Official Publication of the Jasper Deutscher Verein



Die Zeitung

December 2021

The Jasper Deutscher Verein was founded in January, 1980 to promote, preserve and celebrate our proud German Heritage in Jasper and surrounding area. The Club is intended to be primarily Social and Not-For-Profit.

A Christmas invitation.....

German Christmas Decoration Display

Charlotte and Ron Kieffner will again have their popular outdoor Christmas display this year. The 25 outdoor colored trees with approximately 10,000 lights are homemade and home designed. The display will show an ambience effect of the Christmas Spirit in the foothills of small mountain villages in Germany, Austria, & Switzerland. An added feature in the display this year will be an O Tannenbaum Christmas Tree. The Location is 460 South Kluemper Rd in Jasper (Whispering Pines Subdivision). The display will be lit from December 10th to December 31st 5:30 to 10:30 each night.

Jasper DeutscherVerein November meeting in Review

The Jasper DeutscherVerein gathered on Wednesday, November 17th for the annual auction at the Jasper Moose Lodge. We had over 100 members, exchange students, and quests in attendance. Members signed in at the door and were able to RSVP to the DeutscherVerein Christmas Party as well. Our Christmas Party this year will be Thursday, December 16th at the Jasper Moose. Doors open at 6pm, festivities will begin at 6:30pm. The club will provide chicken, roast beef, dressing and gravy, green beans, corn, bread and butter, and creamy slaw. The price is \$10 a person payable to Jasper DeutscherVerein. Please RSVP to Lacey (if you haven't already) jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com or (831) 201-8748.

President Paul Siegel welcomed everybody to the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance, God Bless America, the Ein Prosit, and announced the (correct) date for our December meeting.

Bernie Jeffries rose to speak and honored Leo Eckerle for his service in the Korean War. The Dubois County Free Press recently published an article on Leo (and the beautiful cockscombs he grows annually) giving a brief overview of his life in Jasper and experience in the war. The club sang another Ein Prosit for Leo and expressed gratitude for all veterans.

Laura Grammer then took the floor to give an update on the Glockenspiel, and offered an opportunity for club members to go see the clock in progress. If interested, please contact Laura at (812) 482-6666. Laura thanked Jim and Rita Corn for all of their hard work and contributions to the club. Jim has been instrumental in turning the Glockenspiel from an idea in Laura's head into a reality.

Ross Halvorsen led the prayer in German and dinner was served.

Mike Ackerman, with the help of Elliot Halvorsen-Apple and guest Avery Burger, called out the raffle winners. Jackson Beier and Donna Humbert won the attendance prizes, and the special prizes were won by Ryan Haaff and Pam Howard.

And then, the auction! Turnips were a big hit, as well as Phyllis Schuler's cookies. My pumpkin bread was paired with Dave Buehler's wine and I like to tell people it was my bread that got the highest bid of the night (but we all know it was Dave's famous wine). Overall the auction was a success and brought in \$2,607 for the exchange. Gut gemacht! Sandy Wehr and the kids did a great job of showcasing the items, and Ed Boeglin did a fantastic job (as always) as auctioneer. Thank you to everyone who brought in an item to auction off, and to those who bid as well

Mark your calendars for Dec. 16th, and we hope to see you all then!

Submitted by

Lacey Apple
Secretary





"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!!

German Heritage Tree at the Dubois County Museum decorated by Lacey Apple



On Monday the 15th I found myself decorating trees at the Dubois County Museum. About halfway through the morning one of the museum staff said something to the effect of "Oh good! You're here! You can pick any tree in the other room, and please let us know if you need anything." Not wanting to embarrass myself by not knowing some piece of information it sounded like I

should know, I said "okay" and then sat for a minute trying to figure out what I had missed. Had I agreed to something? And forgotten? Not totally out of the realm of possibility. When I agreed to decorate trees, did I totally miss the part where I was responsible for a whole tree? Going back through my texts I did not see anything that put me on the hook. I was partially relieved because that meant that my mind was not totally failing me (yet) but there was still the problem of the tree. And now I knew that even though I had already responded "okay" to the museum tree coordinator like I knew what she was talking about, I had to go back and admit that I had no idea what I was saying "okay" to.

I made my way over to the tree room and located my tree. It was a very pretty tree, already strung with lights and ready to receive whatever I had planned for it (which was nothing.) Other trees in the room had been decorated, and let me tell you, they looked incredible. I knew in that moment that this poor tree did not deserve some half a-...well, let's just say I wanted to do a nice job. The only direction I had was that the theme of the tree was "German Heritage."

Now, if I've learned one thing about this town in the brief three years I've lived here, it's that this area is very proud of their German Heritage. The weight of the task at hand was now apparent. The museum, probably noticing the frightened look on my face, quickly offered some ornaments they had in storage from a previous year's German Heritage tree (decorated by Father Boeglin.) The ornaments were apples (how appropriate for me!) and straw figurines/snowflakes. Once they were on the tree, I already started to feel better. The tree looked very quaint and ready for Christmas at that point, but I knew there was a bit more I wanted to do.

Since I only had a couple of days to get everything together, I did not have time to solicit items from all club members for the tree. The clock was ticking. I emailed Patti Goepfrich who had quite a few items I could use, and Sandy Wehr was also nice enough to lend a German-themed bow. Mary Leah Siegel procured the electric candles that are so typical of German Christmas trees. (Except, I'm sure real German trees use real candles, but I doubt the museum, or the museum's insurance agent, would've appreciated that.) A quick run to Joanne's for ribbon and Christmas plaid fabric in German flag colors helped complete my "vision."

I also wanted to incorporate our Sister Cities logo in some way, and Mary Leah had the fun suggestion of sticking the patches into the tree. All in all, I think it turned out very well. I hope you'll agree. If you haven't been to the museum yet to see all of the trees, I highly recommend it. People did such an amazing job on their town trees. And the museum looks very festive done up for the holidays.

I just want to say thank you to Patti Goepfrich, Sandy Wehr, and Mary Leah Siegel for their help with the decorations. The tree looks so much better with their contributions. And I also want to thank community member Dorothy Rasche who helped put the apples and straw ornaments on. It was a lot of work! If I'm allowed to work on the tree next year, which I hope I am, I will for sure ask the club members for items we can use. I also want to thank the museum for entrusting me with the German Heritage tree. A big job that I was more than happy to help with.

Thank you to Lacey Apple for saying "Yes to the Tree"!!!!

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.

NOTE: There will NOT be a newsletter in January, 2022. Sorry for any inconvenience. Patti

Memories!!!!!!





Die Jugend

The Faust-Gymnasium in Staufen (our partner high school nearest to Pfaffenweiler) has announced that they have assembled a group of 20 exchange students to match up with our high school students going over to Germany this summer; Approximately 60 students apply in Staufen for the exchange with Jasper that takes place every two years and 20 German students are selected by lottery to participate. Airline tickets have been purchased for Jasper's group of exchange students to travel to Germany in June 2022 and it is still uncertain when the students from Staufen will plan to spend two weeks in Jasper. Most likely it will be in October 2022, after the participating students have met each other this summer in Germany.

All 40 German I students at Jasper Middle School and Jasper High School have started writing with their fountain pens and are enjoying writing on fountain pen friendly papers periodically from a set of 18 different types. When students run out of ink in their disposable cartridges, the next step will be to introduce them to a converter which is reusable and uses bottled pen inks.

During my last Skype call with Jörg Fiegler, Faust-Gymnasium's exchange coordinator, we discussed the possibility of getting a couple of our classes (an English class of his with a German class of mine) together for a video chat. On December 2nd we will coordinate a video chat between my German I students at Jasper Middle School (8AM EST) with a class in Staufen (2PM CET). The theme of the discussion will be: Why should Jasper students visit Staufen as exchange students for a few weeks or an entire year and why should students from Staufen come to visit Jasper for a few weeks or an entire year? The Jasper Middle School students have already started thinking of good reasons why to visit Jasper and one of them is to come see the preservation of German heritage. Between now and December 2nd it will be important for the JMS students to collect evidence of appreciable German heritage in Jasper, more than names like German American Bank.

Ross Halvorsen
JHS/JMS German Teacher

PRALINE CRUNCH

Author: Stephanie @ Plain Chicken

Yield: 12 cups
Prep Time 10 mins
Cook Time 1 hr
Total Time 1 hr 10 mins

Can make ahead of time and store in an air-tight container. Great for a party or homemade gift!

Ingredients:

- 8 cups Crispix cereal
- 2 cup pecan halves
- ½ cup brown sugar, packed
- ½ cup corn syrup
- ½ cup butter
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ½ tsp baking soda

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 250°F.
- 2. In a large bowl, combine cereal and pecans.
- 3. In a large saucepan over medium high heat, combine brown sugar, corn syrup and butter. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla and baking soda. Pour over cereal mixture, tossing to coat evenly.
- 4. Pour cereal mixture into a 9×13-inch pan. Bake for 1 hour, stirring every 20 minutes.
- 5. Pour onto wax or parchment paper to cool. Break into pieces.

Notes:

Use a large saucepan when making the brown sugar/corn syrup mixture. The mixture will bubble up when you add the baking soda.

Taken from **The Herald** March 22, 1985

Humanist tells tales of Jasper's ancient sister city

By Gabriella Jacobs Herald Staff Writer

She knows the *zeitgeist* of centuries, the facts and the feelings of people with a colorful, common heritage.

Dr. Sabine Jordan's research of both Dubois County, USA, and Pfaffenweiler, West Germany, has been helping citizens of both places better understand their backgrounds. It also has helped them become official sister cities.

Jasper's former humanist-in-residence, here for a brief visit, Thursday night spoke to a crowd of about 100 people – members of Jasper's DeutscherVerein, or German Club, and others curious about the place from which their ancestors came. She was welcomed with

hugs and smiles, flowers and a specially made Black Forest cake.

Oozing with facts like a beer stein oozing with foam, this woman with a PhD in German literature from Columbia spoke in detail about the place where many Dubois County families originated.

Pfaffenweiler is about the size of present-day Ferdinand. It's near the city of Freiburg, "in the foot-hills of the Black Forest."

"It's off the beaten road. It's not along a highway that armies trampled along. It's protected by a hill and covered with vineyards....it's been there longer than documents attest to, about 1,268 years," she said.

Still standing there are buildings from the early 1500s. Actually, Pfaffenweiler shares its name with what used to be a separate, but nearby village called Ehrlingsweiler. "But the two are as one," says Dr. Jordan. People of both places shared a church and eventually, civic buildings.

The church is dedicated to the memory of St. Columba, an "obscure" martyr on whom evidence has been found outside Pfaffenweiler only in France and Spain.

Pfaffenweiler is in an area once part of the Roman Empire. When the Roman Empire began crumbling, it did so first at the edges. The Rhine valley was one of those edges. Christians were persecuted with regularity.

Dr. Jordan's voice becomes serious as she relates the story.

When Columba was 16, she was among some Christians brought before the emperor and ordered to renounce her faith.

Columba wouldn't, so she was put in an amphitheater with "a lusty man commissioned to rape her," and a shebear.

The emperor's plan was foiled because the bear protected Columba as she tried to convert her assailant.

The emperor tried to kill Columba again, this time by fire. "But legend has it that the bear scared up a cloud from Africa so it rained and the fire went out."

Eventually Columba was decapitated for being Christian.

"They say that when her head fell, the heavens opened up and she immediately was taken into paradise."

Why Columba is known only in Pfaffenweiler, France and Spain cannot be found in any documents Dr. Jordan has studied, although there's been some indication she may have been revered in the Alsace region in the fourth and fifth centuries.

"So the foundation of the church in Pfaffenweiler is at least that old," Dr. Jordan said.

Dr. Jordan thought that was the end of her knowledge about St. Columba, until she came here.

"I've learned from some of you here that Columba is a very old-fashioned name in Dubois County," she said. Other than at the church in Pfaffenweiler, "it's not been found anywhere else in the upper Rhine valley."

At St. Columba's Church in Pfaffenweiler there are also documents about the time in 1852 when the Jasper priest, Father Joseph Kundek, visited there. Fr. Kundek had gone to Germany, with the approval of his bishop, "on a European recruiting trip" for finding priests and nuns to come back here. In exchange, he gave the Germans news of how the emigrants who'd come to Jasper were surviving. Some of the Benedictines now at St. Meinrad arrived because of Fr. Kundek's visit, according to Dr. Jordan.

Pfaffenweiler, for a time, also was part of Austria, of the House of Hapsburg. In 1738, though, it was turned over to Baden, Germany, because it was too far away from the rest of Austria to benefit the ruling family. The city now is part of the Freiburg district.

Dr. Jordan also related some information about the many emigrations from Germany to America and Africa in the 19th Century. People left Pfaffenweiler then for two main reasons: there was poverty because the grape harvests and winemaking businesses had been failing, and because the French wanted to employ "good German workers" in Algeria.

Many of the Pfaffenweiler people who went to America came to this area and prospered; many of those who went to Algeria died because of the climate and other conditions, or were denied return to Germany by the French.

Dr. Jordan also said:

*About half the population of Pfaffenweiler was wiped out by plague in the 14th Century.

*Many people who emigrated to Dubois County – like the Eckert and Gutgsell families – did so without permission from the German government. "Some left secretly and lost their property. they took with them only cash and ran away, leaving their houses behind. Selling their houses would have attracted too much attention and they may have gotten caught leaving without the proper papers. Later the state auctioned their houses."

*Some documents about Pfaffenweiler that were stored in Freiburg were lost when that town was damaged by an air raid in 1944.

*"The people of Haysville were right." Turnip kraut originated in Bavaria, not Baden.

*When she visited Pfaffenweiler in 1983 and told some residents there about the Dubois County connection, "They were stunned. Their image of America is what they see on 'Dallas' and 'Dynasty' and from John Wayne movies and Hollywood," she said. "They have a very distorted view of the U.S." That will change after a delegation from Pfaffenweiler visit here in May.

*When Ruth Reichmann, the Indiana representative for Sister Cities International, told Pfaffenweiler Mayor Fritz Gutgsell about Jasper's interest in a partnership, he told her, "Let's do it."



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 in our communities!!!! Your generosity will be appreciated!

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

Would all members who are going to be gone for any period of time, please notify Patti Goepfrich at 812-482-4821 or pmgoepfrich@gmail.com 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.

Endowments at the Dubois County Community Foundation

Jasper DeutscherVerein (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:			



<u>Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars</u>

Dezember

Dezember 16, 2021-Thursday-Moose Lodge-2507
Newton Street-Christmas Dinner/Dance — doors open at 6:00pm and festivities begin at 6:30pm-Menu is Chicken, Roast Beef, Dressing and Gravy, Green Beans, Corn, Bread and Butter, and Creamy Slaw. Cost is \$10 per person payable to Jasper DeutscherVerein. RSVP to Lacey at jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com or (831) 201-8748.

2022

Juni – Juli

<u>Juni 26 – Juli 5 – 2022 Partnership Anniversary Trip</u> to Germany – This trip is open to the public.

August

<u>August 2, 2022-Tuesday</u> – Booth set up for Strassenfest – 5:30pm

<u>August 7, 2022-Sunday</u> – Booth tear down immediately following Strassenfest parade

August 4, 2022 - August 7, 2022 - Strassenfest

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, Sister Cities history, etc, 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



A message from our president...

Thank you to all DeutscherVerein Members for your generous donations and participating in the annual auction benefitting the Jasper student exchange program. The November meeting always lifts our spirits in the form of some competitive bidding with our friends. it was a generous donation by the city of Jasper in the from of the old Sister City Partnership signs that helped the total money raised to be above \$2600. The new sister city signs will be up soon, so look for them when you enter Jasper!

The winter weather has descended upon us and the Christmas Lights are beginning to appear on houses. As we decorate our trees, remember the German Christmas songs that have become traditional favorites such as O' Tannenbaum and Silent Night (Stille Nacht).

Our December Christmas Dinner will be held on Thursday, December 16th at the Jasper Moose. Just a reminder to please RSVP so that we know how many to count for dinner!

I look forward to an exciting year in 2022 with a trip to Pfaffenweiler, Germany! Details are in the newsletter and on the website. I am also looking forward to the January 19th meeting when we have the Pie and Wine contest for members.

Prost!

Mit freundlichen grüßen,

Paul Siegel
President

Januar, 2022 Meeting Information

<u>Januar 19, 2022-Thursday-Moose Lodge</u>-2507 Newton Street-Annual Wine Tasting and Pie Tasting – Doors open at 6:00pm – festivities begin at 6:30pm-Club will provide Spaghetti and garlic bread – Requesting members with last names A-M bring a salad and N-Z a veggie.

This is the time to bring your favorite homemade wine and pies for friendly competition and tasting by club members!!!

A message from Sister Cities of Jasper

Artisan and Craftsman Exchange Update

As I write this, three individuals have traveled to Pfaffenweiler to represent Jasper:

Jay Hamlin

Curtis Uebelhor

Monte Lee Young

Jay, Curtis, and Monte traveled together to Pfaffenweiler on November 13th and will be returning on December 1st. Initial arrangements were made for our artists to demonstrate, produce, and sell their products at the open-air Christmas market in Pfaffenweiler on November 27, 2021.

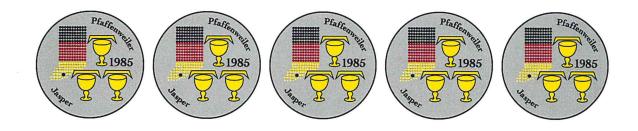
Unfortunately, due to high Covid-19 cases and high virus transmission rates, the open-air Christmas market in Pfaffenweiler (as in most of Germany) was cancelled on November 24th. The three artists have made the best of the situation while staying with their host families and have represented our city well. Even if they didn't get a chance to sell their items, they have been to other community events and forged what are sure to be lasting relationships.

Regrettably, as many of you may have heard while attending the November meeting, the artist from Pfaffenweiler, Niklas Samuel, along with his girlfriend, Sabrina Dischinger, cancelled their travel plans and trip to the United States and to Jasper due to the Covid-19 pandemic on November 10th. We hope that we will be able to host them next year.

Student Exchange – THANK YOU! – THANK YOU! – THANK YOU!

THANK YOU to the Jasper DeutscherVerein members for their support of the Student Exchange Auction at the November meeting! Over \$2,600 was raised to support the student exchange. All proceeds go help fund the transportation and group tours/activities during the exchange of students both in Germany as well as when students are hosted here in Jasper. Thank you for your donation of items and your very generous support each year of this fundraising event. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated!

Mary Leah Siegel
President, Sister Cities of Jasper



The Jasper Partnership Commission is inviting all to join in on the 2022 Partnership Anniversary trip. This is a 10 day trip to Germany with 5 nights in Pfaffenweiler. The first part of the trip will include some touring of Germany before heading to Pfaffenweiler. The highlight of this trip will be the celebration in Pfaffenweiler to recognize 37 years of partnership between our two communities. A unique part of next year's celebration will be that the JHS German students will be on their exchange to Pfaffenweiler and also have an opportunity to participate in the event. This trip is open to the public. You don't have to be a member of the DeutscherVerein or a resident of Dubois County to participate!!! We invite all individuals who are interested in participating to join in on the fun.

The cost per person for the trip is \$2950. Please call Jackie at 812-482-7158 for details on the trip and what is included with the cost.

What a wonderful Christmas gift this would be!!! What memories will be made!!!

Agenda of 2022 Partnership Anniversary Trip

Day 2 (6/26)	Leave Jasper by motor coach transfer for flight to	Overnight flight
Sunday	Frankfurt Germany	
Day 2 (6/27)	Arrive in Frankfurt	Dinner Included
Monday		
Day 3 (6/28)	Rhine River Cruise from Mainz to Rudesheim	Breakfast & Dinner included
Tuesday	After cruise, travel to Rothenburg for overnight stay.	-
Day 4 (6/29)	Travel to Stuttgart and enjoy a tour of the Mercedes	Breakfast & Dinner included
Wednesday	Benz Museum. Stay in Stuttgart overnight.	
Day 5 (6/30)	Travel to Hohenzollern Castle for a visit and then travel	Breakfast included
Thursday	to Pfaffenweiler	Arrive in Pfaffenweiler in the early evening
Day 6 (7/1)	Free day with host family	Explore Pfaffenweiler and the surrounding area
Friday		
Day 7 (7/2)	Official Partnership Celebration	Evening program celebrating the partnership with
Saturday		the Jasper guests and the Pfaffenweiler residents
Day 8 (7/3)	Free day with host family	Explore Pfaffenweiler and the surrounding area
Sunday		
Day 9 (7/4)	Free day with host family	Explore Pfaffenweiler and the surrounding area
Monday		
Day 10 (7/5)	Leave Pfaffenweiler via motor coach for flight from	
Tuesday	Zurich. Transfer from US airport back to Jasper.	











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