



Jasper German Club
Deutscher Verein

Die Zeitung

December 2024

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.

In September, 2024, an email was forwarded to me by Brian Griesemer of the Indiana German Heritage Society as it had been received by members of the IGHS with the subject line – “German Dialects in Dubois County”. The email was written by Dr. Sebastian Franz asking to meet with individuals in Dubois County who still speak the German language. Dr. Franz is from northern Bavaria and knew that people immigrated from there to the US in the 19th century and settled in Haysville and specifically asked to speak with individuals who still live in Haysville who speak German. He also indicated that he and a colleague, Dr. Alfred Wildfeuer, would like to visit Indiana in October to meet with these individuals. After making several phone calls, creating and answering emails, and looking at the calendar, it was agreed these two individuals would visit Dubois County in October, 2024 and meet with several individuals. After conferring with Kathy Tretter, she agreed to attend the initial meeting on October 9th and was instrumental in bringing others to the German speaking fold. They also met with Dave and Janet Kluemper and Dave gave Dr. Wildfeuer a tour of the Dubois County Museum. Dr. Franz and Dr. Wildfeuer were in Dubois County for a week and thoroughly enjoyed their visit and gathered much information as to the German language in Dubois County. It should also be noted that Mike Lindauer gave them a tour of the dairy farm, completely in German!!! Most of the conversations were recorded and that information will be most useful in Dr. Franz’s book.

The following article was written by Kathy Tretter and published in the **Ferdinand News** on October 24, 2024. Kathy did an excellent job of capturing the laughter, camaraderie, conversation, and essence of the week considering she doesn’t speak German!!!

Enjoy!!!!!!

Patti Goepfrich



A lesson in language

In Germany they say: “Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei.” Literal translation: Everything has an end, only the sausage has two. Meaning: All good things must come to an end, except for sausage. By Kathy Tretter

What’s in a word?

Or more specifically, what’s in the way a word is pronounced?

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers sang about it in the 1937 musical *Shall We Dance?*

You like potato and I like potatoe

You like tomato and I like tomatoe;

Potato, potatoe, tomato, tomatoe!

Let’s call the whole thing off!

The hoofers were singing about dialect — or how words are pronounced in different parts of the country, which doesn’t necessarily mean you should call the whole thing off (a topic for a completely different article).

But how do you say potato in German?

Now that’s a horse of a different color, or more accurately, a word that is not just pronounced differently but a whole different word altogether depending on the regional dialect.

This language disparity was driven home recently when two Germans walked into a bar.

No, this isn’t the start of a bad joke — these were two German linguistics professors who flew over from the homeland to study the Deutsch dialects still spoken in Dubois County — Dr. Sebastian Franz and Dr. Alfred Wildfeuer from the Universität Augsburg University.

And yes, they walked into a bar, Fleig’s Cafe in Ferdinand to be precise. But in the days both before and after, they gathered with locals who still speak the language brought

over by their ancestors to listen, question and learn. Their first stop was at Tom and Patti Goepfrich's home in Jasper. Patti, by the way, was the recent recipient of the 2024 Hoosier German-American of the Year award — a massive honor previously given to the likes of Senator Richard Lugar and Kurt Vonnegut. She knows all things German, except the language.

Present at that gathering were Glenn and Marie Neukam from Haysville, Irene Eckerle from Jasper (Patti's mother and a German speaker), Dr. Giles Hoyt, professor emeritus from IUPUI, John Bieker from St. Anthony, Mike Lindauer and Francis Egler from Ferdinand, Roger Dilger from Mariah Hill and the two linguists.

Talk about a living history lesson, not to mention immersion in the German language!

Unfortunately, this writer does not speak it despite having studied the language in high school. However, high school German would be of little benefit because what students learn, including German students in their schools, is referred to as "High German", the standard German used to communicate across German-speaking countries. This is according to the late IU Professor Eberhard Reichmann, who delineated four categories when referring to Dubois County lingo, including Low German (often equated with bad German), Jasper Deutsch /Deitsch, a German-American dialect basically incorporating the various dialects but actually a dialect all its own, and Haysville Franconian, spoken in the Haysville area because that part of Dubois County was settled by people who emigrated from Franconia.

According to the two professors, there are many regional dialects spoken in the 16 German states and again, dialect isn't a matter of just pronunciation.

Which made the conversation a bit difficult around the Goepfrichs' dining room table.

Sebastian had no trouble understanding the Neukams because he is Franconian. He was lost when Lindauer started rattling off a few phrases.

So where in English you may like potato and I may like potatoe, in German you may like die kartoffel and she may like der erdapfel while Pat Koch, who joined for that second session at Fleig's, grew up eating die beerenfrucht, roughly translating to a berry in the ground — but all meaning potato.

Someone at the Goepfrichs asked what Hoosiers use when speaking German for the word "cemetery."

That was a stumper.

After consideration, someone suggested Gott acre (pronounced ache) which translates to God's acre. Another regional version is der Gottesacker. And hey, all

three of these next words also mean cemetery: der friedhof, der totenacker and der gräberfeld.

Dr. Hoyt pointed out that much of the German influence in the United States originated in Bavaria, from the blue and white flags, to the dirndls and lederhosen donned during Strassenfest — but Bavaria is just one region in Germany. Traditions and decor in the north are quite different. So, too, as the earlier examples point out, is the language.

Sebastian explained that schools in Germany are now teaching the regional dialects, something that had gone by the wayside in years past.

Along with Patti Goepfrich, Pat Koch and Roger Dilger, Glenn and Anja Steltenpohl joined the party at Fleig's. Anja is a German native who met and married Glenn while he was serving in the Army in Germany. They both were able to share even more disparities in the language, making for a lively conversation (if totally nonsensical for non-German speakers).

Both Herr Franz and Dr. Wildfeuer spent hours the following day in the genealogy room at the Ferdinand library, perusing the many volumes and first hand accounts from those who left their homeland and relocated to southern Indiana.

It's a bit hard to imagine in this day and age of fast travel what it must have been like for those who left hearth and home to journey to a new land where they didn't know the language.

Before they could depart they had to come up with food and supplies for the journey — basically bringing all their possessions.

But that wasn't all.

Many years ago the late Lillian Doane put together a list of what all emigres had to bring with them on board the ship for everyone over five years of age.

The list included 50 lbs. of hard tack, five lbs. of rice and the same amount of flour, four lbs. of butter, 14 lbs. of ham, two lbs. of salt, one hectoliter of potatoes and one liter of vinegar.

All passengers had to be on board 12 hours before departure.

The fare for a cabin from the continent ranged from \$19 to \$25 but was less from Liverpool, England (\$12).

The trip would take from 10 to 20 days, depending on the ship, port of call, etc.

Then they had to reach their ultimate destination and heading this direction by boat say, from Pittsburgh, the fare to Cincinnati was \$10 for a cabin and \$3 to hang out on deck. To travel from Cincinnati to St. Louis cost \$4 for

a cabin and \$1 on deck. Not sure what the fee would have been to get off in Troy, which was where many of the original Dubois and Spencer County immigrants made land and headed north, discovering immediately that the streets were definitely not paved in gold.

In fact, there basically weren't any streets early on, just mud path hacked from the forest.

From the earliest days of Dubois County, families stuck to speaking Deutsch at home and even in schools until the 20th century dawned. While there are still people who know the language of their ancestors, most of the generation who grew up post WW II primarily heard their parents speak it when they didn't want the kids to know what they were talking about, so it's becoming a lost art.

Still, the two guests were very pleased with all they learned during their visit to Dubois County. Both said they had a wonderful time and garnered much information about the language, which they deemed a mix of old German with a smattering of English.

But back to that whole potato thing. When Professor Wildfeuer — who by this point was called Fred by all who had gotten to know him — took a gander at the menu in Fleig's in preparation for ordering his meal, he looked at one item and asked, "Was ist German fries?"

And the talk of how to say potatoes was off yet again.

In closing we'll just say "Klappe zu, Affe tot." Literal translation: Close the lid, the monkey is dead. Meaning: It's the end.

(Pictures and more info on the memorable and interesting visit later in this newsletter. I don't know who learned more during this visit – the Germans or the Americans!!)

The following information was shared by
Mike Lindauer of Ferdinand to the Linguistics
Group!!!

Das Neue Jahr Einläuten Ringin in the New Year

It was a German tradition in Ferdinand on New Year's Eve to visit your neighbors and ring in the new year. Neighbors and friends would walk across the fields with a jug of wine or moonshine and shotgun in hand. When they reached a farmhouse, they would chant the New Year's verse, fire the gun, and be welcomed inside. They were greeted with a table loaded with fresh headcheese, blood sausage, and liverwurst, cheeses, cakes, custards and pies. There was always freshly baked bread and cinnamon bread or "zimtbrot" which was a favorite.

Once inside, someone usually had a harmonica, and the singing and dancing would begin. This was a good opportunity for young boys and girls to socialize. The

group would increase in numbers as they moved from house to house. They would occasionally drop some members off as alcohol became a factor. This would go on into the wee hours of the morning.

The following story was related by Gilbert Pund to his son-in-law Michael Lindauer.

In the late 1800's, there was a catalpa log sled made and when there would be snow on the ground on New Year's Eve, they would hitch the mule up to the sled and ride across the fields to visit their neighbors. Gilbert said he never saw this happen, but was told about it by August Remke, who was his Aunt Ida Durchholz's father. He thought that maybe the sled might still be around somewhere. Years later Michael Lindauer did some investigation. He knew that the farm they rented from Herb and Rosemary Buechler, and now Mike Buechler, had belonged to August Remke in the 1950s. One day while talking to Herb Buechler, Michael mentioned the story that Gilbert had told him. Herb's response was, "Yeah, it's still up there in the barn. It was there when we bought the place and we never had a reason to move it. We just never knew for sure what it was. The wood is still good. It never rotted. The sled is now in the possession of Drew Durchholz who was is the great grandson of August Remke.

Here is the verse that was traditionally chanted when the group would be New Year's Shooting. Michael Lindauer heard this verse as a young boy and was taught by his grandmother, Bernadina Lindauer, while they would be working together in the milkhouse.

Neujahrsspruch

Ich wansche euch und deine leibe hausfrau
Logisches und sowohl kneichta und machta
Alle, die ein-und ausgehen dieser Tur
Ein Frohes Neuses Jahr und viel besser als das alte
Jahr

Ich wunsche euch a fur edge-tabelle
Und in jeder ecke ein paniertes fisch
Und in der Mitte ein Weinbild
Und bis jetstdu und meine Gefährten gluch und Erfolg im
neuen Jahr

Wir stehen auf deiner veranda und vor deiner Tur
Das neue Jahr einzulauten mit ein schuss
Solte dies schuss jemanden erschreckt
Lass uns wissen bevor wir feuern unsere Waffe
Ech hore es macht fur dich kein unterschied
Dann geben wir in schrecklich schuss
Seit dem pulver ist nicht teuer
Rad geben noch ein schuss

New Year's Verse

I wish you and your lovely housewife
Sons and daughters, servants and maid
Everyone who walks in and out of this door
A Happy New Year and much better than the old year

I wish you a four-edged table
And in each corner a breaded fish
And in the middle a pitcher of wine
And thus, for you and my companions a prosperous new
year

We stand on your porch and before your door
To ring in the New Year with a gunshot
Should this gunshot frighten someone
Let us know before we fire our gun
I hear it makes no difference to you
Then we'll give one frightful shot
Since the powder is not expensive
We'll give it one more shot

Membership

Dues for the DeutscherVerein are \$15 a person. Out of this \$15, a \$1 will go to the Jasper DeutscherVerein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment, \$1 per member for dues to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., and \$13.00 will be retained for club operating expenses. *As a paid member of the Jasper DeutscherVerein, \$1.00 of your dues goes to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. making each Jasper DeutscherVerein member a member of Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.*

We will NOT have a newsletter in January and will get back to a normal newsletter schedule in February!!!!

"Ein Prosit"

Ein Prosit Ein Prosit
der Gemütlichkeit
Ein Prosit Ein Prosit
der Gemütlichkeit
Eins, Zwei, Drei, G'suffa!
Zicke, zacke, zicke, zacke
Hoy, Hoy, Hoy,
Kinder machen, Kinder machen
Ya Ya Ya
Motorcycle, Motorcycle
Vroom, Vroom, Vroom
Der Deutscher Verein is Wunderbar!!

During this Christmas season, let's remember those who are not as fortunate and donate time or treasure to your favorite charity!!!!!!

Postal Address Changes for Newsletters – Also For "Snowbirds" With Temporary Address Change

Would all members who are going to be gone for any period of time, please notify Mike Ackerman at 812-630-8756 or mike@ackoil.com with your new address so we can update our records.

Just a Reminder!!!!!!!!!!!!

In addition to this newsletter, additional information on the Jasper DeutscherVerein can be gotten on the website – www.jaspergermanclub.org. The website features information on German Heritage info of the DeutscherVerein and Sister Cities, pictures of areas in Dubois County, past German Heritage winners, and past newsletters and be sure to "like us" on Facebook at Jasper DeutscherVerein and Sister Cities of Jasper.

Also, remember to check out Sister Cities' website at www.sistercitiesofjasperin.org and keep up on their latest activities.

Meet Mara Duerr – A Homestay Student from Ehrenkirchen – a community near Pfaffenweiler



Mara arrived in Jasper on August 31, 2024 and is staying with David and Jill Main and is 16 years old. She attends Jasper High School as a sophomore. In Germany, Mara attends Faust Gymnasium in Staufen in Breisgau. She enjoys hanging out with friends and states that school is a lot easier here and the teachers are so much nicer. The reason she wanted to come to Jasper is because of its Sister City relationship with Pfaffenweiler. Mara will return to Germany in June, 2025.

Sheepshead Training

Have you wanted to learn how to play Sheepshead? For the past few years, Sheepshead has been taught by members of the German Club. We teach Dubois County Sheepshead. So if you have learned anywhere else in the world or looked on-line, it won't be the same as it is here.

Sheepshead is a card game that is really three different games and the bid determines which game will be played. Was told that Sheepshead is kind of like Euchre on steroids. There are some cards that are always trump and some that change depending on the hand. There is the Loner option where it is one player against three, the Partner option when you don't know who your partner is at the beginning of the hand and the Crappy Hand option where your hand is so bad that you won't get any tricks.

People who learn to play Sheepshead love the game and have shared that the hardest part is finding people who can play. Some people have attended class 3 times and learned something new each time. So if you want to learn or want to brush up on your skills, you are welcome to attend.

The class is held annually. The next class runs Mondays starting January 13 until February 3, from 6pm to 9pm. There is no cost for the class. Call Laura at 812-630-7244 if you would like to sign up for the class.

Sheepshead Beginner Group

On the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, a group of novice Sheepshead plays. There are 2 rules: (1) We don't play for money and (2) No yelling. After the hand is complete it is OK to critique players to help them learn.

There have been a few experienced players that have played with us and help bring players from novice to intermediate. Anyone who knows how to play is welcome to join the group. A text is sent out so we know who will be attending. First ones to respond are the first ones that will get a seat at a table.

Call Laura, 812-630-7244, if you want to be placed on the list to play or willing to sub. Would be great to have a group of 20 people to help the Novice people get to the intermediate level.



Jasper Deutscher Verein November Meeting in Review

The Jasper Deutscher Verein gathered on Wednesday, November 20th at the Jasper Moose Lodge for the annual auction meeting. Members signed in at the door and were able to RSVP and pay for their spots at our upcoming Christmas meeting which will be held December 12 at the Jasper Moose Lodge. If you have not yet reserved your spot, please RSVP Valerie Heim at (812)639-6224 or jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com

President Landen Weidenbenner welcomed 100 members and guests, and then led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Next Dan Otto, Van Ziegler, Kevin Mullen and Bernie Jeffries led the club in singing God Bless America. Landen announced the evenings activities and urged everyone to be generous with their bids in the auction. Landen also announced that the German American Award was displayed at the sign in table if anyone wanted to see it. The award will be housed at the Schnitzelbank after the meeting. Bernie Jeffries volunteered to lead the club in prayer before dinner.

Landen then released the tables for dinner starting with the German Students and Ed Boeglin, our auctioneer for the evening. Dinner was ham steak, roasted potatoes and green beans which was prepared by the Moose, as well as salad and desserts brought by club members. Everything was delicious.

After dinner, Landen brought up Laura Grammer to talk about upcoming 2025 German Club Officer Elections. The slate of officers being considered at President Laura Grammer, Vice President Lonnie Nicholson, Treasure Mike Ackerman and Secretary Valerie Heim. Laura called up Lonnie and his wife, Trish Nicholson and Paul Grammer. She thanked Paul for all he has done to support her and then Lonnie introduced himself to the club and said a few words. Laura took nominations from the floor for anyone else interested in these roles. There were no other nominations, so voting for these offices will take place at the December meeting.

Mary Leah Siegel came up to give a Sister Cities Update. She announced they have their board of officers election coming up. The proposed officers are President Mary Leah Siegel, Vice President Sandy Wehr, Treasure Matt Hilger and Secretary Sheri Keller. A motion was made to approve the board and it was approved. Elections for the Sister Cities officers will be held in January. Mary Leah then updated the club that four students participated in the 2024 German Exchange. They also sponsored a Culinary Exchange and four people participated in that exchange. The next student exchange will take place in 2026. Currently there are 19 students signed up to go. Also, in 2025, Sister Cities is proposing a teacher exchange. Mary Leah encouraged members to get their Wine & Dine

tickets. The Wine & Dine will take place February 15 at KlubHaus at 6pm. The German Wine Queen will be attending again, and the four culinary exchange members will be preparing authentic German food that they learned to make during their exchange visit. You will not want to miss this. Contact Mary Leah Siegel for tickets. She also updated that the 40th Sister Cities Anniversary visit will take place during the 2025 Strassenfest. There will be about 65 guests coming. If you would be interested in lodging some of the guests, please let her know.

Jasper High School German teacher Dan Otto then brought up the 19 students that plan to go on the 2026 German Exchange trip. He had them all introduce themselves to the club in German. The students assisted auctioneer Ed Boeglin by modeling the items and delivering the items won to the club members.

The auction was a huge success. Ed Boeglin was entertaining, and the kids really encouraged the bidders to bid up the items. This year we had donations of furniture from Kimball, lots of homemade baked items and soups. We had a beautiful quilt that was made by one of the German Exchange students as well as some knitted stuffed animals made by another German Exchange student. And of course we had several giant turnips available for bids. The auction raised over \$2600 for the students. A huge thank you everyone who brought in items and to everyone who bid.

Landen closed out the meeting by reminding everyone who bid, to make their way to Mike Ackerman to pay and then he drew for special prizes. Those were won by Ann Ackerman and Steve Blessinger.

The next meeting will be the club Christmas party on Thursday, December 12 at the Jasper Moose Lodge.

Submitted by
Valerie Heim
Secretary

A message from our vice president

The Jasper Deutscher Verein came to mind while I was reflecting on those people and things in my life that I am thankful for as I was preparing for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

There are so many people that I have in my life because of the Jasper Deutscher Verein. From working in the booth, talking to people at the monthly meetings and planning during Board meetings, it is easy to see why our members are committed to the purpose: To promote, preserve and celebrate our proud German Heritage in Jasper and surrounding area.

Thanks to everyone who greets me with a smile or a hug, offers to help, shares ideas of how we might improve and says thank you for the things that the club is doing. Each of you keeps this club strong and shines as a beacon for others to want to be part of the fun.

There are many traditions that we do in Dubois County that come from our German roots: The Christmas Tree, Advent Calendars, Advent Wreaths, Gingerbread houses, the Pickle ornament, Mulled wine, Nutcrackers and celebrating St. Nick.

My friends in college had never had their stocking filled on December 6 or received a stick or piece of coal because Santa was watching and didn't like what he saw. Who needs Elf on a Shelf when St. Nick was giving you a report card 20 days before Christmas.

While in Pfaffenweiler, I learned about the German Christmas tree. These families chopped down a tree from the woods on Christmas Eve. That evening is spent decorating the tree to have it ready for Santa when he arrives that night. One family stayed up until Midnight to open presents because "you can't open them on Christmas Eve, but you can as soon as the Cuckoo clock chirps midnight."

They use berries from the holly tree for color, sticks that have fallen to the ground, collect pinecones in the fall and decorate them with ribbon, string popcorn with cranberries and hang homemade cookies on the tree. There are some family treasured ornaments that were homemade that appear on the tree every year. And when Christmas is over, the tree and the natural decorations are returned to the woods to decompose and become a home for the woodland animals.

I wish for you this Christmas Season a spiritual renewing, happy memories with your family, delicious food and maybe even a gift that you love.

Fröhliche Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr
.....
Landen Weidenbenner is preparing to complete his year as President of the German Club. He has done a great job in leading the club the past 2 years. His enthusiasm has brought renewed joy to the club!

Along with my husband Paul, I am greatly honored to be following a strong succession of German Club Presidents.

Dan & Linda Wehr
Gary & Rita Egler
Ron & Laverne Kieffner
Lowell & Joan Glendening
Bob & Carol Verkamp
Fred & Pat Hollinden
Norb & Doris Kreilein
Dave & Brenda Buehler

Dave & Nancy Prechtel
 Dan & Sharon Hoffman
 Raphael & Phyllis Ackerman
 Darren & Ann Patterson
 Dan & Kathy Gutsell
 Bob & Sharon Dilger
 Virgil & Judy Gress
 Al & Judy Bennett
 Birnie & Margie Jeffries
 Bridget & Mike Bartley
 Mike & Ann Ackerman
 Steve & Barb Schmitt
 Van & Nancy Ziegler
 Paul & Mary Leah Siegel
 Landen Weidenbenner & Brandon Ferguson

Here is the 2025/2026 Slate of Officers that was presented at the November Meeting. We will be accepting nominations from the floor to add to the ballot. Please submit your name to Laura by December 10, if you would like to be considered for an Officer's position. Election of officers will take place at the December German Club Meeting.

Past President	Landen Weidenbenner
President	Laura Grammer
Vice President	Lonnie Nicholson
Treasurer	Mike Ackerman
Secretary	Valerie Heim

Laura Grammer
 Vice President

A message from our treasurer

Thank you to Ed Boeglin, for serving as our auctioneer at our November meeting to raise money for sister cities students traveling abroad. Through the generosity of our members bidding on items and the quality of the items donated, our auction was able to provide another sizeable donation to the program.

Your treasurer will start collecting 2025 dues of \$15.00 per person at the December 12, 2024 meeting. This will mean that it may take a little extra time to check in for us to properly record dues payments, and verify your phone numbers, email address, and physical address. Your patience will be appreciated.

Thank you to Patti Goepfrich for continuing to serve as our newsletter chair to keep members informed of club activities. Due to the increasing number of members who request to receive their newsletter via email only, the club has closed its bulk mailing permit. While there is not currently any charge to receive the newsletters via USPS mail, the club's preferred method of newsletter distribution is via email.

Continue to encourage friends and family to join our club. Involved members help to keep our club thriving and

growing as we continue our mission to promote, preserve and celebrate our proud German Heritage.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Mike Ackerman
 Treasurer
mike@ackoil.com
 812-630-8756

**Sister Cities of Jasper November 2024 Update
 for Jasper German Club**

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Sister Cities of Jasper, we thank you for your generous support of the upcoming 2026 Student Exchange during the auction at the November meeting!

We will be having the Wine & DINE Event again in 2025! The focus this next year will be more on the DINE portion of the event featuring our culinary exchange participants as well as the Wine Queen of Baden, Lucia Winterhalter and Dr. Kim Gunderson, sommelier, to lead us through the wine pairings/tastings. MORE TO COME! SAVE THE DATE!!! We will be fundraising with some fun activities during the event, a wine pull, silent auction, etc. to support additional exchanges and events in 2025, 2026, and beyond. Gather a group of friends and plan to attend, it is sure to be a great time!

**Save the Date! Mark Your Calendars!
 Saturday, February 15th – Wine & DINE Your
 Valentine Event
 Celebrate the beginning of the 40th Anniversary
 Year of the Jasper/Pfaffenweiler Partnership!
 Klubhaus61 – 6:00PM**

Tickets will go on sale at the December DeutscherVerein Meeting!

At the November DeutscherVerein meeting, I provided an overview/update of 2024 for the Sister Cities of Jasper and proposed the members of the Board of Directors and Officers for 2025. Below is the summary of 2024:

Exchanges Updates - Completed Student Exchange 2024 and completed all fundraising efforts for 2024 group. Four students from JHS traveled to Germany in June, with the reciprocal exchange in October of fifteen students from Staufen Gymnasium.

Culinary Exchange 2024: Three chefs from Jasper traveled to Pfaffenweiler for two weeks of June/July, reciprocal exchange happening in early 2025. Chefs will be cooking for the Wine & Dine in February with additional focus on food with the wine.

Additional activities to be planned with inclusion of the reciprocal exchange participant.

American Cultural Exchange of Students (ACES):

Currently two students from Pfaffenweiler attending JHS for the academic year with host families. One additional student would like to come in January 2025 through the end of May. Seeking a host family.

Student Exchange 2026:

Currently have 19 students signed up! Fundraising efforts ongoing: Drive Thru Dinner, Advent Calendar Sales, Auction, planning a Golf Scramble in April 2025. Again, on behalf of the Sister Cities of Jasper and the students we thank you for your generous support during the auction at the November meeting as well as your participation in all of the Fall fundraisers.

Proposed Teacher Exchange 2025:

We are currently in planning stage for summer 2025.

Event Updates -

Wine & DINE Valentine Event and Wine Queen Visit:

The 2024 Event and Visit was a success from visibility, involvement and name recognition around the state and region.

For 2025, the Wine Queen of Baden, Lucia Winterhalter, will be coming (flight has been booked). She will headline our event along with Dr. Kim Gunderson, sommelier, and the three culinary exchange participants: Jamie Boaz, Kim Mitchell, Haley Ondiek focusing on the DINE portion of the event with regional Baden menu/foods.

40th Anniversary Visit from Pfaffenweiler Guests

August of 2025:

Managed by the Partnership Commission for the City of Jasper official visit. Currently 65 people, approximately 30 families, are signed up to come. Due to larger number of participants, we may need additional fundraising, and we will need approximately 30 host families!

Additional Committee/Project Reports -

Pfaffenweiler Room at The Schnitzelbank has been updated with regional art, photography, and memorabilia.

Pfaffenweiler Wine Importing – The wine has arrived! Available at The Schnitzelbank and will be featured at the Wine & DINE in February.

Stone Carvers Group Activity - The group has worked on a 40th Anniversary Stone Design and is currently fundraising so that the stone can be placed and dedicated during the August partnership celebration.

Overall Fundraising -

The Student Exchange is the cornerstone of our partnership and is sustainable and sustaining.

Additional exchanges, activities, events are subject to additional grants, fundraising, and donations. We are currently applying for additional grants and examining our 5-to-10-year plan to sustain and manage additional programs and exchanges. We plan to celebrate our 40th Year of the Jasper/Pfaffenweiler partnership with several activities and fundraising efforts "For the next 40..." to sustain the partnership for the next 40 years.

Officers

President: Mary Leah Siegel

Vice President: Sandy Wehr

Treasurer: Matt Hilger

Secretary: Sheri Keller

Directors: John Eckerle, Olivia Elmore, Alan Hanselman, Stan Jochum, Daniel Otto, Kent Seger, Jen Verkamp

Feel free to contact me with any questions, and as always, a HUGE THANK YOU to the Jasper DeutscherVerein members for their support for Sister Cities of Jasper and our partnership with Pfaffenweiler!

Mary Leah Siegel

President, Sister Cities of Jasper



Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

December

**December 12, 2024-Thursday-Jasper
Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors
open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at
6:30pm.**

**Annual Christmas Dinner. NOTE Day of Week
Change – A Thursday night**

Chicken Fried Chicken Breast with Country
Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Creamy
Slaw, Rolls, and Dessert. Cost for the meal is
\$15.00. **Reservations were required by**

**December 1, 2024. Contact Valerie Heim at
812-639-6224 or**

jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com.

2025

Please note the following information may change due to the fact that we are publishing many months ahead!!!

Januar

Januar 15, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Sister City Chef Exchange

Meal will be served. Members bring either a Salad or a Dessert.

Januar 12 – Februar 3 – Ack Basement-Sheepshead Training

Februar

Februar 15, 2025-Saturday-The KlubHaus61-2031 Newton Street-Wine and Dine Your Valentine Event sponsored by Sister Cities of Jasper

Februar 19, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Wine Queens

Meal will be served. Members bring either a Salad or a Dessert.

März

Early März–date to be determined-Stammtisch – Game night, paint wine glasses, Patoka Lake Distillery tour, ???

März 19, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

One perspective about why Dubois County is German?

Meal will be served. Members bring either a Salad or a Dessert.

April

April 16, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Pfaffenweiler Movie

Meal will be served. Members bring either a Salad or a Dessert.

APRIL-date to be determined-Kimball International-Learn to make German Food-buy supplies

Mai

Mai 21, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Strassenfest Preview

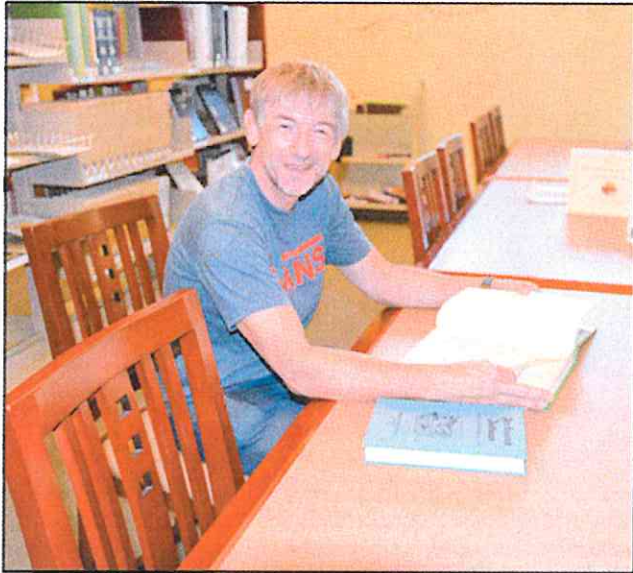
Meal will be served. Members bring either a Salad or a Dessert.

August

Strassenfest will be held July 31st – August 3rd!!! And we will celebrate 40 years of the Sister Cities Partnership between Jasper and Pfaffenweiler!!!!

Sister Cities of Jasper Christmas Tree at the Dubois County Museum





Pictured clockwise from upper left: A group shot of those who gathered at Tom and Patti's Goefrichs' home to discuss the German language and how it has been retained in southern Indiana. Seated from left: Irene Eckert, Dr. Giles Hoyt, and John Bieker.

Standing: Tom Goefrich, Roger Dilger, Patti Goepfrich, Dr. Alfred Wildfeuer, Francis Egler, Mike Lindauer, Glenn Neukam, Marie Neukam and Dr. Sebastian Franz.

John Bieker shares an intricately drawn family tree created with help from both his American and German family.

Dr. Wildfeuer, a linguistics professor at Universität Augsburg University in Germany, spent most of one day in the Genealogy Room at the Ferdinand Branch Library in an effort to learn even more about the Germans who, it is said fluttered like snowflakes to Dubois County in the mid-nineteenth century.

He, along with Dr. Sebastian Franz spent a week in the area doing research and meeting with those who still speak the tongue of their ancestors. By the end of the first day the two were Fred and Sebastian to all they met.

— Photos by Kathy Tretter

**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. Envelopes are 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:



**Stone Carver Area at the Dubois County
Museum**



Membership Dues

It's that time of year again! If you have not yet paid your 2025 dues, please submit by completing and sending in the following form with payment as soon as possible. Thanks! If questions, contact Mike at 812-630-8756 or mike@ackoil.com

SEND TO: Jasper Deutscher Verein, P.O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 *****	
Name _____	Spouse _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	Email _____
Address: _____ City, State, ZIP _____	
Winter Address: _____ When: _____	
Preferred Method of Contact for Strassenfest Booth Shift Scheduling _____	
Annual Dues (calendar year) \$15.00 per person (\$30.00 per couple)	

Jasper Deutscher Verein	
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Search Facebook for Jasper DeutscherVerein	Sandy Wehr-Legacy
Non-Profit 501(c)(4)	Van Ziegler-Legacy

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