INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1997 Volume 13 Issue 1

REMEMBER GERMAN-AMERICAN CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE

On Sunday, December 1, 1996 at 3 p.m. there will be the traditional German Christmas Service at Zion Evangelical Church of Christ. People of ALL denominations are welcome. A knowledge of German is not necessary for private worship or a trip into the past. Zion Church is located on 416 East North Street in Indianapolis, one block north of the Athenaeum. Handicap facilities are available. There is free parking north of the church.

ENJOY AN EVENING OF GERMAN CHRISTMAS SONGS

Join us Saturday, December 7, at 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, for an evening of German songs, featuring members of the Indianapolis Maennerchor and the German Heritage Singers.

Members of the Maennerchor will present a medley of traditional German and American Christmas songs. Eberhard Reichmann and the German Heritage Singers will perform, as they did last year, "Silent Night, Holy Night: A Pageant with German Christmas Songs Recounting the Night of Christ's Birth."

While you come to enjoy the Christmas music, you can also take a stroll through our Old-World Christkindl Market, which will be going on at that time. It will feature items including German Christmas ornaments, Irish gifts, Lithuanian jewelry, as well as items that other heritage groups have to offer.

The Athenaeum is located on 401 E. Michigan Street in Indianapolis. For further information call 317 630-4569.

12th ANNUAL SANKT NIKOLAUS FEST

The Old-World Sankt Nikolaus with his servant Ruprecht will once again visit the Athenaeum and there will be a traditional Christmas tree candle-lighting. Experience the wondrous glow of a candle-lit Christmas tree, the

This Annual Children's Festival will take place on Sunday, December 8, from 2-6 p.m. at the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum. There will be children's games and activities, Christmas music and traditional German refreshments. Sunday admission $5.00 for adults, $3.00 for children under 13 (includes tree ceremony). For information or reservations call 630-4569.

This is a special holiday event to benefit THE ATHENAEUM FOUNDATION and the restoration of this beautiful building!

CHRISTKINDL MARKT TRIP

The German-American Klub will sponsor a trip to the Christkindl Markt in Chicago coupled with the possibility of shopping at Watertower. There may be a few other German surprises thrown in too! Plan to join them for the taste of German Christmas--sampling mulled wine and Lebkuchen in the frosty air while buying some of the traditional gifts of German Christmas. If you are interested in this trip contact Jennifer Caskey at 317 573-3600 days, 253-4453 evenings.

CHRISTKINDL MARKT IN CHICAGO

Every year, Germany's traditional markets, such as the centuries-old Christklesmarkt in medieval Nuremberg, draw millions of visitors, both local and foreign. In order to bring a similar event to Chicago, the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM) is preparing a Nuremberg-style Christmas market in downtown Chicago. This is conceived as an annual event to be held for the first time in 1996. From November 29, the day after Thanksgiving and the year's most important shopping day, until December 15, visitors will be able to enjoy traditional German Christmas flair in this city.

The traditional Christmas market's objective is to provide visitors an opportunity to gather, to taste special Christmas food (e.g. Bratwurst, gingerbread, roasted nuts and the like), to warm with a glass of Glühwein (hot spicy red wine) and to shop for typical Christmas gifts (toys, candles, ornaments, cookies, books, music, hand-crafted articles, etc.). To keep with the market's special character, other products will not be admitted.

Just like in Nuremberg, the Chicago event will feature timber cabins that serve as booths. Their sturdy wooden construction is ideally suited to cater for food and beverage stalls, as well as for retail shops, even in very harsh weather conditions. Awnings provide shelter for passer-by and those who eat or drink in front of the cabins, thus adding to a warm festive atmosphere.

Fitting seasonal decoration, such as Christmas trees, appropriate illumination and ornaments will give the market its festive flair. A series of special events will accompany the fair to attract additional interest. These include chorus and orchestral performances, puppet theater, an art exhibition, and demonstrations by representatives of traditional German crafts (glass-blowers, woodcarvers).

Part of the proceeds have been promised to a charitable organization, possibly helped by a raffle. To enhance the quality of the Christkindl Markt Chicago, GACCoM convinced the owners of Pioneer Court at Cityfront Center on North Michigan Avenue to make that plaza available for the event. The Magnificent Mile concept of shopping, dining and entertainment will be significantly strengthened by a Christmas market at its southern end, drawing even more visitors and shoppers to the area during the critical pre-Christmas period. The seasonal illumination of North Michigan Avenue will provide a particularly suitable backdrop for the market.

Given the international fame of the Nuremberg Christkindles markt it can be expected that a Christmas market with similar qualities will become a major tourist attraction for the city of Chicago and its out-of-state and foreign visitors. Throughout the U.S. Midwest, the event will have a particularly strong appeal to the Americans of German descent. The event will be organized by the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM), its commercial subsidiary, German American Services, Inc., and the German National Tourist Office. Lufthansa German Airlines has offered to become a major sponsor of the Chriskindl Market Chicago. Several more organizations are actively supporting the project, such as the Chambers of Industry and Commerce of Nuremberg and Zwickau, the cities of Nuremberg and Zwickau, the Association of German Toy Manufacturers and the North Michigan Avenue business Association.

FOCUS Germany-Midwest, June 1996

LILLIAN DOANE'S NUTCRACKERS

Every Christmas, Lillian Doane of Jasper, stages "The Nutcracker Suite" in her home. It's not the play that Doane produces. She displays her collection of more than 100 nutcrackers--carved wooden figures of mostly traditional German characters.

The nutcrackers in her collection range from a few inches tall to more than a foot. "I got interested on my first trip to Germany in the early 1970s" she says. "I saw a nutcracker in a little shop and bought it." Most of the German nutcrackers are military-type figures or something similar, she says.

"Many are being made in China now and are more personal," she says, picking up a nutcracker of Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz." Others include Peter Rabbit, Puss'n Boots, a drum major, Santa Claus, a chimney sweep, Halloween figures and an old-time toy-maker with wire-rimmed glasses.

Nutcrackers stand at attention at nearly every table in her living room and dining room. "Originally, they were used for cracking nuts," she says holding a nutcracker of a soldier and working its lever. "It's a very old German tradition. It was a way for people to poke fun at the king or their rulers by making nutcracker figures of them" she says.

The nutcracker motif extends to more than just the figures. She wears a sweater with a nutcracker embroidered on it; there are potholders and towels in her kitchen with nutcracker designs. "I just like them," she says laughing. "If I get any more, I'll have to get a bigger house."

Excerpted from David Kunz's article in the "Herald," Jasper, Dec. 20, 1995

THE STORY OF THE NUTCRACKER

The combination of a useful tool and a figural form with a human appearance must have been well accepted by the mid-18th century. In the toy making center of Sonneberg in the Thuringian Forest there was mention in 1735 of "nut-biters" that operated according to the principles of leverage. These nut-biters were described as sturdy, energetic forms with large heads. Two moving arms on the back of the head allowed the lower jaw to push the nut against the upper jaw. In a carnival parade in 1783, students from Freisingen, Germany presented large models of Berchtesgaden wares, including a nut-biter in the form of a little man whose mouth and stomach were one and the same. In 1971 Nutcrackers were listed in the storehouse records of the Berchtesgaden (Bavaria) wholesaler Anton Wallner. By the time the Brothers Grimm put together their first dictionary of "High German" (the dictionary was begun in the 1830s), the term Nußknacker was defined as "often in form of a misshaped little man, in whose mouth the nut, by means of a lever of screw, is cracked open."

The literary career of the nutcracker began with the 1816 publication of E.T.A. Hoffman's fairy tale "Nußknacker und Mausekönig," a children's book that helped bring the nutcracker into a broader popularity. In the spirit of the developing Biedermeier period, a time when the importance of the family was beginning to be emphasized, Hoffmann vividly depicted a sympathetic soul: "Under the Christmas tree a very excellent little man became visible that stood there still and modestly. He waited as if they would all come to him." The job of the nutcracker was to work hard for the children of the family by biting open the nuts.

The Nutcracker King would appear again 1891 as an enchanted prince in Peter Tschaikowsky's Nutcracker Suite and continue to win children's hearts. The ballet contributes to the ever-increasing popularity of the nutcrackers as collectible objects. Thirty-five years after the publication of E.T.A. Hoffmann's classic, the nutcracker reappeared as a central character in Heinrich Hoffmann's story "King Nutcracker and the Poor Reinhold" (1851). In this story the poor Reinhold becomes acquainted with the Nutcracker King in a dream.

The nutcracker did not always play the role of the good-hearted fairy tale king. More often he wore a monk's robe or was made into the form a mean-looking policeman, a Turk, master of the watch, a cavalry man or some other grotesque helmeted figure with a long nose. He appeared, for example, as a caricature of Napoleon on a 1813 Parisian picture-sheet. By the end of the 19th century he appeared almost consistently in the catalogs of the toy wholesalers as a representative of the contemporary authorities. It must have been fascinating for both manufacturer and user to transfer the troublesome task of the nutcracker to particularly

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unloved figures. What started out as a practical tool often ended up as an expression of light irony and a social critique by the common people.

Although nutcrackers from the Erzgebirge region were being sold at the Dresden Fair by 1745, the birthday of the world-renowned figural nutcrackers from the village of Seiffen must have taken place around 1870. The "father" of the Erzgebirge nutcrackers is thought to be Friedrich Wilhelm Füchtner (1844-1923). Füchtner's figures became the prototypes for many other nutcrackers from the region. Füchtner's basic nutcracker form was turned on a lathe, with the turned parts made of pine, beech and alder. Minimal decoration based on the contrasting colors of red and gold or blue and orange resulted in a simple but effective representation. The policeman, the soldier, and the forester, all very simple characters, are the earliest known forms. The basic production of all the figures remained the same, with only the hat, color, decorative details, and accessories varying from figure to figure. The production of Füchtner nutcrackers has been carried on by the next four generations: Albert Füchtner (1875-1953), Kurt Füchtner (1903-1970), and by Werner Füchtner (born in 1930) and his sons.

A renaissance of nutcracker production occurred in the Seiffen area after 1960, led by crafts people who maintained the old traditions. A "Husar" (cavalry man) was developed by Henry Lippmann (1926-1971) and a Danish guardsman and soldier with a spiked helmet by Walter Wenzel. Other producers included Richard Gläser, Walter Tränker (Neuwernsdorf) and Rudolf Ender (Borstendorf). The old traditions have been especially maintained by the demonstration workshop of the EG Seiffener Volkskunst Company. Visitors can visit this very small factory and watch the highly skilled crafts people as they produce the various nutcracker forms.

For almost three centuries Seiffen was at the center of one of the world's most important toy-making production and export regions. During the difficult years under communism, many of the village's crafts people struggled to maintain their personal independence and continued to pass down the toy making traditions of their forefathers. With the reunification of Germany, it is again possible to visit this once remote corner of the Erzgebirge Mountains. The Erzgebirge Toy Museum, with over 3,000 examples of toys and Christmas folk art on display, is the central cultural attraction of the village. The Erzgebirge open-air Museum with its restored and furnished buildings provides visitors with an interpretation of the folk culture of the region. Special advent music programs are given each Sunday during the season in the historic baroque church. Almost every one of the small Erzgebirge houses of the village contains a toy maker's workshop, and visitors are encouraged to visit the homes and watch over the shoulders of the crafts people. The whole village becomes a toy store during the Advent season, when a Christmas market is held each Advent Saturday on the streets of the village. Additional information is available from the local tourist bureau: Fremden-verkehrsamt, 09548 Kurort Seiffen, Germany. The telephone number from outside Germany is country code 49, area code 37362, local telephone number 218 (or 219).

Written by Dr. Konrad Auerbach, Museum Director and Mary Audrey Apple, Guest Curator for the opening of a a special Christmas Exhibit of the Erzgebirge Toy Museum Seiffen, December 28, 1992.

GERMAN-AMERICAN GOINGS ON

THE INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE CALENDAR 1997

The 1997 Wall Calendar (8 1/2 x 11 1/4) features thirteen historical German breweries in Indiana, from early pioneer times to the 20th century, from Evansville to South Bend, each with a brief history.

Produced by board members Eb and Ruth Reichmann, and theme editor Jim Talley (who also did most of the excellent photo work), the calendar lists all German-American organizations in Indiana, and many other useful German-American addresses. The dates of principal programs, concerts, celebrations and festivals of the listed organizations make this the handy state guide to German-American activities.

**** Get copies for yourself and for nice little presents. ****
Member discount price: $6.50 (includes s.t & s&h). For each additional copy simply add $4.50

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(no additional s/h). Check/M.O. with order, please.-- Quantity discounts available for six or more copies.-- Orders: NCSA LITERATUR Distributor, 430 Kelp Grove Rd., Nashville, IN 47448 -- or pick up at Athenaeum Foundation, 401 E. Michigan St., Indpls.

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SELM TO DEVELOP INDIANAPOLIS GUIDE OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES

IGHS received a Historic Preservation Education Grant to develop a "Guide of German-American Historic Structures in Indianapolis." Through a descriptive listing of pertinent structures the "Guide" aims at filling a knowledge gap in regard to the ethno-cultural side of the city's development.

Primary researcher and organizer of information is William L. Selm. Active in historic preservation since 1978, Selm served as the historian for the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission from 1983 to 1992. He has researched and written numerous National Register Nominations (e.g. Oldenburg, Lockerbie Square), and preservation plans (e.g. Lockerbie Square, St. Joseph, Wholesale District). Selm is a co-founder of the Indiana German Heritage Society and part-time instructor at Herron School of Art. He has a B.A. in History and an M.A. in Historic Preservation.

There is really no-one more qualified for such a project than Bill. We are frequently asked to provide guided walking tours for persons visiting from around the nation and overseas, to the Lockerbie Square area, of which the Athenaeum is an integral part, and tours to the German buildings of Indianapolis. It is usually Bill who is asked to guide these tours. The by-products of the "Guide," a walking tour brochure for "Lockerbie Square" and a driving tour brochure for Indianapolis, will be available to visitors and organizations who may wish to use them.

The historical physiognomy of the state's capital is inextricably linked to a German and German-American presence in the city and, in particular, to the considerable number of architects, builders, designers and sculptors from this ethno-cultural strand of its population. D.A. and O. Bohlen, Bohn, Gaul, Kessler, Scherrer, Schmitz, Schreiber, Schwarz, among others, have created many landmarks of lasting beauty and significance. Beyond their marked impact on the public building sector, they helped shape the character of residential structures and neighborhood clusters of German-American vintage. Both sides of their legacy are significant for the creation of an annotated "Guide of German-American Historic Structures in Indianapolis." It should also be of interest to teachers, students and researchers involved in German-American Studies. Ruth Reichmann is considering creating a teaching unit designed to foster an understanding of the importance for research, restoration and protection of historic structures of German-American origin.

Parts of the information, collected for the guide will (eventually) be made computer accessible in an on-line database of images and text, through the Internet site of the Max Kade German-American Center.

Why not visit the site and check it out. It can be accessed through URL: http://www-lib.iupui.edu/kade/

ST. PHILIP CHURCH TO BE RAZED

"According to the *Evansville Press*, the Max Kade German-American Center has received an Indiana Heritage Research Grant. You, the director, are asking for information on historic sites and collections of German-American materials in Indiana. I am suggesting that you consider St. Philip Catholic church as part of your research.

St. Philip Catholic Parish was established in September 1847. We are celebrating our 150th anniversary in September 1997. the church was built in 1859/60. It contains late Victorian and Romanesque revival architecture. It was described in the History and directory of Posey County in 1882 as "one of the finest church edifices in the county .... largely made up of German Catholics."

I belong to St. Philip Parish in St. Philip, Indiana and I am sorry to say that our church is scheduled for demolition in 1998. It would be an honor to have our church included in the list of historic sites.

St. Philip is located in the southern-most county of Indiana where the Ohio and Wabash Rivers meet. The church is an historic treasure. Our history is quite interesting. The priest, Fr. Roman Weinzapfel, who helped build the church and begin the parish was jailed and then

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through the intercession of the wife of President Polk. We still have Weinzapfel parishioners in our parish who were related to Fr. Weinzapfel.

I am including some information about St. Philip and neighboring churches which was published in our diocesan newspaper."

Letter of July 29, 1996 by Joan Stolz to Ruth Reichmann

WEINZAPFEL REUNION 2001 IN ALSACE/FRANCE

Some 150 years ago a young theology student, Roman Weinzapfel, emigrated to Southern Indiana to become a priest for the German-speaking Catholics of the area. After his first 10 years of ministry, which were somewhat hectic, his brother Michael joined him and had a family in the St. Philip's area of Posey County. Roman and his brother came from Ungersheim, Alsace.

In 1986 the Weinzapfels of the Ungersheim area decided to have their first family reunion. The European Weinzapfels had no record of where their American relatives had settled. In 1988 several Indiana Weinzapfels decided to journey to Ungersheim to investigate whether they still had relatives there. They found a lot! The European Weinzapfels had scheduled their next reunion for 1991 at Ungersheim. At that time some 40 Hoosier Weinzapfels met their European relatives for the first time.

Every five years the European Weinzapfels hold their reunion. This year 70 related Weinzapfels from across America intercession of the wife of met some 140 Weinzapfels form all over Europe. As more information is shared, the I became a member of the reunion June 1-4. It was a great time. If you are, per chance, related to the Weinzapfels, mark your calendar for 2001 and head for Ungersheim, Alsace (Elsass) France.

Fr. John Boeglin, Holy Family Church, Jasper

FORT WAYNE SEMINARY CONCLUDES 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The year 1996 has been a very big one for Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne: the 150th anniversary of its founding.

In August of 1846 eleven weary travelers arrived in Fort Wayne from Germany. They had been sent by Rev. Wilhelm Loehe, pastor of the Neuendettelsau (Bavaria) Lutheran church to receive training for the holy ministry and to assist in the work of gathering the German immigrants into Lutheran churches in America. In Fort Wayne they were met by Dr. Wilhelm Sihler, recently installed pastor of St. Paul Lutheran church. He welcomed the new arrivals, arranged for their housing, and along with a teacher, Karl Roebbelen who had accompanied them, soon began to instruct them in his own parsonage.

Such was the humble beginning of the Seminary which now occupies a beautiful campus of two hundred acres near the St. Joseph River. The campus was designed by the noted architect Eero Saarinen and was first Concordia Senior College before Concordia seminary moved there from Springfield, IL in 1976.

Concordia Theological Seminary at Fort Wayne is named the "Practical" Seminary of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in contrast to the "Theoretical" Seminary, Concordia at St. Louis, MO. It may well have been named "the German Seminary." "In the first nine years of its existence, only one student was American-born; 88 students came from Germany, of whom 72 successfully completed the course of study and entered the ministry or became parish teachers." (Geo. Mather, Frontier Faith, p.111) From the Newsletter of the Indiana Religious History Association, October 1996.

NEW ULM TURNVEREIN CELEBRATES 140 YEARS

The Junior Pioneers pulled out all the stops to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the New Ulm Turnverein. The celebration included the dedication of a marker at Turner Hall commemorating the anniversary and a mayoral proclamation announcing "Turnverein Day" in New Ulm. "Turnverein" meaning--"gymnastics club"--is an essential component of the Turner philosophy promoting "sound mind, sound body." The gymnastics program is still essential to the activities of New Ulm's Turners, providing athletic opportunities for both boys and girls.

Among the slate of speakers, Dr. Giles Hoyt spoke on the Turner's contribution to American cultural life. Hoyt is the Associate Dean for International Programs and Professor of German at Indiana University-Purdue University and is also involved with the Athenaeum Turners of Indianapolis.

He traced those contributions from the founding in 1848 of the first Turnverein in Cincinnati, Ohio through the height of the Turners influence in the 1880s and early 1900s to the low points of World War I, Prohibition, and the Depression and on to modern times.

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It was a founder of the first American Turnverein, Wilhelm Pfaender, who helped establish the New Ulm organization on November 11, 1856 with 13 charter members. It was the 21st Turner Society in America. Turners came to America after the unsuccessful democratic German Revolution of 1848. They saw hope in America, according to Hoyt, to establish "liberal republicanism" in the young nation. Many Turners went on to fight for equal rights, abolition of slavery, civil rights, and preservation of the Union.

He noted that Turners championed education and founded numerous schools and libraries across America. This was also true in New Ulm. The original Turner Hall served the needs of a public school before a building was constructed and it housed the only public library in town until 1937.

STUDENTS ON THE TRAIL OF ANCESTORS

On October 16, eleven students from the Progymnasium Rheinbischofsheim with two English teachers arrived in Celestine for a two-week GAPP (German American Partnership Program) exchange. They attended school and stayed with families in Celestine and Dubois in southern Indiana. They renewed friendships and visited with the descendants of emigrants from the Wagshurst area. Also planned for the guests were visits to area sites such as the Benedictine Monasteries of Ferdinand and St. Meinrad where Herbert Jogerst of Wagshurst sculpted beautiful sacred statues. The students enjoyed our American Halloween and spent a week in New York City.

Last June, German teacher Michael Grothmann and Marilyn Nathan had taken 9 Celestine students to Rheinau Progymansium were the Wagshurst students attend school. They learned about the Celestine immigrants places of origin. The French Partner School in Drusenheim was also involved.

The student exchange with the Progymnasium Rheinbischofsheim and the partner school program owes its existence to some Celestine families, whose ancestors came from the Wagshurst area. The enterprising and bilingual Celestine priest, Fr. John Boeglin (now at Holy Family Church, Jasper) negotiated the partnership for the small community in Dubois County. Wagshursters had settled there in mid-19th century.

VISIT COLOGNE, PARTICIPATE IN THE KARNEVAL

Last May, the "Rote Funken*," Cologne's oldest and largest Carnival society, sent a delegation to participate in the 500 festivities and the races. Now it is time to plan for a return visit and there is no better time to travel to Indy's sister city than for Cologne's ultimate celebration--Karneval. Plans are underway for just such a trip.

With the help of the Sister Cities Committee of Indianapolis and the cooperation of "Die Rote Funken Society of Cologne," the trip has been designed with the intention of participating in Karneval--not merely as tourists, but as guests. We will have the opportunity to spend some time with members of "Die Rote Funken," even though their schedules will be busy with "official duties" during this crazy time. And we will have grandstand seating for the ROSENMONTAG PARADE. The Rose Monday Parade is nationally televised and can be compared to the New Orleans Mardi Gras (Shrove Tuesday) Parade. Both mark the end of the Carnival Season. Many just dream of such an opportunity--here is a chance to make the dream come true.

Included in the Cologne Karneval tour package, February 4-14 are:

* Round-trip Air Indianapolis--Cologne on the specified dates
* Round-trip transfers from airport to the hotel
* Hotel accommodations at a centrally located downtown first class hotel including tax and service for 8 nights
* Round-trip baggage handling
* Buffet breakfast daily at the hotel
* City orientation tour of Cologne
* Day excursion in the environs
* Special KARNEVAL FEATURES:
  - Ticket to ROTE FUNKEN MASQUERADE BALL
  - Tribune (grandstand) seating for ROSENMONTAG PARADE
  - Dinner at our hotel prior to Rote Funken Ball
  - Special dinner with ROTE FUNKEN SOCIETY

Price per person, based on double occupancy, is $1,613.00. For single occupancy add $151.00. Prices are based on a minimum of 20 participants and the current exchange rate. If these change, recalculations will be necessary.

Deposits of 25% are encouraged by December 1 to ensure viability

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of the group. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. For further information contact the Trip Coordinator, Jennifer Caskey, at 317-573-3600 or 800-821-3484.

*The Summer Issue of the IGHS Newsletter describes in some detail "Die Rote Funken" and Cologne.

COLOGNE - PHOTOGRAPHIC BRIDGE ON THE BRIDGE

A bridge, albeit an artistic one, was built on the Hohenzollern Bridge in Cologne between Cologne's two sister cities. From September 11 to September 27, 1996 a gigantic photographic installation connected Cologne with Indianapolis and Volgograd. On altogether 38 canvases, 6 1/2' x 10' photo portraits of both cities were displayed. When traversing Hohenzollern Bridge, the citizens of Cologne would see Indianapolis city-scapes on one side and Volgograd faces on the other. From both sides of the bridge one could reach both cities - a meeting of East and West above the Rhine. The photographs were taken by Cologne photographers Manfred Linke and Bettina Flitner.

In the summer of last year, Linke spent 2 weeks in Indianapolis and captured his impressions on film. The end product was a photo excursion, a dynamic color reportage of the city, replete with sky scrapers, street jungles and auto races--a broad spectrum of everyday life in Indianapolis.

Bettina Flitner traveled in Spring of this year to Volgograd (the former Stalingrad). On May 9, Victory Day, she took black and white photographs of old and young people and placed under them captions linking them to Germany and the Germans. Added to these were photographs of the last excavations of Russian and German war dead.

Cologne Mayor Norbert Burger has encouraged linkage of their Russian sister city, Volgograd with Indianapolis, to form a triangle. Nancy Borosch, a member of the IGHS board and the Indianapolis Sister Cities committee has carried out numerous encounters between the youths of the three cities and will be teaching English and American culture in Volgograd in the Spring semester of 1997.

Hohenzollern Bridge spanning the Rhine River at Cologne showing the Volgograd photographic display

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY REPORT

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY HUGE SUCCESS!

Around 400 celebrants came to the German-American Klub in Indianapolis on October 6 and they came from as far as Terre Haute, Michigan City and Oldenburg, Germany. There were proclamations and speeches and non-stop entertainment by many of Indy's German organizations. The Athenaeum German Band under the leadership of Joe Caffrelli kicked off the event. The Maennerchor, Liederkranz and Saengerchor took turns with the German Heritage Dancers, the Fledermäuschen and the Kindertanzgruppe and the dancers invited the audience for mixers. Antonius Holtmann's Heritage Tour participants serenaded the audience with "Wo die Nordseewellen spülen an den Strand" and Eberhard Reichmann led a sing-along. Applause went to the two coordinators. Ruth Reichmann of the Indiana German Heritage Society and Gloria Webster of the German-American Klub. Everyone had a wonderful time and the general consensus was that "we should do this again!"

GERMAN-AMERICAN WEEK ON THE POTOMAC

A bit of Oktoberfest and a great deal more of Germany came to the U.S. capital. Washington's Union Station was a landmark transformed during the "German

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Weeks" held there from October 1-11. A handful of German corporations and the German government teamed up to give visitors a broad overview of technical innovation in Germany. Several exhibits documented Germany's long history of industrial leadership by showcasing notable German "firsts," including the first printed book, the first automobile and the first refrigerator. Among the cutting edge technologies of the present that were featured was the Transrapid bullet train; a video simulation offered visitors a high-speed trip from Berlin to Hamburg in virtual reality.

It wasn't all business at the "German Weeks." The exhibition was accompanied by an extensive cultural program including numerous musical and dance performances as well as film presentations. There was a special display tracing the long history of German-American relations. During the weekend of October 5-6, the restaurants housed in Union Station marked German-American Day (October 6) with a belated celebration of Oktoberfest with special offerings of German food, wine, music and, of course, beer.

Further information on other events is available on the German Information Center's Web site (http://www.germany-info.org).

THE WHITE HOUSE

German-American Day, 1996
By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Germans were among the first settlers of the United States. They, like other immigrants to our country, came to America seeking a better life for themselves and their families. In building this better life, they have immeasurably enriched the lives of their fellow Americans. From the beginning of the colonial period and throughout the history of our republic, German-Americans have contributed their intellect, wealth, and culture to building, defending, and improving American life. Organized settlement in America by Germans began as early as 1683, with the arrival of German Mennonites in Pennsylvania at the invitation of William Penn. Pennsylvania soon became the center and stronghold of German settlement throughout colonial times as small, vigorous communities spread to Maryland and the other colonies. Today, robust German-American communities can be found throughout the United States.

The strength of character and personal honor so important in the German culture tradition have also found their way into the core values of American society. More U.S. citizens can claim German heritage than that of any other national group. And every successive generation of German-Americans seems to produce new heroes and heroines who earn the admiration of a grateful world.

For example, Carl Schurz served as a Union General in the Civil War and later rose to become a distinguished American statesman, both as Senator from Missouri and as Secretary of the Interior. Johann Peter Zenger, the publisher of the New York Weekly Journal in the early 18th century, was an early and vigorous champion of the free press in America. And German-born Albert Einstein made monumental and historic contributions to our understanding of the universe.

Our culture has also benefited abundantly from German-American women. Anna Ottendorfer was a talented newspaper publisher and philanthropist. The four Klumpke sisters enriched American life with their contributions to art, medicine, music, and astronomy, while Lillian Blauvelt and Fannie Bloomfield Zeisler enhanced American music.

America has welcomed Germans in search of civic freedoms, and their idealism has reinforced what was best in their new country. German-American men and women have contributed immensely to the fabric of our Nation, and it is appropriate that we pause to honor their important role in building our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Sunday, October 6, 1996, as German-American Day. I encourage Americans everywhere to recognize and celebrate the contributions that millions of people of German ancestry have made to our Nation's liberty, democracy, and prosperity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.
(signed) Bill Clinton

LATE BREAKING NEWS

COMING OFF THE (NOVEMBER) PRESS!

Norbert Krapf's Finding the Grain: Pioneer German Journals and Letters from Dubois County, Indiana, rev. & expanded edition. $18.00+3.00 s/h.--Orders (check/m.o.): NCSA LITERATUR, 430 Kelp Grove Rd., Nashville, IN 47448. (812)-988-2866.

A 300-page collection of letters, journals, memoirs, passport papers and "farewell" poems document the immigrant origins of the editor's native German-Catholic community in southern Indiana, with intros to the 7 chapters, illustrations, notations, and bibliography. Included are 66 letters of the dynamic missionary/colonizer Rev.Joseph Kundek detailing his vision and development of a "German-Catholic colony in the wilderness of southern Indiana." Letters and journals by his followers tell their story of becoming a part of this religious, social, and economic community.

The book is a joint publishing venture of Max Kade German-American Center, Indiana German Heritage Society and Dubois County Historical Society.

DANKESCHOEN! THANKS!

We could not be doing all the many things without the dedication and help of our members. While we cannot mention them all, there are a few who deserve a special applause for the splendid job they did with the International Festival in Indianapolis.

This year our booths at the International Festival (State Fair Grounds) were especially well done and focused beautifully on the theme: "German Ethnic Dress and German Customs." Ruth and Eb Reichmann, who have coordinated this event for many years, received splendid help from Dennis Kramer and Ernestine Dillon. Dennis designed both of our booths, procured the mannequins, created the beautiful banner with the German eagle and set up a delightful table, prepared for a meal, all of it with German labels. Dennis also got us a super-size TV from H.H. Gregg. IGHS President Ernestine Dillon procured us the back drop depicting Wasserburg am Inn and several Wasserburgers in native garb. She clothed the two child mannequins in Wasserburg dress and provided the video of the Trachtenfest in Wasserburg. (Wasserburg is the sister city of Vincennes and a Vincennes group had just visited there.) Ruth and Eb Reichmann dressed the two adult mannequins in their own Berchtesgaden outfits.

With the booths of the German American Klub and the Liederkranz right next to ours, we had the most noticeable German-American presence ever.

The International Festival has gotten bigger and better every year. On Thu and Fri app. 11,000 school children passed through. Those who stopped received information and were able to talk to to members in German. Some of them, like Betty and Ray McClothlin came all the way from Brown County, as did dancers Ginnvor Bullard and Ann Olson.

Thanks to everyone who helped!

The German Heritage Dance Group

If you know how to polka, waltz, do the Rhinelander, and if you enjoy
German folk dancing, get your partner
lined up, your shoes dusted off, and join
The German Heritage Dance Group
- every 3rd Monday of the month at 7 p.m. -

We meet in the Small Auditorium
First floor of the Athenaeum
401 East Michigan Street
Indianapolis

For information contact
Ginni Bullard at 812-597-4932

ANNUAL MEETING PREVEIEW

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Annual Meeting of the Indiana German Heritage Society on Friday and Saturday, March 14-15, 1997 in Indianapolis. This year's theme will be the German Jewish contribution in the Hoosier State. Details and registration information will be in the Spring *Newsletter*. The Saturday meeting will be held at the Athenaeum.

STAMMTISCH

There will be no January Stammtisch. The second Wednesday of the month evening programs will resume in February. Program details are not known at this time. Held at the Athenaeum, 401 East Michigan Street, the evenings begin with dinner at the Rathskellar Resturant at 6 P.M. followed by the program in the Max Kade smeinar room. Program information will be distributed at a later date or you may call Sandra Henselmeier Funk at 317-253-9796.

CHRISTMAS PYRAMIDS

In many parts of Germany where the green of spruce and fir was too expensive, people were satisfied with lights. The whole of the Erz Mountains area and extensive parts of Saxony became famous for their pyramids of lights. Rods of the same length are attached to each corner of a square piece of wood, and the other ends are tied together. That produces a pyramid. This has to be firmly based so three rows of transverse rods are use to strenghten the structure. The lights are attached to the protruding ends of these transverse rods. Although basic in design, what is important is that all the hopes and expectations invested in the approaching festival of Christmas were expressed in the decoration of these pyramids. They were carved from good wood, painted, and embellished. The ends of the rods, serving as candle holders, were carved as angels or as miners in their old costumes.

from Christmas in Germany

INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY * MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For joining or membership renewal, please use this statement and make checks payable to Indiana German Heritage Society. To increase Society support, you may wish to designate a higher category. All contributions are tax deductible.

ANNUAL DUES

Student $5 __ (school) _____ * Individual $12 __ * Family $20 __ * Organization $25 __ * Patron $50 __ *

Corporate $100 __ * Sponsor $500 __ * Benefactor $1,000 __ *

NEW MEMBER __ * RENEWAL __ * DATE _____ *

NAME _____

ADDRESS_____**CITY/STATE/ZIP**_____

Business Phone ____ ____ _____ **Home Phone** ____ ____ _____

Send Payment with Statement to: Membership Secretary IGHS * 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 47448

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 1, 3 p.m.
Christmas Service at Zion Church

December 6-8, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Christkindl Market, Athenaeum

Saturday, December 7, 7 p.m.
Christmas Songs Night,
Athenaeum

Sunday, December 8, 2-6 p.m.
St. Nikolaus Fest, Athenaeum

Wednesday, December 11, 1 p.m.
IGHS Board Meeting 6 p.m.
Stammtisch and Program

Monday, December 16, 7 p.m.
German Folk Dancers

1997

Wednesday, January 8, 1 p.m.
IGHS Board Meeting
No Stammtisch

Monday, January 20, 7 p.m.
German Folk Dancers

February 1, Fasching at German-American Klub, Indy

Friday, February 7, Carnival Celebration, Athenaeum Turners

February 8, 6:30 p.m.
Liederkranz 125th Anniversary,
Athenaeum, Indy

Wednesday, February 12, 1 p.m.
IGHS Board Meeting 6 p.m.
Stammtisch and Program

February 14, Valentine's Day
Dance at German-American
Klub, Indy

February 15, Winter Dance,
Liederkranz, Indy

Monday, February 17, 7 p.m.
German Folk Dancers

Saturday, March 1, Anniversary
Party, Athenaeum, Indy

March 1, Jaegerfest Dinner,
German-American Klub, Indy

March 8, 8 p.m. Indianapolis
Maennerchor, Triad Concert,
Murat

Wednesday, March 12, 1 p.m.
IGHS Board Meeting 6 p.m.
Stammtisch and Program

Fri./Sat. March 14-15, IGHS
Annual Meeting, Athenaeum Indy

Saturday, March 15, St. Benno
Fest, Athenaeum, Indy

INDIANA GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Indiana German Heritage Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46204

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