



Jasper German Club
Deutscher Verein

Die Zeitung

September 2023

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.

(The following information was taken from "We are Jasper" a publication of the Greater Jasper Consolidated School Corporation. Article was written by Gillian Blessinger)

JHS Teachers Participate in Teacher Exchange

Over the summer, two Jasper High School teachers, Brianna Lammers and Daniel Otto, participated in the inaugural teacher exchange program in Pfaffenweiler, Germany.

The Sister Cities Teacher Exchange and Ambassadorship Program is designed to allow teachers from GJCS and surrounding schools to spend two weeks in our sister city of Pfaffenweiler, Germany to experience the schools, the classes, the teachers, and the people that make up the community. Through this opportunity, teachers are able to expand their horizons by considering different methods of instruction, lesson implementation, and discussion. Participants will be able to live with a German family similar to how the students do on their exchange so that they get a real feel of the culture both at home and at school. There is also some time set aside for adventures with the host teachers or families so that the teacher is able to experience other parts of Germany and/or Europe while they stay. This is a fantastic opportunity for GJCS teachers to broaden their horizons and experience another culture.

The official partnership with Pfaffenweiler began in 1985, but the link between our communities can be traced back to the mid-19th century when about a quarter of the entire population of Pfaffenweiler emigrated to the United States and settled in Dubois County. JHS has been participating in a student exchange program with the Faust-Gymnasium ("Gymnasium" in the German designates a university-track high school) in Staufen, a town near Pfaffenweiler, since 1986. High school students from Pfaffenweiler who wish to pursue a university degree attend this school, thus forming the basis for the JHS-Faust exchange program.

One of the directives of our Partnership Commission and Sister Cities of Jasper is to promote ties between the communities. Generations of Jasper students have fostered lifelong friendships with their host families and others they met while in the program. Now, our

communities are finding ways to broaden and deepen our connections. Heike Dürr and Bettina Schwentker will be coming to the JHS community in October from the Faust-Gymnasium to participate in the second phase of the teacher exchange. Ms. Dürr teaches French and P. E.; Ms. Schwentker teaches Theology and Ethics.

When asked why she chose to go, Lammers said the following. "I chose to go to Germany because it sounded like a cool opportunity when it was brought up at our staff meeting. I know my familial history dates back to Germany, although not specifically to Pfaffenweiler. One of the main things that I gained was the power of discussion in the classroom. Throughout many of the classes, teachers use discussion to check if the students are understanding the subjects and to work on implementing their knowledge in practical conversation. Tests are not multiple-choice or true/false but they ask the students to truly expand on their knowledge. Another key takeaway is just how welcoming the German community is, especially to those who come on exchange. I really loved getting to meet the teachers, spending time with them both in and outside of school and getting to experience English classes. I also enjoyed getting to learn about the agriculture of their region including wheat, corn, and grapes. I would recommend this experience to any teacher that is able to take advantage of this unique opportunity in the future".

When asked why he chose to participate, Otto said, "I was particularly glad to get the chance to participate, because I was able to get to know the area in advance of guiding our next group of exchange students in June 2024. I got to meet several of the teachers and observe classes such as German Literature, German and French language classes, Theology, and of course English language classes. I was able to help in the language classes and answer a lot of questions about the United States, Indiana, and Jasper".

The following are some photos from their experience.



Learning about local agriculture and viticulture!



Pfaffenweiler, Germany



Mr. Otto and his hosts, Alex and Karin Horst. Otto said, "I cannot thank them enough for their hospitality and the various ways they helped make my stay truly special."



This is the front entrance to the Faust-Gymnasium Staufen. There are about a thousand students. Gymnasium studies begin in 5th grade and end after 12th grade. Other high schools finish after 9th or 10th grade, but they feed into apprenticeships or vocational schools.



Staufen, Germany

MEMBERSHIP

Dues for the DeutscherVerein 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.

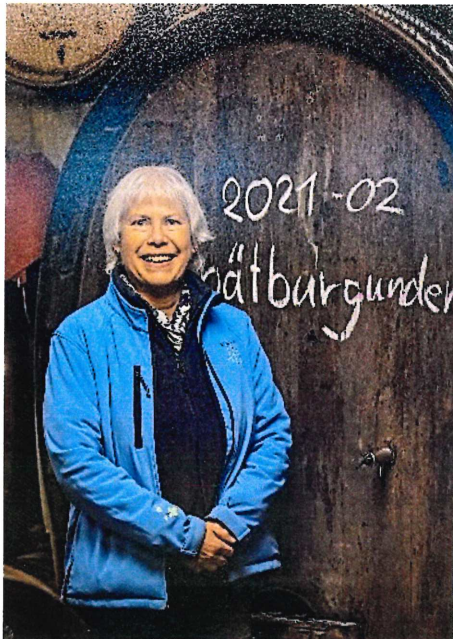
**An exhibit of Photographs – “Pfaffenweiler:
From There to Here”**

From now until September 24, 2023, there is an exhibit of photographs by Jay Hamlin at the Jasper Community Arts/Thyen-Clark Cultural Center, 100 Third Avenue, Suite A, Jasper.

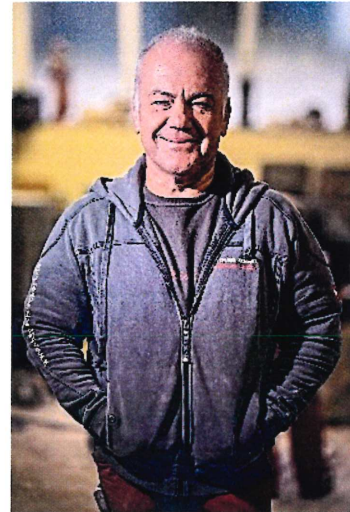
A very special exhibit!!!! Go and enjoy the photographs!!



Former Bürgermeister – Dieter Hahn



Manuela Hug of Hug Weingut



Michael Eckert – SteinmetzMstr.



Stone Quarry where many memories are made

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. The Jasper DeutscherVerein also has presence on Twitter and Instagram.

Note from Patti.....

We will NOT have a newsletter in October.
We will have a newsletter in November.
We will have a newsletter in December
We will NOT have a newsletter in January

Sorry for any inconvenience!!!!

A Note of Thanks from the JHS German Exchange Group

Thanks to the German Exchange students and their families, Sandy Wehr, and Mr. Dan Otto for all your help during Strassenfest. Also a special thanks to Andrea and Brian Gehlhausen and Sarah and Matt Hulse for being Co-Chairs of the Information Booth.

Each of the students volunteered to be Fritz, Fraulein, or Friend of Fritz throughout the Strassenfest, including the parade. Also, each family was asked to work a shift in the Information Booth, including setting up and tearing it down. We were challenged with a smaller crew which meant longer shifts, but everyone stepped up and helped out. Mr. Otto even jumped in for multiple shifts.

Thanks to the Strassenfest Committee for making a donation to the Exchange Program for volunteering and working the booth. The students and their families did a great job selling souvenirs and helping Strassenfest guests with a wide variety of questions!

Abby Troutman
2023 Strassenfest Booth Chairman



Information Booth Set Up Crew



Results for 2023 Strassenfest Sheephead Tourney – FREE Entry

We had a total of 40 players, (36 veteran & 4 novice) on 10 tables. Thank you to Phyllis Ackerman for soliciting and collecting prize donations. Thank you to Nancy Prechtel for running the 2023 Sheephead Tourney. All prizes were donated by area businesses and the German Club

2023 Strassenfest Deutscher Verein Sheephead Tournament Winners – Veteran Group

Place	Name	Prize	Donated by:
1.	John Kern	\$35.00 Cash	German Club
2.	Dave Henke	\$25.00 Gas Card	QYCCO
3.	Ruth Margarida	\$20.00 Gift Cert	Green Thumb
4.	Rich Werner	\$10.00 Gas Card	Ackerman Oil
5.	Lester Sickbert	\$10.00 Gift Cert	Headquarters
6.	Rich Stenftenagel	\$10.00 Gift Cert	Headquarters
7.	Mark Kunkel	\$10.00 Gift Cert	Headquarters
8.	Leo Tretter	\$5.00 Cash	German Club
9.	Ralph Werner	\$5.00 Cash	German Club
10.	John Werner	\$5.00 Cash	German Club

2023 Strassenfest Deutscher Verein Sheephead Tournament Winners – Novice Group

Place	Name	Prize	Donated by:
1.	Jack Kunkel	\$25.00 Gas Card	QYCCO
2.	Mariah Messmer	\$10.00 Gas Card	Ackerman Oil

(Thanks to Mike Ackerman for providing this info)

"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!!



Sister City Lamp Lighting at Strassenfest

Jasper Mayor Dean Vonderheide and Bürgermeister Lukas Mahler of Pfaffenweiler and Landen Weidenbenner and Brandon Ferguson – Hosts of the 2023 Strassenfest

A message from our president

I would like to wish everyone a Happy September! I cannot even begin to express my gratitude to all of our club members, their families, and friends who worked a shift (or 2) in our booth at the Strassenfest. Without your hard work and dedication, we could not pull off our largest fundraiser of the year. I also wanted to put a shout out to Mike Ackerman and Bridget Jarboe Bartley for their ongoing assistance with booth set-up/tear-down, assisting with logistics, and keeping all things moving. I also would like to thank Ann Ackerman for organizing the workers schedule and keeping us all on track. I apologize if I have missed anyone else, but please know how appreciative I am of each and every one of you.

Both Brandon & I were honored to be this year's Hosts of the 2023 Jasper Strassenfest. It was great to see you all in the booth, beer garden, and other activities throughout the Fest. We hope we made you all proud, as we tried our very best to represent the Jasper DeutscherVerein. A highlight of the weekend was definitely the parade - it was amazing to see the number of people as the Fest came to a close. It was also exciting to share this experience with our exchange student, Linda Mayer, who is staying with us for the entire school year. Finally, I would like to thank our former President, Paul Siegel, and his wife Mary Leah for driving us in the parade - we had a fun afternoon!

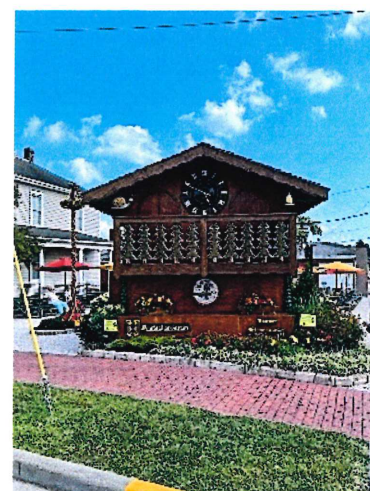
As we look to the Fall, our goal is to begin taking all feedback provided from the May meeting and begin implementing your thoughts and ideas. As always, please watch the newsletters for the latest and greatest information. If there are any questions or concerns,

please do not hesitate to reach out to me, any officer, or board member.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone to invite your friends and family members to any of our club meetings. We are always welcoming new members, and as our club's mission states "to promote, preserve, and celebrate our German Heritage." In order to live up to our mission, we have to have a strong membership. Let's keep our club great!



Landen Weidenbenner
President



2023 Glockenspiel

A message from our vice president

Parade to the Bier Garten

New for 2023, was an upgrade for the Parade to the Bier Garten. A total of 32 German Club members hoisted flags, banners, keg, or brats, or pulled the May Pole to the Beer Garden. Other members joined in the fun walking between the flags. It was an impressive procession to the Bier Garten.



This year's parade was led by Jim & Rita Corn and Dave & Nancy Prechtel carrying the German Club Banner. This banner sat on the Beer Garden Stage for the entire Strassenfest.

President Landen Weidenbenner presented the German Flag, Brandon Ferguson the US flag, Jasper Mayor Dean Vonderheide, the Jasper Flag and Pfaffenweiler Bürgermeister Lukas Mahler, the Pfaffenweiler Flag. Three students from High School or college walked between the mayors: Linda Mayer, Felix Eckerle and Leah Toma.

This year 3 musicians provided music for the parade: Dana Knies Welp on Accordion, Mark Messmer on Trumpet and Eric Messmer on Drum.



In addition to 4 women carrying the keg and 4 men carrying the brats, there were 16 members carrying the banners with crests for each of the states of Germany. And two members pulled the May Pole to its final resting place at the Glockenspiel.





A message from our treasurer

A return of favorable weather allowed sales from our food booths to return to historic levels. Revenue from operation of the food booths is the primary source of our funding to allow our club to carry out its mission of promoting, preserving and celebrating our proud German Heritage.

Thanks to members and supporters who assisted with booth setup, Sunday clean up, booth deconstruction and loading. Thanks to all who worked a shift at our Strassenfest Booths to prepare and serve German foods to our Strassenfest guests. Thanks to the German students who assisted us with staffing the booths.

Thanks also to WATCO, Tell City Pretzel and Kunkel Insurance for access to portions of their facilities to support our needs for warehouse space, secure space, and area for our Merkley refrigerated trailer. A special thanks to our day chairs Kevin Mullen, Kevin Bartley, and Mike Jahn for taking a leadership role at our booths. Finally, a very big thanks to booth chairs Ann Ackerman and Bridgette and Mike Bartley for your efforts to help our booth succeed.

If you feel a calling to become more involved in the operation of the food booths for 2024, we would like to hear from you to allow you to become part of the leadership team that allows our booths to operate.

Congratulations to Valerie Heim and Sherri Uebelhor on their successful efforts to keep German Heritage events alive and growing, both during opening ceremonies and on our Glockenspiel stage. Thanks to Paul Siegel for taking the lead on the Log Sawing competition, one of the longest running events of the Strassenfest. Congratulations to Strassenfest Chair Laura Grammer and her committee on all the planning and work that occurred over the course of the past year to help Jasper Strassenfest remain one of the premier festivals in Southern Indiana.

While it is the goal of the city for the Strassenfest to return to the square in 2024, changes for modernizing the courthouse square and Main Street will mean that there will be changes for the Strassenfest committee to manage. Thus while we anticipate returning to the courthouse square area, we will need to remain flexible on how this may affect our set up and operations.

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.

Mike Ackerman
Treasurer



Laura Grammer
Vice President

A Message from Brandon Ferguson – ACES Coordinator

I am excited to announce that the (3) students from the Pfaffenweiler, Germany area have arrived safe and sound. Linda Mayer and Felix Eckerle arrived on July 25th and were able to join in the Strassenfest activities. Both Felix and Linda were in the parade to the beer garden, and Linda even helped fill-in a shift in the Jasper German Club booth by helping to serve meals. Sarah Grathwol arrived on August 7th. We are so excited to welcome these students to Jasper!



Felix Eckerle and Linda Mayer

German-American Day Dinner

The Jasper DeutscherVerein, Jasper Partnership Commission, and Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. will celebrate German-American Day on Thursday, October 5th, at KlubHaus 61.

Doors will open at 6:00pm with the program, dinner, dancing, and lots of fun Oktoberfest style beginning at 6:30pm. Cost is \$25 per person. Checks made payable to Jasper DeutscherVerein. Meal will include the German Buffet along with desserts. Reservations can be made to

jasperdeutschervein@gmail.com or by calling Valerie Heim at 812-639-6224.

To celebrate the arrival of the first German immigrant group to the United States and the establishment of Germantown, PA were celebrated on October 6, 1983. Public Law 100-104 designated October 6th as "German-American Day" and a proclamation was issued by President Ronald Reagan on October 2, 1987. A day in October shall be proclaimed to be "German-American Day" in honor of the Contributions made by German immigrants to the life and culture of the United States. The program and dinner will honor the contributions made by German immigrants to the life and culture of the United States.

The annual German Heritage Award will be presented to an individual or group who has contributed generously his/her or their time, talents or resources to maintaining, improving or building upon the 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.

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, Al and Judy Bennett, Paul and Laura Grammer, and Joe Rohleder.

Lifetime Achievement Award Winner is Matthias Hilger.





Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

September

September 10, 2023-Sunday – Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street

“Post Strassenfest” Picnic – 4:00pm – 7:00pm. The Club will provide Hamburgers, Brats, Sauerkraut, and German Fries.

Requesting members with last names A – L bring a veggie and M – Z bring a dessert.

The plan is to have German Heritage Performers do their performances and invite their parents. Mike Ackerman to give the Strassenfest Booth Report-Out.

Oktober

Oktober 5, 2023-Thursdays-KlubHaus61-2031 Newton Street-German American Day Dinner

– German Oktoberfest Theme-Dinner-Drinks-Dancing-Presentation of German Heritage Award, High School Essay Contest Awards, and Band/Entertainment.

Doors open at 6:00pm with evening activities beginning at 6:30pm. Cost is \$25 per person. Checks made payable to Jasper DeutscherVerein. Meal will include the German Buffet along with desserts. Reservations can be made to jasperdeutschervein@gmail.com or by calling Valerie Heim at 812-639-6224.

German dress is encouraged but not required.

November

November 15, 2023-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm – festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Auction to benefit German Exchange Program.

Chicken Fettuccini Alfredo and Breadsticks will be provided by the Club.

Requesting members with last names A – H bring a Veggie, I – M Dessert, and N – Z Salad.

Dezember – NOTE 12-14-2023-Thursdays

Dezember 14, 2023-Thursdays-German Club Holiday Party-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm – festivities begin at 6:30pm

The Club will provide Roast Beef, Dressing, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Rolls, and Christmas Cookies. Reservations are required – email German Club inbox. Price is \$15.00 per person-checks made payable to Jasper DeutscherVerein. Santa to visit, along with a

performance by the Gesangverein German Club Singing Group with Singalongs.

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.

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:

Sister Cities of Jasper Mid-Summer Update for Jasper German Club

We are excited for a busy Fall of fundraising, exchanges and planning for the next exchange program in 2024!

Student Exchange 2024 Update Fundraising – DRIVE THRU DINNER ON SUNDAY September 24TH, 2023

The Student Exchange Group will once again be hosting Drive Thru Dinners at The Schnitzelbank on Sunday,

September, 24, 2023. Dinners are Drive Thru Only from 10:30AM-1:00PM. Meals are \$17 each with checks made payable to Sister Cities of Jasper and include choice of the following:

1. Fried Chicken (light), German Fries, Green Beans, & Cole Slaw
2. Fried Chicken (dark), German Fries, Green Beans, & Cole Slaw
3. Zwei (2) Bratwürste, German Fries, Green Beans, & Sauerkraut

Tickets for the dinner will be available from any exchange student, OR by contacting Sandy Wehr at 812-630-2621 or Mary Leah Siegel at 812-309-3468

Teacher Exchange Update 2023

Brianna Lammers, Agricultural Sciences Teacher, and Daniel Otto, German & French Teacher, both from Jasper High School are back from their exchange with the Staufen Gymnasium this summer. Both stayed in the Pfaffenweiler/Staufen area from July 9th until July 23rd !

SAVE THE DATE! GERMAN HERITAGE AWARD, DINNER, AND OKTOBERFEST EVENT!

The German Heritage dinner, award ceremony, and celebration will be held on **Thursday, October 5th** at the Klubhaus61. The theme for 2023 will be a "German Oktoberfest".

This celebration is hosted by the Sister Cities of Jasper, The Jasper DeutscherVerein and the Jasper Partnership Commission. We will be awarding the annual German Heritage award during the evening as well as scholarships for the winners of the high school essay contest.

Additionally, we are planning to have a German themed entertainment, dinner, dancing, and lots of fun Oktoberfest style! German dress is encouraged, but not required!

Cost of the dinner/evening is \$25 with check made payable to Jasper DeutscherVerein and include a full German buffet dinner and dessert. Please contact jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com or call Valerie Heim at 812-639-6224. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE ON OCTOBER 5TH, 2023.

Mary Leah Siegel

President – Sister Cities of Jasper

More Pictures from Teacher Exchange – 2023



Heike Dürr and Brianna in Black Forest, Germany



ZMF Music Festival in Freiburg, Germany. They went with Bettian Schentker and were able to meet up with Paige Kendall, a Southridge graduate who is currently living in Pfaffenweiler and completing her own exchange/internship program.



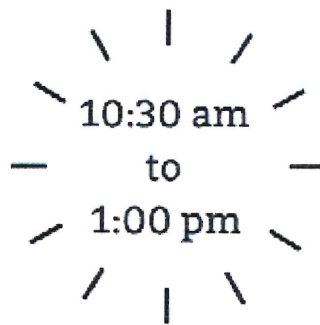
Sonntag Mittagessen.

(Sunday Lunch)

Sponsored by Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.

Proceeds benefit the JHS German Exchange Program

Sunday, September 24, 2023



**Schnitzelbank Restaurant
393 3rd AVE Jasper, IN**

(Drive through only)

\$17.00 per meal

MENU:

Fried Chicken Dinner (1/4 White or 1/4 Dark)

German Fries, Green Beans, & Cole Slaw

or

Zwei (2) Bratwürste

German Fries, Green Beans, & Sauerkraut

All meals included one cookie

To pre purchase tickets:

Contact: Sandy (812) - 482 - 2055 or any member of the
JHS German Exchange Program



Meals will be available while supplies last!

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SISTER CITIES OF JASPER

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

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

Return Service Requested

DeutscherVerein

Officers:

Landen Weidenbenner – President

lgweidenbe@gmail.com

812-309-1745

Laura Grammer – Vice President

laura@ackoil.com

Mike Ackerman – Treasurer

mike@ackoil.com

Valerie Heim – Secretary

jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com

Die Zeitung

Editor: Patti Goepfrich

Phone: 812-482-4821

e-mail: pngoepfrich@gmail.com

DeutscherVerein Website:

www.jaspergermanclub.org

Search Facebook for Jasper
DeutscherVerein or Sister Cities of
Jasper and follow Jasper
DeutscherVerein on Twitter and
Instagram

Directors:

Al Bennett

Bridgette Bartley

Dave Buehler

Brandon Ferguson

Mike Hochgesang

Patrick Schuler

Paul Siegel

Danny Wehr

Sandy Wehr

Van Ziegler