



DEUTSCHER VEREIN

Die Zeitung

May 2020

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.

Rita Egler –1945-2020
May She Rest In Peace



Gary and Rita Egler were founding members of the Jasper Deutscher Verein and spent endless hours working for the betterment of the the Club.

Rita was Treasurer of the Jasper Deutscher Verein from 1987 to 2014. During that time, she spent many hours counting and recounting the monies from the Strassenfest food booth and pastry booth.

She was always ready to support and lead others when it came to decorating and cooking for the Deutscher Verein.

Rita and Gary were German Heritage Award winners in 2010.

We extend our sympathy to Gary, Debbie and Matt, Jennifer and Chris, Tom and Kim, and her beloved grandchildren, Chloe, Eli, Gavin, Brynlee, and Hank.

We thank her family for naming the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment as a recipient of her memorial gifts.

Rita's kindness, generosity, and laugh will forever be remembered by the Jasper Deutscher Verein.

Memento given in memory of Rita by the Officers and Board of Directors for her many years of service to the Deutscher Verein



Jasper Deutscher Verein February Meeting In Review

The Jasper Deutscher Verein met on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at the Moose Lodge in Jasper with 80 members and 1 guest. As club members arrived, they were greeted by Board members Bridgette Bartley and Sandy Wehr. Board member Lacey Apple helped members with their new pins and sale of our German umbrellas.

President Van Ziegler opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance, the singing of God Bless America and Ein Prosit, and singing Happy Birthday (Liebe Freunde) to all February celebrates. A special

note was made to congratulate Lavalla Breitwieser and Leo Eckerle on their 93rd and 90th birthdays, respectively.

A moment of silence was held for Jim Fritch, a longtime member, who passed away earlier in the week.

Paul and Laura Grammer led our homemade bread contest. There were 10 entries. Judges were Al Bennett, Heath Fierst, Regie Horn, Bob McCarty, Ross Halverson, Ed Boeglin, Dave Prechtel, Stephanie Haas.

Judy Bennett was honored for her hard work repainting the 80's-era German cutouts Van obtained with updated characters and a beautiful background. The updated cutouts will be featured at our July 12th StrassenVORfest ("Prep for the fest") at the Jasper Moose Lodge, as well as around the downtown square during Strassenfest. President Van Ziegler presented her with a gift certificate and a German Umbrella. Great job and many thanks, Judy!

President Van Ziegler reminded club members that in addition to Board member Bridgette Bartley obtaining an expanded selection of new German clothing for sale at StrassenVORfest, we are offering to sell clothing members may have that they are no longer using, for whatever reason, at this event. Members can bring this clothing to the March, April or May meetings, and should include their name, sizing, and what they would like to sell their clothing for.

Board member Sandy Wehr then gave an update on Sister Cities of Jasper for approval by the German Club. Mary Leah Siegel is now President, Sandy Wehr is Vice-President, Sherri Keller is Secretary, and Matt Hilger is Treasurer. Voting was unanimous in favor of this group.

Jackie Braunecker answered questions about the 25th Anniversary Trip of Jasper Cities Sister Cities Partnership to Pfaffenweiler Germany from June 23 – June 30th of this year. Deposits for the trip are due by March 16th. You can find more information on the Jasper City website. This is a great way to have an inexpensive trip to Germany with built-in fun!

Board member Laura Grammer is wanting more couples to dance the Landler dance during the Strassenfest Thursday Heritage Night activities. There are several Sunday practice dates scheduled for this fun activity. March 1st, 1pm, March 15th, 1pm, April 19th 1pm at Jasper High School.

President Van Ziegler gave an overview of the trip to Nashville, Tennessee on October 9-10th. The trip includes admissions to the Country Music Hall of Fame, RCA Studio B, Grand Ole Opry, and a Behind the Scenes tour of the Opry. The trip also includes dinner at Bavarian Bierhaus, a popular German restaurant, and a visit to the 40th anniversary of the Nashville Oktoberfest

in Germantown for singing, beer-tasting, and fun! August 25th is the deadline to sign up for this German Club outing. An email has been sent on the registration form and how to submit it to all club members.

After a meal of Brats and Hamburgers, Eli Haddix of Louisville, KY gave a presentation on understanding the wide variety of beers and how they can complement your meal. A group of volunteers participated in an informative and fun beer-tasting event, and prizes for this event were won by Dave Prechtel, Phyllis Ackerman, and Al Astrike.

The attendance prize drawing winners were Al Haas and Nancy Prechtel. Special prize drawing winners were Judy McCarty and Al Haas.

Paul Grammer announced the winners of the bread-judging contest. Winners were Table Bread 1st place Marilyn Brames, 2nd place Noah Whalen, and 3rd place Lacey Apple. Sweet Breads winners were 1st place, Van Ziegler, 2nd place Nancy Ziegler, and 3rd place Yvonne Mullen. Everyone enjoyed sampling the breads after the judging and announcement of winners.

Our next German Club meeting will be Wednesday, March 18th, with a dinner featuring Spaghetti and garlic bread, and a presentation by Clayton Boyles, Executive Director of the Dubois County Community Foundation. Members A-H dessert, I-Q vegetable, R -Z salad.

Submitted by

Barb Schmitt
Secretary

A message from our president

A heart-felt "willkommen" to all our German Club members. As I'm certain you'll agree, this 40th anniversary year for our club has been the most interesting year we've ever had. Our prayers and well wishes go to each and every one of you, your family, and our entire community.

Many of you have volunteered your time and monies to help others in our community deal with this situation, and to every one of you, a special place of honor to you in each of our hearts.

As we continue to move toward the conclusion of our pandemic to a more peaceful, healthy time, we continue to take caution and respect those individuals who are tasked with our nation's health.

As you have probably already seen, our May 20th club meeting has been canceled. We have also canceled our

regularly-scheduled Board of Director's meeting for May, but are communicating together as a board through a variety of means.

If we can, we will look at a June 17th meeting. However, we will always be on the side of caution, and do so only if we feel it is appropriate.

Strassenfest 2020 is still scheduled for July 30 – August 2. We are needing to have enough volunteers to handle this most important event for our club.

StrassenVORfest is still planned for Sunday, July 12th at the Moose Lodge, starting at noon and going until 3 pm. This is a community event, but we especially want as many of our members there to enjoy the festivities, including dancing, singing, and an hourly drawing for a German-inspired gift basket. As mentioned in prior meetings, we would sincerely appreciate if you could bring cookies along to the fest so we can create a "cookie table" for everyone to enjoy in addition to purchased food from the Moose. We'll have a sign-up sheet at our meetings to make certain we have enough. We'll also be promoting a "Strassenfest house decorating contest".

Volunteering is probably the biggest show of support for our club that you can do. This can be as simple as being a "mentor" to new members, or as critical as volunteering for our most important fund-raiser and display of our heritage and German work ethic,

Strassenfest, which happens July 30th through August 2nd.

Our annual picnic is planned for Sunday, August 30th at the Jasper Outdoor Recreation Park. Stay tuned for more details.

The Nashville trip is still planned for October 9th & 10th. Visits to "Music Row", a Grand Ol' Opry show, dinner at Bavarian Bierhaus, and spending time at the Nashville Oktoberfest in Germantown with your fellow club members is a sure way to have a TON of fun! Call Jackie today at 812-482-7518 to get the travel form and make your down payment.

Again, thanks to everyone for pulling together during this difficult time. This will be over (soon?), and we can get back to enjoying each other's company.

We will keep you updated if things change.

Van Ziegler
President

In this time of need for many people, now would be a great time to donate to a local charitable organization. Your generosity will be appreciated!!!!

A message from our vice president

I just had this sent to me, and a couple of other family members had seen it recently. It was a reminder that not all people are experiencing this situation the same. I thought it appropriate.

Perspective:
WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT ...

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee.

For others, this is a desperate financial & family crisis.

For some that live alone they're facing endless loneliness.

While for others it is peace, rest & time with their mother, father, sons & daughters.

With the \$600 weekly increase in unemployment some are bringing in more money to their households than they were working.

Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales.

Some families of 4 just received \$3400 from the stimulus while other families of 4 saw \$0.

Some were concerned about getting a certain candy for Easter while others were concerned if there would be enough bread, milk and eggs for the weekend.

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money.

Others want to kill those who break the quarantine.

Some are home spending 2-3 hours/day helping their child with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours/day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it.

Others don't believe this is a big deal.

Some have faith in God and expect miracles during this 2020.

Others say the worst is yet to come.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different.

Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing.

We are all on different ships during this storm experiencing a very different journey.

Realize that and be kind.

Unknown author

Paul Siegel
Vice President

Erinnerst Du Dich?

Taken from **The Herald** – Friday, July 21, 2000
By Jason Recker
Of The Herald Staff

Students learn their German A, B, C's

Alex Hilger sandwiches an "Ich bin cool" between scampering around the Jasper High School library Thursday morning and plopping down to take a rest.

The 6-year old adjusts his backward hat – his hair hangs out the back of the hat, now the front – and says he has no complaints about spending part of his summer in school.

Annie Stenftenagel sits at one end of a table with 11 other kids ages 4 to 11. Annie is the youngest. She shakes her head in response to a question from the teacher, Tara Deppert. Her long, brown, shiny hair follows her nod, swaying back and forth as she blurts out a German phrase.

This 4-year old can count to 10 in English and German.

She, like Alex, has no grumbles about spending Thursday in School, but does mention fights she sometimes has with her older sister, Erin, who sits three seats down, as a minor hitch.

Alex, Annie, and Erin all can count to 10 in German: Eins, zwie, drei....

The trio and its nine classmates all know the basis colors, too: blau, rot, weiss....

They're learning the alphabet, and most have mastered the German word for "tornado" (Wirbelsturm).

Not bad for kids who could be spending the summer sleeping, staining clothes and swimming.

That's not to say all 12 of Deppert's summer German students aren't stirring up mayhem in the July heat. But for two hours a day, this bunch sits, dances and plays its way to learning German.

If looks and actions help kids become scholarly, this is a crowd of competent cuties.

The level of attention and learning might surprise most. But not Deppert, who taught early-language German at Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis' Child Care Center before becoming Jasper High School's German teacher in 1999.

Deppert says most kids at these ages are learning English and German at the same time, which helps nurture skills in both languages. The enthusiasm the group displays as each child scurries into the teachers' lounge for a snack doesn't hurt, either.

It's the perfect time to teach them, because they're so excited about learning," Deppert says. "I don't think they realize how much they already know."

Hannah Brescher, 15, will be a sophomore this fall, and helps Deppert with the summer program. Though Deppert expected the accelerated learning, Brescher showed some surprise.

"The little kids are able to learn so much," she says. "They're so cute."

Ryan Grammer, who Deppert says is one of her most impressive students, seems to guide the group, answering nearly every question precisely and swiftly.

As he places each foot on a colored cutout of a footprint, 11 year-old Ryan says learning the different words is the hardest part of the class.

One of Thursday morning's fames included a session where kids had to say the color of each footprint along a path in order to keep walking and finish the path.

Ryan had no problems. Neither did Emma Winger, who says she has the most difficulty with some of the long, letter-cluttered German vocabulary.

Heather Hopf, 11, didn't have any problems, either, and says most of the German comes easily to her. Her grandpa, Norb Dall, speaks fluent German. Conversations with him helped nurse her skills.

"The numbers are hard," she says as she proudly shows off a German penny (pfennig) given to her by her grandmother.

Jasper's deeply rooted German heritage lends itself to Deppert's fledgling program – open to students in the Greater Jasper school district – which she set up with a grant from the Indiana Humanities Council and plans to continue next summer.

She initially approached the Jasper DeutscherVerein (German club) to determine community interest in a children's German class. Her strongest response stemmed from grandparents, who encouraged their grandchildren to enroll in the program.

Deppert speaks about 60-70 percent German during the sessions, but would like to see more reading and writing. Time, however, limited that effort. Deppert allowed each student to pick out a German name and refers to each by that name on a regular basis.

Quizzes each day ensure each student is learning. Each kid checks off the task he accomplished, like reciting the colors, numbers, months and seasons.

Deppert uses music and games to keep the children's attention and make the atmosphere more conducive to learning. Annie, a big fan of tunes, gets down to a German melody while her classmates scurry around her, twisting their bodies to the beat.

"I like the games and the dancing," Annie says. "I've always liked German."

StrassenVORfest – A "Prep for the Fest" Event

The Jasper DeutscherVerein (Jasper German Club) will again have a community, family friendly event, StrassenVORfest on Sunday, July 12th, from noon to 3pm at the Moose Lodge in Jasper. This will be a "Prep for the Fest" event.

StrassenVORfest will help usher in the 2020 Strassenfest which will be held in Jasper on July 30 – August 2.

There will be German dancing, singing, and German themed coloring for kids.

Local businesses have donated items for three gift baskets to be given away at 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm for those who register.

The Strassenfest wood cut-out will be available for those who wish to take pictures.

There will be 2020 Strassenfest buttons and mugs for sale as well as various sizes of Strassenfest bunting, slightly used and new traditional German clothing items.

Also available will be a variety of vintage Strassenfest souvenirs for sale.

Come for lunch. And enjoy the afternoon with us!!!!

Bridgette Bartley will again have a clothing booth to sell vintage dirndls, lederhosen, wool socks, men's and women's DeutscherVerein vests, children's German clothing, or any other German clothing items from members. Now is the time to begin going through your closets and chest of drawers.

Please have all items given to her by June 17th. Please have all items tagged with your name, telephone number, size of item, and how much you want to sell your item for.

We would like to have all vintage items given to Bridgette by June 17th so she has time to document all items for the clothing booth. Bringing items the day of StrassenVORfest makes getting items properly displayed very difficult.

More details to come later!!!!!!

Amaretto Pie

1 stick butter, softened
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ cup chopped pecans

First filling:

1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese
3 tbsp. Amaretto liqueur
1 cup **confectioners'** sugar
1 cup Cool Whip topping

Second Filling:

1 small pkg Coconut cream pudding and pie filling
1 1/2 cups milk

Mix butter, flour and chopped pecans and spread in a 9 inch pie pan. Bake in 350 degree oven for 12 minutes. Let cool before filling.

For first filling, mix cream cheese, Amaretto, confectioners' sugar and Cool Whip until smooth. Spread over cooled pie crust. For second filling, mix pudding and pie filling and milk according to package directions. Spread over first filling. Use rest of Cool Whip over top of pie. Let set overnight in refrigerator for liqueur to set in.

(taken from S & S Chefs)



Symbolism of Maiglöckchen, Lily of the Valley, in Germany

On May the first, or Maitag, and throughout the month, everywhere you look, you will see Maiglöckchen or Lily of the Valley. Flower shops sell bouquets and small posies, you will see image on cards, and people love to give them as a special sweet smelling token of happiness, joy and love. What made these little bell shaped flowers such an important May Day gift? What is the symbolism of Lily of the Valley in Germany?

German Symbolism of Lily of the Valley

Is there a more descriptive flower name? In Latin, *Convallaria magalis* (Lily of the Valley) means "that which belongs to May," and in German, Maiglöckchen which means "little May bells". And that is exactly what they are... little white bell shaped blossoms that bloom in May. When Maiglöckchen appear, it means that Spring has arrived...and along with it a promise of love, and a return to happiness.

In German pagan belief, Lily of the Valley were closely associated with Ostara. This divine virgin goddess of spring and dawn appears to help banish the cold winter, and renew life. The sweet smelling white flower symbolizes her purity and humility. And the green leaves are associated with hope. To show their respect and worship, people would burn Maiglöckchen in the Easter Fires.

Fascinating (to me, anyway) is how the Christian church not only seem to have co-opted many Easter symbols and traditions from Ostara (Eggs and Rabbits are the most obvious), in the 15th Century, the church adopted Lily of the Valley as a symbolic plant for the Virgin Mary. Legend says that Maiglöckchen first appeared near the base of the cross where Mary shed tears for her son. These "Woman's Tears" or "Mary's Tears" became symbolic of pure Christian love.

Because of this symbolism, Lily of the Valley is frequently seen in May wedding bouquets. (May being the wedding month in Germany). You also find it in communion and confirmation bouquets.

(taken from: <https://germangirlinamerica.com/symbolism-lily-of-the-valley/>)



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: _____

Gifts to the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club)
German Heritage Endowment
January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020

- In Memory of Rita Egler**
- Jason and Susan Ahlbrand
- David and Barbara Berger
- Kate Buchta
- Jim and Rita Corn
- Tom and Patti Goepfrich
- Paul and Laura Grammer
- Jim and Kim Purucker
- Bill and Jan Rubino
- David and Angela Rudolph
- Rosina Schuler
- Jim and Margaret Seifert

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