



DEUTSCHER VEREIN

# Die Zeitung

February 2013

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.

## Happy Valentine's Day To All!!



### Deutscher Verein January Meeting in Review

The Jasper Deutscherverein met Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at VFW #673 for the annual wine/beer tasting/judging. Social time and sign in started at 6:00 pm with outgoing President Birnie Jeffries opening the meeting at 6:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

He welcomed 75 members and guests. He led in the toast 'Ein Prosit' and the prayer before the meal which consisted of meat/ cheese trays, along with appetizers and desserts prepared by the members.

A short business meeting was held after dinner. Birnie presented the slate of officers for the next 2 years. They are Bridgette Jarboe, President, Mike Ackerman, Vice-President, Rita Egler, treasurer, and Barb Schmitt, secretary. He asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Being there were no nominations, Bernie asked for the motion to approve the officers. Al Bennet made first motion, Steve Schmitt made 2nd.

Officers were elected as presented.

Birnie then handed the meeting over to Mike Ackerman, newly elected Vice- President acting in the absence of President Jarboe.

He announced that the Strassenfest Committee is looking for nominations for the Grand Marshall of this year's Strassenfest which will be held August 1-4.

This year's theme is Celebrating 35 years of food, fun, and memories. To submit a nomination, send a letter with a brief statement of why the person or persons

nominated deserve the honor. Letters of nomination may be dropped off at the Jasper Chamber of Commerce office at 302 W. 6th St, or mailed to the Jasper Strassenfest Committee, attn. Hofmarschall Nomination , P.O. Box 307, Jasper, IN. 47545-0307. Nominations must be received no later than March 1st.

Mike then announced the winners of the wine/beer tasting/judging.

#### **Non grape winners**

- 1st Bob Bleemel
- 2nd Kathy Wanninger
- 3rd Don Scherle

#### **Grape winners**

- 1st Dan Wehr
- 2nd Joe Wanninger
- 3rd Don Scherle

#### **Beer winners**

- 1st Dan Hollinden
- 2nd Tim Cravener
- 3rd Wayne Patmore

Mike then thanked the judges which were Cliff Howard, Al Bennett, Steve Schmitt, RayLechner, Charlie Knust and Dave Kluemper.

The drawing for door prizes was held. Winners were Nancy Prechtel, and Fred Hollinden. Special prizes went to Pat Schuler and Joe Wanninger.

Sister Cities of Jasper held a raffle for a gift basket which was won by Irene Kapp.

Mike then introduced the program for the evening which was Nancy Eckerle, Executive Director of the Jasper Chamber of Commerce.

She gave an amazing power point presentation of her trip to China in October 2012.

After the program, the rest of the evening was spent sampling the wine and beer and socializing.

The next meeting will be February 21st at VFW post #673. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Meeting will begin at

6:30. Members with last names **A - I** bring salads, **J - R** bring desserts, and **S - Z** bring appetizers. The club will furnish soup and refreshments.

The program will be Hugo Songer on the history of Dubois County Courthouse.

Submitted by  
Barb Schmitt  
Secretary

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### Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

#### Februar Meeting

At the Jasper VFW  
Program by Hugo Songer  
Thursday, Februar 21, 2013

Time:

6:00pm Doors Open

6:30pm - Welcome and Call Meeting to Order

Club will supply soup and refreshments.

Members with last names beginning A – I, please bring salads, J – R please bring a dessert, and those with last names beginning S – Z, please bring an appetizer.

Our program will be presented by Hugo Songer on the history of the Dubois County Courthouse.

#### Maerz Meeting

At the Jasper VFW  
Program by students from Holy Family School  
participating in their German Class and SV  
Productions, new technology 24 hour news  
Thursday, March 21, 2013

#### April Meeting

At the Jasper VFW  
Program by students of the Hodgini School of  
Dance and Gymnastics  
Thursday, April 18, 2013

### March

Indiana German Heritage Society Annual Meeting to  
be held March 22 – 23, 2013 in Ferdinand

### August

Strassenfest – August 1 – August 4

### October

German American Day Dinner – October 9th

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### MEMBERSHIP

Dues for the DeutscherVerin are \$10 a person. Out of this \$10, a \$1 will go to the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment, \$.50 per member for dues to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., and \$8.50 to German Club for postage and meetings. Dues are to be paid in February and March by mail to German Club, P.O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 or paid at meeting.

We are trying to build our membership and need many people to work at the Strassenfest and help with our meetings during the year. The Strassenfest is our **only** fund raiser of the year. We need everyone and I am asking all members to try to get new people interested in the German Club.

All members who are going to be gone for any period of time, I would appreciate if you would let me know when you are leaving and give me your new address so I can forward your newsletter to you. This keeps us from having to pay double postage and assures you to receive all newsletters while you are away from home. Having your mail forwarded while you are gone will not work, simply because of the "Return Service Requested" stamped on our newsletter. This is stamped to let us know when someone has moved. The Post Office informs us of new addresses if you have permanently moved.

Thanks for your help and please let me know if you have any questions regarding membership or if you know of someone interested in the German Club.

Thanks again,  
Rita Egler, 634-9068

## News from the Dubois County Suds Club

The Dubois County Suds Club is a group of local home-brewers. Anyone who home-brews or wants to learn how to home-brew is invited to attend.

In addition to monthly meetings, the club also holds group brew sessions and live demonstrations throughout the year. Anyone wanting more information about the club is invited to call 630-8433 or attend a meeting.

The following is a slate of some of the activities of the Dubois County Suds Club for 2013. 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!

### 2013 Schedule

March ? - Louisville trip - TBD  
April 2 - Snaps 7pm  
May 5 - Big Brew Day at Patoka 11am  
June 4 - Snaps 7pm  
June ? - Bloomington trip - TBD  
July 2 - Snaps 7pm  
Aug 3 - Strassenfest contest  
Sep 3 - Millhouse 7pm  
Oct 6 - Learn To Homebrew Day 11am  
Nov 5 - Schnitzelbank 7pm  
Dec 7 - Holiday Party @ Jaycee's clubhouse

Justin Rumbach

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### Jasper Deutscher Verein Taking Scholarship Applications

The Jasper Deutscher Verein is offering a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to a German student of Dubois County. If you have a child, grandchild or know of anyone who would like to submit an application, please inform them to contact their Guidance Counselor at their school. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2013. If any questions, please contact Linda Wehr at 482-4432.

At their January Board of Directors' Meeting in 2008, the following adopted the following qualifications for the Dubois County Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00.

1. Completion of the common scholarship application available from the School's Guidance Office.
2. Successful completion of two years of high school German.

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3. Two years of active participation in German Club or German Civic affairs in other schools.

4. Verification of enrollment in a German course at the college of their choice, or participation in an accredited German study abroad program such as the IU Honors Program.

5. Submission of a one page or less essay stating your personal qualifications and intentions.

6. GPA consideration.

7. Participation in an exchange program or hosting an exchange student.

8. Submission of two letters of recommendation from adults other than school personnel regarding personal character, etc.

9. The scholarship will be awarded upon verification of enrollment in German at college or acceptance into another German study abroad program such as the IU Honors Program. A \$500.00 scholarship will be given for the first semester and will be renewable for the second semester.

10. Parental membership in the Jasper Deutscher Verein will be considered.

11. Submission of all completed forms by April 1, 2013 to:

Jasper Deutscher Verein Scholarship Committee, P.O.  
Box 15, Jasper, Indiana 47547-0015

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### News from the JHS Student German Exchange Program

Students will be selling soup in March. BR Bucks will be sold April 1 – April 21. Details will follow in upcoming newsletters.

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**Dues information on mail labels of newsletters will be updated on the March mailing. Thanks!!!**

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## Groundhog Day - Mariä Lichtmess (2. Februar)

The American tradition of Groundhog Day has roots going back to Germany and other European countries. February 2 has long been the date of a religious observance known as Candlemas, or Mariä Lichtmess in German.

At least as early as the 1840s, German immigrants in Pennsylvania had introduced the tradition of weather prediction that was associated with the hedgehog (der Igel) in their homeland. Since there were no hedgehogs in the region, the Pennsylvania Germans adopted the indigenous woodchuck (a name derived from an Indian word), aka the groundhog. The town of Punxsutawney, some 80 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, has played up the custom over the years and managed to turn itself into the center of the annual Groundhog Day, particularly after the 1993 movie starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell. Each year, people gather to see if a groundhog dubbed "Punxsutawney Phil" will see his shadow after he emerges from his burrow. If he does, the tradition says there will be six more weeks of winter. (Phil has a rather dismal 39% rate of accuracy for his predictions.)

A similar German legend is connected with St. Swithin's Day (Siebenschläfer, 27 June), for which tradition says that if it rains on that day, it will rain for the next seven weeks. But the Siebenschläfer is a dormouse, not a hedgehog.

In Germany, the day has also been known as Mariä Reinigung, das Fest der Darstellung des Herrn and Mariä Kerzenweihe. The latter name (Kerze = candle) is related to the English "Candlemas" name and the tradition of blessing both sacred and household candles on Feb. 2. Up until 1912, Mariä Lichtmess was an official holiday in Germany. The Roman Catholic church has celebrated the feast day of Candlemas since 1960.

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## Valentinstag (14. Februar)

Sankt Valentin and the lovers' celebration in his name are not traditionally German, but in recent years Valentinstag has become increasingly popular in Germany. Originally celebrated mainly in France and the English-speaking countries, it is now common to see Valentine cards and other signs of the holiday in Germany.

The origins of both the man known as **Valentinus** and the celebration itself are obscure. Little is known about the Roman (or Romans) who may have been a bishop in Terni or a priest in Rome. Although several legends

have arisen around the Christian martyr Valentinus, there is no historical evidence that connects him to lovers or today's Feb. 14 Valentine celebration. As in the case of other Christian celebrations, Valentine's Day is more likely based on the pagan Roman fertility festival called Lupercalia that took place in mid-February. The Lupercalia only ended in 495 when it was banned by the pope.

(information taken from About.com-German Language)

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## Endowments at the Dubois County Community Foundation

### **Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment**

A donor-advised endowment to benefit generations in ensuring that our German heritage is preserved and enriched in Jasper and Dubois County.

### **Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment**

A designated endowment to provide support to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. to support the Jasper/Pfaffenweiler relationship.

A gift to the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment or to the Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment is a wonderful way to remember that special someone. A gift in honor of someone or in memory of someone may be given. The Dubois County Community Foundation will send a letter of acknowledgment to the individual being honored or to the family of someone being remembered. Send your gift along with the appropriate information to the Dubois County Community Foundation, P. O. Box 269, Jasper, IN 47547-0269. Envelopes are also available at the greeting table at each club meeting.



**Membership Dues**

It's that time of year again! Please submit your dues for 2013 by March 31, 2013 by completing and sending in the following form. Thanks!

SEND TO: Jasper Deutscher Verein, ATTN: Rita Egler, P.O. Box 15,  
Jasper, IN 47547-0015

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Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Please note if you would like to receive your newsletter via E-mail. Please note your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

[circle one]  
Single Membership (\$10.00) or Couple Membership (\$20.00)

[circle one]  
New Membership or Membership Renewal

Please indicate the year which dues are to be applied: \_\_\_\_\_



Deutscher Verein  
P. O. Box 15  
Jasper, IN 47547-0015

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
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JASPER, IN  
PERMIT NO. 149

Return Service Requested

## Deutscher Verein

Officers:

**Bridgette Jarboe – President**  
bnjarboe@hotmail.com

**Mike Ackerman – Vice President**  
mike@ackoil.com

**Rita Egler – Treasurer**  
gregler@frontier.com

**Barb Schmitt – Secretary**  
b.schmitt@insightbb.com

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sister-Cities-of-Jasper/104109826372883?sk=wall>

Deutscher Verein Website:  
www.jaspergermanclub.org

Directors:

Al Bennett  
Dave Buehler  
Raymie Eckerle  
Patti Goepfrich  
Birnie Jeffries  
Patrick Schuler  
Danny Wehr