INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Spring 1995 Volume 11, Number 2

ANNUAL MEETING EXPLORES GERMANIC-CELTIC EXPERIENCE

Editor's Note to our Irish readers: Please excuse the use of a four leaf clover instead of a Shamrock. We know better, but our computer program doesn't! This is as close as we could come .

The 11th Annual Meeting of the Indiana German Heritage Society is truly an international event. This year we are meeting with the Indiana Irish American Heritage Society, thus combining our state's two largest ethnic groups. The Indiana Irish American Heritage Society has been around for several years but is now seeking a closer connection with its local traditions and history similar to those goals of the IGHS.

The program is titled "The Germans and the Irish in Indiana: A Look at Two Traditions" and features presentations by leading authorities from both groups. The annual business meeting of the IGHS will be on Friday, 24 March, at the German-American Klub, 8600 S. Meridian Street in Indianapolis. After the meeting we will have supper at the Klub. The meal will be served buffet style with a choice of either corned beef and cabbage or baked fish and will be held in the Klub's upstairs dining area.. The Irish musical group, Celtic Fire, will be performing during the meal. Afterwards, all are invited downstairs to listen to or dance to German music at the GAK's weekly Friday night program.

Saturday's program will be held at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis.

The morning session will present an ethnic overview and include presentations by Robert M. Taylor from the Indiana Historical Society and David Vanderstel from the Encyclopedia of Indianapolis and the IUPUI History Department describing ethnic publications by each institution and James Divita of Marian College who will present an overview of German and Irish Catholics.

Other morning presentations will include Giles Hoyt, IUPUI German Department, on the German-American ethnic experience, William Giffin, Indiana State University History Department, on Indiana's 20th century Irish Americans and Mary Helen Thuente, IUPU Fort Wayne English Department, on the Irish American experience.

Lunch will be served in the Athenaeum's Rathskeller and will offer a choice of either Rippchen (German smoked pork chop) or a Seafood Medley with Rice.

The afternoon session will center on Ethnic Traditions and Folklore. Presenters will be Alice Davis, Marian College and Irish Heritage Society on "Pat-Riots to Patriots" and Peggy Brennan, also of the Irish Heritage Society will deliver a presentation entitle "Irish Lace." Ruth Reichmann, Max Kade German-American Center at IUPUI, will present a comparison study of Germanic and Celtic folkways.

Price for the Saturday program is $19.00 for IGHS and Irish-American Heritage Society members and $25 for non-members.

Deadline for registration is **13 March**. Please send payment to Ernestine Dillon, 4141 W. Ken Lane, New Palestine, IN 46163.

The day's activities will conclude with the Athenaeum Founders Day Masked Ball. For information and reservations, contact Carolyn Bunting at the Athenaeum, 317-630-4569. This is not an IGHS sponsored event, but our members and guests are invited to attend.

STAMMTISCH AND PROGRAMS

A variety of interesting programs—no knowledge of German necessary—are presented on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Max Kade Seminar Room on the first floor of the Athenaeum, 401 East Michigan Street.

If you would like to practice your German (Englisch ist nicht "verboten!"), join us before the program at 6 p.m., for supper at the Athenaeum Rathskeller Restaurant.

Here are the programs for March, April, and May 1995:

March 8: "The Turner Project" (slide presentation) with Katja Rampelmann (this is the correct spelling of her name, our apologies) from IUPUI's Turner Archives Project. Katja will be leaving the project at the end of March. Be sure to wish her well.

April 12: "The Indiana-Minnesota Connection: Captain Jacog Nix, defender of New Ulm, Minnesota and Robert Nix, Foreign Language Supervisor of Indianapolis Public Schools" with Eberhard Reichmann and Rosalind "Buddy" McCart.

May 10: "Fifty Years Ago: May 8, 1945—Eyewitnesses Remember the End of World War II in Europe." Ernestine Dillon will lead a panel discussion of first hand experiences of what it was like to be living in Germany at the end of the War. Audience participation welcome.

For further information call Vice-President Ernestine Dillon at 865-5831 or President Buddy McCart at 846-8613.

REPRINTS AVAILABLE IN MAY, 1995

Gerald Wilk's biographical sketches of "Americans from Germany"—first published in 1976—is slated for a reprint by the German-American Center and IGHS, with Don Heinrich Tolzmann, President of the Society for German-American Studies as editor. A most readable account of nearly fifty personalities who left their marks in the annals of American History. ($4.50 shipped)

Rudlof Cronau's "German Achievements in America," first published in 1916, is another Tolzmann reprint with Heritage Books, Inc. Cronau was a leading German-American historian and a distinguished painter. His illustrated English-language compendium of 233pp. discusses in detail German-American contributions to politics, agriculture, industry, commerce, science, publishing, literature, music, the arts, and physical education. **SPECIAL MEMBER PRICE IS $15.50 SHIPPED** (regularly $20.50).

Although the year is well on its way, you may still want to get the Indiana German Heritage Calendar 1995. The limited issue makes it a German Americana collector's item. ($3.50 shipped)

Orders: NCSA Literatur Distributor, 430 S. Kelp Grove Rd., Nashville, IN 47448 (812-988-2866). Mention your IGHS membership when ordering.

"FREEDOM'S BIRTHDAY" IN GERMANY

"Freedom's Birthday" is the motto for a grand celebration a the occasion of the 50th anniversary of liberation from Nazism, and planned throughout Germany for the night of 8 May. Numerous German theaters will be participating with performances, programs, readings, songfests and spectacles. The print media, radio and TV will carry the spirit of the celebration into every home.—Closer to home: Mark 10 May on your calendar. Our Stammtisch Program at the Athenaeum commemorates "The End of WW II in Europe: Eyewitnesses Remember."

EVENTS AROUND THE STATE

April 6-9 The Society for German-American Studies will hold its Annual Symposium in Louisville at the Galt House. It will be hosted by the Kentuckiana German Heritage Society and the International Center of the University of Louisville. For informations call Ruth Reichmann at 812-988-2866 or Giles Hoyt at 317-274-2081.

April 14 Good Friday Service at Zion Evangelical Church, 10:00 A.M. Zion will again have a German language service on Good Friday. The service is open to all who would like to worship. Zion Evangelical Church of Christ is located on North and New Jersey Streets in Indianapolis. For further information call 317-639-6411

April 27-29 Terre Haute Strassenfest at 4th and Ohio Streets in Terre Haute. For information call Hilde Crisp at 812-466-4486.

May 5-6 Mai Tanz at the German-American Klub, 8600 S. Meridian Street, Indianapolis. For information call 317-888-6940.

May 6 May Fest of the Aheneaeum Turners. For information contact Carolyn Bunting 317-630-4569.

Corrections

There were two items of information that were not correct in last issue's *Newsletter*. Katja Rampelmann's name was spelled incorrectly and the Fall Meeting of the Palatines to America should read 28 October, not 28 April. Our apologies.

ST. BENNO FEST AND ST. BENNO BEER

Every year around the middle of March the Athenaeum Turners celebrate St. Benno Fest, the jubilee of St. Benno Beer. At that time St. Benno, the Patron Saint of Munich, will appear, sometimes with a goat, and toast all of those present. What's behind all of this? Fact, fiction, or a little of both?

St. Benno Fest is a celebration of St. Benno Beer which is a Bock Beer. "Bock" is a strong beer made before Easter. Originally a Lenten special, monks developed Bock, because beer served them as sustenance during Lent. Malty and a meal in itself, "Salvator" is the most famous of them and is celebrated in Munich every year in early spring. To appreciate the humor of St. Benno Fest, we need to know a little about its historical background and historical incongruences.

St. Benno, Patron Saint of Munich and Old Bavaria, was originally Bishop of Meissen (Saxony) and had died in 1106. His feast day is 16 June. Many years after his death, when Bishop Benno was sainted, Martin Luther denounced him with a missive "Gegen den neuen, Abgott und alten Teufel, der zu Meissen soll Erhoben werden" (Against the new idol and old devil, who at Meissen shall be elevated). St. Benno could no longer remain in Protestant Saxony.

The Bavarian Elector, Albrecht, purchased Benno's bones and had them brought to Catholic Munich where they were inshrined in the "Liebfrauenkirche." Unfortunately, the Protestant King Gustav Adolf and his Swedes conquered the city, and the Elector's wife fled with Benno's bones. The plague later hit Munich and by 1632 approximately 1,500 people had been buried in the plague cemetery. The good folk of Munich begged the Elector's wife to return their saint, so that his intercession would move the Lord to call a halt to the black death. She honored their request, and as soon as the St. Benno relics were back in town, the dying stopped.

An announcement of the Athenaeum Turner's St. Benno Fest of 1913 promises to have St. Benno solemnized in the "Lowenbraukeller" of the "Deutsche Haus" (now Athenaeum). Those present will get a first taste of the "mild, rich flavor" of "his year's St. Benno Bier. . . not known by this name in legendary time, but christened since then by its present distributor after the patron saint of the city of Munich. . ."

The 1913 announcement of St. Benno Fest refers to "a vague and distant past" and "that pious Paulaner monk" who brews an especially strong beer which "makes its advent as an early harbinger of Spring." This reference is a take off of the "Heilige-Vater-Fest" (Pope Fest) which was celebrated in Munich in March. There, the Paulaner monks, dignitaries and citizens would move to the "Salvatorenkeller" of the Paulaner Monastery to get a first taste of the mild, rich flavor of the year's "Salvator."

One thing is certain, you will not get St. Benno Beer anywhere, except at the St. Benno Fest of the Athenaeum in Indianapolis, where on Saturday, 18 March, the "Lowenbraukeller" of the Athenaeum will take the place of the "Salvatorenkeller" in deference to the famous Munich Hofbrauhaus, the Lowenbrauerrei, and its famous brown "Bock-Bier."

Festivities begin at 6 P.M. Tickets are $15, which includes a German-American buffet, music, dancing, and entertainment . For reservations call the Athenaeum at 317-630-4569. All proceeds will benefit the Athenaeum Foundation.

By Ruth Reichmann

COLUMBUS-LOEHNE SISTER CITY CONCERT AND VISIT

Columbus will continue to build its sister city relationship with Loehne, Germany, when the Nordwestdeutsche Kammersolisten visit in May. Mayor Robert Stewart and the city of Columbus will meet with and host the goodwill ambassadors at City Hall during their stay. The five piece ensemble, under the direction of Christian Becker, includeds in their repertoire relatively unknown Baroque "pearls" of the early 18th century as well as contemporary pieces.

The NWD Kammersolisten will begin their premier U.S. tour with a concert at the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. at the invitation of Dr. Immo Stabreit on 5 May. Their concert tour will take them to sister cities in Quincy, IL (Herford), Belleville, IL (Paderborn), Columbus, IN (Loehne), and Sheboygan, WI (Neu Lippe).

Their free public concert in Columbus will be on Tuesday evening, 9 May, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. This will mark the first official cultural exchange between Columbus and Loehne. This concert will coordinate with a visit of 28 citizens from Loehne led by Hans-Guenther Lichte.

The contingent from Loehne will arrive on Sunday, 7 May, for a four-day home stay with host families. Some of those coming will be staying with families they hosted in 1993, when a group from Columbus traveled to Loehne for its 900th anniversary celebration. Local arrangements are being coordinated by Arthur and Marcia Schwenk. For further information call 812-546-5852.

ELDERHOSTEL OFFERED IN FERDINAND

EXPLORING OUR GERMAN AMERICAN HERITAGE is the title of an Elderhostel to be held 7-13 May 1995 at the Kordes Enrichment Center, Ferdinand, Indiana. Drs. Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann and Annemarie Springer will present the program.

Six million immigrants from Europe's German speaking countries sailed to America before 1900. They and their descendants became the larges ethnic group and profoundly influenced the American way of life.

Ferdinand, nestled in the hills of Southern Indiana and past its 150th anniversary owes its existence to the most energetic missionary and colonizer, Fr. Joseph Kundek. It is a perfect setting for learning about the German-Americans and their contributions to Indiana and the nation. Participants will become familiar with the German-American experience as they learn about the history, culture, and religion of the Germans along with factors encouraging emigration, types of settlements in the New World, the German artistic heritage, their fondeness of music and song, festivals and celebrations, and customs and traditions that have evolved from the ever present German influence. The Hoosier German experience will also become manifest while visiting Amish and Benedictine communities and other German-American attractions in Southern Indiana.

As part of Elderhostel, Inc., the week-long program is for persons over the age of 60. The price of $315 per person includes the program and materials, all meals, overnight accommodations and excursions. Both single and double occupancy rooms are available. For further information or to register, contact Kordes Enrichment Center 812-367-2777 or 800-880-2777, extension 2907.

SISTER CITIES INTERNAT'L TO MEET IN INDIANAPOLIS

Indianapolis will proudly host the 39th Annual Sister Cities International Conference 26-29 July 1995 with guests from over 1,000 Sister Cities in 114 countries around the world.

SCI is one of the largest volunteer organizations in the world, attracting a culturally diverse group of people including mayors, corporate leaders, and citizen diplomats. Each year, attendees from Sister Cities organizations all over the world gather at the international conference to discuss items of mutual interest.

This global conference will give Indianapolis the opportunity to showcase its world class attractions, sporting facilities, performing and visual arts, business development program, and its overall "Hoosier" hospitality

Out of town guest will enjoy a variety of activities planned by the host committee. The Westin Hotel on South Capitol Street (317-262-8100) is the headquarters for all conference events. Conference rates at the Westin are $89.00 single/double and $99.00 triple/quad. Conference pre-registration will remain at $195 for the 3-day conference program. The hotel is located in the heart of downtown in close proximity to many noteworths facilities such as Union Station, the Speedway, and the Children's Museum, which is the largest in the world.

Preceeding the Sister Cities International Conference on 26 July 1995, the Indianapolis business community will host a valuable Economic Development Forum at the state of the are University Place Conference Center. The topics will illustrate the efficacy of sister city relationshiips as a framework for economic and business to business development.

SCI will host a one day seminar on Inter-American relations. This seminar will provide a timely opportunity for many leaders from throughout the Western Hemisphere to discuss a new era of peace and prosperity in the region through the promotion of economic growth. Seminar participants will hear presentations on free trade, democratic institution building, environmental protection, worker rights, youth exchange, and public health, all within the context of success sister city programs.

The Host Committee will also plan the first annual SCI World Youth Forum. It's estimated that hundreds of youth will attend which will provide the platform for the future leaders of our countries to share common challenges and begin international communication that will have a positive long-term impact on their lives.

The 50th anniversary of the United Nations will be celebrated worldwide in 1995, with a commemorative UN 50th Train traveling throughout the United States. This train is reminiscent of the memorable "whistle stop campaign" of President Harry S. Truman, on whose watch the United Nations was founded. The journey of this train will include a planned stop in Indianapolis during the conference.

Affiliations between cities throughout the world began after World War II. They became known in the United States as sister cities. The U.S. program was launched when President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposed the People-to-People idea at a White House Conference in 1956. His ideas was to involve people and community organizations in person diplomacy. For further information contact Henry Cole 317-573-2250 or Kristin Garvey, Indpls. International Center 317-686-3850.

NATIONAL GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MUSEUM PROJECT BEGINS IN EARNEST

The National German-American Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Project initiative, sponsored by the United German-American Committee of the USA, Inc., continues to receive praise and draw interest from individuals and organizations throughout the country. With the momentum increasing, more and more individuals including the UGAC-USA Board of Directors, have noted that the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Project will serve as a center of German-American community pride. In spite of the initial praise that the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Project has drawn, the Project enters 1995 with an assignment crucial to its success, i.e. fundraising.

Until now, members of the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Project have been primarily concerned with reconciling the various suggestions and ideas with UGAC-USA corporate policy and subsequently writing the project's proposal. The UGAC-USA Board of Directors has reviewed the draft proposal and having determined that the proposal should be implemented, has adopted the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Project as an official goal of the organization. Thus, the organization is authorized to begin its fundraising campaign.

With the adoption of the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Project Proposal, the UGAC-USA has committed itself to the building of this museum. As alluded to above however, the most vital phase challenges us. Before the museum can be built and the showplace of German-American heritage dedicated, the necessary funds must be raised. Initial projection suggest that a minimum of $10 million will need to be raised to support the museum, which will tell the story of contributions made by German-speaking immigrants and German-Americans to the development and strength of our nation. The nation's capital, Washington D.C., has been selected as the future home of this historical collection.

These $10 million are to be raised by approaching the federal governments of the United States and Germany, industry, foundations and, of course, German-Americans. It will take contributions from all four sources to assure the success of the project.

The ongoing fundraising effort will commence by approaching representatives of the United States and German governments in early 1995. Additionally, representatives of industry and business will be contacted. Grant requests will also be prepared and submitted. A grass roots fundraising campaign will be implemented in the second half of 1995.

The success of this fundraising drive will determine the success of our goal, i.e., to establish a Heritage Museum and Cultural Center where the German-American story can be told. You, our readers, can assist us in this initial fundraising phase by providing us with an introduction to a Member of Congress or an industry leader who you think would be interested in supporting this project. Alternatively, help is being sought in writing grant requests, organizing the grass roots fundraising effort, circulating a petition in support of this project and designing a logo for the Heritage Museum and Cultural Center

Furthermore, you can help by making a contribution of cash or donating objects for the collection. *Specifically, we are interested in travel and immigration documents; letters; photos; newspapers; magazines; books; including language and cookbooks; program booklets; vintage suitcases and clothing; tools; ornaments; and household articles-anything that depicts the German immigration experience and the home, religious, cultural, political and educational life of German-Americans.* If in doubt as to what to send, notify us and let us decide. **Please do not discard our history! It is extremely valuable!**

Kindly send your ideas and information about your collectible to Marlene H.K. Stocks, Executive Director, UGAC-USA, 515 Huntingdon Pike, Rockledge, PA 19046-4451 or call (215)379-1722 with any questions.

Reprinted from The "Ambassador" Winter, 1995

MORE ABOUT GERMAN FOOD

That all Germans eat sauerkraut and love heavy meals is a standard part of the German image abroad. It's a myth like the lederhosen image, and myths die hard. Actually, if you go to a German restaurant and ask for sauer kraut, you may not even get it!

Myth or not, the reality it that a quiet but very remarkable revolution has taken place in German eating habits during the last decades. With growing prosperity and more money in their hands than ever before, Germans have discovered the good life—travel, elegant clothing, comfortable cars, and last but not least the delights of good eating and drinking. Of all food products, wine and cheese have had the highest growth rate in Germany (almost 50%) in the last decade.

The German housewife is deluged with ever new, ever more enticing colorful cookbooks. But the good old German standard fare is still there, too, and you will find it on the menus from the Danish border down to the Bavarian Alps.

INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you wish to join or renew your membership, please enclose your check with this statement. To increase Society support, you may wish to designate a higher category. All contributions are tax deductible.

ANNUAL DUES

Contributors of $50 or more will be listed in the Tricentennial Edition.

_____ Student $5.00 ——Institution: _____

_____ Individual $12.00

_____ Family $20.00

_____ Organization $25.00

_____ Patron $50.00

_____ Corporate $100.00

_____ Sponsor $500.00

_____ Benefactor $1,000.00

Please make checks payable to Indiana German Heritage Society

____ New Member

____ Renewal

DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS_____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE ____-_____-_____ **HOME PHONE** ___-____-_____

Send Payment and Form To:

Membership Secretary
Indiana German Heritage Society
401 E. Michigan Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

11TH ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM
INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

FRIDAY, 24 MARCH (At German-American Klub, 8600 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis)

5:00 p.m. Annual Business Meeting and Dinner. Irish entertainment (Celtic Fire) during dinner. German music and dancing to follow.

SATURDAY, 25 MARCH (At Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis)

9:00 AM Introductory Remarks, Rosalind McCart, President, Indiana German Heritage Society and Alice Davis, Indiana Irish Heritage Society.

9:15 **SESSION I—ETHNIC OVERVIEW**
"The Ethnic Compendium"—*Robert Taylor, Indiana Historical Society*
"The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis"—*David Vanderstel, POLIS Project & History Dept., IUPUI*
"The Ethnic Groups, Especially German and Irish Catholics"—*James Divita, History Dept., Marian College*

10:45 BREAK

11:00 SESSION II—ETHNIC OVERVIEW, CONTINUED
"German-Americans: Defining Ethnic Experience"—*Giles R. Hoyt, German Dept., IUPUI & Max Kade German-American Center*
"Irish-Americans in the 20th Century"—*William Giffin, History Dept.,Indiana State University*
"Irish-American Experience"—*Mary Helen Thuente, Dept, of English, IUPU- Fort Wayne*

12:30 PM LUNCH

1:30 SESSION III—ETHNIC TRADITIONS AND FOLKLORE
"Pat-Riots to Patriots"—*Alice Davis, Irish Heritage Society & Marian College*
"Celtic and Germanic Folkways"—*Ruth Reichmann, Max Kade Center, IUPUI*
"Irish Lace"—*Peggy Brennan, Indiana Irish Heritage Society*

REGISTRATION FORM

(Detach here and mail to address below)

Friday Supper at GAK ($10.95/person) No. Attending _____ Total _____
I will be eating _____ Corned Beef & Cabbage _____ Baked Fish (Check one)

Saturday Program & Lunch ($19 members; $25 non-members) No. Attending _____ Total _____
_____ Rippchen _____ Seafood Medley with Rice (Check one)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____
Make check payable to Indiana German Heritage Society
Mail to Ernestine Dillon 4141 W. Ken Lane, New Palestine, IN 46163
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 13 MARCH 1995

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 8 (We) IGHS Board Meeting, Athenaeum, 1 p.m.

March 8 (We) Stammtisch, Beginners, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

March 18 (Sa) St. Benno Fest, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

March 24-25 (Fr-Sa) IGHS Annual Meeting, GAK & Athenaeum

March 25 (Sa) Founders Day Masked Ball, Atheneaum

March 29 (We) German Cards, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

April 6 (Th) Brown County Stammtisch

April 6-9 (Th-Su) SGAS Annual Symposium, Louisville

April 12 (We) IGHS Board Meeting, Athenaeum, 1 p.m.

April 12 (We) Stammtisch, Beginners, Athenaeum, 6 p.m.

April 14 (Fr) Good Friday Service in German at Zion Church, Indpls.

April 20 (Th) Stammtisch, Advanced, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

April 26 (We) German Cards, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

April 27-29 (Th-Sa) Terre Haute Strassenfest, 4th & Ohio

May 4 (Th) Brown County Stammtisch

May 5-6 (Fr-Sa) Mai Tanz, GAK, Indianapolis

May 6 (Sa) May Fest, Athenaeum Turners, Indianapolis

May 8-13 (Mo-Sa) Ferdinand Elderhostel I, Kordes Enrichment Center

May 10 (We) IGHS Board Meeting, Athenauem, 1p.m.

May 10 (We) Stammtisch, Beginners, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

May 18 (Th) Stammtisch, Advanced, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

May 31 (We) German Cards, Athenaeum, 6p.m.

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Indiana German Heritage Society
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