Frohe Feiertage 2016! As the old adage goes, “Another year has come and gone.” As such, I am happy to report that the IGHS had another terrific year in 2015 as the organization achieved several accomplishments and laid the groundwork for some important initiatives coming up.

In March the board held a very successful Strategic Planning Meeting at the Athenaeum to review the organization’s mission and vision statements while also focusing its attention on key areas to enhance the organization’s success going forward with the primary emphasis on public relations and membership. Our previous Strategic Planning Meeting was held in 2010.

Also in March we held the 31st IGHS annual meeting and symposium outside of Indiana for the first time in nearby Cincinnati where the symposium topic was Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley: Path for German Immigration to Indiana. Both the annual meeting which was held in the legendary Munich Room at Mecklenburg Gardens and the symposium were well attended and our gratitude goes out to Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann and Dr. Giles Hoyt for organizing a successful and unique meeting.

Again the organization awarded candidates interested in the Youth for Understanding (YFU), German American Partnership Program (GAPP), and the Indiana University Honors Program in Foreign Language (IUHPFL) overseas programs to high school student candidates. We were excited to announce that our annual German-American Day Essay Contest for High School Students expanded to the college level. We also continued our shared sponsorship (shared with the Max Kade Center and the Athenaeum Foundation) of the Daniel

(Continued on page 3)

Colonel Richard Lieber, Conservationist and Park builder: The Indiana Years
By Robert Allen Frederick, Ph.D.

The career of Richard Lieber is at once interesting and unusual. The young German brought with him a love for political liberty which was not enjoyed by his people under the rule of the Kaisers. Although he did not plan to remain in the United States, he married Emma Rappaport in 1893 and settled in Indianapolis, Indiana. Between 1893 and 1916, Lieber busied himself in journalism, business, and civic ventures in the Indiana capital. Astounded at the high insurance rates exacted from the city's businesses and residents, Lieber made a thorough study of the situation. As a member of the mayor's advisory council and a friend of several governors, he was in a position to fight for improvement of the fire-fighting facilities of Indianapolis. After just five years' work, he succeeded in reducing the insurance rates for Indianapolis citizens by $150,000 per year. He also worked to create the position of state fire marshal, a merit plan for city and state civil servants, and primary election reforms.

Although successful in his business pursuits, in 1916 Lieber turned his attention to creating a system of state parks as a permanent memorial to the centennial of Hoosier statehood. Three years later, because of his leadership, the General Assembly passed legisla-
Renewal Time!

Dear Friends and Loyal Supporters: As of January 1 it is time to renew your membership for 2016. The IGHS membership year runs concurrent with the calendar year.

If you are uncertain of your membership status, check your newsletter label, send an e-mail to ighsmembership@gmail.com, or call Kent Robinson at 317-299-5760. Please use the renewal form in this newsletter or renew online at http://ighs.org/.

If you have not yet renewed by the date of our Annual Meeting (March 18 and 19), we will assume that you are no longer interested in continuing your membership, so you will not receive any future newsletters.

As a not-for-profit membership organization, we rely on membership fees, donations and occasional grants to provide the essential support for activities and programs of the organization, as well as, 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 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 donations are tax-exempt. Checks may be sent to the Indiana German Heritage Society, 401 East Michigan Street, 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!

Did You Know?

Now You Can Renew Your IGHS Membership Online!

IGHS.org
In October, the IGHS awarded its 9th annual Hoosier German American of the Year award to Othmar Grueninger. We were extremely pleased to announce in November that after nearly eight years of hard work our very own and IGHS co-founder Bill Selm was successful in having the National Park System Advisory Board National Historic Landmarks Committee accept and approve the nomination of the Athenaeum (Das Deutsche Haus) as a National Historic Landmark (NHL).

Lastly, in December the IGHS held its 7th Annual Sankt Nikolaus 5K – 5M run/walk that benefitted Riley Hospital for Children and its 30th annual Sankt Nikolaus celebration at the Athenaeum.

During the year our membership management team switched to a web base system to enhance our membership program that allows prospective members to join and permits existing members to renew online, receive quarterly newsletters electronically and in color, and other enhancements to provide better communication to our members. Additionally, our public relations team is in the process of implementing a redesign of the IGHS website. The organization continues to gain strides in the construction work on the Wyneken house restoration project in Decatur, IN, and the organization continued its participation at the Fort Wayne Germanfest, Irvington Halloween Festival, Indiana State Fair, Oldenburg’s Freudenfest, and International Festival in Indianapolis.

At this time I would like to thank our new board members for joining and getting straight to work: Heinz Roesch and Joy Gieschen. Additionally, I want to thank all the individuals who were identified in the last IGHS newsletter that made direct donations to the organization as it is you that allows our volunteer group to continue its important work. I implore you to donate to the organization, if possible, via the donation website portal or U.S. mail to allow us to continue perpetuating Indiana German heritage.

In 2016 we expect to continue our essay and scholarship contests along with many of our existing projects and programs; however, we are expecting to do the following:

Although we typically hold our annual meeting and symposium every other year in Indianapolis, we will be having our 32nd Annual IGHS Meeting and Symposium at Turkey Run State Park on March 18th and 19th. The theme of this year’s symposium is in keeping with the 2016 Bicentennial Celebration of Indiana’s statehood: “The German-American Landscape of Indiana: 200 Years.”

Celebration of the 500th annual German Beer Purity Law - Reinheitsgebot with a competition for breweries and individuals at the Athenaeum in October

As we look forward to 2016, there are many areas where the organization will need to continue its focus particularly on growing our membership and expanding our outreach programs. Please join us in 2016 as we will be travelling to Turkey Run State Park. Plans for the annual meeting will soon be made available on the IGHS website: http://ighs.org.


Brian Griesemer
IGHS President

**Lieber (Continued from page 1)**

The conservation movement in Indiana made highly significant gains because Lieber proved to be both an able theorist and a successful administrator. His philosophy and management led the development of one of the nation's outstanding park systems. Under his leadership, Indiana pioneered several important phases of park development. Of these the most notable was the policy of making the parks self-supporting and building state park inns. By the early 1930's Indiana shared top park honors and conservation reputation with New York and California. Indiana's parks were selected and operated on high standards. During the period the department's work was accomplished on a strictly non-political basis. The excellence of Lieber's work in Indiana gave him an opportunity to influence the growth and development of similar ventures in oth-
32nd ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM
“German-American Landscape of Indiana
A Bicentennial Look”

Presented by
Indiana German Heritage Society
In cooperation with the IUPUI Max Kade German-American Center

March 18th and 19th 2016
Turkey Run State Park

Friday March 18th

5-6 p.m. Inn at Turkey Run State Park, Dogwood Room. Annual membership meeting.

6-7:30 p.m. Dinner at the Inn

7:30-8:30 p.m. Inn at Turkey Run State Park, Dogwood Room. After dinner program: "Earliest German Immigrants to Indiana." Dr. Giles R. Hoyt, Professor emeritus, IUPUI

Saturday March 19th

8:30-9:00 a.m. Inn at Turkey Run State Park, Dogwood Room. Registration. Coffee and refreshments

9:00 a.m. Dogwood Room Welcome Brian Griesemer, President IGHS

9:15 a.m. "The Indiana Germans and the Building of Indiana"
William Selm, Herron School of Art, IUPUI

10:00 a.m. “Lieber and the Land: Germans Shaping Indiana Parklands”
Glory-June Greiff, Public Historian

10:45 a.m. Coffee break

11:00 a.m. “A Guide to Col. Lieber”
Gregory Redding, Professor of German, Wabash College

11:45 a.m. “Turkey Run State Park: History in the Making” Barbara Tibbets, Interpretive Naturalist, Turkey Run State Park

12:30 p.m. Lunch at the Inn. Order from the menu.

2:00 p.m. Walk to the Lieber Cabin and Memorial
32nd ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM
“German-American Landscape of Indiana
A Bicentennial Look”

March 18th and 19th 2016
Turkey Run State Park

REGISTRATION

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Total enclosed: $________

Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _____________________________________________________
Email/Phone: ________________________________________________________

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

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

For more information about the annual meeting and symposium, contact Giles R. Hoyt,
IUPUI Max Kade Center, 317-464-9004, ghoyt@iupui.edu

Directions: For directions, search Google Maps or Mapquest.com or the website listed below.

Lodging: A block of rooms have been reserved at the Inn at Turkey Run State Park.
www.turkeyrunstatepark.com or www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2964.htm. Please call
1-877-500-6151 and make your reservations as soon as possible. Let them know
you are with the IGHS symposium.
er states, which benefited greatly from the pioneering spirit of the Indiana parks. In recognition of his leadership in the state park field, he was elected president of the National Conference on State Parks for seven successive years. He later became the first chairman of the board of directors for the conference. Lieber enjoyed the interest and respect of the National Park Service and was acknowledged by federal conservation authorities as an expert in the development of state parks. He influenced the national park philosophy and after 1933 served the National Park Service as a consultant and member of its Advisory Board.

Richard Lieber's contribution to the field of park building and management increased with his age. Even after his resignation from the directorship of the Indiana Department of Conservation, he continued to gain national stature and reputation. The foundation of his success is based on his Indiana years. Thus, they take on a new and greater significance. The state provided him a natural testing ground of high potential. In time he presented her citizens with parks and memorials of outstanding quality and beauty. To his adopted country he bequeathed a conservation consciousness. To the state park movement he gave a sense of direction.

[Editor's Note: Dr. "Bob" Frederick wrote his doctoral dissertation on Richard Lieber. He retired to Colorado where he continued his Lieber research. Bob died recently and he will be missed. IGHS members will remember him as an early Newsletter editor with Ruth Reichmann as Managing Editor. The IUPUI University Library and Archives received many books from Bob Frederick, some of them from Lieber's personal library.

Dewig Meats was founded in 1916 in Haubstadt, an area with considerable German heritage and has been winning accolades for its German-inspired meats and sausages from local and national "foodies" for their Braunschweiger, bratwurst, sausages, German bologna, and hot dogs.

If you’ve ever wondered exactly how sausage is made, Dewig sausage maker Aaron Kiesel says it’s a simple combination of quality local products and family recipe. He says they still use a good old fashioned cooking method called “water cooking” in a giant kettle. “About 50 percent of the product is liver because it is a liver sausage,” he said. “We also like to put bacon in ours, which adds flavor along with the seasoning which includes onions and mustard.”

In addition to the Braunschweiger, Dewig Meats has a line of local beef and pork, hams, sausages, German bologna, hot dogs, bratwurst, snack sticks, turkey, cheeses, beer and wine among others.

For more information, you can call 812-768-6208, stop by their store at 100 Maple Street in Haubstadt or visit them online at http://dewigmeats.com.

Excerpted from the Princeton Daily Clarion

Indiana Breweries

Commercial breweries have operated in Indiana since German settlers in the utopian community of New Harmony began selling their surplus beer in 1819. By 1860, there were 61 brewers in Indiana. Approximately 90 percent were German, brewing lager-style beers.

One of the largest breweries in state history was the

Indiana maker of German-inspired meats

Exuberant meats

Southern Indiana is rich in German ancestry and Darla Kiesel of Dewig Meats in Haubstadt says one way they carry on the traditions of their forefathers is with their prize winning meats.

Indianapolis Brewing Co.

Exuberant meats

Southern Indiana is rich in German ancestry and Darla Kiesel of Dewig Meats in Haubstadt says one way they carry on the traditions of their forefathers is with their prize winning meats.
Indianapolis Brewing Company, formed in 1889. Other pre-Prohibition breweries of note were C.L. Centlivre of Fort Wayne, Indiana Brewing Company in New Albany, J.B. Garnier of Lawrenceburg, and Kamm and Schellinger in Mishawaka.

State and national prohibition laws, put into effect in 1918 and 1920, all but destroyed the state's brewing industry. Subsequent competition from large brewers such as Anheuser-Busch had an arguably worse effect than Prohibition. By 1961, there were only four large commercial breweries in Indiana. With the 1997 closing of the Evansville Brewing Company, the number fell to zero.

In the 1990s, several microbreweries quietly began producing beer in Indiana again. A virtual renaissance has followed in the 21st century, with dozens of microbreweries now operating across the state.

Indiana Historical Society has formed the Indiana Breweries Collection, which includes posters, photographs and artifacts from the state's brewing history. Of particular note in the collection are pre-Prohibition advertising posters. These were lavish productions, featuring full-color illustrations of grand manufacturing campuses - most of which were purely imaginary. They provide a striking contrast to today's beer market and its focus on small-scale craft production.

**The Reinheitsgebot**

In 1516, the Kingdom of Bavaria enacted the world's first consumer protection law regulating the allowable ingredients for beer: hops, malt, and water. After the discovery of yeast centuries later, the number of allowable ingredients was expanded to four. The Reinheitsgebot, though no longer binding on brewers, is still used as a mark of quality, heritage, and pride in the German beer industry.

As Germans began settling in Indiana, they brought their love of beer with them; establishing numerous breweries across the state. The dreams of German and brewers were quashed by the double blows of Prohibition and World War One. Recently, however, there has been a resurgence of breweries in Indiana.

In honor of 500 years of beer purity and 200 years of Indiana statehood, the Indiana German Heritage Society is holding a brewing competition at the Athenaeum in October to crown the Kaiser, Koenig and Kurfuerst (Emperor, King, and Prince) of Hoosier brewers.

There will be two categories of entrants: twenty professional brewers ($150 entry fee) and ten homebrewers ($25 entry fee). The two categories of entrants will be judged and awarded prizes separately. The three allowable styles of beer are Oktoberfest, German Pils, and Bock.

A public tasting event for the competition entries will be held at the Athenaeum on 2 October 2016. Entrants are expected to attend and will be provided with a table, ice, a dump bucket, and tasting cups. We expect around 500 attendees at the event and recommend bringing a half-barrel of the entry beer. Winners of the competition will be crowned at the 2016 Athenaeum GermanFest on 9 October 2016.

Proceeds from this event will go to the Indiana German Heritage Society and the Athenaeum Foundation, both 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

For more information, tickets and entry forms, please contact Lee Little at ighs.reinheitsgebot@gmail.com.

Prost!

**Lee Little**
Secretary, Indiana German Heritage Society Chairman, Brewing Competition Committee

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**The Rise and Fall of the Billy Goat Beer**

by Stephen J. Taylor

Thanks to Germany’s turbulent 19th-century history, many Germans had to leave their homeland behind. In the wake of failed revolutions, some came to Lockerbie Square, a place known colloquially as German-

(Continued on page 10)
ENTRY FORM

Name of entrant: ________________________________________________________________

Contact name: ________________________________________________________________

Contact email: ________________________________________________________________

Contact phone #: _____________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________

Category (pick one): ☐ Pro-brew ☐ Home-brew

Name of beer: __________________________________________________________________

Style of Beer: __________________________________________________________________

How did you hear about the competition? __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

By signing this entry form entrants agree to:
✓ Create a beer in accordance to the rules listed on the rules sheet
✓ Abide by all rules at all stages of the competition
✓ Pay the prescribed entry fee.
✓ Be present on the day of the judging
✓ Chill out, relax, and have a good time creating your beer
✓ Hold the Indiana German Heritage Society, Indiana Brewer’s Guild, the Athenaeum Foundation, and any and all other involved entities harmless and waives any and all liability relating to the competition described in the rules.

Specific due dates for entries will be provided once all entry forms have been received.

____________________________________  _________________________
Signature of entrant      Date

Please complete this form and return it with entry fee to Indiana German Heritage Society, c/o Brewing Competition Committee, 401 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204] by 31 March 2016. Late entries will not be accepted. A confirmation email will be sent to each entrant upon receipt of the application. Good luck and thank you for your participation! Questions? Contact: Lee Little at ighs.reinheitsgebot@gmail.com.
IGHS Reinheitsgebot Brewing Competition Rules

The Reinheitsgebot (Bavarian Beer Purity Law) of 1516 mandated that beer be comprised of only three ingredients: water, barley, and hops. Yeast would not be discovered by Louis Pasteur until 1857 and as a result was left out of the recipe. The law initially applied only to lagered (bottom-fermenting) beers, but soon spread to others types as well.

2016 is the 500th Anniversary of the Reinheitsgebot and the 200th Anniversary of Indiana Statehood. Accordingly, The Indiana German Heritage Society (IGHS) is hosting a competition among Indiana Brewers to be crowned “The Kaiser of Hoosier Beer.” The competition will take place in August or September 2016.

Rules for the 2016 IGHS Reinheitsgebotsfünfhundertjahrestagsbrauereiwettkampf (Reinheitsgebot 500th Anniversary Brewery Competition) are as follows:

The beer itself:
- All entries must consist only of the following ingredients: Water, malted barley or wheat, hops, and yeast. Aside from these broad categories, the particular strain or cultivar of each ingredient is up to the entrant.
- Entrants must list the particular ingredients used. On the day of the competition, entrants must make known the ingredients on the provided form.
- Malt extract and priming sugar are allowed.
- Beers may be any one of the following styles (please view the Beer Judging Certification Program’s Guidelines for more information on these styles: http://www.bjcp.org/stylecenter.php): German Pils; Oktoberfest/Märzen; Traditional Bock
- All entries must have a German-inspired name.
- A minimum of 5 gallons of the entry beer are required for the People’s Choice Competition, though a larger quantity is encouraged.
- In addition to this 5-gallon minimum, an additional five (5) 12-ounce bottles (one for each judge) must be submitted 30 days before the tasting for judging.
- The bottles must list, or be submitted with a list:
  - Ingredients used in brewing
  - Name of beer
  - Name of entrant

The Competition:
- There will be two categories entrants: home-brew and pro-brew.
- The home-brew category comprises all entrants who make beer at an amateur level.
- The pro-brew category comprises all entrants who are making beer professionally.
- Due to space considerations, only 30 total brewers will be accepted, divided into the following categories:
  - 10 homebrewers (There is a $25 entry for home-brewers)
  - 20 professional brewers (There is a $150 fee for pro-brewers)
- Entry fees must be submitted with this entry form using a check made out to Indiana German Heritage Society.
- Entrants are allowed only one beer per category which adheres to the contest rules.
- Entries will be judged in a combination of the following ways:
  - Both home-brew and pro-brew categories will have a winner. Each of the categories will have a first, second, and third place winner.
    - People’s choice
      - Attendees will sample each beer and rank the entries according to their preference. Popular vote will then be tallied for each category.
    - Judge’s choice
      - A panel of BJCP-certified judges will comprise the official judges. The host will determine the identity of these judges.

The top three entries in both Home and Pro categories will be awarded prizes. The winners will be announced at the Athenaeum GermanFest on October 9, 2016.
Names that Americans might still be familiar with include the popular, seasonal Maibock (May), Eisbock (so-called after a freezing process that concentrates alcohol and flavor), and Doppelbock. This last one was a doubly-hopped version of Fastenbock first brewed by German Franciscan monks, the Paulaner Friars, who considered it “liquid bread” at times when solid food wasn’t permitted.

Some of the great Indianapolis families won their fame and fortune in the brewing industry. In the late 1800s, German-born Albert Lieber, grandfather of novelist Kurt Vonnegut, served as second president of the Indianapolis Brewing Company, an amalgam of three formerly independent breweries that joined forces in 1889. Prior to that year, these companies were run by German immigrants Peter Lieber, C.F. Schmidt, and Caspar Maus. Their rivals at the Home Brewing Company also turned out an “unsurpassable” (unübertrefflich) variety of the popular Bockbier sold both on tap (an Zapf) and “durch unser Bottling Department.”

Unfortunately, in the decade after 1914, the local German community suffered a triple whammy. During the lead-up to World War I, German-Americans often had to deal with accusations of being “unpatriotic.” Contrary to popular belief, animosity against the militarism of Kaiser Wilhelm wasn’t the only thing fueling dislike, fear, and outright hatred of German immigrants. German-language education, sympathy for labor unions, and of course, their love for beer were huge factors.

When Prohibitionists tried to shut off free-flowing taps, their ire wasn’t only directed toward the real dangers of heavy drinking. Dislike of foreigners was nearly as strong a reason. Germans and Irish, after all, found little conflict between drinking and churchgoing. This, in turn, threw more kindling on the fire of anti-Catholicism, a major, overlooked factor behind the effort to ban booze. Many temperance advocates made no effort to hide their anti-Catholicism and xenophobia. A common accusation against priests and monks, for example, was that they were alcoholics.

With the war revving up, enemies of beer production saw breweries as a waste of grain and manpower. With
the loyalty of German-American drinkers openly questioned, it’s no surprise that the governor signed Indiana up for early Prohibition in 1917 — the year of American entry into the war and three years before national Prohibition.

In the wake of jingoism and mass hysteria, the Indiana Tribüne was silenced in 1917 alongside countless other German-language papers all over America. Then, a year after the war ended, Indiana joined several other states by banning the teaching of German to elementary and high-school students. From 1919 into the early 1920s, teaching an elementary-school student how to speak the “Hun language” was a criminal offense punishable by up to six months in jail.

Though the 1930s saw the demise of Prohibition, most of these small businesses never recovered. After World War II, the rise of corporate mega-breweries helped keep microbreweries in virtual oblivion. Fortunately, their amazing resurrection over the last few decades, which has breathed life back into many hard-hit communities and neighborhoods — including a few here in Indy — is well underway.


Portrait of Fr. Franz Joseph Rudolf

The portrait was given to Fr. Rudolph on August 10, 1863 by the parish which he had founded, Holy Family, in honor of the Silver Jubilee of his Ordination to the priesthood.

An excerpt from the 1901 book Souvenir of the Golden Jubilee - Sisters of Saint Francis Oldenburg describes this occasion: "August 7th, 1863, Rev. Father Francis Joseph Rudolph, the Founder and Spiritual Father of the Community, celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his Ordination to the priesthood. The Sisters of Oldenburg, as well as the neighboring parishes of Enochburg, Morris, St. Nicholas, St. Peters, St. Mary’s of the Rock, and St. Philomena, observed this happy anniversary in the most solemn manner. Neither did Millhousen permit herself to be outdone by her sister mission, which were at one time under the firm and happy guidance of the zealous and saintly Rev. F. J. Rudolph. Clad in the beautiful and most costly sacerdotal vestments, which had been presented to him on this occasion, the venerable Jubilarian was conducted in procession from the Chapel to the parish church, which was tastefully decorated by the Sisters. They joined their most fervent thanksgivings with those which their Reverend Father and Pastor poured forth to God that day from a heart overflowing with gratitude. The festivities of the day concluded with a dramatic entertainment given by the pupils of the Academy. On this happy occasion, they surprised him with a fine oil painting of himself executed by the late and much lamented artist, John Schmitt, Covington, Kentucky".

A noted church painter who worked throughout the Midwest during the last half of the 19th Century, Johann Schmitt was born on November 17, 1825 in Heinstadt, Baden. As a young man, Schmitt received training in the fine arts in Munich. His talent was quickly recognized by the leading religious painters of that city. The United States offered more opportunities for religious painters than Schmitt's native Germany. Hundreds of thousands of Germans were immigrating to the United States.

These Germans were establishing parishes, convents, and monasteries in the new world and they needed religious art. Schmitt made the decision to immigrate in the 1850's. He initially settled in New York City where he met his future wife, Margaret Reichert, also a German immigrant. Among Schmitt's earliest commissions in New York was to produce murals for the St. Alphonse Church in New York. The completed murals drew great praise. His rise to fame was fast and was sought to paint his murals at many locations along the Eastern seaboard. In 1862 he was drawn to the Cincinnati area, which had become a center of German American culture and art, by Benedictine Brother Cosmas Wolf to be the principal altar painter of the newly founded Covington Altar Building Stock Company.

This was a prolific studio that designed and created everything from altars, paintings, pulpits, church windows, and sacred vessels. Brother Cosmas assembled some of the best church artists of the nineteenth century to assist him, including Johann Schmitt and William Lamprecht.
He also took on an apprentice by the name of Frank Duveneck, who later became one of the most important artists and teachers in the American Impression movement and is said to have assisted Schmitt with the altarpieces at Holy Family.

The Covington Altar Building Stock Company was sought by the young and thriving new community of Oldenburg to complete the interior of their grand new brick church. Holy Family was just the second job done by this new company, the first being at St Francis Seraph in Cincinnati. Many called Johann Schmitt "The First Christian Artist of America" although he was also known as "The Franciscan Artist". He titled himself as "A Painter of Real Catholic Art". A reporter for the German-American newspaper Wahrheitsfreund described Schmitt in the following manner: "with deep piety and sincere faith he delights to paint on canvas what his noble heart feels and sincerely believes".

His specialty was painting the Holy Family along with a variety of St Joseph depictions. St Joseph with the Christ Child was a favorite image among the early German settlers. His fee for large murals was between $500 to $800 dollars and $100 to $200 dollars for smaller ones. However, in the true Franciscan spirit he donated a lot of his work for poorer churches. Often his adopted daughter was the model for the face of the Virgin Mary. She passed away at the early age of 23. His largest work was a 35' by 50' depiction of the crucifixion in St Xavier Cathedral in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Although so much of his work is in the United States, he was commissioned for art given to the Vatican.

The ornate frame surrounding the portrait was done by the A. Joseph Nurre Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. This was a large company in early Cincinnati history employing over 200 workers in a five story building downtown. A devout Roman Catholic, A. Joseph Nurre and wife Elizabeth bought a country estate for $1 8,000 dollars and gave it to the Franciscan Friars. With a cornerstone laid and blessed in August of 1888, the building was consecrated on Thanksgiving Day in 1889 by Archbishop Henry Elder of Cincinnati. A group of novices who had been invested in the Franciscan habit at Holy Family in Oldenburg, Indiana arrived the first week of 1890.

Today, this is known as "Mount Airy," the National Shrine of Saint Anthony and Friary. Completed in 2015, the portrait and frame were professionally restored due to the efforts by the great, great, great, great grandnephew of Father Rudolph, the Robert J Fischer family (in memory of the four Rudolph girls - Robert's mother and three aunts) and Holy Family parishioners, Jeff and Ellen Paul. Wiebold Studio located at 413 Terrace Place, Terrace Park, Ohio restored the canvas portrait. The frame was restored along with new gold leaf by Weberding's Carving Shop, Inc. located at 1230 State Road 46 East in Batesville, Indiana.

Tradition and family are at heart of 100 year-old Oldenburg Tradition

By Jennifer Lindberg
The Criterion

The brick church and other buildings of Holy Family Parish sit in the heart of Oldenburg, a historic village in southeastern Indiana. The location of the parish campus suggests the importance of the Catholic faith to the town throughout the parish’s 175-year history. One can’t drive into town without knowing that it’s a place steeped in Catholic tradition. The skyline alone brings one’s mind to God as Holy Family Parish’s church steeple stretches 187 feet into the sky. Across the street, the motherhouse church of the Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg also has a tall steeple, giving the town its nickname of “The Village of Spires.”

People can’t talk about the Catholic Church without talking about the town, and they can’t talk about the town without talking about the parish because the two are so intimately entwined in their history.

Oldenburg was first settled in 1817 by the George brothers, who came from Pennsylvania. But it was the German immigrants from the Duchy of Oldenburg—who had first settled in Cincinnati—that made the town into what it is today when they started settling there in 1836.

Father Joseph Rudolph, who came to Oldenburg in 1844, is credited as the “father of the town” for his far-reaching goals and plans. Longtime residents still call him ‘their Father’ when talking about their history, and his grave is underneath Holy Family Church. A stone marker sits by the side altar of the Virgin Mary showing where his body is buried.

Father Rudolph established many of the traditions that are still carried out today at Holy Family Parish, such as the Corpus Christi procession dating back to 1846. Each Corpus Christi Sunday, the town joins together as the Blessed Sacrament is carried through the streets and adored at various chapels that sit alongside the route.
"A lot of students have never been to the Athenaeum. Originally called the 'Das Deutsche Haus,' or 'The German House,' the building, a national historic landmark, was renamed during World War II. With its nine-pin bowling alley, indoor beer garden and theater, it is easy to see why the building was a center of social life and "in its heyday, was the place to go watch plays, performances and concerts," Roesch said.

The curriculum's field and museum trips address the requirement that Legacy Projects be engaging and inspiring to youth and young adults. Bicentennial Legacy projects must be celebratory, culturally inclusive and create a legacy for the future.

The [state's] German heritage is right in front of us, but people aren't aware of it," Roesch said. "This class is about passing on that heritage to the next generation."


Auf Deutsch!

Ein fröhliches Herz, ein friedliches Haus, machen das Glück des Lebens aus.

A Joyful Heart
A Peaceful Home
Makes for Happiness in Life
The German Voice in Indiana:
A Festival of Bicentennial Celebrations

As Indiana’s Bicentennial year kicks off, a number of groups around the state are preparing to celebrate our state’s rich German heritage. Below is a partial list of events that are being scheduled for this fall:

- German voices in Vincennes past & present. Vincennes Public Library, October 10, 2016.
- German voices in Jasper past & present. Dubois County Museum Tuesday, October 11, 2016.
- German Literary Heritage. Indianapolis Public Library, October 12, 2016.
- Exploring Hoosier- German Roots Through Words. Indiana History Center, October 13, 2016.
- German/Hoosier Literary Collaboration. Hanover, October 14, 2016.
- Speaking in Celebration, Athenaeum History Tour, October 16, 2016.

More details as they become available.

Liberal Arts course exploring state's German heritage earns Bicentennial Commission endorsement

Contributions of German-American immigrants to Hoosier life and history are often unrecognized or unheralded. A course offered this semester in the School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis with the Indiana Bicentennial Commission's endorsement will help change that.

The commission has designated "Immigrant Experience: Tales of German-Americans in Indiana" as an official Bicentennial Legacy Project.

"German heritage is less apparent, and people are less aware of it, because German immigrants integrated so well into American society," IUPUI professor Karen Roesch said. "Germans constituted the largest immigrant group in Indiana in the 19th century. They shaped our history and changed the face of Indiana in so many ways, so what better way to celebrate the bicentennial?"

The Bicentennial Legacy Project designation endorses "Immigrant Experience," developed and being taught this semester by Roesch, as curriculum that can be used in high schools, colleges and universities, and adult education, Roesch said.

Roesch is an assistant professor of German in the Department of World Languages and Cultures, director of the Max Kade German-American Center and the Hoyt-Reichmann Scholar of German-American Studies at IUPUI.

Her new class explores the cross section of German groups who made their way to Indiana and contributed to the state's development, including people involved in the Turner Movement, which emphasized a healthy mind and body; the academic-focused Forty-Eighters and Freethinkers, who advocated equal rights for all people and whose moral values were dominated by respect for life and nature; and the largest group, the "salt of the earth" farmers and craftsmen. Savvy businessmen and philanthropists such as the Vonneguts are also featured.

The course takes a detailed look at the part German Americans played in establishing important cornerstones in education, art, music, architecture and entrepreneurship.

Students familiar with the city and state will recognize names associated with some landmarks, such as landscape architect and Kessler Boulevard namesake George Edward Kessler and Richard Lieber, known as the father of the Indiana state parks system.

Textbooks for the course include publications written or translated by staff of the Max Kade German-American Center and are provided free of charge by the center. Guest lecturers include IUPUI professors and others with expertise in German history, language and culture. For students in the course, class activities include a visit to the Indianapolis Museum of Art to observe the work of German-American printmaker and painter Gustave Baumann; a field trip to Oldenburg, Ind., to experience the German-American history, architecture and culture of that small community; and a visit to the Athenaeum in downtown Indianapolis.

(Continued on page 13)
German Life is a unique, bi-monthly magazine, in English, dedicated to German arts and culture, travel, cuisines, history, genealogy and German America. It provides readers with modern and historical perspectives on German-speaking Europe, including Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Each issue of German Life is comprised of beautiful full-color pictures and well-researched features that you cannot find elsewhere.

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Kent Robinson 317-299-5760  
or  
E-mail us at: ighsmembership@gmail.com
Wednesday, March 9: Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program:

Don Flick will speak about "Tracking Down the Yellow Brick Road: The Hidden Meaning Behind L. Frank Baum's Wizard of Oz". L. Frank Baum was an American author of German heritage, whose Wizard of Oz children's books have delighted generations. But was Baum's original intent of the story a political allegory about a Presidential election, one in which Midwestern German farmers played a pivotal role? Come see what a landmark 1964 journal essay by a New York high school history teacher suggested was the hidden meaning behind the story, and take part in the debate that it has caused ever since.

Don Flick is a native of Jasper, Indiana where he grew up immersed in his German heritage. He is an architect and has been active in several historical organizations. He lives in the historic community of Irvington on the Eastside of Indianapolis where he is president of the local historical society.

Wednesday, April 13: Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program:

Nicholas K. Johnson will give a presentation on "Memorials and Memory: Reflections on Berlin's Contested pasts."

His presentation explores a series of memorials in Berlin and how each of them exemplifies a particular aspect of how history is confronted in Berlin's public space. This includes both artistic and historical memorials to the Holocaust, victims of the Berlin Wall, and the soon-to-be-reconstructed Stadtschloss.

Nicholas K. Johnson is a third-year graduate student in IUPUI’s public history program. He recently spent a year with the Free University of Berlin’s public history program, where he worked on the SA Prison Papestrasse Memorial’s special exhibit “Traces of Violence.” Nick graduated from IUPUI in 2012 with a BA in History and German.

Wednesday, May 11: Board Meeting, Stammtisch and Program:

"Bohlen Architectural Firm Records Collection of the Indiana Historical Society!"

Jordan Ryan will discuss her newly processed Indiana Historical Society collection, the D.A. Bohlen Architectural Firm Records, ca. 1867-1978. This exciting collection spans four generations of the Bohlen family and 111 years of architectural records. The phrase, "A Bohlen on every block," referring to their popularity in Indianapolis, is reflected in the sheer scope of the collection, which encompasses roughly 175 individual buildings and multi-building campus projects. Known for designing such iconic Indianapolis buildings such as the City Market, Majestic Building, and Murat Temple, the firm also designed many educational, religious, and residential structures, both throughout the state.
of Indiana, as well as in Michigan and Illinois. Come listen to Ms. Ryan discuss the rewards and difficulties encountered in processing the collection, along with an overview of material available for research. Jordan Ryan is completing her master's degree in IUPUI's public history program. Her thesis investigates Indianapolis demolition patterns of structures built between 1909 and 1924. She is currently working at the Indiana Historical Society in the library & collections department, processing architectural collections. Ms. Ryan has previously worked at the Department of Natural Resources-Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology under Special Initiatives and at Indiana Landmarks for the Central Regional Office's Preservation Services Division and the Heritage Information and Library Department.

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). Please respond with your plans for attendance to secretary.ighs@gmail.com.

Wednesday, June 8: Board Meeting, followed by a Cookout and Tour of the Indiana Medical History Museum, 3045 West Vermont Street, Indianapolis, IN 46222

Come and join the Indiana German Heritage Society for a Summer evening cookout and tour of the Indiana Medical History Museum. The museum is located on the grounds of the former Central State Hospital on the near west side of Indianapolis. The museum is housed in the Old Pathology Building, the oldest surviving pathology facility in the nation. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The tour will begin at 7:30 and last approximately one hour. IGHS members and guests are welcome to attend the cookout featuring beer-basted bratwurst, sides, and soft drinks at 6:30 p.m. prior to the tour. Goodwill donations will be accepted to offset the cost of the dinner and tour. Parking is free. Contact Ron Flick at rtflick1881@att.net for more information and directions to the museum.

Designed by Swiss-born, Indianapolis architect, Adolph Scherrer, the handsome, Victorian-era, red brick and limestone structure was constructed in 1896, under the supervision of hospital superintendent, Dr. George Edenharter, the son of German immigrants. The Pathological Building housed a staff of health officials which facilitated medical education and research on the physical causes of mental disease. In operation until the 1960s, the Pathological Building was reborn as a museum in 1969 and its scientifically equipped interior was left intact.

Today, visitors can explore the teaching amphitheater; laboratories for bacteriology, clinical chemistry, histology, and photography; the library, reception room, and records room; as well as the autopsy room and anatomical museum which houses preserved specimens--mostly brains, organized by pathology.

Other Programs

Saturday, April 9, 2016, Indiana Chapter, Palatines to America — Spring Meeting.

One of our most highly-rated speakers over the last five years will be returning for our Spring Meeting at the Athenaeum in Indianapolis. Dr. Marianne Wokeck, the Chancellor’s Professor of History at IUPUI, will make three presentations: “Follow the Pioneers: Importance of Transatlantic Networks for Settlement Patterns”, “To
Move or Not to Move: Transatlantic Relocation in the Age of Sail”, and “Advantages and Disadvantages of Starting Life as Redemptioners.” Dr. Wokeck grew up in Germany studying at Freiburg im Breisgau and Hamburg Universities. Studying as an exchange student, she received her Ph.D. degree from Temple University. She has been on the faculty at IUPUI since 1991. Her book, Trade in Strangers: The Beginnings of Mass Migration to North America, explores the context in which emigrants from Germany and Ireland crossed the Atlantic to pursue New World promises. Registration will be from 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM with the meeting running from 9:30 AM – 3 PM. Lunch, not included in the registration fee, will be in the Rathskeller. To register go to www.palam.org > Chapters > Indiana.

Saturday, April 23, 7 - 11 p.m.: St. Benno Fest at the Athenaeum in Indianapolis

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.

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. For info http://www.athenaeumfoundation.org/theatre-building/events/st-benno-fest/

Friday & Saturday, March 18 & 19: IGHS Annual Meeting

Join us for the IGHS Annual Meeting at Turkey Run State Park. In keeping with the 2016 Bicentennial of Indiana Statehood the theme will be: "The German-American Landscape of Indiana: 200 Years."

Friday, March 25: 10 a.m. German Good Friday Service at Zion Church in Indianapolis

Evangelical German language service with easy to follow English translations. Everyone is welcome. Zion Evangelical Church is located at 603 North New Jersey Street, one block north of the Athenaeum.

Friday and Saturday, July 15 and 16: Freudenfest in Oldenburg - food and drink and entertainment!

The Freudenfest, meaning fun day, is a non profit organization that originated in 1976 by a group of volunteers who envisioned holding a family fun day. For info http://www.freundenfest.com/
Indiana German Heritage Society
Membership Form

Name: _____________________________________________________________

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Please enter / renew my membership:

☑ Individual $20.00  ☑ Business $100.00
☑ Family $25.00  ☑ Non-Profit $50.00
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☑ Arts  ☑ General  ☑ Religious
☑ Cultural Exchanges / Sister Cities  ☑ German Language Programs  ☑ Teaching Materials
☑ History  ☑ Traditions & Folklore

Knowledge of German Language:  ☑ None  ☑ Some  ☑ Fluent
Knowledge of Old German Script (Sütterlin):  ☑ None  ☑ Some  ☑ Good
I am willing to help with activities:  ☑ Yes  ☑ No

I wish to make an additional tax-deductible donation of $ ________.

☐  This is a gift membership. Name of person providing gift membership:

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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.

To join or renew online, go to http://IGHS.org!
**Wegweiser Visits the Statehouse**  
February 1-26, 2016

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