



DEUTSCHER VEREIN

Die Zeitung

August 2017

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.

Thank you to Pat and Phyllis Schuler for the great job as 2017 General Chair Persons of the Strassenfest. Your efforts, hard work, and long hours that you devote to the Strassenfest are truly appreciated!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you to all of the individuals who chair the contests sponsored by the DeutscherVerein, the Day Chairpersons, Shift Chairpersons, everyone who sets up and tears down, and all workers of the Food and Pastry Booths. We have many nonmembers who work and that includes grandchildren, nieces and nephews, friends, and neighbors. Thank you for also patronizing the booths with your purchases. Proceeds from the Strassenfest are the largest source of income for the DeutscherVerein. Without those, we could not do what we do for our members of our community!!!!

Winners of Strassenfest Events Sponsored by the Deutscher Verein

Log Sawing Contest

Women's Division:

First: Not First, Just Curious – Lena Schwartz and Mackenzie Zehr

Second: Boilermakers – Sarah Boyle and Katie Krempf

Men's Division:

First: Angry Beavers – Mark Hoffman and Nathan Block

Second: Schwartz Brothers – Emos Schwartz and David Schwartz

Grand Champions – Not First, Just Curious

Sheephead Tourney

Rosie Werner, \$25 donated by DeutscherVerein, John Werner, \$25 gift card donated by Circle A, Judy McCarty, \$25 gift card donated by Circle A, Jim Hochgesang, \$25 gift card donated by Green Thumb Landscaping, Ida Mae Welp, \$15 donated by DeutscherVerein, Terry Persohn, \$15 gift certificate donated by Headquarters, Betty Kemp, \$15 gift certificate donated by Headquarters, and Matt Schmitt, \$10 donated by DeutscherVerein.

A message from Laura.....

The German Club proudly showed their German Heritage during Strassenfest.

Tuesday night the club came together to create the German Heritage corner of the fest. From the erection of the finely crafted booths to the displaying of colors in the tents, the member's hard work produced amazing results. Of course, the evening concluded with food and drink.

Thursday's opening ceremonies parade was the celebration of German Heritage. As members don their traditional Bavarian lederhosen and dirndls, they delivered the first sausage, kraut and beer to the beer garden. As the Jaycees ceremonially tapped the first keg, the members gathered around for the singing of Ein Prosit. The beer flowed, the sausage and kraut were cut and the Strassenfest Party officially began.

The true grit of the German Heritage that made Jasper the strong work community it is today, is the work ethic of the members. Many members worked more than one shift to sell the traditional German foods: bratwurst, knockwurst, wiener schnitzel, cream puffs, back forest cake, apple strudel and sides.

On Sunday, after the teardown was complete, the group gathered under the bare tent for a final Ein Prosit. This final toast to the hard work of allofthe member concluded the successful Strassenfest weekend.

The weather for Strassenfest 2017 was amazing and the crowds were plentiful. The booth ran out of food on Saturday and the members were done working before midnight.

Thanks to Patrick and Phyllis Schuler who once again organized this weekend's large fundraiser and fun-raiser. Thanks to all the shift day leaders who spent an entire day at the fest. Thanks to all the members who worked two or three or more shifts to cover all the open slots on the schedule. Thanks to Mike Ackerman who know exactly how to load the trailer and keeps it safe and secure on company property. Thanks to Ronny Keusch who hauls and stores the pastry cooler. Thanks to all of the young members

Laura Grammer
Treasurer

Sommer Picknick

The annual summer picnic for the Jasper Deutscher Verein will be held on Saturday, August 26, at the Jasper Outdoor Recreation – lower level. Doors open at 3:00 pm.

The club will be furnishing pulled pork, boneless chicken breasts, and hamburgers.

Members will carry in sides. Last names A-H bring salad, I-M dessert, N-S vegetable, and T-Z potato.

Upcoming Event – Mark Your Calendars

Oktober

German American Day Dinner with German Heritage Award Presentation

October 5, 2017

Sign up sheet will be available at summer picnic and you can also call reservation to Barb Schmitt at (812) 309-3992.

Schnitzelbank Restaurant



**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.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____
to the _____
(Please specify appropriate Endowment)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

I want my gift to be in memory of / in honor of:

Please acknowledge my gift to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____



JHS IN GERMANY 17

Monday, February 13, 2017

We're getting ready!

I just created this and I really hope it works! Stay tuned to learn more of our adventures in Germany in June...we will begin this "official" blog when we depart in May. Happy Trails! Señora

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

It's the final countdown!

The countdown is ON! 20 days and counting! Do you know what to pack? What kinds of shoes to take? Hair care products? So much to think about! And we still ave FINALS! Remain calm...it will all come together and before we know it-we'll be on our way!

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

5 Days!!!

We leave on our trip in 5 DAYS! It still seems so far away especially since finals are going on. I haven't started packing because I have to study for finals. I better start packing soon

Monday, May 29, 2017

Today's the day!

Today's the day! Sending my babies off without me! ☺ Happy they are about to have the adventure of a lifetime, sad I will miss the first part of said adventure. Wishing them safe travels and lots of fun...I will see you on the 15th. Until then...keep us posted! Señora

Courtney- May 29

Let's start this off by stating that this was my first time ever flying and it will definitely be one to remember to say the least! Today was the day I have been waiting for for over a year! After rechecking my bag an abundance of times to make sure I had everything I would be needing, I closed my suitcase one last time and loaded it into the car. My family and I began the "final voyage" to the airport and prepared to say goodbye. I gave them a hug and right when they were going to leave, I heard the screech. You know the screech... "ARE YOU KIDDING ME." Our flight was going to be delayed an hour and this caused complications with our connecting flight in Detroit. So, instead of being worried, I did the one thing I knew I had to do... I bought a bag of Goldfish (the edible kind), a Dr. Pepper, and plugged my phone into the nearest outlet. However, this was just the beginning of the #jhs+courtney Conundrum of 2017. Nearly 4 hours later and going to plan A ,B, C, D,... and Y, we FINALLY boarded our plane... at like 10:30 :). Okay, this is when I was getting nervous. Well, somehow Sam and I got stuck sitting together and neither one of us had ever flown. As was started to taxi to the run way, we held hands. Sweaty hands and all, we survived our first take

off. I felt dizzy and off balance but after a while, I was fine. Okay, also, am I the only one that didn't realize that plane companies literally fed you so much. On the way to Detroit we got cookies, granola bars, waters, pretzels, and basically anything we asked for. Although, now that I think about it, it was probably because we waited 4ish hours for an hour ish flight. ANYWAY. Once we landed, we had to run, let me say that again for the people in the back, RUN. To gate 46A to catch a 7-8 hour flight to Amsterdam. So I had heard the horror stories of plane food, but, of course, had never experienced it for myself. I have to say, it wasn't all that bad! I had pasta and a roll along with a brownie. I turned on my tv set, plugged in my headphones and watched Hidden Figures while enjoying my "gourmet" food. After a while, I fell asleep and awoke to awful neck pain. I pulled down my food tray, bunched up my blanket and pillow, and sat it on the tray. I then fell asleep for 2 hours... until I was abruptly woke up by a not so kind man across the row who decided to open his blind and allow the 2:00 am Indiana time, 8 am German time, sun in through his window. :) Thank you so very much. FINALLY, around 12:45 German time, we landed and began our next adventure of delayed flights... but, that's story for another time. As I sit here writing this, I look out the window and smile because I know the same God that created the Earth and all of its beauty, created me. Wow.

Will - May 30

Halfway out over the Atlantic Ocean, I realized that I could no longer feel my neck. This was of course due to the fact that I was sprawled out over three plane seats in a manner most akin to the way a senile sloth flops itself over a long dead tree. Righting myself, I take a position much more favorable to my spine, and drift back to sleep.

A bit later, I am woken by a sudden stranger. This elderly Hispanic woman apparently was annoyed at her kids so she decided to move back a row. We chatted for a bit and quickly I drifted away once again. Josteling awake once more, I see her sticking a small box of airplane food in my face. "Eat. Eat your breakfast. Young men need their strength."

It was clear she was not taking no for an answer. By the time we arrived in Amsterdam, I was mostly gone. Let alone by the time we got to Berlin. We put all our luggage in our hostel rooms, and went out to see some sights on the town.

Sara - May 31

After being rudely awoken by a knock at the door this morning by someone who got up too early, I got dressed and went to breakfast with the group. We ate at a café called Karaca. I ordered Sweet Frühstück which consisted of two croissants, fruit salad, honey, butter, cream cheese, jelly, Nutella and a hot drink (I got hot chocolate).

Then we took the U-Bahn to Checkpoint Charlie and walked around the area. We later came back and went to the Checkpoint Charlie museum. On our way to the Holocaust Memorial we stopped and got ice cream. When walking in the memorial, it was scary to get separated from the person you were walking with. After the group I was with got approached by a woman asking for money, we left. We next visited the Brandenburg Gate. Before we went to the Hauptbahnhof for food, we went to a bathroom in a Starbucks. While I was waiting someone walked in front of me and took the stall that opened (alright??). When at the Hauptbahnhof I ate currywurst and bought some souvenirs. Finally we went back to the hostel and got our bags and leave. After a two hours of driving (most of which I and everyone else slept through), we stopped at a rest stop to get a snack and use the bathroom. I paid 1 Euro to go to the bathroom and when you went through it gave you 50 Euro cents off anything you buy. I got a croissant which was way better than anything I have ever got at a gas station. Then we rode on the bus for one more hour and we arrived in Pößneck. When we arrived I was greeted by Ana, her mom, and their dog. I walked with Ana and her mom to the restaurant Ana's mom manages and got a cheeseburger. Then we walked to their house. When at the house I ate my cheeseburger with a salad Ana's mom made and watched the news. The whole time their dog and cat were playing with each other and also trying to get food. After that I took a shower and went to bed with the cat running around in my room.

June 1, 2017

First off I'd like to say that it is 10 days until my 18th birthday. Today was our first day of school. Which is very different from American school. So to start the day off I woke up at 6 and ate breakfast which was bread with Nutella and apples slices with a glass of orange juice. Then around 6:45 we left the house for the bus stop to catch a bus to school. When we got there all of the American students gathered in the Auditorium and were greeted by the headmaster of the school. After that Herr Schirmeister took us on a grand tour of the school. The school is really nice, it's small but nice. It was built in 1888 and then rebuilt after the war. The cool thing about the school is that instead of many halls it has floors. So it'd be like taking Jasper High School and separating each hall and stacking them on top of each other. That makes it really easy to navigate, at one point Will and I walked out of class to go find the restroom. We walked up to the next floor and found the restroom then walked back without a problem. I can't even leave class in Jasper to go to the restroom without struggling to find one, and I've been there for three years! After the tour we waited in the cafeteria for our Germans to come get us. So after that we had our first class which for me us Geschichte (history). In Geschichte we learned about der Kalter Krieg (Cold War). We watched a video on the hottest moments of the Cold War. Which I could

understand some of. After that we had a pause or break and we all hung out in the cafeteria again. After the break was Chem. In this class some students gave presentations about different things. One was about detergent and another was about Coca-Cola. That was interesting to see the students give presentations in German. After Chem was over we went back to Geschichte for a block period. This was really just another break for the first period. Today was actually Kindertag or Kids Day in here so at the end of the first period of The second Geschichte class the teacher took us all out for Eis (ice cream). It was so weird just leaving the school in the middle of the day like that. We got a good look at Pößneck during that time and it was beautiful. There are so many colors and old buildings. So after Geschichte Teresa and the others had a test so Grant, Drake, Kate, Will and I went to the cafeteria for the first half of their Geography class. After that class it was about 1:00 and Teresa was done for the day so we went and rode the bus home. When her mom got home she made us all bowls of Eis and we sat outside and talked about things to do. After that we rode to Emmi's house to get ready for the welcome party. Teresa and Emmi gave Drake and I a short tour of Pößneck before we headed to the party. The party itself was fun. The food was really delicious and I had fun talking to everyone. After the party Teresa and I went back to Emmi's and played some games. When we went back home we took showers and played rummy with her family. So far this trip has turned out to be a good one.
-Nick Hedinger

June 2

The morning started with the sound of my alarm going off. I turned it off, got ready, and went to downstairs to eat breakfast. I had some cereal and toast which started off my day good. When we arrived at school, we had the first two periods to hang out and relax while our host students were in class. After that, we got a tour of the city which was fantastic. We saw many different buildings and the history behind the city. I took lots of pictures and I believe everyone else did too. Once the tour ended, I went to my host students class for the last hour. After that, it was time to eat. A group of us went to Louis's Burgers. I got the bacon cheeseburger with fries and it was delicious. We missed the bus so Robin had to call his dad to pick us up. I got home and instantly fell asleep in my room. I later then woke up and Robin and his mom took me grocery shopping. We went to the town markets where we got things for breakfast that I like. We came home, got freshened up and went to a small house party. We weren't there for too long but I enjoyed it. I can't wait to see what the rest of the time in Pößneck has in store. Grant

June 3rd, 2017

Family day. I woke up later than normal because we didn't have to go to school today. We ate breakfast

which was yogurt with fruit and cereal, pretty healthy compared to my regular breakfast in America. This morning we left home around 11 to go tour Jena (45 minutes drive). My host family told me that Jena was a city full of universities and many students, with a population close to 500 thousand people. Whenever we got there, we started walking around the city and then we headed towards the Jen Tower, which is the tallest building in the city. On our way there, we walked by the mall and I found interesting that there wasn't a parking lot close to the mall. In the entrance you could see a bunch of people coming in their bikes, leaving them outside and then coming back with the stuff they had bought. They would tie them in the back of their bikes and then they would leave to where they needed to be. It is way different to what we are used to in Jasper, since in America nobody goes to a mall in a bicycle. That made me notice that everyone uses a bike to go wherever they want, as it seems it is more useful and cheaper than a car. We got to the tower which had 30 floors, we saw the entire city from up there and I also noticed almost all the roofs were red, pretty common in Germany was what my host mother told me! After we were done seeing the city we headed to a marketplace and ate lunch. After that we kept walking and it was cool that we bump into Frau Arthur, Judge, Samantha, Nomi and Nomi's mother. We stopped for a second to chat and then kept walking our way. We went to a museum in a university which was pretty empty considering that today is saturday (I believe, I and my host family were the only ones there), after we were done in the museum we went to the planetarium and watched a function in it about the universe, it was in Germany of course, so I didn't understand all of it. After that, it started raining so we headed home and then hanged out with some friends! It was a nice to meet new people and learn more about the German culture.

Luis

Sunday June 4

Sunday-Family Day.

My host mom drove us out to her father's lake house on the Saal. We started with coffee and cake then took a hike to the top of an area of the mountain that overlooked the cove. Then when we came back down we ate a typical Thuringian goulash. My favorite meal so far. It had chunks of meat in it and the sauce was amazing. You could compare it to a beef stew but without the vegetables and no potatoes. They hate the way potatoes get mushy in the goulash.

The craziest part of the day was the drive out there. The road was the same width as a one way road at home. But they drove like it was a normal two-way road, just barely moving over when another car came from the other direction. At home, if I was driving, I would have slowed down and carefully moved over to let the other cars by but here they don't slow down at all. It felt like we were on a race track in a video game.

On the drive back we could see the whole valley and I took pictures of a castle in the distance. Then we stopped at one of the dams to walk around. This area has three dams that use the water to produce all the electricity for the area.

When we got back, several of us Amis and Germans hung out until about midnight. There are a few of us living here on the same street.

Amis is their nickname for us. When they were in America, we always needed to know where our Germans were, and here, they always need to know where their Amis are.

Tomorrow is another family day and we get to see my mom's brother Oliver.

Viel Spaß! Bis bald.

-Judge

Monday June 5

Today was a big day for my host family. My host brother's little sister, Nina, got confirmed with her church. In Germany, this is a big deal because getting confirmed means you are halfway to adulthood. But, after church, we went to the reception. One thing that I found weird was that when they eat, they have coffee and cake about 2 hours before their meal. Anyway, the reception party was almost 9 hours long, and we danced and drank a little bit and had a wonderful time.
Max

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Today we went to Dresden. We saw a few churches that were all very beautiful, but my favorite was the Frauenkirche. It was really big and turns out when the city was bombed, the frauenkirche actually burned down because of the heat. We were able to climb all the way to the top, which was lots of stairs, but the view was great. Then we got free time to explore the city, and eat something. Once we all met back up we went on a really cool boat ride down the water. Everyone liked the boat ride even though it started raining on the way back to the dock. Overall it was a really good day in Dresden.
-Sydney

June 7

Today we visited Little Berlin. It is a small village that when Germany was divided by the wall, it was literally split right down the middle just like Berlin was split. Many families were split apart and used many forms of transportation to get over the wall to those loved ones. For example, some used spiked shoes to get up the fence faster which was a very common mean of climbing the wall. The wall itself was very interesting because it wasn't as tall as I'd thought so getting over it would seem easy enough.. but with the guards 24/7 it was way harder. After we walked around and looked at the wall, we went into a warehouse full of old military and DDR vehicles like mopeds and motorcycles and Jeeps and HUGE military trucks and even a helicopter. It was

VERY cool. I enjoyed it a lot. This trip, for me, has been a once in a lifetime opportunity and every day it's a new and more amazing experience.
Logan

8 Juni

Today we were given the experience of touring the beautiful art-centric city of Weimar and the neighboring window into a hateful and dreaded past of the Buchenwald concentration camp. Weimar is a very important place where the great literary minds of Schiller and Göthe (photo) lived and worked (the Shakespeares of Germany). Johann Sebastian Bach also lived and worked in Weimar, crafting his many musical masterpieces that would be heard for centuries to come. This center for art and literature is contrasted by the nearby plot of land called Buchenwald, a Nazi concentration camp, where prisoners were forced to work in brutal conditions for no reason other than their personal philosophies. 56,000 people lost their lives in Buchenwald to either the unrestricted violence inside the camp, or purely from the intense work and awful conditions of the camp. I only had time to respectfully walk through the crematorium and even the "strangulation room" under it where 1,100 people died from being hung from hooks on the walls. It was a crazy experience to be in the same place that we've learned about in the history books. I was mainly disappointed that we only had about an hour and a half to soak everything in. I really felt like I could stay there the whole day and still not appreciate the struggles that the prisoners went through, and the atrocities that the Nazis committed.

This first 9 days in Germany since last summer is like arriving in a place that is completely foreign, but makes me feel totally at home. I'm excited for the weeks to come and the experiences yet to be had.
Tyler

June 9

Today we had special classes! The first class we went to was Chemie (Chemistry) and we made butter! It was very yummy and the teacher gave us bread to eat with it.

The next class we went to was Economics; we were supposed to go to Astronomy but for some unknown reason we went to Economics! The class was a bit tricky for most of us because we did not know what was going on. They were playing a game where your team had to sell cakes and bet Euros. Sadly, the class ended before we had the chance to determine the winning group.

The next, and best, class was Russian, which we all enjoyed. We learned how to say "my name is...", and "I love you" in Russian! How cool is that!?

Right after school we walked to the theater to see Hamlet, the one in space with rock songs of course! In all, the play was very interesting... The performers and the band were very very talented, but I do not think it was the favorite thing we have done/ will do on this trip.

When the play was over Cole, Logan, Will, Max, and I went rafting with our families. First off, they said we were going boating. We all got to the rafts and asked where the boats were.. they were not there. Anyways, we ended up having fun, not including when Will's first step into the water led to his cutting his foot open; or when we pulled plants out of the river and into our raft to throw at the other raft, only to find that they were full of a LOT of tiny worms. Not only were we sitting in a small pool of Will's blood, we were also infested with a bunch of little worms! After all this chaos, it ended up being a fun, and very exciting raft ride.

We then said our goodbyes. While some of the group went to another person's house, Courtney, Anna, and I went to a small music festival and had a relaxing end to the night filled with music and good food.
Kate

June 10

Today was some people's last day with their assigned exchange partners. The 10th grade German students are going on a school trip, and many of our partners are going to be leaving us while we stay with their families.

At our farewell party, I saw that people's expressions were full of joy and happiness, and everyone was having a great time. But the event was actually quite sad, since we've grown accustomed to our little Deutschers. We've harbored them in our homes, shown them how to use our showers or the amazing never-darkened lights of Walmart. They've showed us what it means to be German and the differing cultures from a distant place across the Pond. They've also given us delicious food, shared jokes, and definitely helped us with our Deutsch from time to time... These people have been a part of our lives and I can speak for everyone that our bonds have truly surpassed the language and cultural barrier. We've embraced our fellow Jungenliche (teenagers) and have constructed friendships that will last until the next time we meet. There's still almost two and a half weeks left in this trip, but this last week and a half have been amazing and eye-opening for everyone involved. I look forward to the many social encounters we'll have in this land so different from our own, and I hope that the rest of the trip will be as amazing as the time spent here in Pößneck with our lovely families.
Tyler

Sunday, June 11, 2017

Courtney on Buchenwald

We walked up to the old concrete and iron gates of Buchenwald. I looked around and felt a wave of sadness and a cold shiver run down my spine. The entry to the camp read, "jedem das seine", meaning to each their own. When I entered the camp, it was instantly cold. A cool breeze was blowing constantly, a reminder of the horror that had happened here.

I felt alone in this desolate place, where 57,000 innocent people were murdered. I started out by walking around the barracks. All I could think about was how many people starved and died of disease right next to their friends. I separated myself from the group. I stayed back and let the others walk ahead.

I slowly approached the crematory. A sign warned me before entering that I should remain silent in order to show respect for those who were cremated or never given a proper burial in this awful place. In the first room, there was an "operation table." This table was used to torture and punish some of the prisoners of Buchenwald. A glass case was lined with surgical tools. Imagine having an operation without any anesthesia, or being able to see the operation happen and screaming out for help, but no one coming to help you.

The second room was full of plaques with names of some of the people who died there written on them. I stood in the center of the room for 10 minutes and read all of the names lining the wall. To my right, I saw hundreds of urns that were used to hold the bodies of innocent people stuck in a time of evil. It was all too much. I began to tear up. The energy in this place was all too much.

I walked into the next room where the actual "ovens" were. The cold concrete slabs, the harsh iron doors, being lit up by an engulfing flame. Just as I thought it couldn't get any worse, it did. I went into the basement and saw a chute where the Nazis threw those imprisoned down, dead or alive. If you were dead, you would be sent directly up an elevator and burned. If alive, you would either be strangled or shot and then set up the elevator. I began to feel dizzy and lightheaded, so I sat down for a while and thought about it all. This awful place gave me chills to the bone. I could almost feel the thousands killed here begging for a chance to tell the story. I could almost feel their weariness and pain. I got up and left the crematorium and went to the medical examination center.

Here, many Jews were stripped, searched, weighed, labelled with a uniform, and then measured for height. Behind the height measuring tool, was a small door big enough for a gun to be slid into from the next room behind this one. When being measured, a Nazi would

slide his gun into this hole, and the Jewish person being measured would be killed instantly. They would never see it coming

While in Buchenwald, it opened my eyes to what actually went on in these awful places. It pained me to know that Buchenwald was not the worst of them all. Also, it was depressing to know that I only learned what happened "on stage" and not behind scenes. This was definitely an experience that I will never forget. My eyes have been opened to the pain of World War II.

June 11- Drake

Today me and Grant Keller saw a palace called Schloss Heidecksburg. It was very interesting because they kept a large portion of the palace as it was in the 18th century. The palace was very large and was located at the very top of a mountain looking down at the surrounding city. It was very enjoyable to hear about the history of the palace and its purpose throughout history. After we visited the palace we ate some ice cream at a nearby cafe then went to a public pool to hang out and swim for Nick's birthday. I was very surprised to see so many people swimming in the pool even though it was 75 degrees which does not seem so bad until you actually get in the water. After swimming Grant, Emilia and I went back home where we had grilled rabbit with Thüringiandumplings. It tasted wonderful considering I had never had grilled rabbit before. After that we watched a movie then went to bed. All in all I would say the day went very well and I had a wonderful time.

June 12

We started the day by taking a train to Jena. Once in Jena we took a guided tour of a physics place/museum. It was very interesting learning about weird and fascinating science stuff. This lasted for about two hours. We then went to the city center; however we were not given enough time to do much, only to eat. Then we headed for home and ended the day

June 13

Today we took the train to Leipzig. When we got to Leipzig, they gave us some time to go eat lunch and do some shopping. Then we met back at the train station. We all got separated and then we went to the wrong gate, but it all ended up being okay. When we finally got on the right train, we took it to another part of Leipzig and walked to Jump House. It is basically like Sky Zone. I didn't know if I would like it but it was actually a lot of fun. Then we went back to the train station where we took the train back to Pößneck.

Sydney

June 14

Today was the day we had to leave our host families and it was very sad for me and my host family. I shed some tears, but it was time to leave Pößneck. We had a 4 hour bus ride to Munich which was a pain, but the city is amazing. We went to the English Garden and had some time to sit around, and we saw something really weird...there was a naked man standing in the park and it was hilarious. After that, we took a U-ban to the city center and had time to eat and shop a little. Then we had to go back to the Hostel and we went to bed.
Max

June 15

Our second day in München. We went to the Deutsches Museum first and walked around looking at old viking ships, physics and medical displays. Then we went to the planetarium. The 30 minute show was about the sky directly above Munich and it was air conditioned. Not the sky, but the room. The weather here had been hot for a few days, so an air conditioned room felt amazing. After the Deutsches Museum, we walked from our Hostel to the Olympic Park to meet Mrs. Wehr and Mr. Weyer. It was a hot day and we thought we were going to get to swim at the Olympic pool after we went to the top of the tower, but the pool was closed for repairs. Of course, the view from the top of the tower was amazing. The park was built for the 1972 Olympics and became the first park to house all of the athletes on the same grounds, all within walking distance of each other. After this Olympic park was built, the other cities hosting Olympics modeled their designs off this one. Many of us spent the afternoon hanging out with each other on a hill next to the man-made lake.

Tomorrow we are going to the BMW museum which is also near this park. I think Munich is the prettiest city I've seen since we've been in Germany. Every day, the view is like a postcard and it just keeps getting better every day.

-Judge

June 16

Well today was the second full day in Munich. This has to be my favorite big city so far! We started the day off with a nice hostel breakfast at 8 am. Then, we journeyed

to the bus station and U-bahn to go to Nymphenburg palace. The size of this place was unreal! The architecture was amazing and the art work inside was astounding. After being yelled at by lady from Italy, I assume, due to her accent, for calling the babies (they are cherubs) on the wall naked, Luis and I continued our journey with Martina through the estate. We saw crystal chandeliers, astounding outdoor views, and lots of swans/ geese.

After that, we went to the Marianplatz and ate lunch at a very famous restaurant, The Ratskellar. Then, we went to the Frauenkirche to see the "devil's footprint".

This was then followed by 30 minutes of shopping and getting ice cream. The last thing we did for today was go to the BMW museum/ BMW Welt (world). IT WAS BEAUTIFUL. Although I don't know a lot about cars, it was so cool to see all of the prototypes and old vehicles. In the BMW museum, I got to sit in a couple of brand new cars and gaze upon the beautiful Bavarian flag logos! Today was a lot of fun and I can't wait to see what lies ahead in our journey. T-13 days!

Courtney

June 17

I woke up from pure excitement because I didn't have to spend anymore nights in a hostel. Everyone had to be in the lobby of the hostel at 8:30. Everyone ate breakfast and we left around 10 for Neuschwanstein. As we were getting close we could see the Alps and all the beauty that awaits us. We got there and got tickets. I was one of the ones that walked 1.4 kms up to the castle. We waited till everyone was there before we went on our tour. Our tour started at 1:25 and we saw all the finished parts of the castle including the King's bedroom, his living quarters, his servants rooms, and many other cool rooms. We weren't allowed to take pictures inside which was a bummer, but it allowed everyone to soak up what they were seeing. After our tour we had a little time to shop so I got a few souvenirs. Some of us went to Marienbrücke which had a great view of the castle. We then hopped on the bus and went back down. We had a little time to eat before we went to Staufen so I got a brat. We made the 4 hour drive to Staufen and arrived at around 7:45 that evening. I met my host family and we had some supper and went to sleep. I'm excited for what the rest of Staufen has to offer.
Grant

June 18

Day 2: Staufen
Finally home! Well, at least that's how it feels anyway. As soon as I walked in the doors of Lea's home, I felt instantly welcomed, which lead to a good night's sleep for the long day ahead.

I woke up around 8:30 to a full spread of breakfast. Bread, pretzels, jam, cheese, butter, etc. I love German food so much! It's much fresher! Anyway, after breakfast, I was asked if I wanted to go to a Catholic church. I am not Catholic, I am protestant. So, going to Catholic church is a little complicated already, not to mention a Catholic church where the whole service is in German! However, I managed to remember which way to sign the cross, and when to kneel. I looked like a pro. Anyways, I'm pretty sure the only thing I understood was the singing (I know my hymnal pretty well) and the Lord's Prayer. So after I survived communion, I was good to

go.

After we finished with church, we came home and changed to go to lunch and a medieval festival. At lunch, I had schnitzel and french fries! Hands-down amazing! Next, we headed to the fest where we saw everyday Germans dressed up as Vikings and living in tents made of cow hide. After snatching some eis and looking around, we headed back to the car.

When we arrived at home, Lea and I went outside and played a card game called a\$\$hole. When the wind decided to blow the cards away, we went and jumped on the trampoline. I felt like a little kid again! Well, that was until a giant black spider came running across Lea's foot and towards mine! We quickly alerted the whole neighborhood with our screams of pure horror. When I ran into the living room to get the spider slayer (Lea's 13 year old brother) he was still brushing his teeth.. like he was 30 minutes ago. He refused to kill it because he needed to continue to brush his teeth on the couch.

After the attack of the spider, we came inside and laid in her bedroom laughing so hard about how we managed to survive. Man, I sure missed her. She has seriously become my "twin sister". Anyway, an hour later, we headed to the pool!

Several inches of sunscreen later, I was ready to brave what felt like the arctic sea. Instead of swimming, I found myself watching the nearest game of sand volleyball. I could feel myself biting my tongue and not yelling, "THAT'S AN ILLEGAL PLAY!!" I also noticed my muscles flinching everytime I watched a hit like I was the one hitting the ball..

When we came home, Lea's mom made crepes with strawberries and yogurt for toppings. After I finished dinner, I went downstairs and tried to speak to Lea's brother, Lukas. He's actually really cool! We ended up talking about photography and Instagram- of course. I also showed him a few songs and a YouTube video about the German language, which he found hysterical.

I'm really starting to love this new home! I don't want the 28th to come!
Courtney

June 19

I began today in a stupor. Lazily I went through my morning routine, and ate breakfast with Tobias' family. The school was only a five minute bike ride away, so we could take our time.

On the way there, Tobias informed me that the seniors had just taken their Abi (think SAT), and so they largely did whatever they wanted today. I had no idea what I was in for.

When we arrived we were immediately set upon by 5 senior girls with face paint markers who instantly began to graffiti our faces. We locked up our bikes and headed to where all the other Americans stood. Here we waited like fish in a barrel and quickly made ourselves scarce lest we drew the ire of a senior German who would then see to making our face resemble a Pablo Picasso painting parody.

We slowly were herded inside and there the senior class had set up a stage and were essentially partying. Once we were done with all of that we were introduced to the principal and we then toured Staufen.

When we were done with our tour we walked back to the school, and from there I hopped a train with Max and Dave to Freiburg. Here we had schnitzel for lunch and climbed up a massive hill for pictures. So all in all it was a good day.
Will

June 20

When I woke up this morning, I was 40 minutes late because I forgot to set my alarm. It was all fine, though, because we took the train. I had math class, but I couldn't figure out what they were doing even though I learned it in Algebra 2 this year. After class we went with the other "Amis" into town for a picture and to walk around town. After the pictures I went to Cafe Decker and got a slice of cake and some macaroons.

Then we took a bus to Pfaffenweiler and walked to the museum. When we got there we sat in their Jasper Room and the mayor talked to us. We walked around the museum after. I really liked the fossils they had on display that were found in the area from mammals around 300 million years ago. Then we got to do something "fun". We got to walk up a 'hill' (more like mountain) in 90+ degree weather with no clouds. When we finally got to the top they had sausages for us to eat. Then we walked back down the mountain to see the cemetery.

After that we walked around town and saw some other things like the sundial, the church, and the partnership tree.

Then we took a break from the 100 degree weather and went to a small (about 4ftx8ft) pool that you can walk around in and get your feet wet. A little later we went to a barbecue with everyone. One thing that was different about the barbecue was that everyone had to bring their own meat and someone would cook it for you. After the barbecue, I hung out with Valerie and some of her friends. They had me try to pronounce some hard German words. I surprisingly could actually say the words. I even talked to her parents about Jasper before I went to bed.

Sara

June 21

It's weird to think that in a week we will be on our final flight to Evansville about the time I am writing this. Anyway, today was a fun day. The day started off when Kolja and I got to school. He said something in really fast German and then left me standing in the school with no clue of what just happened. I went and found some friends and just stayed with them through the first two periods until it was time for us to meet to head to Freiburg.

In Freiburg we got a wonderful tour around the city. First we stopped by the Rathaus and got a bit of a sense of direction. After that we headed to the Munster which is a big church right in the center of town. This church is really interesting for a few reasons, the first being the amazing Gothic architecture it has. Something else interesting is that during WWII they removed all of the stained glass windows to protect them from bombings. Luckily they did that because Freiburg was bombed once and the entire square around the Munster was completely destroyed. The interesting part is that the church wasn't destroyed. It was completely fine, not a single bit of damage. So we went inside the church which was amazing and had a look around.

After the church we walked around a few other parts of the city and saw a few more things like a really cool indoor food market. We also saw some gates to the old city wall. After a while we were released and had a little time on our own.

Around 1:45 Grant, Luis, Courtney, Brad, and I met to get on the train to Staufen. When we got there Brad got off and the rest of us stayed on to the next city to go swimming with some of our exchange partners. Since it was really hot today, the pool felt amazing. Even though German pools are significantly colder than pools at home, it was perfect. We went off the two diving boards, one of which was a high dive, many times. It was really fun. A little later an old guy threatened to kick me out of the pool if I didn't speak German. That was really weird, especially because all of us were pretty sure he didn't work there. Besides that part the day was really fun.

When I got home Katja and Kolja taught me a new game called Bohnanza which is about making deals and trading to grow up beans. After supper we worked on a puzzle I gave them until we went to bed.
Nick

June 22

Ok...I'll be honest here...Luis was supposed to do this post, but he is now in Colombia with his family, so I (Señora) will give the summary for today...IT WAS HOT!! But we went to Eguisheim and Colmar anyway! And nobody complained (much) until the AC on the bus

home didn't work. THAT was not pleasant! But these two cities are both very quaint and historic...Colmar is where the statue of Liberty was made, and Eguisheim is where Pope Leo IX was born. One can see stork nests on the tops of many buildings here also! I never knew stork nests were that BIG! In spite of the heat, I think the day went fairly well, and we saw some pretty cool stuff.

June 23

Today we went to Europapark!! It's like a huge version of holiday world back home! I was very anxious about going and somewhat nervous because I have a horrible fear of heights and there are a ton of roller coasters. I was very adamant about not going on them but I was basically peer pressured into it! lol. But after going on one or two, I was getting used to them. By the end of that day, I was having lots of fun and I started to like roller coasters. The first time in my life! I am so glad we went to Europapark. I had an absolute blast! I'm going to miss it and this place. I'm going to miss Deutschland.
Logan

June 24

Today, we went on a drive to and around some areas in Switzerland. Even though the weather was a dreary overcast that covered the Swiss Alps, I still obtained a certain view from this experience. I got to witness first-hand how awesome the European Union is, and how in just an hour's drive, one can put themselves in a completely different country. A new country that has hundreds of years of culture and an entirely different set of laws. Here in Indiana, we drive an hour away just to do some decent shopping. I can't wait to come back and be able to experience the Alps without all of the cloud cover, and really experience what the EU has to offer.
Tyler

June 25

Today I had the chance to sleep in a little bit later, which was great considering the walking and heat this past week. My host partner's mom had breakfast set out for everyone in the family. Breakfast in Germany is always amazing... many different meats, cheeses, vegetables, fruits, breads. It was great! Around noon I played the Wii with my partner and her brother. That felt like home with some friends, because we also play the Wii.

A little bit later in the day we went to Theresa's house with Will and had made homemade Spätzel. Talk about good food! It was great! We had that with pork and some bread. One of the best meals I had on the trip! We hung out there for a while then had went to Dave and Max's house to be with some of the group. We listened to music, talked and ate. It was very relaxing. It was a great chance to get to know everybody a lot more, and a great way to end the day.
Kate

June 26

Today we went to Titisee, which is a large lake and tourist area in the Black Forest near Staufen. They took us and our German partners to a climbing/zip lining course. This lasted for a few hours. After that we went and checked out the lake and got ice cream. We then headed back to Staufen. 😊👍
Cole

June 27

Today was our final day in Staufen. I spent the majority of the day hanging out with my exchange student Alex. Around 12:00 we had some of Alex's friends come over for a pool party. We mostly sat and talked, but it was still very enjoyable. Alex's friends had to leave around 3:00 and once they left we just relaxed and prepared for the going away party later tonight.

At the going away party we talked to our host families and said goodbye to their teachers and other people who could not accompany us to the train station in the morning. After the party I went back home where I made sure that all my belongings were packed in my suit case and ready for the trip home. Once I was finished packing I went to bed.

Drake

June 28

Even every fairy tale has an ending to it. Most of the time, these endings come with closure and an overall "satisfied" feeling. This trip ended with an amazing feeling of relief I get to see my family (mainly my cat) and friends. That I get to finally sleep in my amazing bed and get away from this crazy place that doesn't have air conditioning even though it's been over 85 every day for 2 weeks. Though even with this ending, it's only a brief one, and the next installment of "Tyler Richardson's Journey of a Thousand Pages" is but only 6 months away. Bis später Deutschland.

Tyler

Parmesan Crisps

[Parmesan Crisps Recipe](#)

These flourless cheese crisps have only two ingredients (Parmesan cheese and black pepper) and are great for serving as an appetizer or on top of a soup or salad.

Ingredients

- 2 ounces grated fresh Parmesan cheese (about 1/2 cup)
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

How to Make It

Step 1

Preheat oven to 400°.

Step 2

Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Spoon cheese by tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart on prepared baking sheet. Spread each mound to a 2-inch diameter. Sprinkle mounds with pepper. Bake at 400° for 6 to 8 minutes or until crisp and golden. Cool completely on baking sheet. Remove from baking sheet using a thin spatula.

(Taken from: Amanda Haas,
RECIPE BY [Oxmoor House](#) www.myrecipies.com)

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