



*Jasper German Club*  
**Deutscher Verein**

# Die Zeitung

June 2021

*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!!**

As outgoing President of the Jasper German Club, I want to send my sincere thanks for the gifts given to me by the club at the first club meeting at the Riverwalk in 2021. It was a pleasure to see so many smiling faces, and I look forward to the rest of this year, and upcoming years, of helping our club continue to grow and support our fine German heritage.

Sincerely,

*Van Ziegler*

## **Jasper Deutscher Verein May Meeting in Review**

The Deutscher Verein met May 19th at Buehler Plaza. President Paul Siegel opened the meeting by welcoming 101 members and guests. He led the group in the pledge of allegiance, "God Bless America," and the Ein Prosit. He then introduced the four German exchange students who have been studying this past year/semester at Jasper High school.

President Siegel and VP Landen Weidenbenner presented Al and Judy Bennett with the German Heritage Award for their contributions to the club. Van Ziegler was also presented with a gift for his tenure and contributions as the most recent club President, and Barb Schmitt received a gift for her tenure and contributions as the club's preceding secretary.

Mike Ackerman gave the blessing before dinner.

Dinner was provided by Schnitzelbank Catering and Mark Wolf of Carroll Spirits invited attendees to sample the new Pfaffenweiler wines that will be available this fall. Members provided the desserts.

Mike and Ann Ackerman started taking sign-ups for the Strassenfest booths. If you are able to volunteer to work in a booth this year, please do so. It is only a couple hours and a lot of fun! Signups will also be available at

our June meeting. Please look for Mike and Ann Ackerman or Bridgette and Mike Bartley to claim your time slot in the booth.

Attendance prizes were won by Dave Wehr and Matt Hulse.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 16th at the Jasper Moose Lodge. The club will furnish chicken breasts and mashed potatoes. Members A-H bring a vegetable, I-Q a dessert, and R-Z a salad. Doors open at 6pm, dinner at 6:30pm.

Submitted by

*Lacey Apple*  
Secretary

## **A message from our president**

What a wonderful meeting we had at the Dave Buehler Riverwalk Plaza on May 19th. I had a couple of sleepless nights worrying about the weather, but I was reassured by our Vice-President, Landen Weidenbenner, that it wouldn't rain and the attendance would be terrific. He was correct in both aspects!

I hope everyone who attended had a great time and was able to reconnect with fellow German Club members. It was heart-warming to see everyone in a festive mood and sing "ein Prosit" to Al and Judy Bennet for being the recipient of the 2020 German Heritage Award and to thank our past President, Van Ziegler, and past Secretary, Barb Schmitt, for their outstanding volunteer service to our club.

Moving forward, we are having a June 16th meeting, resuming at our usual meeting place, the Jasper Moose Lodge. There will be a presentation by Clayton Boyles, Executive Director of the Dubois County Community Foundation. Clayton was previously scheduled for the March 2020 meeting, which was cancelled due to the pandemic. I am excited to hear what the foundation has

planned as they approach their 25 Year anniversary in August.

We are hosting the StrassenVORfest on July 11<sup>th</sup> from 12-3 at the Jasper Moose Lodge. There will be numerous vendors providing Strassenfest decorations, a selection of German clothing will be available for purchase, several activities, and German music! There will also be food and drinks available for purchase from the Jasper Moose Lodge kitchen. We request members to bring cookies, brownies, lemon bars or any similar "single serve" desserts to share.

There is a lot of excitement and anticipation leading up to Strassenfest 2021. We encourage you to sign-up to work the DeutscherVerein booth and support our club and the Jasper community!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting in June.

Mit freundlichen grüßen,

*Paul Siegel*  
President

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### **A message from our treasurer**

Congratulations to Paul Siegel, Landen Weidenbenner, Lacey Apple and all involved in the planning and organizing of the May 19 meeting at the Jasper Riverwalk, Dave Buehler Plaza for a successful meeting. We had a good turnout of members for our first post Covid event who were able to enjoy beautiful weather, great food, and wonderful fellowship.

You club began accepting sign ups to work the Strassenfest food booths at the May meeting, and have been placing calls to members since that time to continue to fill shifts. We are at about 50% of the shifts filled. We need to continue to increase member participation to fill shifts. If you would like to sign up to help, you can call Ann at 812-482-5758 and leave a message for us to call you.

As a reminder, booth setup will occur on Tuesday evening August 3 beginning at 5:30 PM, and dismantling will occur immediately following the parade on Sunday August 8.

Thank you to Mike & Bridgette Bartley for stepping up as food booth co-chairs and to our days chairs for 2021, Kevin Bartley (Thursday), Kevin Mullen (Friday), and Mike Jahn (Saturday).

Help to pass on your love of giving back to your community by involving your children and grandchildren. Even if they are not currently active club members, ask

them to work with you at our booths, and during setup and dismantling. It is important to the future of our club to continue to involve the next generation.

*Mike Ackerman*  
Treasurer

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### **Information for the 2021 Strassenfest!!!**

Thursday German Heritage Night has a **change** in the order of events. The Parade will be after the Children's Performances.

6:00pm Official Strassenfest Opening Ceremonies  
6:45pm Die Kulturelle Kinderaufführungen  
7:08pm Parade to the Bier Garten  
7:10pm FREE Family Friendly German Games & Activities  
8:30pm Ländler Dance Performance  
8:35pm Schnitzelbank Singalong  
9:00pm Log Sawing

### **Learn to dance the Ländler**

Starting in June, the German Heritage Committee of the German Club will be teaching couples how to dance the Ländler.

This group will also perform at Strassenfest as part of German Heritage Night. Dancing at the Strassenfest is optional.

This is a couples dance. Spend some quality time with your spouse. Or ask a friend to learn something new together.

To sign up for free lessons, call Laura Grammer at 812-630-7244.

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

Dues for the DeutscherVerin are \$10 a person. Out of this \$10, a \$1 will go to the Jasper DeutscherVerein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment, \$.50 per member for dues to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., and \$8.50 to Jasper DeutscherVerein for postage and meetings.

As a paid member of the Jasper DeutscherVerein, \$.50 of your dues goes to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. making each Jasper DeutscherVerein member a member of Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.

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## Jasper DeutscherVerein Items for Sale



With each paid membership, a club member will receive a pen and a pin!!! Just come to a meeting to claim your pen and pin!!! If you wish to purchase an additional pin, the cost will be \$4.00, pen - \$1.00.

Also new are sew-on cloth patches. They can be gotten at a meeting for \$2.00!!!

Show your pride in the Jasper DeutscherVerein by sewing on the new cloth patch to a jacket, vest, tote bag, hat, or anything you wish!!!!

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### **Lauren Verkamp – 2021 DeutscherVerein Scholarship Winner**



**Lauren Verkamp and Mike Ackerman**

Our club presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Lauren Verkamp, a 2021 graduate of Jasper High School. Lauren is the daughter of Max and Jennifer Verkamp.

Lauren will attend Xavier University and will major in International Economics/German.

While at JHS, Lauren was very active in the Marching/Symphonic/Pep Band, JHS German Club, Jasper Mayor's Youth Leadership Council, Business Professionals of America, National Honors Society, and JHS German Exchange Program.

She was senior drum major, vice president and president of the JHS German Club, and secretary and president of the Jasper Mayor's Youth Leadership Council.

Lauren is also active in Mentors for Youth and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

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## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

### **Juni**

**Juni 16, 2021-Wednesday-Moose Lodge** – Clayton Boyles, Executive Director of the Dubois County Community Foundation, will give a presentation. The Club will furnish Chicken breasts and mashed potatoes, requesting members A-H bring a salad, I-Q a dessert, and R-Z a veggie. Doors open at 6:00pm and festivities begin at 6:30pm.

### **Juli**

**Juli 11, 2021-Sunday-Moose Lodge** – StrassenVORfest – 12pm to 3pm

### **August**

**August 3, 2021** – Booth set up for Strassenfest

**August 5, 2021 – August 8, 2021** – Strassenfest

**August 29, 2021-Sunday-Jasper Outdoor Recreation-Family Picnic** – Club will provide Pork Chops, Chicken Breasts and hot dogs. Requesting members A-H bring a dessert, I-Q a veggie, and R-Z a salad.

### **Oktober**

**Oktober 7, 2021-Thursday-Schnitzelbank-German American Dinner**

### **November**

**November 17, 2021-Wednesday-Moose Lodge-** Auction to benefit students in Exchange Program-Club will provide Chili Dogs and Tater Tots. Requesting members A-H bring a salad, I-Q a dessert, and R-Z a veggie.

### **Dezember**

**Dezember 15, 2021-Wednesday-Moose Lodge-** Christmas Dinner/Dance-Club will provide Chicken,

Roast Beef, Dressing and Gravy, Green Beans, Corn, Bread and Butter, and Creamy Slaw.

### StrassenVORfest – A “Prep for the Fest” Event

The Jasper DeutscherVerein (Jasper German Club) will have a community, family friendly event, StrassenVORfest on Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 2021 Strassenfest which will be held on August 5 to August 8.

Come and spend the afternoon!!! Bring your grandchildren!!!

Enjoy German music, ice cream from a local ice cream shop, activities for the kids, coloring books featuring German phrases, purchase your Strassenfest bows, bunting, buttons, your 2021 Strassenfest Tshirt!! There will be an opportunity to purchase German clothing to wear to the Strassenfest!!!

There will be hourly attendance prizes with prizes donated by local businesses including German tshirts, live plants, bows, popcorn, and Strassenfest Beer Garden pitchers!!!!

The Moose will have a sandwich menu available with beverages!!!!

More details will be announced at the June 16th meeting and in upcoming press releases and radio commercials!!!

Speaking of German clothing, do you have any that the dryer has shrunk or you feel it is time to "update" your German clothing? Bring those dirndls, lederhosen, and men's and women's vests to the June 16th meeting and give to Bridgette Bartley. Attach to the clothing the price you would like to sell it for, size of item, and your name and telephone number. These items will be made available for sale at the StrassenVORfest!!!! If you can't make it to the June 16th meeting, contact Bridgette at 812-309-9424 **by July 1st** and she will work with you on getting your items. **PLEASE** do not bring the day of StrassenVORfest!!!!

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

### Die Jugend

We have often had homestay students from the Pfaffenweiler region spend a year at Jasper High School, but we have never had a student from Jasper take advantage, as a high school student, of our partnership to spend a year at our partner high school in Staufen. There is one 8th Grade student that has expressed interest in doing this, once he turns 16. The main questions will be to see what classes might transfer back to Jasper High School from Germany and what the best way is to organize health insurance and a residence permit for Germany. We still have at least another year to figure this out.

Gail S. Halvorsen was a pilot during the Berlin Airlift from June 24th 1948 until the end of the Soviet/East German blockade on May 12th 1949. He remembers making parachutes as a child to drop small items from the top of his barn. During the Berlin Airlift, also known as Operation Vittles, Halvorsen started throwing little parachutes tied to chocolate bars out of his airplane into West Berlin before landing at Tempelhof airport. He did not have permission to do this ("It's not a good idea to throw things out of an airplane." he said.) and he was concerned that he would be court-martialed if his commanders found out about it. It did get out, he was not court-martialed, and instead was told by General Tunner to expand the program into what was to be called Operation Little Vittles. During the Berlin Airlift, Halvorsen established numerous relationships with children in West Berlin and earned the names Candy Bomber and Uncle Wiggly Wings, because of the way he would wiggle the wings of his plane to announce to the children that it was his C-47 arriving in West Berlin. Earlier in the year I had shown a PBS documentary on the Berlin Airlift to my classes and I was able to schedule a Zoom call with Gail Halvorsen on May 17th. I scheduled the meeting for 5PM and students from the Middle School and High School, as well as members of the school community came to participate in the conversation from my classroom at JHS. Hal, as he likes to be called and who is now 100 years old, was happy to answer questions, had many stories to tell, and maintains a great sense of humor. As far as I know, we are not related.

*Ross Halvorsen*  
JHS/JMS German Teacher



## A message from Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.

### **Artisan and Craftsman Exchange Update**

As we reported in April and May, we will be moving forward with an Artisan and Craftsman exchange! The Jasper Partnership Commission in cooperation with Sister Cities of Jasper, and with support from the Jasper Community Arts Commission, will be sending one or two artisans or craftspeople to demonstrate and share their passion with the people of Pfaffenweiler and the surrounding area in Germany.

The individual(s) will travel to Pfaffenweiler from November 22 to December 6, 2021 to demonstrate, produce and sell their products at various locations and at the "open air market" in Pfaffenweiler to be held November 27, 2021. At the same time, one or two individuals from Pfaffenweiler will be traveling to Jasper in November 2021 to do demonstrations at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center in Jasper. They will produce and sell their items at the special Christmas events to be held during that time.

Applications for the program were due by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Selected individuals will be announced this summer. We are excited for this new exchange targeted to strengthen the partnership with our sister city, Pfaffenweiler, and to promote and support artisans and the exchanging of cultures and skills.

We are still looking for potential host families for this exchange for one or two individuals from Pfaffenweiler traveling to Jasper in November 2021! Please contact Mary Leah Siegel at 812-309-3468 if you are interested in being a host family!

### **Student Exchange in Jasper Recognized by Sister Cities International**

Leroy Allala, President of Sister Cities International, sent a letter of recognition to be read at a farewell dinner for the four exchange students in Jasper. The letter thanked the students, the host families, and Sister Cities of Jasper for persevering with the exchange "Despite the challenges of a global pandemic and the restrictions caused by it."

As President Allala stated, "It is encouraging and inspiring to see the perseverance of the students and their host families. Their generosity, compassion, and diligence should serve as a reminder to all of us of what is possible even in the most difficult of times. These students and families were the only active exchange program in the Sister Cities International network, which demonstrates the strength of the Jasper Sister Cities program and the central role the program plays in the wider Jasper community."

Special recognition goes to Ross Halvorsen, Sister Cities of Jasper exchange coordinator and member of the Board of Directors, and DeutscherVerein member, for his hard work and dedication to making the exchange happen during the pandemic. There were many challenges with quarantining, testing, logistics and placement of the students that Ross overcame to make each exchange a success!

As stated by Allala, "The volunteers, host families, and students involved in this program should be proud of their accomplishments over the last year. Thank you again to the students Simon, Elias, Lennart, and Mattis as well as to the families, Aders, Haaff, Hulse, and Rucker, for their continued dedication and commitment to Sister Cities International. Students and host families dedicated to citizen diplomacy have opened their homes and hearts to continue Sister Cities International's mission: promoting peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation – one individual, one community at a time."

A copy of the letter is enclosed!

**Special thanks again to Ross Halvorsen for all his hard work and dedication to the exchange program!**

*Mary Leah Siegel*  
President

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### **"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!!

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**Sister Cities of Jasper**  
**Jasper Partnership Commission**  
**Jasper DeutscherVerein**  
**GERMAN HERITAGE AWARD**

"Honoring those who promote our German Heritage"

The annual German Heritage Award is presented to an individual or group who has contributed generously his/her or their time, talents or resources to maintaining, improving or building upon our German roots in Dubois County.

Sister Cities of Jasper and the Jasper Partnership Commission created the award in 1999. The Jasper DeutscherVerein is sponsoring the award.

This recognition is open to all individuals, not just residents of the City of Jasper, who give what they can in order to make a difference. Because the efforts of these individuals are sometimes known only to a few, a nomination will recognize the work of those who generously support our German Heritage.

A committee, consisting of the Presidents of the Jasper DeutscherVerein, Sister Cities of Jasper, and the Jasper Partnership Commission, will judge all nominations. The Presidents will present the German Heritage Award during the German American Day Dinner celebration on October 7th at the Schnitzelbank.

How you can nominate:

The nominee must be an individual or group, nominated by any individual or group. Please submit the official form (copy is accepted), along with the following:

1. A letter of up to one page listing your reasons for the nomination.
2. A biography, up to two pages, listing the service or efforts of the nominee.

**Nomination for the 2021 German Heritage Award**

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's service is:       voluntary / paid   (circle one)

Nominations need to be postmarked to  
Jasper Deutscher Verein, German Heritage Award,  
P. O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015,  
By September 1, 2021)

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Past recipients of the German Heritage Award are Mary Jo Meuser, Claude and Martina Eckert, Dave Buehler, Linus and Sally Lechner, Joe and Irene C. Eckerle, Danny and Linda Wehr, Leo and Lora Lou Eckerle, the late Lowell and Joan Glendening, Dave and Janet Kluemper, Rafe and Phyllis Ackerman, Vic and Monica Knies, Gary and Rita Egler, Patti Goepfrich, Larry and Betty Hanselman, Ron and Delli Keusch, Jim and Rita Corn, Lois Kuntz, Stan Jochum, Mike and Ann Ackerman, Father John Boeglin, Rosie Stewart, and Al and Judy Bennett.

Lifetime Achievement Award Winner – Matthias Hilger.

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**Endowments at the Dubois County Community Foundation**

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

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

**Claude and Martina Eckert  
Sister Cities Endowment**

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

A gift to the Jasper DeutscherVerein (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.

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

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DeutscherVerein	
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