

DEUTSCHERVEREIN

Die Zeitung

September 2015

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 to Pat and Phyllis Schuler for the great job as 2015 General Chair Persons of the Strassenfest. Your efforts, hard work, and long hours that you devote to the Strassenfest are truly appreciated!!!!!!!!

Thank you to all of the individuals who chair the contests sponsored by the DeutscherVerein, the Day Chairpersons, Shift Chairpersons, everyone who sets up and tears down, and all workers of the Food and Pastry Booths. We have many nonmembers who work and that includes grandchildren, nieces and nephews, friends, and neighbors. Thank you for also patronizing the booths with your purchases. Proceeds from the Strassenfest are the largest source of income for the DeutscherVerein. Without those, we could not do what we do for our members or our community!!!!

TO GERMAN CLUB MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Our thanks go out to all of you for your hard work during Strassenfest. We were very worried this year because of slow sign-up response but in the end it turned out just great. Our special "thanks" go out to those members who worked more than one shift, those who drafted non-members to come help and to those members who were also hosting German visitors but took the time to help us. We even had some of the German visitors work in our booth which was fantastic!

It takes a team of dedicated people to work an event the size of Strassenfest and we certainly had the best ever. At this time we are waiting on an expense statement from one of our suppliers so will be reporting the overall numbers at our next meeting.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Pat & Phyllis Schuler Strassenfest Co-Chairs

<u>Winners of Strassenfest Events</u> Sponsored by the Deutscher Verein

Log Sawing Contest

Women's Division:

First: D & D – Julie Dicus and Kristi Adams

Second: Country Loggers – Stacy Merkley and Catrina Johnson

Men's Division:

First: Amish Chain Saws – Edward Lambright and Jake Schwartz

Second: No Fear – Justin Hensley and Enos Schwartz

Grand Champion - Amish Chain Saws

Sheephead Tourney

There were 52 players who participated in the Sheephead Tourney.

1st place – 33 points – Lee Goeppner - \$25.00 cash & Membership (German Club), 2nd place – 31 points – Kenny Schnell - \$25.00 gift card (Circle A), 3rd place – 31 Points – Delmar Werner - \$20.00 gift certificate (Headquarters), 4th place – 30 points – John Werner - \$15.00 cash & Membership (German Club), 5th place – 29 points – Leon Reckelhoff - \$10.00 gift certificate (Headquarters), 6th place – 29 points – Brett Werner - \$10.00 gift certificate (Headquarters), 7th place – 29 points – Linus Lampert - \$10.00 gift certificate (Headquarters), 8th place – 28 points – Ed Werner - \$10.00 cash & Membership (German Club)

For 2016, the Sheephead Tourney will begin at noon!!!

A message from Laura.....

Gutten Tag

Thanks to everyone who helped to work at the Strassenfest this year. I enjoyed getting to see everyone over the weekend. And I appreciate everyone adjusting to the minor changes in handling money.

The Strassenfest Gross sales were very strong. I have not received all of the bills from the weekend. But am expecting some nice income for the year. Everyone's hard work for the week will allow us to provide support for many of the German Heritage projects the Deutscher Verein supports each year.

Thanks again to everyone

Laura Grammer Treasurer

Message from Mike.....

Thanks to all who worked and brought guest workers to man our Strassenfest booths. With great weather bringing out big crowds, out booths recorded another year with strong sales.

We had another nice turn out for the Log Sawing Contest on Thursday night and for the Sheephead tourney on Saturday afternoon. A special thanks to Werner Sawmill for all you do for the log sawing and to Linda and Tony Schroering for running the Sheephead contest.

Thank Sandy Wehr and 6 students, Bryce Siegel, Luke Fleck, Thomas Peters, Kade Nicholson, Carolyn Keaton, and Caitlen Mann, who provided us with a program about their trip to Germany this summer for our picnic. With stories of fun times and new experiences, we had a few laughs and were able to see how the next generation is beginning to embrace its German Heritage. For 2016, our picnic will be on September 10.

This fall we have a number of extra events scheduled including trips to wineries and trips to German Fests at Louisville in September and Owensboro on October 3rd. If you would like to be included in the email list to be notified of these events, please contact Ann Ackerman, ann@ackoil.com. We will also post these events on the German Club Facebook page.

Remember to get your reservation in for the German Heritage Award Dinner to be held at Klubhaus 61 on October 6^{th} .

Our next meeting will be on Thursday November 19 at the Moose Lodge. This is our annual Auction meeting to raise funds for students preparing for the next German trip. Hopefully you already have an idea for a donation for the auction.

Please save the date of Thursday December 17 for the Christmas meeting.

Mike Ackerman,

President

Sommer Picknick

The Jasper Deutscher Verein had its summer picnic on Saturday, August 15 at the Jasper Outdoor Recreation Club. There were 100 members and guests in attendance. The menu consisted of pulled pork made by Barb Schmitt, and grilled chicken breasts and hamburgers grilled by Cliff Howard and Aaron Rasche. Sides were furnished by the members. The picnic committee was Barb Schmitt, Pam Howard, Cliff Howard, Mike and Ann Ackerman and Bridgette Bartley.

President Mike Ackerman opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests and thanking them for a job well done at the Strassenfest. Again the food and pastry booths were a success. He led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Father Don Ackerman led us in prayer before the meal.

After the meal, Mike announced the time and place for the German Heritage Award Dinner which will be on Tuesday, Oct 6th at KlubHaus61. Doors will open at 6:00 pm. Dinner and Program will begin at 6:30. The cost is \$15 per person. You can make reservations by calling Patti Goepfrich at 812-482-4821. Reservations are due on Sept. 28th. The 17th annual German Heritage Award will be presented. The program will be presented by Duane Busick on German Heritage in Dubois County. German American will again be the financial sponsor of the German Heritage Essay Contest open to all seniors in the 4 county high schools. The winners will read their essays.

The program for the evening was Sandy Wehr and a few of the German Exchange Students that told of their experiences while in Germany.

Mike thanked everyone for their hard work before, during and after the Strassenfest. Because of that hard work we had another successful year.

Winners of door prizes were Aaron Rasche, Fred Hollinden, Rich Weyer, Connie Jarboe, Delli Keusch, Pam Howard, Marilyn Brames, Art Kapp, Gary Egler, Marlene Seger, and Barb Schmitt.

Kids door prizes were won by Eli Rasche, Jackson Bohnert, Xavier Rasche, Grace Bartley, Bennett Rasche, and Bri Wiseman.

Special prizes were won by Rita Rasche and Connie Jarboe.

The next meeting will be the Auction for the German Exchange Students which will be held on Thursday, November 19th at the Moose Lodge. Doors open at 6:00. Meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to bring an item or two to donate for the auction. Previous

items that were donated were homemade cookies, cakes, candy, pies, Thanksgiving and Christmas items, handmade items, wine, gift baskets, gift certificates, etc. Feel free to ask friends and family members to come and enjoy the fun!!

December meeting will be Thursday December 17 at the Moose Lodge. Doors will open at 6:00 pm and meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. More info will be at the November meeting.

Submitted by

Barb Schmitt, Secretary

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

September

<u>Bier Verkosters</u> – Monday, September 21, at 7:30pm at the Schnitz Brewery

Oktober

OCCtoberfest – Owensboro Convention Center, 501 W 2nd Street, Owensboro – Indoor Event Brats, Beer, and Music- \$6.00 cover Dean Dennis GM of Owensboro Convention Center is seeking Polka Dancers

<u>German American Day Celebration</u> — Oktober 6th at KlubHaus61. Doors open at 6:00pm — Dinner and Program at 6:30pm. Cost is \$15.00 — Reservations are due to Patti Goepfrich at 812-482-4821 by September 28th.

Saturday, October 17 -

Trip to Mystique winery, 13000 N Co Rd 150 W, Lynnville www.mystiquewine.com/ (phn 812-922-5612) This is their 3rd anniversary celebration Music by the Honey Vines

<u>Bier Verkosters</u> – Monday, October 19, at 7:30pm at the Schnitz Brewery

November

Annual Auction benefitting the JHS German Exchange Program – Thursday, November 19, At the Jasper Moose Lodge – Doors open at 6:00pm Meeting at 6:30pm.

<u>Dezember</u>

<u>Christmas Dinner</u> – Thursday, December 17, at the Jasper Moose Lodge – Doors open at 6:00pm. Meeting at 6:30pm.

2016 - September 10, 2016 - Summer Picnic

Laura Grammer is looking to purchase a size 16 dirndl. Please contact Laura at 812-630-7244 or lagrammer@psci.net if you have one for sale.

Bier Verkoster

The Beer Taster's Club (Bier Verkoster) met at Schnitz Brewery on August 17, at 7:30. Twenty people participated in the Beer Tasting event. A blind flight of 5 beers was prepared by Wayne Patmore. Each person was given a list of possible beers and tried to identify each beer.

Best of Flight was selected. Without knowing the name of the beer, the group voted on their favorite beer in the flight. And the club provided one "Best of Flight" free beer to each person who attended.

Bier Meister Wayne then unveiled the names of each beer. And those who had correctly named the most beers correct were crowned the Beer Masters.

The Ein Prosit song was learned and the group toasted the Beer Masters of the night.

The group was broke into 3 groups for a hilarious game of Beer Pictionary.

All winners for the night were written on the air vent in the Schnitz Brewery. Stop by and see the winners names. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

The September Bier Verkosters meeting will again be a private party at the Schnitz Brewery on September 21, at 7:30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Winners for August:

Best of Flight for August Bier Verkoster - Bell's Porter

Beer Masters for August Bier Verkosters Lindsey Mendel Kaine Seitz Trey Russel

> Beer Pictionary Winners Bob Bleemel Morgan Sanders Logan Grammer Ryan Grammer

German Heritage Day Program and German Heritage Award

The 17th annual German American Day Program will be held on Tuesday, October 6th, at KlubHaus61. Social hour begins at 6:00 pm with the Program beginning at 6:30 pm. The seventeenth annual German Heritage Award will be presented.

Past recipients of the German Heritage Award are the late Mary Jo Meuser, the late Claude and Martina Eckert, Dave Buehler, the late Linus and Sally Lechner, Joe and Irene C. Eckerle, Danny and Linda Wehr, Leo and the late 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 Dellie Keusch, and Jim and Rita Corn.

Our program will be presented by Duane Busick on German Heritage in Dubois County.

German American will again be the financial sponsor of the German Heritage Essay Contest open to all seniors in the four county high schools.

Cost is \$15.00 and reservations may be made by calling Patti Goepfrich at 812-482-4821 by September 28th.



31 Individuals from Jasper and surrounding areas toured Germany, France, Switzerland, and Austria and attended the 2015 Schnecke Fescht in Pfaffenweiler

<u>Address Changes for Newsletters – Also for</u> "Snowbirds" With Temporary Address Change

Would all members who are going to be gone for any period of time, please notify Patti Goepfrich at P. O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 or call her at 812-482-4821 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.

The JHS German Exchange Students along with Sandy Wehr and Josh Dodd kept a "diary-blog" during their visit to Germany in June, 2015. Enjoy!!!!!!!!!

Sunday, May 31, 2015 Chillin' We're on our way! Sitting in Louisville chilling until our flight to Newark. Let the adventure begin. Senora

Monday June 1st 2015

We arrived in Berlin at 10:30 am. This was later than we expected because of a delay with out flight from Newark. When we arrived we were taken to the the hostile. Then we headed to lunch which was very good. After lunch we returned to the hostel for a little break. Then we went and toured Berlin. We saw the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, a statue of Neptune, Fernsehturm tower and many other things. We ate supper at a restaurant called Alex. Then we finished the day by going to a mall. Luke

Tuesday, June 2nd, 2015

So, today is Tuesday. We got up and touring at around 9 o'clock. We took the train to different stations until we got to the checkpoint Charlie museum. We went to the remaining section of the Berlin wall, and saw the museum information by it. We went to the Potsdammer Platz, where there was a mall and many restaurants. I went with some of the others to McDonald's, which was different than here. We walked around the rest of the city and saw the government buildings, and then to a dungeon tour that was like a haunted house with actors and sets and special effects. We had enough time after the tour to visit the Berlin cathedral before dinner. At dinner we discussed with Mr. Dodd a new business idea based on something we have seen here in Berlin. We walked to the big TV tower that had an observation deck and restaurant before getting back on the tram to our Hostel. Garrett

Wednesday, June 3, 2015 Berlin to Possneck

Today we were able to walk around Berlin at our own leisure, of course with a partner! At about 11 we packed everything back together and got on a bus to come to Poßneck. We got here around 3:30 and we met our exchange partners at the school. Poßneck is a very neat little town and I can't wait to see what the next two weeks is going to be like here! Madelyn

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Today was our first full day in Possneck at school. The classes are not much different than American classes, but the way the schedule is set up is a bit different than ours. For example, in Germany they have longer passing periods, plus 10-15 minute breaks in the middle of 90 minute classes. At 6 o'clock, we had our welcome dinner where all the German parents brought some awesome food, and after dinner the German and American kids danced to classic party songs we knew. All in all, it was an interesting and educational experience, and was a wonderful first day in Possneck! Carolyn

Friday, June 5, 2015

We spent this morning climbing up the hills of Pößneck. We saw a commentary, a wonderful view of Posneck, a and afountain in the center of the city. While seeing the fountain, the mayor told us that they have the second steepest Platz in all of Germany!! It was a beautiful sight, but not too fun to walk up. Also, the cemeteries are different than most in America. Instead of the family taking care of it, they have groundkeepers. Another thing that is different is that instead of paying for all the plot right away, they pay every 15-20 years. After learning some history about Pößneck, Carolyn and I were able to get a partnership. I mean, the mayor was there, it has to be real. Luke also became the mayor of the city for a short amount of time. All in all, we spent this beautiful summer day walking around and learn in history of Pößneck.

Saturday, June 6, 2015

Today was our first day without going to school in Pößneck so we all did different things with our host families. Unfortunately I can't tell you about what the whole group did, but I can tell you about my day. My host family met up with Thomas and his host family and we all went together to Erfurt, the capital of Thuringia. We went to the St. Marien cathedral that was absolutely beautiful. Then we sat on the cathedral steps and ate Baumstriezel, a type of dessert that is more common around Christmas time but my partner insisted that I try it. Baumstriezel is a sweet pretzel dough that is wrapped into a sort of tube shape around a wooden stick and fried. It was very good. We then went up the tower of a nearby synagogue to get a good view of Erfurt. The many stairs were exhausting but the breathtaking view made it all worth it. Since it was such a hot day today, almost 85 degrees Fahrenheit, we participated in a "tradition" that is common with the younger citizens. It is common to see many young people take off their shoes and wade in the cool water of the small river in Erfurt. It may sound weird but it really is the best way to cool off. It was so hot that my group decided that lunch should only be ice cream sundaes that were both massive and delicious. After lunch, we went shopping since Erfurt has many nice clothing stores. We then returned back to Pößneck and got my personal favorite meal, Döner and Mezzo Mix. Döner is a type of sandwich that comes in a sort of pita bread and is stuffed with meat, onions, lettuce, and garlic sauce. Mezzo Mix is a very popular soft drink that is basically Coca-Cola mixed with Orange Fanta. It sounds extremely weird but it is delicious. Overall, I had a great day full of many exciting sights and delicious food. Kaitlyn

Sunday, June 7, 2015

Today was another free day in Germany, when the exchange students can go somewhere or do something with their exchange partners. I went to Leipzig, a bigger city in Germany, with my host family. Gina's brother and boyfriend were both competing in a go-kart competition in Leipzig. Due to it being a little boring to watch close to a hundred people drive the same track for time trials, a few of us went to do a bit of urban exploration in downtown Leipzig. We first visited a war memorial called the Stadtgeschichtliches. It was built entirely of stone and was an impressive structure. Gina and I went in it. Inside was a dome with stone men as pillars. Also there were spiral staircases that led to the top (We only made it to the second highest tier, due to me nearly peeing myself because of the heights.). Then we visited the town square which was full of activities, because Leipzig was celebrating its 1000th birthday. Near the town square was the St. Nicholas Church, which was also celebrating its 850th birthday. Though this church was smaller than a lot of other churches I've seen, it was definitely the prettiest. We then drove home to me Gina's grandparents to celebrate yet another birthday, which was her grandpa's. We ate at a Greek restaurant in Pößneck to celebrate. Now with a week under our belt in our German trip, I think everyone is really settling into our settings and enjoying themselves. Kade

Monday, June 8, 2015

Today we all went to the wonderful city of Dresden. Here we got to see many things including the Frauenkirche, Zwinger, and the Wall of Princes. We also got to see a few beautiful statues, which included ones of Martin Luther and Friedrich August II (King of Saxony). We got to climb up the Frauen Kirche and got an amazing view of the whole city. While up in the church you could see the famous Elbe River. Inside the church was beautiful decore. We didn't have the best weather, but it was worth dealing with it to see the city. Close to the end of the day we all got to try the ice cream of Dresden called

haselbauer. I thought that it was pretty delicious. Olivia Otto

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Today we started off our day by going to school. We got our own custom lessons in our mother tongue, English. We started off with an Astronomy lesson. We learned all the constulations in German! We then went to a Chemistry lesson. We were given the easy task of making margarine. Almost everyone made good, descent, or okay margarine. We then went to a German lesson. We read and acted out the poem Der Erlkönig. The poem was written by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Afterwards we went on an adventure through the shops of Pößneck and dosed ourselves in the pleasure of Milka chocolate before we went back. When we got back we went to Mödlareuth also known as Little Berlin. The village was split up, just like Berlin, right down the middle. Our tour guide lived on the East German side and told us of how Americans were looked at as bad people. He has now been to Florida and Minnesota after making some American friends. When I got home I tried rabbit for the first time ever. In the evening I taught my host family how to make popcorn. I also had to tell them that lots of oil is not good for popcorn. So with all that, today was a GREAT day in Germany. Thomas Peters

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Today we visited Weimar ans Buchenwald. Our day began bright and early when we left for Weimar, the cultural heart of Germany. After about an hour trip, we arrived in Weimar and began our tour of this beautiful city. We were given a guiz to complete on our journey through the city. There was a competition to get the best score and Sandy was determined to win! She told us so at least ten times. Throughout our extensive tour, we encountered many interesting monuments such as the Goethe and Schiller monument, the Ernst-Thälmand monument, and the Herder Monument. We also had the chance to walk through the park on the Ricer Ilm, with many monuments and a beautiful landscape. Then, we had a delicious lunch featuring real German Brotwurst and spaghetti ice for dessert. After lunch, we took the bus 8km to the Buchenwald work camp, a somber time for our group. We viewed the fields in which prisoners of war and people persecuted by Nazis toiled in. We saw where they were executed in the crematorium and the torture chambers where they were put to excruciating amounts of pain. The main exhibit was being worked on, so it was closed to our group; but Sandy says it's the most shocking exhibit on the property. After we learned how these poor people suffered, we went to see their mass graves at the memorial, a very memorable experience. The three mass graves show just how extensive the damage had been to these people and the tower and the names of the nations seen on the columns of countries with people affected by the camp along the

hillside showed the global extent of these atrocities. We ended with a short climb to the memorial and tower where we waited for five minutes for the bell to ring the 4:00 time. The ride back home restored our jovial spirits with the announcing of the prizes and winners of the quiz competition mentioned before. Sandy won, just like she said she would, and the rest of us were not suprised. We arrived back in Pößneck where we went our seperate ways for the evening. Bryce Siegel

Thursday, June 11, 2015

Today we had the chance to talk with students in a 11th grade English class. It was very interesting to be able to talk about each other's lives and future plans. While talking with these students they were required to take notes about our family, age, hobbies, interests, and our plans for the future for a inclass presentation. After finishing our conversations, the English teacher surprised us by making us talk about what the Germans had to say about themselves. After we presented the Germans had to use their notes for their presentations about each of us. After English class the boys got the chance to talk with some 5th graders in the cafeteria. The 5th graders especially liked Thomas because they could talk about their favorite soccer players and teams with him. The kids liked Thomas so much that they even asked for his phone number, in which he gave them his phone number. Later in the day we went to Kelly's surprise birthday party. This birthday party was supposed to be a surprise birthday party where everyone one kept it a secret, but it ended up that someone let the cat out of the bag to Kelly because she didn't seem to be surprised. Having the party not be a surprise did not ruin it. The party had great food and great people. After finishing our meals we ended up playing frisbee, soccer, and volleyball. After playing these sports we ended the night around the camp fire roasting marshmallows. I believe that everyone had a great day, I for sure did! Owen Rendel

Friday, June 12, 2015

Today we went to school for the first two classes. Instead of going to class with our partners we went to the three 5th grade English classes. It was fun meeting with the younger kids even though they have only been speaking English for nine months. It was surprising that they could answer questions like how old are you, what are your hobbies, what is your favorite food, and many other simple questions. After the first two classes we walked to play kegeln and went to Ranis Castle. Kegeln is a German form of bowling that uses nine pins instead of ten. I enjoyed playing kegeln. At Ranis we went into a cave and saw a dungeon. We also saw the original castle kitchen. It was very fun and I enjoyed all of it. Luke

Saturday, June 13, 2015

Today was our last Saturday with our Pösneck families, so that's pretty sad. A group of us went rafting down the Saale river, which was super fun and relaxing. The scenery was gorgeous and it was hot out, so the water felt fantastic. At one point we stopped to have a little picnic at a park, then went swimming in the deeper parts off of the bank we were stopped at. After we got picked up, me, Kelly and Lea went back to Lea's and ate schnitzel for dinner, which is a traditional German dish, and it's also delicious. I'm so happy I got to spend my last Saturday with great people. Carolyn

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Today was our last full day in Pößneck. We got to spend the day doing whatever we wanted with our host families. I spent most of the day packing, and I also went swimming. The water was a little cold, but I still had fun. Later this evening we had the Goodbye Party. We took lots of pictures and played some games. After the party my host family and Madelyn's host family took a walk to a moss house. There you had an amazing view of the woods and a river. We all joked around and had a great time. I am going to miss this group of amazing people. Olivia Otto

Monday, June 15, 2015

Today started out as a sad sad day. We had to leave our good friends in Pößneck. A few people cried, I was not one of those people though. After we left Pößneck we got on the bus and went to Munich. We were on a long bus ride and slept about halfway there. As we pulled into Munich we passed Allianz Arena. When we got into our hotel. After playing a few intense rounds of Fußball we got situated in our too small to be a dorm room for six hostel room. Since the weather kind of sucked we decided just to do some sight seeing. We went to the Deutsches Museum and saw some cool electric light show. Afterwards we went to the Hofbräukeller and had the most delicious assortments of meats in our lives. We tried to go shopping but stores close at 6:30. We had ice cream twice in a 15 minute time span. We went back to the hostel. We went to this weird Disco downstairs. Most of the people were from Spain and were pretty good dancers. Bryce decided to have a dance off with a kid from California. It was the best thing I had seen all day. Now we are to current time and I need some sleep for tomorrow. Today was a sad and hilariously great day. Thomas Peters

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Today, we toured Munich. We started on the tram, went along the main street with shops, the Rathaus, and other attractions. We went into a few soccer stores, with lots of Bayern Munich stuff. We just explored with the group. At 11, we got to a hear the clock bells and the glockenspiel. It was accompanied by a show of 36 statues that moved around the tower. The view was much better today, as the weather was very clear. We walked around the

church, and met at the huge market for lunch and just to spend some time. I got a dragonfruit at an exotic fruit stand. It was a lot better than I was expecting, because it looked weird. We walked through the downtown area and into a park area to sit down and relax. Sandy and Mr. Dodd had been talking about letting us have an amazing race challenge, where we had to navigate to the hostel from a random place. They led us through the maze of the city, and we ended at an old church. The groups for the challenge were Kade, Luke, Caroline, and Owen, against Bryce, Thomas, and I. The losers had to buy the winners Ice cream. It would have been a tie, but I lost the tram ticket back, so we had to wait to call Sandy to figure out what to do. We figured it out, got back to the hostel, and then left to go up to the Olympic park and the TV tower. By the time we got back, it was time for a traditional German dinner at McDonald's. Mr. Dodd took most of us to go see Jurassic World at the theater nearby. We were pushed for time, so we had to run and rush the mile or more to the theater. Combined with the chicken wings that most of us got at McDonald's, some people were not feeling so good. That was about it for the day. Garrett

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Today we journeyed from Munich to Staufen, with a stop at Hohenschwangau and Neuschwanstein in between. The day started with the usual hostel wake-up, which was better than the previous day when a certain someone was yelling due to his dream in our room and woke everyone up at 6. We strolled down to breakfast, ate, and then went back up to our room to grab our bags for the road. We hoped on the bus and waved goodbye to the great city of Munich. We then drove through the mountains and into what seemed like the middle of nowhere, until we saw a small city and two castles sitting on opposite sides of it. This was your typical German tourist trap with slightly overpriced food and pay-to-use restrooms, but the views you could see were outstanding. We first ate while waiting to get tickets to see the inside of Hohenschwangau. After that we were informed that we had an hour to shop, rest, or do what we wanted to do. Being the expert time utilizer I am, me and a group of 3 others (Owen, Luke, and Thomas) decided to run the mountain pathway up to Neuschwanstein. The path up was a 15 minute path that took us 10 minutes. This led us up to the castle with an outstanding view. Then we decided to take the 40 minute trail down the mountain. Along the way down we went on a bridge known for its great view of Neuschwanstein, but it was also very high up and extremely shakey (This once again was wet my pants worthy, but the view took my focus away from the heights). Also we went to an open on the trail and took a picture with a very nice view. After our trek down, we went inside Hohenschwangau and toured. It had everything a sterotypical castle would have, a secret

passageway, great paintings and a throne type chair. We then continued our journey to Staufen. Upon arrival we were welcomed with open arms and all happy to see our exchange partners. I then went to Mirhan's house and he showed me around. We of course played some "competitive" games of FIFA. This meant he would beat me by 5+ goals until he played with a bad enough team for me to stand a chance. In all I think everyone is excited to be in Staufen and happy to explore southern Germany and surrounding countries. Kade

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Today was our first full day in Staufen. We went to school with our partners and I am lucky enough to live right next to school so I got to sleep much later than some of the other students. I attended a math class that I originally thought was geometry but during the lesson turned into trigonometry. Then we met as a group with one of the English teachers and were given a guiz to act as our tour of the city. We were divided into three teams and the goal was for your team to get the most points by answering the most questions correctly. Some of the questions were about Staufen history and important people from the city. It was a very good way to let us explore Staufen in groups and still learn all the important facts. It was raining so one of the questions that involved climbing a very steep hill to reach the ruins of an old castle was omitted, but my team decided to climb up to see the castle anyway. It was a bit of a hike up to the ruins but the view of Staufen was beautiful. Unfortunately my team did not win the guiz, but we placed in second so we still win two free scoops of ice cream. After that we were all hungry so we ate lunch in the cafeteria. My exchange partner forgot to tell me that I go home with her for lunch so I ended up eating two lunches today but I'm not complaining since the food here is so good. After that I went with my partner to a French class which was confusing because I don't know any French, but the teacher was nice enough to explain the main points to us in German so we could understand the lesson. After school my host family took me grocery shopping and they bought me more candy and chocolate than I could ever possibly eat while in Staufen. My partner and I were both tired so we came home and my host mother made us a delicious homemade pizza for supper. So far we are all enjoying Staufen and can't wait to make more great memories here.

Friday, June 19, 2015

Today was an eventful day in Germany. First thing this morning our group and our exchange partners caught a series of two trains and a bus to Europa-Park in Rust, Germany. When we arrived at the park we were given our tickets and set free to explore the gigantic park. We ended up splitting up into smaller groups rather than exploring the park as one big pack. The groups that were split up at the start of the day ended up being split up even more into group of eight people who liked

certain types of rides. Some of the roller coasters that we rode were named Blue Fire, Silver Star, Euro-Mir, and Wodan Timbur Coaster. Threw out the day we talked about how this park was very similar to Disneyland from the rides to the mascot. One of us even made the comment about their mouse mascot that it seemed like a baby of Mickey Mouse and Chuck E. the mouse from Chuck E. Cheese. One of the strangest things about the park was that it closed at 6:00 P.M., but most of us left at 5:00 P.M. After spending about seven hours at Europa-Park we were very exhausted and returned back to our host families to have a well needed dinner. Owen

Saturday, June 20, 2015

Today I was lucky and got to sleep in! It was the first night we were on our own with the Staufen partners. Johanna and I went to Freiburg with Olivia and Lydia. We went to this store and got a Füller. It's a special pen that we do not have in America. A füller translates to a fountain pen. I also got some gifts for friends at home. Then we went into some shoe stores but unfortunately my feet are too big and they do not have my size! We then got a very original meal...McDonalds. After we were finished eating we caught the bus and went to Pfaffenweiler where there was a festival for the elementary school. As usual we were late. At the festival the people of Pfaffenweiler gave us a Dove to represent peace between Jasper and Pfaffenweiler. This is also the 30th year we have been sister cities! After that we went to Kai's house to hang out with everyone. It was a very good night and I think in all we had a good day! Madelyn

Sunday, June 21, 2015

Today, my host family took me on a hiking trip. We loaded up and took a drive to the base of the Black Forest. The drive seemed to take forever, but it was worth it. We arrived at the start of a long trail leading up a mountain and into the dense forest. When I asked where the end was, Emanuel pointed behind me to a trail leading over a small hill. he then told me that the whole trek would last about an hour. I wasn't really sure if that was true, but Emanuel's parrents assured me that it was a relatively short hike. The next hour was packed with fantastic mountain views, beautiful meadows, and mesmerizing forest trails. I really had a grasp for the German countryside. When we finished, we had lunch at a small Bavarian restaurant at the end of the trail. There, we ate schnitzel the dive of small dinner plates and salads that were greener than the forest we had just come from. The meal was excellent, and was perfect for the drive back home. It was a great day, and I enjoyed it immensely. Bryce

Monday, June 22, 2015

The day started with a german lesson. We did two worksheets as a class. I went to class with my exchange

partner. Thankfully she had English. I liked that. Next, I meet up with someone that was on the exchange two years ago. I think it is so cool how you can make these everlasting friendships with people. While I was with her, I was able to see more of Staufen. At about 12ish, we got to watch Death of a Salesman in Bridgette's class. And guess what! It was in English. I spent the rest of the day walking around Pfaffanweiler with Carolyn getting ready for our tour tomorrow. Kelly

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Today we went to the castle ruins in Staufen. It was a very long walk up an incredibly tall hill. The walk was worth it because the view of Staufen was great from the top. After we left the ruins we went and explored Staufen to waste some time before we went to Pfaffenweiler. We went to Pffafenweiler and climbed Batzenberg where we had lunch with the mayor at Rebhiisle. The building we had lunch at was renovated by students in 72 hours. We then took a tour through Pfaffenweiler. We saw Michael Eckert Steinmetz where we were shown how they hand carve tombstones, stone memorials, and many other things. Mr. Dodd gave us a tour of the building because he use to work there. I found this extremely interesting. The projects that they create are incredibly detailed and great works of art. After stopping there we say the local church, museum, and city hall. We then had a cook out at Grünwasen-Hütte with all the host families. Luke

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Today started with school and watching the rest of Death of a Salesman. Then we went by train to Freiburg. Freiburg is an absolutely beautiful city that most of us got to see best by going up the tower of the Münster cathedral. The cathedral was one of the only buildings in that area of Freiburg that remained standing after the bombings involved in WWII and is a major symbol of Freiburg's history. While some of the group were scared of heights or didn't want to climb the stairs, the majority of us made the long climb to the top. We timed it perfectly that we were in the tower when the bells went off which was extremely loud but one of the coolest things I've ever seen. One of the bells we saw was cast in 1258 and it was incredible to see something so old that is still being used. After the tower, we walked around Freiburg and were able to see more of the important aspects of Freiburg like the Rathaus (city hall). Then we were all treated to spagnetti eis (it's not frozen spaghetti, it's vanilla ice cream with strawberry sauce that is made to look like spaghetti) by Sandy and Mr. Dodd at the best spaghetti eis place in Freiburg. Then I left with Madelyn and Olivia and we went to Emmendingen to visit with friends that we've met before when they stayed in Jasper during Strassenfest. I personally think one of the best aspects of the exchange is being able to make life-long connections and it was great to be able to visit with them in Germany after they had visited us in Jasper. We mostly just walked around the city together and did some sightseeing. It was really hot today so we got more ice cream and did a little bit of shopping. Then it was time to meet up with our partners and head back to Staufen. My family had supper as soon as I got home which was "make your own Döners" that tasted almost better than the Döners we've all enjoyed buying throughout the trip. Overall, today was a great day to see Freiburg and get to reconnect with old friends. Kaitlyn

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Today was an awesome day! We got to go to France! We started our adventure with a trip to Colmar, France home to Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi the sculptor for the Statue of Liberty. We toured the city looking at the great architecture. We stopped by the Catholic Church to take some nice photographs. We continued to go around the amazing streets of Colmar. Next we stopped at the house of 100 Heads. The house is a little weird and might want to be Googled for some perspective. Next we went to the Temple of Saint Mathieu. The stained glass amf the the sand stone pillars really made that place cool. After our free time we got back in the cars and drove to Eguisheim. The town is one big circle. We walked the entire circle and saw how cool Eguisheim really was. Most of us had some sort of Bretzel for lunch and we got ice cream. When we were done we headed back to Staufen. Now I am home and trying to figure out how my mom magically got all my stuff in my suitcase before I go to Paris for the weekend. My host family made me some dough ball with a plum inside that was surprisingly delicious for supper. Today was an exuberant day! Thomas Peters

June 25, 2015

On final thing about my trip to Germany was my trip to Paris. My host family decided to take me to Paris, France for my last weekend in Europe. We drove up on Friday evening and stayed in an apartment on the outside of Paris. Saturday morning after we ate breakfast we got on the train and went to Notre Dame Cathedral. We could not go in however because of a mass going on. From there we walked to the house of Pablo Picasso. We toured some hidden parts of Paris. After walking around a little bit we walked to the Louvre. We never went in because of the wait but got great pictures. We then went on a subway and went to the Champs-Elysées. We walked down the street. On the Champs-Elysées you can buy anything from a cup of Häagen-Dazs ice cream to a brand new car. We walked up to the Arc de Triomphe. After that we hopped onto another train and went to the Eiffel Tower. We waited in line to go to the very top. There we had the rare view of no smog or clouds over the city. We then went down to the river and went on a boat tour of Paris. We even saw the Statue of Liberty. After all that we went back to the apartment. We washed up and went to a nice Italian

dinner. I had an amazing pasta and a scrumptious Italian dessert. That was my amazing day in Paris

Friday, June 26, 2015

Today we all went to the city of Titisee. Here we went tree climbing/zip lining in the Black Forest. It was pretty cool, but some of the courses were scary. We were very high up off the ground trying to go through courses that were sometimes like walking on a tightrope. Afterwards we all went paddleboating on the Titisee Lake. It was a lot of fun. When we we allowed to go back home Madelyn, Kelly, and I all went to the public swimming pool in Staufen. The water was very cold, but we had a good time. Olivia Otto

Saturday, June 27, 2015

Today started off great when I woke up at around 10 o'clock. We got up, had breakfast, the usual morning stuff. My host dad was supposed to drive us to Freiburg today, so I could get souvenirs and some chocolate to bring home. The plan changed, and instead we took the train to Freiburg to meet with some of the other students. We got there and found out that Kade and Luke and their partners had been there since 10, which was when I got up. We walked through some stores for stuff to bring home, and saw typical German everything, or so the exchange partners claimed. We are in this food market where there was such a variety of food that a Chinese food stand was across from a crepes stand, and next to it was a stand for steak. I wasn't too hungry, since I had just eaten breakfast, but some of the others got food. We just walked around the city some more, saw and heard some really cool music performers and some weird ones. We stopped in the middle of this mall to get spaghetti ice cream. The place we were at had an entire menu for different varieties of spaghetti ice cream. I got the exotic one, which had mangos, pineapples, and peaches, with the sweetest sauce I have ever tasted. While we were sitting there, Owen and Carolyn came and ate with us. We went to the market and walked to see any homemade wooden toys or trinkets that would be cool souvenirs. When we were done, it was around three, so we got back on the train to go back home. In the evening, some of Lorenz's friends came over to chill out, and I got some stuff together to pack. Garrett

Sunday, June 28, 2015

Me and Lulu went to a huge indoor water park in Titisee today. It was kind of like Big Splash in French Lick, but much bigger. The slides were huge, and we met up with our friends so it was an awesome time. After we got back, the entire German and American group met up at Kai's house and we all hung out for the night, playing games and getting to know each other a little better. I think I speak for everyone when I say it's going to be extremely hard leaving everyone on Monday. Carolyn

Monday, June 29, 2015

Well, I started this blog, so I guess it's only right that I finish it. We had a great time, for sure, but I think we are ready to return to the US. I am happy and blessed to have been a part of this exchange and that I got to know some pretty amazing and fun students! Thanks for the memories! So, until 2017 when we get to do this again (I hope!)... Señora

When Indiana Banned German in 1919 by Stephen J. Taylor

Several posts on Hoosier State Chronicles have focused on Indiana's German heritage. We would be remiss, then, not to do one on our legislature's attempt to eradicate the teaching of German in Indiana schools.

On February 17, 1919, three months after the armistice that ended World War I, the Hoosier State became one of fourteen states to ban the teaching of German to children, a crime punishable by fines and imprisonment. At least one other Midwestern state, lowa, went even farther than that.

A great introduction to the mass hysteria and bitterness launched at German-Americans during the war and into the 1920s is Ali Selim's incredible movie Sweet Land (2005). Since this post is about xenophobia -- and since xenophobia hasn't gone away -- it's worth stating that Selim is an American filmmaker of Egyptian and German heritage and was raised in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Based on writer Will Weaver's short story "A Gravestone Made of Wheat," Sweet Land, set around 1920, is a complicated love story. Inge Altenberg, an "orphan" who has been living in Norway, immigrates to rural Minnesota, where just a few hours after her arrival, she is due to marry Norwegian farmer Olaf Torvik -- whom she has never met. At the start of the wedding ceremony, however, it becomes clear that Inge isn't Norwegian, but German -- and a Socialist. "There will be no wedding today," says the Lutheran minister, standing in a church founded by a German (Martin Luther). Inge quickly discovers the townspeople's hostility toward everything German, an animosity that survived World War I. Germans, she hears, engage in prostitution, polygamy, and everything bad.

From 1914 to 1918, the U.S. and its allies in Britain, France and Italy took dehumanizing propaganda to new heights. Cartoonists, U.S. Army posters, and newspapers stoked up bizarre, irrational hysteria that engulfed America. The results were sometimes just petty, like renaming sauerkraut "liberty cabbage" and German measles "liberty measles." But the U.S. and Britain could also engage in acts of nauseating brutality.

One of the cruelest and weirdest phenomena to come out of First World War propaganda was the war on dachshunds -- considered a German breed. At the time German was being driven out of schools, in England and the U.S. dachshunds were sometimes stoned or stomped to death in front of their owners. When "patriots" harassed a Chicago dog breeder, he shot every dachshund in his kennels. Bulldogs, a symbol of Britain and the mascot of the U.S. Marines, were turned loose to attack and kill the "German" pets. The Jasper Weekly Courier, printed in a heavily German town in southern Indiana, carried a syndicated story about this. Apparently the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio, who didn't get to fight on the Western Front had nothing better to do than to kill dogs:

With Allied print media insisting that the Kaiser's soldiers were bayoneting and eating babies and committing other outrages, it's easy to see how hysteria got out of hand, even in areas like Pennsylvania and the Midwest, which had large German-American populations.

Indiana's 1919 anti-German law wasn't the first of its kind. Parents and school boards had already been striking German classes out of school curricula before the U.S. even entered the war. And devaluing the German language was a coast-to-coast phenomenon. The City University of New York reduced the value of its own German courses by one academic credit. Evanston, Illinois, banned the language in its schools in 1918. California kept up a ban on high-school German into the 1920s. (In 1941, California banned it in churches.) At a speech on Long Island in 1917, Theodore Roosevelt urged Americans to rid the country of German, otherwise America risked becoming "a polyglot counting house for dollar chasers."

A sign painter in Indianapolis who opposed Gothic lettering mentioned that Americans were already burning German textbooks. At Indy's Shortridge High School, one of the best in the country, a newspaperwoman connected to the Red Cross was applauded during a speech when she criticized it for not canceling German classes there.

On the eve of the vote in Indianapolis, a visitor from Iowa spoke at the Statehouse. Iowa's Governor William L. Harding was one of the most dishonest and opportunistic politicians in American history. Though he had curried favor with Iowa's foreign-born citizens during his election campaign, when the war broke out he turned against them. Proponents of Indiana's German-language ban were later accused of the same kind of hypocrisy.

Harding's 1918 "Babel Proclamation" in Iowa did more than simply ban German instruction, though. The infamous law banned the speaking of all foreign languages in public, including Norwegian, Swedish,

Dutch and Czech, which were still common in the Midwest. Fearing "spies," Harding made having a foreign-language conversation on the telephone, on street corners, and in churches and schools a criminal offense. Iowa's law was no empty threat. Violators were arrested and jailed.

Harding had plenty of admirers. "Liberty Leagues" and "councils of defense" wanted laws to keep German off the streets and even ban it in private homes. The author of the "Babel Proclamation" spoke in Indianapolis on February 13, 1919, a few days before Indiana outlawed the teaching of German in Hoosier elementary schools.

The main proponent of Indiana's bill was State Senator Franklin McCray of Indianapolis. As Lieutenant Governor Edgar Bush reminded the General Assembly, this bill would overturn a long-standing law dating back to the 1860s.

Indiana's 1869 law likely had to do with teacher shortages -- and the fact that in German communities, it just made sense.

Though the German army committed real outrages in World War I and the bill's proponents mentioned fear of "future German propaganda" aimed at American children, focusing on the atrocities of "Huns" was a sly way to pass a law that was actually deeply entangled with immigration, prohibition and labor unrest. As 1919 dawned -- one of the most turbulent years in American history -- "wet" and "dry" advocates, capitalists and socialists, anarchists, pacifists and suffragettes battled for the "soul" of the country.

Most German-Americans were farmers or industrial laborers and had a history of being Socialists, pacifists and isolationists. When the Socialist Party tried to steer America away from entering World War I, arguing that American entry would play into the hands of wealthy industrialists and bankers, pro-war advocates countered that anyone who opposed the war supported the Kaiser. In 1924, Progressivist presidential candidate Robert LaFollette carried Wisconsin, a heavily-German state, partly as a result of his anti-war record.

German fondness for beer and liquor also earned the hostility of many Prohibition advocates, who had spent decades slowly "shutting off the tap." A nationwide ban on booze was just around the corner, coming in January 1920. Yet as Chicago's Lager Beer Riot back in 1855 proved, the history of Prohibition was closely tied to antilabor attitudes. Squelching the German language was part of the process of extinguishing German sociability at a time when workers got together in pubs and beer gardens to talk about labor grievances and organize.

While fear of "Huns" and "traitors" got anti-German bills going, America's huge social problems were reflected in the Indiana bill. That year, Gary would be shut down by a national steel strike, a Federal raid on Communists led to the deportation of hundreds of European immigrants (including Hoosiers), and an anarchist bomb plot nearly killed several major U.S. officials.

Although the formal language of the Indiana law would be more elevated, a state senator named Duffey, speaking on the Senate floor, lashed out at the "stupid heads" of Germany and their sympathizers in America, who threatened to strangle education and spread disloyalty. Duffey finished off with a call for deporting traitors.

As revolutions and radicalism reared their head, the anti-German bill was about more than bigotry against German culture. Many people who supported the law had German last names, after all, like Speaker of the House Jesse Eschbach. Lieutenant Governor Bush read a letter at the Statehouse from "150 residents of Seymour of German extraction" who favored the language ban and asked why it was taking so long. The Germans of Seymour probably didn't want to be associated with "subversives," "traitors" and "terrorists."

The 1919 law completely banned German-language instruction up to the eighth grade. It was followed by a further law prohibiting high-school German courses. Fortunately, the men who wrote these bills recognized that at the college level, "the contributions of Germany in literature were too great to be ignored." (Indiana University President William L. Bryan, who criticized the bills, agreed.) The penalty for instructing children in German? A fine of \$25 to \$100, or a jail sentence of up to six months -- or both.

Urged by the Lieutenant Governor to enact "100 percent American" legislation, the House and Senate put the elementary-school bill up for a vote on February 13, 1919. It passed in fifteen minutes. Only one legislator -- Senator Charles A. Hagerty of South Bend -- voted against it. Yet even Hagerty's opposition seems to have been against the political opportunism of the bill's promoters, not a real concern for education. The legislation was signed into law by Governor James P. Goodrich, who had already signed Indiana up for early Prohibition in 1917.

The South Bend News-Times, a liberal paper, thought the bill a classic case of legislative overreach, since most German-Americans were already trying hard to adopt English in their churches and schools. McCray had insisted that it would not interfere with the use of foreign languages in religious worship. (Many Lutheran churches still used German, and it was the main

language of instruction at a few major Catholic seminaries.)

Ironically, the anti-German bills were overturned in 1923 by another man named McCray -- Governor William Terry McCray, who also butted heads with the Klan.

A few months after Governor Goodrich signed Indiana's law, an anti-German bill passed through Pennsylvania's legislature, also by a large margin. Pennsylvania Governor William C. Sproul, however, vetoed it. Sproul's remarks to the press were probably the most intelligent words to come out of the whole debate.

Hoosier State Chronicles has digitized over 8,000 issues of the Indiana Tribüne, once a major German-language newspaper. Published by The Gutenberg Company in Indianapolis, the Tribüne was silenced on June 1, 1918.

Stephen J. Taylor | August 26, 2015 at 10:48 am

(Information taken from GERMANYINUS)

Impossibly Easy Oktoberfest Pie

10 min Prep time

Total Time50 min

6 Servings

Ingredients

1/2 lb fully cooked bratwurst (about 3), cut into 3/4-inch pieces

1 1/3 cups drained sauerkraut (from 14-oz can)

1 cup shredded Swiss cheese (4 oz)

3/4 cup Original Bisquick™ mix

½ cup milk

½ cup regular or nonalcoholic beer

2 eggs

Directions

Heat oven to 400°F. Spray 9-inch glass pie plate with cooking spray. Sprinkle bratwurst, sauerkraut and cheese in pie plate.

In small bowl, stir remaining ingredients until blended. Pour into pie plate.

Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

(Taken from www.bettycrocker.com/recipies)

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 \$______

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April 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015

In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Danny and Linda Wehr

Richard and Gloria Merder

In Memory of Karen Luegers

Danny and Linda Wehr

Oktoberfest From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Oktoberfest is the world's largest Volksfest (beer festival and travelling funfair). Held annually in Munich, Bavaria, Germany, it is a 16-day folk festival running from late September to the first weekend in October, with more than 6 million people from around the world attending the event every year. Locally, it is often simply called Wiesn, after the colloquial name of the fairgrounds (Theresienwiese) themselves. The Oktoberfest is an important part of Bavarian culture, having been held since 1810. Other cities across the world also hold Oktoberfest celebrations, modeled after the original Munich event.

The Munich Oktoberfest originally took place during the 16 days up to, and including, the first Sunday in October. In 1994, the schedule was modified in response to German reunification so that if the first Sunday in October falls on the 1st or 2nd, then the festival would go on until October 3 (German Unity Day). Thus, the festival is now 17 days when the first Sunday is October 2 and 18 days when it is October 1. In 2010, the festival lasted until the first Monday in October, to mark the anniversary of the event. The festival is held in an area named the Theresienwiese (field, or meadow, of Therese), often called Wiesn for short, located near Munich's center. Large quantities of Oktoberfest Beer are consumed, with 7.7 million litres served during the 16 day festival in 2013.[1] Visitors may also enjoy a mixture of attractions, such as amusement rides, sidestalls and games, as well as a wide variety of traditional food such as Hendl (roast chicken), Schweinebraten (roast pork), Schweinshaxe (grilled ham hock), Steckerlfisch (grilled fish on a stick), Würstl (sausages) along with Brezen (pretzel), Knödel (potato or bread dumplings), Käsespätzle (cheese noodles), Reiberdatschi (potato pancakes), Sauerkraut or Rotkohl/Blaukraut (red cabbage) along with such Bavarian delicacies as Obatzda (a spiced cheese-butter spread) and Weisswurst (a white sausage).

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