



DEUTSCHER VEREIN

Die Zeitung

December 2014

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 Thank You

Thank you to Charlie and Patrick Schuler on their donation of their grill to the Deutscher Verein. This is the large grill that is used at the Strassenfest for grilling the famous brats!!!!

And thank you to the Ackerman Family for providing storage area for the grill and trailer used to store the stands and all other items used at the Strassenfest!!!!

Your generosity is appreciated.

2015 Dues to the Deutscher Verein will not be accepted at the December meeting. We will begin taking 2015 Dues at the January meeting. Dues are \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a couple.

Newsletter mailing labels will be updated in March, 2015.

Thank you for your consideration.

November Jasper Deutscher Verein in Review

The Jasper Deutscher Verein met Thursday, November 20th at the Jasper VFW #673. President Bridgette Bartley opened the meeting by welcoming 80 members and guests.

She introduced the German Exchange Students who were there to assist in the auction to raise funds for the German Exchange Program.

Vice President Mike Ackerman led the Pledge of Allegiance and had the German students help lead the prayer which was recited in German.

There was a short meeting after the meal. Veterans were asked to stand and be recognized. They were thanked for their service to our country. Then members with Birthdays in October and November were also recognized.

Bridgette then asked for minutes from previous meeting be approved. Cliff Howard made first motion and Steve Schmitt made second. All approved.

Raymie Eckerle gave an update on visitors from Germany coming to Jasper for the Strassenfest. They will arrive in Jasper on July 29 and will remain until August 9th.

Sandy Wehr gave an update on Sister Cities. She informed members that Nancy Eckerle will be resigning from the board of Sister Cities and are searching for a replacement.

She also mentioned that the German exchange students are selling Advent calendars and will be selling Grandy's rolls. They will also be helping with the auction tonight to raise funds for their trip to Germany in June 2015.

Bridgette then presented the board members and officers for the 2015-17 term. The members will be voting on at December meeting.

Officers:

President. Mike Ackerman, Vice President ?, Treasurer Laura Grammar, Secretary Barb Schmitt.

Board of Directors

Al Bennett, Dave Buehler, Raymie Eckerle, Patti Goepfrich, Mike Hochgesang, Patrick Schuler, Dan Wehr, Sandy Wehr, Rita Egler, and Bridgette Bartley

Details of the Christmas meeting were then given. It will be on Thursday, December 18th at the Jasper VFW #673. Doors open at 6:00 pm, brief meeting begins at 6:30 pm. The menu will be pork loin, stuffed Chicken breast, sweet potato casserole, green beans, and salad. The officers and board of directors will furnish desserts. The cost of the meal will be \$10 per person. Members are welcome to bring children or grandchildren. Include them in your reservations. For reservations please call Barb Schmitt at 482-9063 or 309-9181 or email at barbschmitt12@gmail.com.

Entertainment will be some members of the Jasper High School band. Santa will make an appearance and will have treats for everyone.

Our January meeting will be our wine contest. It will be on Wednesday, January 7th. There will also be a pie baking contest. Our February meeting will be beer tasting and bread making competition. That will be on Wednesday, February, 4th.

We then had the prize drawings. Special prizes were won by Nancy Ziegler and Melvin Neukam. Door prizes were won by Barb Bleemel and Cletus Knies.

The auction was then held. Our own President, Bridgette Bartley was the auctioneer for the evening. She did a great job!!! Thanks Bridgette! The rest of the evening was spent socializing.

Next meeting will be December 18th. Please get reservations in by December 14th. We will not be collecting any dues for membership until the January meeting.

Submitted by

Barb Schmitt
Secretary

Message from Mike.....

Thanks to all members for the gifts to the auction and the participation in bidding on auction items at our November meeting. With your help, our county's newest auctioneer, Bridgette Bartley, was successful in raising over \$1700 to be donated to the German students preparing to go to Germany in 2015.

Our Christmas meeting will be on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at the VFW. Please make reservations by contacting our club Secretary, Barb Schmitt, cell 309-9181 or email barbschmitt12@gmail.com. Cost of meal will be \$10.00 per person payable at the door. There is no need to bring a covered dish to the Christmas meeting. In addition to a visit from Santa, entertainment for the meeting will be provided by a group of talented musicians from the JHS band. Look forward to seeing each of you there.

In an effort to explore ways to act upon suggestions of prospective members interested in joining our club to help us keep our German Heritage alive and growing, we are changing things up a little in 2015. We are going to try a couple of meetings on the first Wednesday of the month. We recognize that our club is where it is today because of the commitment and hard work of our current members. Please continue to support us.

Our first meeting of the new year will be held at the VFW on Wednesday, January 7, 2015. This meeting will feature our Pie and Wine judging. Our pie and wine entries will be our dessert and after dinner drinks for the meeting. Remember to be prepared to vote for the people's choice award. Our program will feature a presentation from Mayor Terry Seitz on his 2014 visit to Germany.

2015 is the 30th year anniversary of our sister city relationship with Pfaffenweiler Germany, and a group from Germany is coming to Jasper in the summer to celebrate the partnership. We also have a club member organizing a trip to Germany and surrounding areas for late August through early September, 2015, that will include a stop at the Schneck Fescht. Please contact Mike Hochgesang or Jackie's Travel for more information.

On Wednesday February 4, 2015, our meeting will feature our Home Brew Beer and Bread judging. We will be serving breads brought in for judging with the meal for the evening, and in the spirit of our German Heritage, we can all enjoy sampling the handiwork of our brewers. Our program will feature a presentation from Andy Hedinger to give us a preview of St. Benedicts Brew Works to be located on the grounds of the convent in Ferdinand. Andy and his group are also operating a new restaurant in the Wollenmann house in Ferdinand. We will plan to have a meeting to visit these new businesses in the spring of 2015.

Mike Ackerman

VP, Deutscher Verein

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

Dezember Meeting

At the Jasper VFW

Thursday, Dezember 18, 2014 Annual Christmas Dinner

6:00pm – Doors Open

6:30pm – Welcome and call meeting to order

Election of new officers for 2015 – 2017.

Annual Christmas Dinner

Reservations are needed for this event and can be made by calling Barb Schmitt at 812-482-9063 or 812-309-91814 or email to barbschmitt12@gmail.com.

Cost is \$10 and the menu will be pork loin, stuffed Chicken breast, sweet potato casserole, green beans, and salad. The officers and board of directors will furnish desserts.

Entertainment by members of the Jasper High School Band with an appearance made by Santa with treats for all. Children and grandchildren are invited to attend and should be included with your reservations to Barb.

Januar Meeting

At the Jasper VFW

Wednesday, Januar 7, 2015

Annual Wine Contest with Pie Baking Contest

6:00pm – Doors Open with Wine and Pie Check In

6:30pm – Welcome and call meeting to order

Program by Mayor Terry Seitz on his and Deena's trip to Germany in 2014.

Februar Meeting

At the Jasper VFW

Wednesday, Februar 4, 2015

Annual Home Brew Beer Contest with Bread Making Contest

6:00pm – Doors open with Beer and Bread Check In

6:30pm – Welcome and call meeting to order

Program by Andy Hedinger of St. Benedicts Brew Works

Jasper Strassenfest – July 30th – August 2nd

August, 2015 - 30th Anniversary of Jasper-Pfaffenweiler Sister City Partnership - Celebration in Jasper.

The Partnership Commission has been meeting to make plans for the event. The guests from Germany will arrive on July 29th and depart on August 9th.

Family and Worker Appreciation Picnic

August 15th at the Jasper Outdoor and Recreation Club

German American Day Dinner

Oktober 6th at KlubHaus 61

Sister Cities of Jasper

Thank you to all who participated in the Auction at the November meeting. Your support is appreciated!!!!

The JHS German Exchange students will be selling Grandy's rolls from December 2 – December 12. They will come frozen (with baking instructions) and delivered December 15 – December 16, just in time for Christmas dinner. Contact any exchange student or Sandy Wehr at 812-482-2055 for more details.

Also keep your eyes open for information on the Chicago pizza sale in January. Nothing better than a warm pizza on a cold winter night!!!!

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 Rita Egler at P. O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 or call her at 812-634-9068 with your new address so we can forward your newsletter to you. This keeps us from having to pay double postage and assures you to receive all newsletters while you are away from home. Having your mail forwarded while you are gone will not work, simply because of the “Return Service Requested” stamped on our newsletter. This is stamped to let us know when someone has moved. The Post Office informs us of new addresses if you have permanently moved.

Please notify Patti Goepfrich of any email address changes. pmgoepfrich@gmail.com

At this time of Christmas, let us remember the less fortunate of our communities. This would be a great time to make a donation to any organization helping those in need.

Your generosity will be appreciated.

There will be no Newsletter in January. Watch the newspaper or listen to the radio for more details on the January meeting.

Continuation of information that began in the September newsletter.....

From *The Herald*
Saturday, February 23, 1985

Sister Cities Story by Gabriella Jacobs

The experiences of those Germans are fairly well documented by descendants here and in Pfaffenweiler. During the German Club trip, both sides traded facts.

Pfaffenweiler's Mayor Gutgsell, and the historian mention in the newspaper article, Gerhard Auer, prepared their visitors some data about the emigration to Jasper.

Auer put together a report comparing 54 years worth of facts about the annual status of the wine business to the rate of emigration. Basically, when Pfaffenweiler's grape harvest and wine production were good, the local economy was good. And when the harvest was poor, the reverse happened, and residents were forced to move.

"Strikingly enough," Auer wrote in his report, "there weren't any wine growers emigrating but craftsmen, day-laborers and single mothers. One may conclude that wine growers, in spite of bad harvests, were able to provide for themselves because they owned gardens, fields, and cattle. They did not have any money, however, therefore they were unable to order anything from the blacksmith, shoemaker, or tailor.

"With a bad harvest, day-laborers did not have enough work; craftsmen and laborers owned little or no acreage. Consequently, they did not have close ties to the soil. The same holds true for single mothers; marriage was only possible if one owned the Civic Rights and only wealthy people could afford them....:

Year by year, the number of people fleeing Pfaffenweiler increased.

"Willingness to emigrate was augmented by information that made the 'new world' more imaginable to people," Auer wrote. "The family of Aloys Eckert, his wife, Maria

Agathe Dierenbach and their three children, Caecilia, Stephan and Elisabeth departed on 24 March, 1847. A. Eckert had been in American in 1846 already with an earlier party of emigrants to look around there and returned in October of the same year. Since (on that day), he decided to take along his family, he inspired many others to do the same because they concluded that North America couldn't be all that bad if he returned there after looking around."

Auer also has documented that:

*1848 was "a very good year" for Pfaffenweiler wine, but because of a war Germany had been involved in, prices were too low. The situation in 1849 and '50 was much the same.

*1851, seven people emigrated. Only a small amount of medium quality grapes had been harvested. A year later, 25 people moved on; three years later, 18 left Pfaffenweiler for North America and 134 went to Africa.

*By 1854, there was less than half the normal amount of grapes available for harvest. Thirty people left.

Pfaffenweiler's weakness became Jasper's strength, as people trickled into this town to start new lives. The immigrants had to cope with a new language, new money, new government and new friends.

As they settled into this Indiana community, they raised families and taught their children that only unfortunate circumstances forced departure from Germany. Successive generations developed a fondness for the homeland their ancestors were forced to abandon.

Jasper gradually became known for its affinity for Germany. Houses and businesses popped up with addresses like Baden Strasse, Frankfurt Street, Mannheim Road, Rhine Strasse and Wilhelm Strasse. The fairly new but popular Strassenfest was organized as an exuberant tribute to Munich's famous Oktoberfest.

So it's no surprise that members of the Deutscherferien have worked diligently for formalization of the sister city project and an exchange student program. They feel both Jasper and Pfaffenweiler will benefit from a trans-Atlantic alliance.

Said member and past president Ron Kieffner: "We hope the people of Pfaffenweiler are as excited about getting to know us as we are about them."

From *The Herald*
briefly
February 12, 1985

Fest receipts listed

Jasper – The 1984 Strassenfest earned \$98,918, according to totals just released.

Nearly \$47,300 or 47 percent of the total receipts, was kept by these groups.

The Strassenfest Committee had gross receipts of \$36,722.12, including \$18,264 from booths and events. Of these receipts, \$30,627.82 was absorbed by committee expenses, including over \$16,500 for advertising, entertainment, electricity and program expenses.

The committee's net profit of \$6,095 was added to the balance from previous fests to bring the committee's funds to \$9,185.

This money will be used to prepare for the 1985 fest. Such preparation, including programs and entertainment provided free to the public, will again cost the committee more than \$10,000. These funds also provide a cushion should rain wipe out all or part of the fest.

Fest profits are generally channeled back to the participating organizations but any excess amounts go to areas of civic need. For example, in 1984, support was given to the renovation of Jaycee Park, the lighting project at Recreation Field, the downtown renovation and the Jasper Chamber of Commerce office.



Endowments at the Dubois County Community Foundation

Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment

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

Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment

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

A gift to the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment or to the Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment is a wonderful way to remember that special someone. A gift in honor of someone or in memory of someone may be given. The Dubois County Community Foundation will send a letter of acknowledgment to the individual being honored or to the family of someone being remembered. Send your gift along with the appropriate information to the Dubois County Community Foundation, P. O. Box 269, Jasper, IN 47547-0269. Envelopes are also available at the greeting table at each club meeting.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

to the _____
(Please specify appropriate Endowment)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

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

Please acknowledge my gift to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

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

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Deutscher Verein

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www.jaspergermanclub.org

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