersey Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. For more information contact: zion@zioneucc.org.



Saturday, April 17, 2021, 12 noon: MKC Book Club—Dr. Sara Luly (Kansas State University) will present *ETA Hoffmann's 1816 short story, The Sandman.*



This well-known German tale begins with three letters that center the characters of Nathanael, Clara, and Lothar. In addition to setting up the main dramatic elements of the story, they reveal the legend of the Sandman, who would prey upon children who wouldn't go to bed and steal their eyes. This legend haunts Nathanael throughout the story, following him from his adolescence to adulthood, bearing his childhood trauma and sowing uncertainty in the narrative reality.

The texts, originally published in German, are available in English and all discussions will be conducted in English on Zoom. Themes for forthcoming MKC book club discussions are updated on the Max Kade site as the event approaches. To get started, simply procure the book (consider purchasing from Indy Reads to support local literacy efforts). RSVP [here](#) to attend.

MKC Book Club:

Each semester, eminent scholars will join the MKC Book Club to lead us through a text they find inspiring, interesting or resonant.

The texts, originally published in German, are available in English and all discussions will be conducted in English on Zoom.

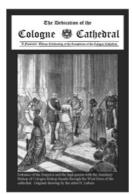
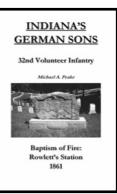
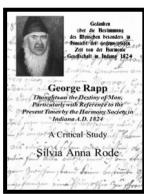
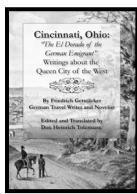
To get started, simply procure the book (consider purchasing from [Indy Reads](#) to support local literacy efforts). Forthcoming themes for book club discussion and updated and to RSVP to attend [here](#).

Saturday, April 24: *The Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America 2021 Spring Meeting* on via Zoom. The featured speaker will be James Beidler, who is a well-known lecturer at regional and national conferences. For a flyer with full details and a registration form see: <https://inpalam.org/eventListings.php?nm=52#er4>. Questions, contact: indianapalam@gmail.com.

TBD May 2021: Antje Petty (Max Kade Institute – UW Madison) will present on *German-American attitudes toward illness and health*. For more information, contact Nichole M. Neuman, nmneuman@iu.edu.

Sunday, July 11th, from noon - 3pm in Jasper: *StrassenVORfest A “Prep for the Fest” Event*. Help to usher in the 2021 Jasper Strassenfest, August 5 to August 8. There will be German dancing, singing, and German themed events for kids. Come for lunch at the Jasper Moose Lodge, 2507 Newton Street, Jasper, and enjoy the afternoon with us! For more information, contact Paul Siegel at 812-499-9690.

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Some

Fluent

Knowledge of Old German Script (Sütterlin):

None

Some

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Yes

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Auf Deutsch



„Herzlichen Glückwunsch, Joe Biden und Kamala Harris, zu Ihrer Amtseinführung, die eine Feier der amerikanischen Demokratie war. Ich freue mich auf ein neues Kapitel deutsch-amerikanischer Freundschaft und Zusammenarbeit.“

Bundeskanzlerin Angela Merkel

"Congratulations, @POTUS Joe Biden and @vp Kamala Harris, on your inauguration, which was a celebration of American democracy. I look forward to a new chapter of German-American friendship and cooperation."

— German Chancellor Angela Merkel

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