



DEUTSCHER VEREIN

# Die Zeitung

November, 2012

The Jasper Deutscher Verein was founded in January, 1980 to promote, preserve and celebrate our proud German Heritage in Jasper and surrounding area. The Club is intended to be primarily Social and Not-For-Profit.



**Larry and Betty Hanselman**  
**2012 German Heritage Award Winners**

## **German-American Day Celebrated**

The Jasper Deutscher Verein, Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., and the Jasper Partnership Commission sponsored a German-American Day Dinner and Program on Tuesday, October 9th, at the Schnitzelbank Restaurant in Jasper. Over 90 individuals celebrated the occasion.

Birnie Jeffries, president of the Jasper Deutscher Verein, welcomed all present. He introduced Mayor Terry Seitz who read the proclamation recognizing October 9<sup>th</sup> as German American Day in Jasper.

Raymie Eckerle, vice-president of the Jasper Partnership commission, introduced the essay winners of the German Heritage in Dubois County essay contest which was held in conjunction with German-American Day.

This contest was open to all seniors in the four Dubois County high schools. There were three essay topics. The students chose one of the three topics. They were "What does German heritage mean to me?", "What can we, as the younger generation, do to help maintain and preserve our German heritage?", and "Note local or family German names as they relate to the towns or villages that immigrants came from, the meaning of the family names, relationship to geographic location, occupation, etc."

The winner from Forest Park Junior Senior High School was Bethany Boeglin and her parents are Kurt and Kristi Boeglin. The winner from Northeast Dubois High School was Kenzie Hassfurther. Kenzie is the daughter of Kurt and Sharon Hassfurther. Heather Underhill was the winner from Southridge High School. Heather is the daughter of Terry and Pamela Underhill. The winner from Jasper High School was Lauren Mann daughter of Jeff and Lisa Mann.



## **2012 German Heritage Essay Winners**

**L to R – Front Row – Bethany Boeglin, Heather Underhill, Kenzie Hassfurther, and Lauren Mann**

**Back Row – Steffi Schmuecker, Rachel Levin, and Sharon Burger – Representatives of German American**

Each student presented her essay as part of the program of the evening. German American is the financial sponsor of the essay contest.

Mr. Eckerle noted that this is the tenth year that German American has sponsored the German Heritage Essay contest and has awarded over \$7,500 in scholarship dollars to the winners of the essay contest.

On behalf of German American, Sharon Burger, Rachel Levin, and Steffi Schmuecker, then presented each essay winner with a \$250 scholarship and certificate.

Mr. Jeffries also introduced Kevin Manley, Whitney Hall, and Jessica Beck of the Dubois County Visitors Center who gave a very interesting presentation on tourism in Dubois County. There are currently commercials running on activities in Dubois County. In 2012, there were several new events and projects including the Garden Gate Jazz, Wine and Craft Beer Festival, Heartland Half Marathon and 5K Run, DC Multisport, Indiana Tree Association, Navy Club Regional Meeting, Regional Millers Convention, three new Softball Tournaments, Historic Church Trail, and Dubois County App.

New events and projects in process for 2013 include a crappie tournament, bass tournament, fast pitch softball and baseball tournaments, DC Multisport events, Historic Baseball Trail, and more. They showed clips of the commercials and clips of the Super 46 Superbowl Sandwich contest where many residents from Dubois County supported the Schnitzelbank Restaurant in their presentation at Indianapolis.

Jim Gutsell, president of Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., presented the 14th annual German Heritage Award. This award is presented to an individual or group who has contributed generously of their time, talents, or resources in maintaining, improving, or building upon the German roots in Dubois County.

The 2012 German Heritage Award was presented to Larry and Betty Hanselman.

Mr. Gutsell noted that "In 1961, Larry and Betty Hanselman opened the Schnitzelbank Restaurant in hopes of keeping the German Heritage alive, right here in Southern Indiana. Today, 51 years later, Larry and Betty's vision for what the Schnitzelbank could do for Jasper has been realized. The Schnitzelbank brings people from all over the country, to visit our city, in order to taste some authentic German food and taste beers from all around the world." From a nomination, "The German language was spoken fluently throughout Betty's home while growing up. Both families taught the importance of an honest day's work and also put strong emphasis on being proud of what one accomplishes and what one produces. Throughout their lifetime, Larry and Betty have had great role models and have, in turn, been great role models for their children."

Mr. Gutsell stated "I know the family rightfully has always stated that this (the Schnitzelbank) was a community effort, which it is, however, it could certainly have not been achieved if the values and work ethic

Larry and Betty practiced and treasured had not been instilled in their kids and grandkids. And a very special thanks to Betty, wife and mother, for keeping the home life intact during the kids' formative years."

It was noted that Mr. and Mrs. Hanselman have been married for 56 years and in business for 51 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanselman have been involved in many organizations in the community and have always been there to help when they were needed. They have hosted several Sister Cities and German Club events over the years.

In their travels, both here and abroad, they have always promoted Jasper and have always extended invitations to visit Jasper and the Schnitzelbank. They have also visited Pfaffenweiler, Germany and have attended the Schneckel Fest.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanselman involved their children in the Schnitzelbank and although retired, check in on the operation of the Schnitzelbank and Hampton Inn on a daily basis.

Their six children, Mark, Gail, Gary, Alan, Lori, and Jill, and many grandchildren also attended the event and Mr. Hanselman lead the group in the Schnitzelbank song.

Mr. Gutsell thanked Lois Kuntz, Patti Goepfrich, Rita Egler, Raymie Eckerle, Matthias Hilger, Birnie Jeffries, and entire staff of the Schnitzelbank for their coordination in the evening's activities.

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## **Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars**

### **November**

#### **At the Jasper VFW Auction for Student Exchange Thursday, November 15, 2012**

Chip Kugler has graciously agreed to conduct our Annual Auction of donated items with 100% of the proceeds supporting the Jasper High School German Exchange program. Everyone is encouraged to bring an item or two for this auction. Parents of the Exchange Students will also be donating items.

Be creative! The more variety and quantity of items we can have in the auction, the more funds will be raised to support the exchange program. Come prepared to have some fun.....and to bid!

Time: 6:30pm BBQ Pork, salad, vegetable, and dessert buffet

Members with last names beginning A – P are asked to bring a salad or vegetable, Q – Z are asked to bring a dessert.

Members may sign up or prepay at the November meeting for the Christmas Dinner on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$10 per person and reservations are due to Birnie Jeffries at 326-2414 or email to [greentmargie@yahoo.com](mailto:greentmargie@yahoo.com) by December 10<sup>th</sup>.

If anyone desires to run for an office now is the time to come forward and have your name on the ballot to be voted on in January, 2013. The December meeting will be the last chance for anyone to challenge the slate of Officers we currently have committed. Up for considerations is Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

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## Dezember

### At the Jasper VFW Thursday, December 20, 2012 Christmas Party

Time: 5:30pm doors open  
6:30pm Christmas Dinner served

The dinner will consist of Roast Beef w/ Gravy, Sweet and Sour Salad, Cranberry Salad, Buttered Corn, Mashed Potatoes, Bread, Coffee and Lemonade all for \$10.00 per person. We need to have reservations in by December 10....no later. Members may sign up and pre pay at the November meeting. Call in for reservations Birnie Jeffries 326-2414 or email [greentmargie@yahoo.com](mailto:greentmargie@yahoo.com).

Officers and Directors will furnish the Desserts.

Entertainment will be Dance Central, which is a local troupe of Young girls and ladies who will perform various dances for the membership. Also, Santa will stop in making his usual timely visit.

To be in the festive spirit, Ladies wear red or green and Gentlemen wear your vest and your hats. great time to strut your stuff.

The December meeting will be the last chance for anyone to challenge the slate of officers we currently have committed. If anyone desires to run for an office now is the time to come forward and have your name on the ballot.

## Deutscher Verein Family Picnic 2012

The Jasper Deutscher Verein Family Picnic was held on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Jasper Outdoor Recreation Club. President Birnie Jeffries opened the evening with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed 124 members to the annual picnic which is a **THANK YOU!!!** to all the members for all their time and effort given the club during all the projects for the last year especially the Strassenfest.

Vice President Bridgette Jarboe led in the prayer before the meal which consisted of Smoked Pork Loin with cinnamon apple rings and roasted red potatoes along with salads, vegetables and desserts provided by the members.

Pat Dunkel, Pam Howard and Barb Schmitt were at the welcome table.

After the meal, Birnie led the members in singing God Bless America and Ein Prosit.

He introduced Pat and Phyllis Schuler, chairpersons for the Strassenfest Food Booths. He thanked the Schulers for all the hard work they did in managing the booths and the workers. Pat thanked everyone for working so hard to make this year another success. He said the set up and tear down was great! The mini braetzel was a huge success.

Birnie gave details of the then upcoming trip to Cincinnati. He also gave info on the 3rd annual Oktoberfest which was held on Sunday, October 7th. Proceeds from this event benefits the JHS German Student Exchange Program. It is sponsored by the Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. and is held at the Schnitzelbank.

Birnie also encouraged everyone to attend the German Heritage Dinner at the Schnitzelbank on Tuesday, October 9th. He asked those attending the picnic, who had won the German Heritage Award in previous years, to stand and be recognized. Those present were Joe and Irene Eckerle, Leo and Lora Lou Eckerle, Dave and Janet Kluemper, Rafe and Phyllis Ackerman, and Gary and Rita Eglar. He also asked for a moment of silence for the first award winner, Mary Jo Meuser who passed away on August 8, 2012. Mrs. Meuser was the first full time German teacher at Jasper High School and was instrumental in the establishment of the JHS Student Exchange Program.

The drawing for door prizes was then held. Winners were as follows: Candy basket winners were Jim Fritch, Art Kapp, and Richard Schmitt. Plant winners were Elfrieda Oeding, Janet Kluemper, Dennis Schaeffer, Jerome Streicher, Betty Schmitt, Vic Knies, Donna

Humbert, Lindsey Howard, Katie Warren, Judy Gress, Anna Friz, Ruth Wibbles, Ramona Brosmer, Helen Schroeder, Joe Wanninger, Joanie Lampert, Jan Stein, Gary Schnell, Irene Kapp, and Phyllis Schuler.

Special prizes were won by Fran Johnson and Charlie Knust. Entertainment for the evening was the Hungry Five Band which played German waltzes, polkas and marches.

The rest of the evening was spent dancing and socializing.

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, November 15th at the VFW. Social ½ hour will be at 6:00. Meeting will begin at 6:30. We will be having our annual auction of donated items with 100% of the proceeds supporting the Jasper High School German Exchange program. Everyone is encouraged to bring an item or two for this auction. Items donated in previous years include baked goods, crafts, furniture, homemade wine and liquors, German items, and Holiday items.

The menu will be BBQ pork. Members with last name A-P bring salad or vegetables. Q-Z bring dessert.

Barb Schmitt  
Secretary



The JHS German Exchange Program, now in its 25th year, hosted 20 students and 2 teachers from Staufen Gymnasium [October 13-30](#). In addition to attending classes with their host brothers and sisters, the German students had lunch with Mayor Seitz, visited the Dubois County Museum, Jasper Police and Fire Stations and learned to play baseball. Some German students even went to Florida with their host families during fall break, while others were able to go to Nashville, TN with the band parents to watch the JHS Band perform there. (Picture is from the lunch with Mayor Terry Seitz)



**For Information on this Quilt – Call Sandy Wehr at 482-2055. It will also be displayed at the November meeting.**



Thank you from Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. and the students and parents of the JHS German Student Exchange Program for the support of the German Food to Support German Exchange Program.

Thanks to the Schnitzelbank Family for their support.

**JHS Students Participating in the JHS German Student Exchange Program Going to Germany in June, 2013**



Pictured are:

Back row L-R: Ronnie Schepers, Griffin Park, Jared Coller, Austin Armstrong, Andrew Bush, Jaron Herbig, Josh Fleck, Maxwell Bradley

Middle L-R: Luke Lottes, Kari Keeley, Rachel Louviere, Shannon Sonderman, Sarah Reckelhoff, Holly Moser, Christian May

Front L-R: Emily Fleming, Kelsey Siewers, Madison Cornetet

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**Correspondence Received by the DeutscherVerein**

A thank you card and donation from Art and Ruth Margarida for promoting and sponsoring the Sheephead Tourney at the Strassenfest.

A thank you card from the Boeckman Family for the thank you gift for being so generous with their space during the Strassenfest. They included a note – Pat and Phyllis are great!!

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**Following in Their Footsteps  
By: Kenzie Hassfurther**

**Daughter of Kurt and Sharon Hassfurther  
Northeast Dubois High School**

My ancestors and my strong German heritage are what have made me who I am today. I am proud to say that

my ancestors have inspired me to have a hard work ethic, always have a strong faith, and never give up even during hard times.

I am proud to say that I work hard in every aspect of my life. A main part of my time is spent at school. I try to dedicate my all for my classes and try to excel in every school assignment I receive. I take my grades very seriously, and I push myself to be better academically. Another majority of my time is spent at my job. I am always there on time, and am reliable in taking on various tasks. Like my ancestors, I am determined to excel and make a living for myself. Even when times may get rough, I will never give up because I know I will make it because my ancestors have. They have also taught us to take pride in our homes and work hard at keeping our homes inviting and presentable.

Our ancestors have also taught us to have a strong faith. I go to church every week and make it a point to put my faith first. My ancestors have always relied on their faith to get them through everything. They have also set the example to be involved in the church. Whether it is working at the church shoot, attending religious education classes, or being involved in a youth group activity, I try to keep faith a top priority. Being involved in the church also sets a good example to always help others. Our German ancestors have always helped out their neighbors and were serving others like their faith taught them.

The many lessons learned from our ancestors help us in our everyday lives. One of the main things to remember is to never give up. Life may not always be easy, and we will make mistakes, but our ancestors have made it, and our generation will, too. Even though things may be different now, our German relatives have taught us useful life skills to continue on. They were faced with many hardships along the way, but they never gave up on their hopes and dreams. Our ancestors made better lives for themselves and everything worked out okay in the end.

Our German ancestors have set the standards for living a successful life. They have taught us many lessons about working for what you want, keeping an active faith life, and always having hopes and dreams for the future. I believe that as long as I continue following in the footsteps of my German ancestors, I will have a wonderful life worth living.

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**At this time of Thanksgiving, let us remember the less fortunate of our communities. This would be a great time to make a donation to any organization helping those in need in our communities. Your generosity will be appreciated.**

**German to Me**  
**By: Lauren Mann**

**Daughter of Jeff and Lisa Mann**  
**Jasper High School**

For as long as I can remember, German heritage has always been a prominent part of my life. Growing up in a family that is so gracious of our background has shown me how important our history is. Without my family paving the way, I never would have been able to see the true meaning of German heritage in this community. German heritage to me means that I am able to connect with people in Germany and appreciate my ancestors and their culture.

I can remember from a young age my grandmother and uncle talking about all of our family friends in Germany. At the time, I thought they were talking about distant relatives that still live in Germany. I would try to picture their houses, imagine their life in a different country, and dream of visiting one day. After meeting these friends, I discovered that these people are not actual blood family, but that our relationships are close enough that we consider each other family. This led me to become curious in learning more about of German connections and be able to have personal ties there like my grandmother and uncle. I made it a goal for myself to travel to Germany and personally experience the culture and make my own memories.

Many people in this community do not realize the true meaning of our Sister City program with Pfaffenweiler, Germany. I consider myself fortunate enough to understand the significance of this relationship. By taking part in the German Exchange Program at Jasper High School, I was able to travel to Germany and see for myself the deep family roots that many of us have in Pfaffenweiler. As I walked through the town with family friends, I could remember all the stories my grandmother had told me of her experiences there. I was finally able to make my own connections to Germany and see for myself how fortunate we are to have this international relationship. I was able to see the significance of keeping this relationship alive and growing.

When I think of German heritage, I imagine Pfaffenweiler. I think of how our ancestors came across the world in hopes for a better future. Their strong hearts and ambition created the city and values we have today. When I think back in time, I imagine our bold ancestors sacrificing everything they had to start this prosperous town. Having a German heritage provides a strong, close family, along with many symbolic traditions. I feel fortunate to have been able to see firsthand the importance of being grounded to your roots. I am extremely proud to be a part of a family that is able to

keep in touch with our German heritage. I hope to continue the family tradition and keep the German relationships strong.

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**German in My Heart**  
**By: Bethany Boeglin**

**Daughter of Kurt and Kristi Boeglin**  
**Forest Park Jr./Sr. High School**

I was born in Nashville, Tennessee. I am adopted.

The Boeglin family, from Ferdinand, Indiana, took me in as their daughter and cared for me, raising me the solid German way that their parents raised them. Honestly, there is no way for me to know if there is German heritage trickling through my blood stream or not, and my guess is on the latter. I have found though, that no matter where I was born and no matter how far away I get, Ferdinand will always be my home. Home, it is said, is where the heart is. German heritage might not lay in my genetics, but it's nestled comfortably in my heart.

My Grandma Fischer, whom I will esteem as the most persevering lady on Earth, has an incomparable work ethic that I believe is part of her German blood. On Sundays, while others spend time watching the latest sports news cast, she is poised on her hands and knees in the kitchen, scrubbing a spotless floor. She says that hard work is what she has always done, what she has always been told to do, and the only thing she knows.

Unfortunately, this way of life was passed down to my mother, who will probably hand it over to me.

"If it doesn't taste right, add a stick of butter! Butter fixes everything." My Grandma Boeglin is also quite the motivated individual, but I think her German heritage shows in her cooking more than her cleaning. As a kid, my dad, Kurt, didn't find her fried neck bones or sauerkraut to be the most appetizing food. Grandma, though, is always right, and no one wants to be the one to tell her otherwise. Something tells me that is just another part of that German decent that is tumbling down to me.

Because I am not truly from this German decent, I feel extremely blessed to have people like my Grandpa Fisher in my life. He is always more than willing to teach me new German words. *Graga*, meaning throat; *Oikerdoinker*, meaning ankle; and *Gotinhemal* are just a few I've picked up on over the years. Being in German III now, I realize these are only made up words that make Grandpa think he is speaking German, but the fact that he still tries to carry on the tradition is admirable. I

can truly say I have learned volumes from him, and not just his amazing vocabulary.

From rags, to butter, to dictionaries, German heritage means a lot to me. If I could trace my heritage back and find out what I actually descend from, I'd be extremely disappointed if it wasn't German. I may not be the most hard working, German speaking cook in Ferdinand, but the fact that my family is made up of such characteristics is something I take pride in. I am honored to say I am, in fact, a German, and a German is what I will always be.

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**Preserving Our German Heritage**  
**By: Heather Underhill**

**Daughter of Terry and Pamela Underhill**  
**Southridge High School**

As the time between our German ancestors' immigration to the United States and today continues to expand, it becomes increasingly important to learn about and preserve the history and traditions that make our German heritage unique. It is essential that the younger generation work to maintain this unique heritage through seeking information from the older generations, learning the German language, educating ourselves on the cuisine, and participating in community events celebrating our German heritage.

As the younger generation, it is essential to let our relatives know that we are interested in learning about our German past through them. These relatives are an invaluable source of information regarding German customs as well as stories about what it means to be German. Some of them may even remember what it was like for their parents, or for them themselves, to live in Germany. If this key information is not passed on to a younger generation that is truly interested in maintaining it, it is at risk of being lost as memories fade or as people pass on.

Along with seeking out and becoming informed of important information regarding our German past, we can maintain our German heritage through choosing to learn German in school. The more interest that the younger generation shows in learning the German language, the more likely that these language programs will stay in and expand in our school systems. Language is one of the closest possible ties to our German heritage because language forms the basis for our understanding of everything in our world, including important symbols, names, and events. For example, knowing the German language allows us to understand phrases and idioms that have no literal translation into English and gives us a glimpse of what it means to see

the world from the German worldview. Learning the German language will also prepare the younger generation for an exciting trip to Germany so that they can experience their roots firsthand.

Another means by which our German heritage can be kept alive is a fun and appetizing one: the cuisine. It is important to get into the kitchen with family members and learn the recipes brought from Germany and passed down through the generations. It would also be an informative and enjoyable project to collect recipes from relatives and compile them into a family cookbook, which can be used by current generations before becoming an adored bequeathal to the next generation.

The final way in which the younger generation can aid in maintaining our German heritage is to get involved in local community events celebrating it. Participation in these events is not only enjoyable but also serves as a reminder to our peers of the importance of keeping our German heritage alive.

Preserving and celebrating our German heritage is essential in maintaining our sense of self in the current time as well as our ties to our past. As the younger generation, we can play a key role in this preservation.

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**Looking for Host Families**

Two girls, age 16, from Germany will be arriving the later part of December to begin the second semester at Jasper High School as part of the Sister Cities Home Stay Program. If you would like to host one of the girls, please contact Matthias Hilger at 661-0624, Sandy Wehr at 482-2055, or Carolyn Mowat at 634-7193.

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**Dubois County Suds Club Meeting Information**

The following is a slate of some of the activities of the Dubois County Suds Club for 2012. There are still some dates to be determined.

Even if you have no interest in learning how to homebrew, members of the Deutscher Verein are ALWAYS invited to stop by a meeting or event to simply enjoy some good beer! Thanks!

**November 6** - 7pm - The Schnitzelbank  
**December 1** - Holiday Party (location TBD)

Anyone wanting more information about the club is invited to call 630-8433 or attend a meeting.

Justin Rumbach

## Deutscher Verein

### Officers:

**Birnie Jeffries – President**  
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**Bridgette Jarboe – Vice President**  
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