



Jasper German Club
Deutscher Verein

Die Zeitung

May 2025

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.

Strassenfest „Merchandise Room“ is open at the Jasper Chamber of Commerce

Visit the Jasper Chamber Strassenfest "merchandise room" for a nice selection of men & women's and children's outfits - including dirndls, lederhosen, hats + German flags and buntings. Various sizes and price ranges.

The office hours are M-F: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and the Jasper Chamber of Commerce is located at 302 West 6th Street, Jasper. For questions - - call 812.482.6866

Looking for Volunteers to Carry 16 German State Flags at the German Heritage Mass on August 3rd

Saint Joseph Church German Heritage Mass
Sunday, August 3rd, 9 A.M.

Once again, we are asking for volunteers to carry 16 German state flags for the beginning procession of the Strassenfest German Heritage Mass at St. Joseph Church. I received overwhelming positive responses last year from church members and visitors of the pageantry created with the procession of these large flags carried by German Club members!

Flag carriers, dressed in German attire, arrive at Saint Joseph Church by 8:30 to create a flag avenue outside the church on the plaza as people arrive. Once you process into the church at 9 A.M., we create a flag line across the communion rail in front of church while Father Brosmer welcomes everyone. We then process out of church. The flag carriers should be finished by approximately 9:15.

If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know either by email (van.ziegler@twc.com) or texting me at 812-631-2714. Once we have the 16 volunteers, additional names will be taken if substitutes are needed.

Van Ziegler
Board Member



Pictures from August, 2024
St. Joseph Church



German Heritage Award Nomination

The Jasper Deutscher Verein, Jasper Partnership Commission, and Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. will celebrate German-American Day on Wednesday, October 15th during the regular Jasper Deutscher Verein meeting. The event will honor the contributions made by German immigrants to the life and culture of the United States.

The annual German Heritage Award will be presented to an individual or group who has contributed generously his/her or their time, talents or resources to maintaining, improving or building upon the German roots in Dubois County. The recognition is open to all individuals who give what they can in order to make a difference.

A nomination will recognize the work of those who generously support our local German Heritage.

Nominations can be sent to Jasper DeutscherVerein, German Heritage Award, P. O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 or via email to siegel.maryleah@gmail.com and should include a letter of up to one page listing the reason for the nomination, a biography, up to two pages, listing the service or efforts of the nominee along with the Nominee's Name, Home address and whether the nominee's service is voluntary or paid. The Nominator's name and address must also be included and must be postmarked by September 1, 2025.

Sister Cities of Jasper and the Jasper Partnership Commission created the award in 1999.

The Jasper DeutscherVerein is sponsoring the award.

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

Lifetime Achievement Award Winner is Matthias Hilger.

It is not too late to sign up to work a shift or two in the Food Stand or Pastry Stand at the Strassenfest. Call Ann Ackerman at 812-630-7241 to volunteer your time.

Nomination for the 2025 German Heritage Award

Nominee's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Occupation: _____

Nominator's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

ZIP: _____

Relationship to nominee: _____

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

Nominations need to be postmarked to
Jasper Deutscher Verein, German Heritage Award,
P. O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 or emailed to
siegel.maryleah@gmail.com
by September 1, 2025)



“Respect our Past”
“Embrace our Future”

Feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you believe might be interested in joining the Deutscher Verein. Who knows...after they read about the fun, they may join!!!!

**Thank you to Dan and Linda Wehr for hosting at
your little slice of heaven – Whiskey Run**



*****Membership*****

Dues for the DeutscherVerein are \$15 a person. Out of this \$15, a \$1 will go to the Jasper DeutscherVerein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment, \$1 per member for dues to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., and \$13.00 will be retained for club operating expenses.

As a paid member of the Jasper DeutscherVerein, \$1.00 of your dues goes to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. making each Jasper DeutscherVerein member a member of Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.



There will not be a June Newsletter. The next Newsletter will be provided in Mid July and will include the Strassenfest Work Schedules.

Thanks.....Patti

"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!!

Postal Address Changes for Newsletters

Would all members who are going to be gone for any period of time or have a postal change of address, please notify Mike Ackerman at 812-630-8756 or mike@ackoil.com with your new address so we can update our records. Thank you so much!!!!

Just a Reminder!!!!!!!!!!

In addition to this newsletter, additional information on the Jasper Deutscher Verein can be gotten on the website – www.jaspergermanclub.org. The website features information on German Heritage info of the DeutscherVerein and Sister Cities, pictures of areas in Dubois County, past German Heritage winners, and past newsletters and be sure to "like us" on Facebook at Jasper Deutscher Verein and Sister Cities of Jasper.

Also, remember to check out Sister Cities' website at www.sistercitiesofjasperin.org and keep up on their latest activities.

Gift to the Jasper DeutscherVerein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment

January 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025
(there were no gifts)

**Gift to the Claude and Martina Eckert
Sister Cities Endowment**

January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025
(there were no gifts)

Sister Cities has a limited number of the English version DVD "Banished into Paradise". If interested contact Sandy Wehr at 812-482-2055.

Erinnerst Du Dich?

**From *The Herald*
April 2, 1979**

Summer festival coming to Jasper

A festival is heading Jasper's way.

The Jasper Tourism Committee today announced a citywide festival to be celebrated Thursday Through Sunday, Aug. 2-5. The committee of the Chamber of Commerce is spearheading the planning of the festival.

"The purpose is to get everyone working together and to have a good time doing it," said tourism committee chairman Charles Stenftenagel. He added the festival would generate outside interest in Jasper and attract tourism dollars to the city.

"It is hoped that with the many opportunities to raise funds through such a festival, service organizations will play a major role in planning and development," he said.

Jasper is the only city of its size in southern Indiana not to have such a festival.

The festival committee itself, chaired by Mrs. Anne Gootee, will sponsor a number of events and is seeking local groups to sponsor other events, attractions and exhibits, such as rides, art and craft displays, food stands, etc.

The festival will center around the square downtown with events taking place at other sites as needed.

The schedule of events was tentatively set as follows:

Thursday evening, Aug. 2:

- Proclamation and opening of the festival by local dignitaries
- Beauty contest on the square
- Music during the official program, and continuing into the night

- Booths and attractions open downtown
- Marathon or mini-marathon
- German food contest
- Square dance
- Rock concert

- Swim pageant at the pool

Sunday, Aug. 5:

- Booths and attractions
- Auto road rally
- Train rides – Southern Railway's steam engine and antique train

- "Anything Goes" sports event
- Fireworks at dark, closing the festival

Friday evening, Aug 3:

- Booths and attractions open downtown
- German Band concert

- Intermission-German pops music and barbershop quartet

Saturday, Aug. 4:

- Booths and attractions open all day

"This is a tentative schedule and we are still seeking ideas and sponsorship for certain events," Mrs. Gootee said.

Letters were sent to all civic groups inviting them to send a representative to the first major meeting of the festival committee which was held on Thursday, March 22. "Attendance was somewhat lower than anticipated, but the participants were very enthusiastic and will form a good core for festival planning," said Mrs. Gootee.

To avoid duplication, all events and attractions must be submitted to the festival committee by the sponsoring organization. Some have come in already, and all submissions will be approved by the committee on a first come, first served basis.

For this reason, Charles Stenftenagel urged all civic groups to send representatives to the next meeting on Monday, April 9 at the K of C Hall at 7:30 p.m. "Only with full participation by the whole Jasper community will our festival be a success," he said.

If a group has already chosen to sponsor a specific activity, it is urged to call Mrs. Gootee at 482-6425.

"The first, and perhaps most important "Festival Event" will begin next week," Mrs. Gootee said. The festival needs a name, and to find one the festival committee will award a savings bond for the best name submitted for the festival.

Update to the 2026 Jasper Deutscher Verein Trip

The Jasper Deutscher Verein has partnered with Travel by Design (owned and operated by Brandon Ferguson & Landen Weidenbenner) for the 2026 trip. The club will be boarding a Viking River Cruise in Budapest, Hungary and sailing West into Austria & Germany. Flights will depart on September 17th - return flights will be on September 25, 2026.

At this time, there are (16) couples registered for the trip. Space is limited - the ship has approximately (58) rooms available at this time. Call Brandon Ferguson at 812-604-3893 to reserve your spot today or to have any questions answered! For those who are solo travelers, please reach out to be put on the solo traveler list - Travel by Design is working to connect people who would like to travel, but are single occupancy.

Brandon Ferguson

Owner | Travel by Design

Phone: 812-604-3893

Email: travelbydesignllc@outlook.com

A message from Daniel Otto

Lisa Lamont contacted Sandy Wehr and I to share that the Lamont family's connection with their children's German exchange partners' family, die Familie Vowinkel, is still going strong.

The Lamont family hosted the brothers Max and Ferdinand Vowinkel in consecutive JHS/Faust-Gymnasium Staufen exchanges. The Lamonts' son, Noah, went on the 2022 exchange trip and was partnered with Max. Noah lived with the Vowinkels, and then the Lamonts hosted Max when he came to Jasper in Fall 2022. Noah graduated from JHS last school year. When the Lamonts heard that Ferdinand was part of the Staufen exchange group for 2024, they immediately volunteered to host him. The daughter of the Lamont family, Kenley, is presently in German III at JHS, and although she was not able to participate in the exchange, she was an excellent partner for Ferdinand to shadow when he came to JHS with the rest of his cohort in Sept-Oct 2024.

Despite the end of the 2022 and 2024 iterations of the Sister Cities Student Exchange, the Lamonts and Vowinkels are fulfilling the mission of the Partnership -- developing lifelong friendships through person-to-person citizen diplomacy. Recently, members of both families shared a holiday in Florida. Read Lisa Lamont's account below:

"Our German exchange family is currently on holiday in Florida, and Noah and I were able to join them for a few days. We stayed with them at the home they rented and went to a couple beaches. It was so great for me to get to meet the entire family and for Noah to see them all again. Here is a picture of all of us together, and a picture of Noah with the two boys we hosted! We have definitely built a lifelong relationship with our family and hope to visit them in Germany one day with Kenley as well!"

A big Thank-You to the Lamont family for providing hospitality to Max and Ferdinand and for exemplifying the values of our partnership.

Daniel Otto

JHS-JMS German Language Teacher-
Sister Cities of Jasper Board Member

The following is Lisa Lamont's posting on FB!!!!

"Who would've thought that Noah's exchange trip to Germany would turn into a lifelong bond between our families?"

In 2022, Noah spent a few weeks abroad with his amazing German host family. Later that year, Maxi—his exchange partner—came to stay with us in the US. Two years later, we had the pleasure of hosting Maxi's younger brother, Ferdinand.

Over the years, their mom and I have stayed in touch

through chats, photos, and video calls—and we finally had the chance to meet in person while they were vacationing in the US! Noah and I flew down to Florida to spend time with them, and it was absolutely amazing. Getting to stay with them gave us the chance to really connect. I learned so much getting to know them, and we made memories we'll always cherish.

I'm beyond proud of Noah—for his courage to participate in the exchange program, which opened the door to this incredible international friendship. DEUS ♥️"



R-L

Front: Sophia, Leopold, & Thorsten Vowinkel
Back: Lisa & Noah Lamont; Ursula, Max (Maxi) & Ferdinand (Ferdi) Vowinkel

The following information was put together by Daniel Otto and the verbiage and pictures he is referring to are included in the following pages!!!

For all those with an interest in learning some German while learning about our Sister City:

This is a text in German about our Sister City of Pfaffenweiler. Directions: Read the text silently and aloud. The online dictionary "LEO" found at the web address dict.leo.org can give you an English equivalent of any word in the text and also help you to pronounce the word by clicking the "play" button next to any entry. Your task is to find the English equivalents of the bolded, underlined words, which are the key words to know to understand the full meaning of the text. Once you have found all of the pertinent words, you will be able to piece together the rest of the text and learn some information about Pfaffenweiler from it. An answer key is included for those who wish to check their work.



Das ist mein **Freund**, sein Name ist Fritz Gutgsell.

Fritz **lebt** in einem **wunderschönen Dorf** namens Pfaffenweiler in Baden. Das ist im Südwesten Deutschlands. Pfaffenweiler ist **klein** aber fein. Es ist **seit** 1985 die **Partnerstadt** von Jasper.

Pfaffenweiler **liegt** in der Nähe von Freiburg. Freiburg ist eine **große** Stadt.



In seinem Auto **kann** Fritz in etwa 10 Minuten die Stadt Freiburg **erreichen**!

Fritz **liebt** sein schickes Auto mit modernem Navi (Navigationssystem).

Pfaffenweiler liegt im Schneckental. Es gibt so viele **Schnecken**! Man **sieht** sie **überall**.



Einige Häuser im Dorf sind **neu**, und einige sind hunderte **Jahre alt** und saniert.

Die **Hauptstraße** in Pfaffenweiler heißt Weinstraße. Im Auto kann Fritz durch das ganze Dorf auf die Weinstraße **fahren**, aber NIT HUDDLE (nicht so **schnell**)!

In der Weinstraße **findet** man das Pfaffenweiler Weinhaus. Das ist eine **Weinkellerei** - einer der besten in Baden. Der Wein ist sehr **wichtig** in Pfaffenweiler. Und es **kostet** nicht sehr viel - der Spätburgunder kostet nur 6,80€ pro **Flasche** - ein **Schnäppchen**! Die Badische **Weinkönigin** sagt, das sei ein sehr **leckerer** Wein!



Noch ein wichtiges **Gebäude** in Pfaffenweiler ist die **Kirche** St. Columba. Es gibt auch ein paar **Kapellen** in und um Pfaffenweiler, die den **Heiligen** Rosalia, Barbara und Servatius **gewidmet** sind. Pfaffenweiler ist vor allem eine katholische Gemeinde. Das Wort "Pfaffe" ist mit dem Wort "**Priester**" synonym. Diesen christlichen, katholischen Glauben hat Jasper mit unserer Partnerstadt gemein.



von Daniel Otto, Deutschlehrer, Jasper High School

Siehe bitte die Rückseite für ein Rätsel!
Kannst du die Wörter im **Fettdruck** finden?

— See the reverse side for a puzzle!
— Can you find the **bolded** words?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. finds (verb) _____ | 2. delicious (adj) _____ |
| 3. big (adj) _____ | 4. important (adj) _____ |
| 5. loves (verb) _____ | 6. everywhere (adverb) _____ |
| 7. bottle (noun) _____ | 8. friend (noun) _____ |
| 9. saint(s) (noun) _____ | 10. is located (verb) _____ |
| 11. good deal (noun) _____ | 12. wine queen (noun) _____ |
| 13. beautiful (adj) _____ | 14. drive (verb) _____ |
| 15. chapel(s) (noun) _____ | 16. village (noun) _____ |
| 17. costs (verb) _____ | 18. year(s) (noun) _____ |
| 19. winery (noun) _____ | 20. snail(s) (noun) _____ |
| 21. new (adj) _____ | 22. can (verb) _____ |
| 23. since (prep) _____ | 24. building (noun) _____ |
| 25. church (noun) _____ | 26. main street (noun) _____ |
| 27. old (adj) _____ | 28. sees (verb) _____ |
| 29. priest (noun) _____ | 30. sister city (noun) _____ |
| 31. lives (verb) _____ | 32. fast (adj) _____ |
| 33. dedicated (adj) _____ | 34. small (adj) _____ |
| 35. reach, get to (verb) _____ | |

LÖSUNG – ANSWER KEY

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. findet | 2. lecker | 3. groß(e) | 4. wichtig | 5. liebt |
| 6. überall | 7. Flasche | 8. Freund | 9. Heilige(n) | 10. liegt |
| 11. Schnäppchen | 12. Weinkönigin | 13. wunderschön | 14. fahren | 15. Kapelle(n) |
| 16. Dorf | 17. kostet | 18. Jahr(e) | 19. Weinkellerei | 20. Schnecke(n) |
| 21. neu | 22. kann | 23. seit | 24. Gebäude | 25. Kirche |
| 26. Hauptstraße | 27. alt | 28. sieht | 29. Priester | 30. Partnerstadt |
| 31. lebt | 32. schnell | 33. gewidmet | 34. klein | 35. erreichen |

Sister Cities of Jasper May 2025 Update for Jasper German Club

Thank you for your support and attention during the viewing of the film "Banished into Paradise" at the April meeting. We have a very unique partnership between Jasper and Pfaffenweiler with a tie to that goes back to the 1847 emigration of families from Pfaffenweiler to Jasper. The film is a great way to illustrate the historical significance of our partnership and to explain the deep bonds between our two sister cities.

Student Exchange Update:

Fundraising and planning continue for the 18 students that will be going on the exchange in the summer of 2026. The students will be manning the Strassenfest Information & Souvenir Booth during the fest and selling the official Strassenfest T-shirts. Any and all support for this amazing program is appreciated!

2025 Graduating Seniors: This year we will have two graduating seniors that participated in the student exchange program, Ava Hulse and Jillian Troutman. Congratulations to both of these fine young women on their graduation and special thanks for all that they (along with their parents and families) have contributed to our student exchange program!

Permanent Stone Historical Marker for 40 Years of Partnership:

The Dubois County Stone Carvers Group in conjunction with the Stone Carvers Group of Pfaffenweiler Germany are planning to erect a permanent historical monument in each community, a testament to the strong relationship between the two communities and marking the celebration of 40 Years of the partnership.

The stone will include the founding years for each of the communities (Pfaffenweiler 1094, Jasper 1830) and the founding year of the partnership (Sister Cities Partnership 1985). The monument will also include a visual listing of the various activities and milestones of the partnership over these past 40 years and serve as a place to add more milestones in the future. The location of the stone monument will be near the Jasper Train Depot.

This will be a capstone statement for our 40th year celebration and will be unveiled on Saturday, August 2nd, during the Strassenfest and visit of individuals from Pfaffenweiler during their anniversary trip.

We are currently fundraising for this project expected to cost approximately \$20,000 including granite stones, setting of the monument, the foundational base for the monument, machinery to place the monument, the bronze Sister Cities Crest, and lettering in the stone. To date several grants have been received as well as individual donations. If you wish to donate to this amazing project, please contact Stan Jochum: stanjochum@gmail.com or 812-630-0466

YOU ARE INVITED! Sister Cities of Jasper would like to formally extend an invitation to all the members of Jasper Deutscher Verein to attend the dedication of the stone monument at noon on Saturday, August 2nd at the Jasper Train Depot!

Feel free to contact me with any questions, and as always, a HUGE THANK YOU to the Jasper Deutscher Verein members for their continued support for Sister Cities of Jasper and our partnership with Pfaffenweiler!

Mary Leah Siegel

President, Sister Cities of Jasper

Jasper Deutscher Verein April Meeting in Review

The Jasper Deutscher Verein gathered on Wednesday, April 16 at the Jasper Moose Lodge. Members signed in at the door and were able to pay dues for 2025, pick up new packets to add to their German Club folders and sign-up to work the German Club booth at the Strassenfest. President Laura Grammer welcomed over 80 members and guests to the meeting, and then led the club in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Al Bennett and Van Ziegler led the club in singing God Bless America.

Next Matthias Hilger led the club in the German Prayer before dinner. Then Laura released the tables for a dinner. The Jasper Moose Lodge prepared Fried Chicken Tenders, Au Gratin Potatoes and Green Beans. Salads and desserts were brought in by club members.

After the meal, Laura thanked Amy Ruxer and Phyllis Schitter for setting out the decorations for the meeting. She also announced that the Schnitzelbank will be having a dedication for their new Glockenspiel on June 12. If attending, please wear German attire. Vice President, Lonnie Nicholson then updated the club on upcoming German Club events. Wine & Wilderness, a visit to Winzerwald Winery & Whiskey Run, is on April 26. For the May German Club Meeting, bring any German attire that you would like to get rid of. Also, don't forget about the German Night at League Stadium on June 18 at 6:30.

Next, Laura introduced Jen Verkamp with Sister Cities. She thanked the German Club members for their support of the German Exchange Program. Jen let the members know that the Exchange Program was offering Strassenfest Shirts on presale. Let Jen know if you would like to purchase a shirt. She also announced that they were looking for golfers for their annual Golf Scramble, which will take place April 27 at Buffalo Trace. Landen Weidenbenner gave an update on the trip to Germany. There is still room if you are interested in going. See Landen for details. Landen also announced they are looking for dancers for the Landler Dance for Strassenfest. Let Landen know if you are interested. Laura then brought up Dan Otto, Jasper High School's

German teacher, to teach us some German words and phrases.

Lonnie then introduced the program for the evening that was presented by Jasper Partnership Commission. Stan Jochum and Matthias Hilger spoke about this year being the 40th Anniversary of the Jasper Partnership. There will be visitors from Pfaffenweiler coming for Strassenfest and they spoke about the activities occurring during the trip. They are also working on a special section at the Dubois County Museum celebrating Jasper's First German Teacher. Then the film "Banished to Paradise" was shown to the club members. This documentary is about the emigration of hundreds of people from Pfaffenweiler to Dubois County in 1846. It details their challenges throughout their journey. After the presentation, Lonnie and Laura led the club in an Ein Prosit to the Partnership Commission for all their hard work and dedication.

Following the presentation, the members socialized and played cards. Special prize winners were Mary Leah Siegel and Ruth Kuebler. Laura then called the meeting to a close.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 21 at the Jasper Moose Lodge. The program will be the Strassenfest Preview and we will continue sign-ups to work the Strassenfest booth. Doors open at 6:00pm, and dinner is at 6:30pm.

Submitted by
Valerie Heim
Secretary

A message from our president

The Jasper Deutscher Verein is gearing up for a fun summer to celebrate our German Heritage in some fun ways: Learning to dance the Landler, German Day at the Bombers Game and of course, the Jasper Deutscher Verein booth at the Jasper Strassenfest.

The Jasper Strassenfest Committee Chairman is Jasper Deutscher Verein member Corie Eckerle. When you see Corie, thank her for all she has done for many years to make the Jasper Strassenfest a success.

If you are looking for more ways to become involved with the Jasper Deutscher Verein, contact the lead person for their function at Strassenfest:

1. Valerie Heim: German Heritage song & dance performances.
2. Paul Siegel: Log Sawing, adult Pretzel eating & Under 21 adult Mug Holding.
3. Paul Siegel & Van Ziegler: German Heritage Mass on Sunday.
4. Lonnie & Trish Nicholson: Parade to the Beer Garden.

5. Lonnie & Trish Nicholson: German Day at the Dubois County Bombers game.
6. Landen Weidenbenner and Brandon Ferguson: Landler Dance performance.
7. Dave & Nancy Prechtel: Sheepshead tournament.
8. Mike & Ann Ackerman & Bridget & Mike Bartley: Strassenfest Booth at Strassenfest, decorations in tent, setup and teardown of booth.
 - a. Call Ann to sign-up to work 1 (or more) shifts at the booth.
 - b. Need help Sunday morning when it is cooler to break down the booths.
 - c. Need help Sunday after the parade to load booths into the trailer.

Thanks to the local businesses and organizations who will provide free entertainment & events that make the Glockenspiel stage a unique experience for the Jasper Strassenfest. Stop by their store location or make a donation to their organization and support those that support the German Heritage at the Strassenfest:

1. Sandra Chastain: accordion music for lunch on Friday & Saturday.
2. Anne Knies at Chocolate Bliss: Das Schokospiel
3. Jasper Deutscher Verein member, Kent Reyling: Schnitzelbank Sing-along.
4. Jasper High School Theater student, Colin McGowan: the Chicken Dance contest with prizes from Culvers.
5. Mentors 4 Youth Director, Erin Kidwell: Dad's Root beer Mug holding contest.
6. Jasper Flowers and Gift, Lisa Lemont: Children's Chocolate eating contest.
7. Jasper Dairy Queen, Natalie Pund: Ice Cream eating contest.
8. Justin & Ashlyn Hoffman from Hoffman Remodel & More: Hammerschlagen.

While the kids at the Glockenspiel stage are not eating brats & sauerkraut, but rather are filling up on hamburgers, nachos, elephant ears, ice cream and big cookies, the Glockenspiel stage does provide a way for children to be part of the German experience. The goal is to have these kids want to bring their children back to the Jasper Strassenfest and keep the Strassenfest a premier German Festival for another 46 years.

Now that we are thinking about Strassenfest, you might be thinking about purchasing a dirndl or lederhosen. Or maybe you realized that your current dirndl and

lederhosen has shrunk in the closet the past year. Here are a few options:

1. Nancy Eckerle at the Chamber of Commerce has a German Clothing Store.
 - a. The students who participate in the German Heritage performances at Strassenfest get their clothing from here.
 - b. Adult clothing is also available to purchase in lots of sizes.
 - c. Purchases are available during the chamber's normal business hours.
2. May Jasper Deutscher Verein meeting Clothing Sale.
 - a. Members bring German Clothing with a price tag and your name.
 - b. Will have a table setup for you to place your items.
 - c. Suggest that you stay with your clothing before and after the meeting to ensure it is safe.

The Jasper Strassenfest is a great opportunity to welcome guests to Jasper and help them to enjoy our German hospitality. There are lots of potential Jasper Deutscher Verein members who might just be waiting for someone to ask them to be a member. Membership requirements are only \$15 a year and one shift at the Strassenfest Booth. Wear a Jasper Deutscher Verein logo proudly and ask others to join the fun.

Laura Grammer
President

A message from our vice president
April Club Meeting – Celebrating with the Partnership Commission

On behalf of the entire club, we extend our appreciation to the Partnership Commission representatives, Stan Jochum and Mattias Hilger, for their presentation and showing of the "Banished to Paradise" documentary about our Pffanweiler ancestors and their immigration to Jasper. The commission has been a key to maintaining our German Heritage for 40 years and we look forward to continued collaboration with them for many more.

April Stammtisch – Winzerwald Winery & Whiskey Run Woodlands

Approximately 30 club members enjoyed a spring day enjoying the German-inspired Winzerwald Winery and fun times at Dan and Linda Wehr's Whiskey Run property. A very special thank you to Dan and Linda for hosting the group. It was a beautiful way to celebrate German Heritage in wine making and forestry.

Upcoming Stammtisch – Landler Dance

Did you know this dance was featured in "The Sound of Music?" What a fun way to keep a treasured tradition alive in Dubois County!

Landen Weidenbenner is now accepting signups for Landler dance lessons. We have a group of experienced dancers who are ready to help teach others. Join us! No dance experience is required.

We will perform at the Strassenfest beer garden opening ceremonies and may have other opportunities also.

German Night with the Bomber's - June 18th at 6:30pm

Join us for summer fun and wear your German attire / colors. Cheer on "die Bombers" and Mark Balsmeyer as he throws out the first pitch! To get tickets, sign-up at the May meeting or send me an email at Lonnies.Nicholson@gmail.com. I will request the tickets and distribute them before the game. The tickets are free and food/beverage voucher will be provided. Ticket requests are required in advance.

Strassenfest Parade to the Beer Garden – Thursday July 31, Arrive at 4:30pm

Our club's proud tradition of leading the parade to the beer garden for tapping the keg and serving the brat will occur again this year during the opening ceremonies of the Strassenfest.

We need over 30 members to fill the spots that include carrying German state banners, benches for the Glockenspiel performers, and of course the keg and brats!

Signups began at the April meeting and will again be accepted at the May meeting. Participating members will be assigned specific spots.

Join us! It is a lot of fun. In keeping with the German Heritage aspect of this event, authentic German attire is required.

Lonnies Nicholson
Vice President

The family of Claude and Martina Eckert has given permission for the 2024 Fund Summary for the Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment to be published in this newsletter as well as any gift information that may be made to this Endowment. How special it was of Martina to establish this Endowment and we are forever grateful for her generosity and forethought.



Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

Please note the following information may change due to the fact that we are publishing many months ahead!!!

Stammtisch

Sheepshead - meeting 2 times a month to play. Playing - 2nd & 4th Mondays to play Sheepshead at Headquarters- 201 Main Street, Jasper. Play begins at 6:30pm!!!!

Mai

Mai 21, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Strassenfest Preview & Strassenfest Signup

German Tenderloin (Grilled Tenderloin, Swiss, Sauteed onions, bacon) Potato Wedges, and Green Beans will be served. Members to bring either a Salad or Dessert.

Juni

Juni 18, 2025-Wednesday League Stadium, Huntingburg City Park, 203 South Cherry Street, Huntingburg. Gates open at 5:30pm-Festivities begin at 6:30pm The club's outing to a Dubois County Bomber's game will be on June 18th. Wear your German attire / colors, join us on field for an Ein Prosit, participate in the stein holding contest, and enjoy polka music between innings! To get tickets, sign-up at the May meeting or send Lonnie an email at Lonnie.Nicholson@gmail.com. He will request the tickets and distribute them before the game. The tickets are free and food/beverage voucher will be provided. Ticket requests are required in advance.

Stammtisch

Learn to Dance the Landler (TBD)

Juli

Juli 16, 2025 – Downtown Jasper Shop and Sip Event – Reintroduction of the German Club with the new Logo!!!

Strassenfest Setup: July 28.

Juli 31, 2025-Thursday-Dubois County Museum-2704 Newton Street, Jasper. 10:00AM. Introduction of display recognizing Mary Jo Meuser as the first full time German teacher at JHS.

August

Strassenfest will be held July 31st – August 3rd!!! And we will celebrate 40 years of the Sister Cities Partnership between Jasper and Pfaffenweiler!!!!

Strassenfest Setup: July 28.
Teardown: August 3

Work at least 1 shift and help with either Setup or Teardown

August 2, 2025-Saturday-Jasper Train Depot-Noon-Unveiling of the Dubois County Stone Carvers Group in conjunction with the Stone Carvers Group of Pfaffenweiler permanent Stone Historical Marker noting the 40 Years of Partnership between Jasper and Pfaffenweiler.

August 5, 2025-Tuesday-KlubHaus61-2031 Newton Street. Sister Cities Celebration at 5:30pm being planned by the Jasper Partnership Commission. More information will be forthcoming from the Partnership Commission!!!

September

September 17, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

Strassenfest Wrap-up and Workers' Party

Pork Chop, au gratin Potatoes, and Baked Beans will be served. Members bring either a Salad or Dessert.

Oktober

Oktober 15, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at 6:30pm.

German American Day & silent or small auction
Schnitzelbank Catering - German Buffet
Exchange kids bring desserts??

Stammtisch

Saturday, November 15

Make Cardboard Gingerbread Houses – bring spouse or kids or grandkids. Reservations required. Email reservations to Laura at laura@ackoil.com. Deutscher Verein provides Houses, Hot Cocoa & Gingerbread Cookies. Bring to November German Club Meeting to show members.

November

**November 19, 2025-Wednesday-Jasper
Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors
open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at
6:30pm.**

History of Gingerbread Houses – Maybe recipe & example from a member

Fried Boneless Chicken Breast & Country Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, and Green Beans will be served. Members to bring either a Salad or Dessert.

Dezember

**Dezember 11, 2025-Thursday-Jasper
Moose Lodge-2507 Newton Street. Doors
open at 6:00pm-festivities begin at
6:30pm. PLEASE NOTE DAY CHANGE to
Thursday!!!!!!**

Christmas Party

Santa & Christmas Tree history & Wine Tasting with Kim Gunderson, sommelier

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Cooked Carrots, 7 Layer Salad, and IGA Cookies will be served.



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. Envelopes are available at the greeting table at each club meeting.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

to the _____
(Please specify appropriate Endowment)

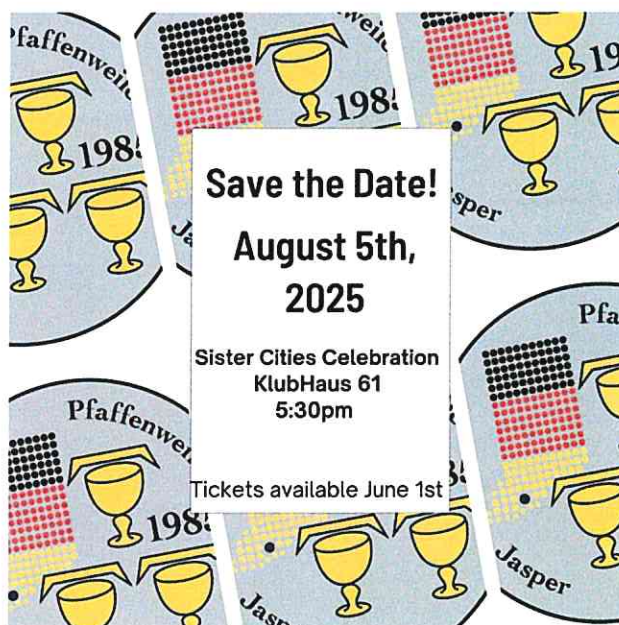
Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

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

**Dubois County Community Foundation,
P. O. Box 269, Jasper, IN 47547-0269**



**Thanks to all who played in the Sister Cities
Golf Scramble! Sixteen teams, beautiful day and
lots of laughs!**

2025 Sister Cities Golf Scramble Results:

1st Place-The Bartley Boys + Mark: Mike, Jacob, Tyler and Mark Mehringer (62)

2nd Place- The Merkley Clan-Nick, Nathan, Denise and Frank (65)

3rd Place-The Weidenbenner Crew-Tim, Sam, Noah, and Josh (66)

Closest to the Pin-Colin Werner

Closest to the Bratwurst-Joan Schaeffer

Long Putt-Joel Levy

Celebrating the month of May

Maifest (or Mayfest in English) is the traditional German celebration of the arrival of spring. Maifest is still celebrated throughout Germany with the Maibaum (maypole) decorated to show off the history and crafts of the town.

Maifest, also known as Mayfest, is a cherished German tradition that celebrates the arrival of spring. This lively festival is observed throughout Germany, with a central focus on the Maibaum (maypole). Let's delve into the delightful details:

What is Maifest?

Maifest takes place on May 1st and symbolizes the end of the long, dark winter. Early Germans referred to May as "Wunnimanoth," signifying the pasture month—a time when animals returned to graze after spending a chilly winter indoors.

In ancient Pagan times, Maifest was associated with dancing, celebration, and the shedding of winter's darkness and cold. Today, it remains a secular festivity.

People in cities and villages adorn their surroundings with ribbons and flowers, embracing the spirit of spring.

The Maibaum (Maypole):

Around the 10th century, the tradition of the Maibaum began. Here's how it unfolds:

Young men from the village venture into the woods to find a tall tree.

They strip the tree of its branches and leaves, then proudly parade it back to the village.

Craftsmen carve shields or symbols representing various town guilds or clubs, which are attached to crossbeams on the Maibaum.

A wreath adorns the top, and long ribbons cascade down.

The Maibaum is carefully guarded because young men from neighboring villages might attempt to "steal" it, holding it for ransom (usually settled with beer or a nice lunch at a Gasthaus).

On the first day of May, the Maibaum is erected in the town square or marketplace, marking the joyous arrival of spring.

Festive Elements:

Bonfires illuminate the night, chasing away the remnants of darkness. Dances fill the air, celebrating the season's renewal. Special drinks include Maibock (a strong spring beer) and Maibowle (a wine punch infused with Waldmeister, a fragrant herb).

Walpurgisnacht (April 30):

Before Maifest, Walpurgisnacht kicks off the Spring Awakening. Witches gather on the Brocken in the Harz Mountains for their annual celebration.

So, as May arrives, let's raise our imaginary Maibowle glasses and dance in the spirit of Maifest! 🍀 🍀 🍀

(Taken from Maifest – Wikipedia)

In 2000, a group of Deutscher Verein/Sister Cities members met for many weeks and put together a booklet documenting the first 15 years of the Partnership between Jasper and Pfaffenweiler. This booklet is on www.jaspergermanclub.org. Check it out!!!

Celebrating Our Partnership

1985 - 2000



Wir Feiern Unsere Partnerschaft



Save the Date

June 18 at 6:30pm (gates open at 5:30)

German Night at League Stadium

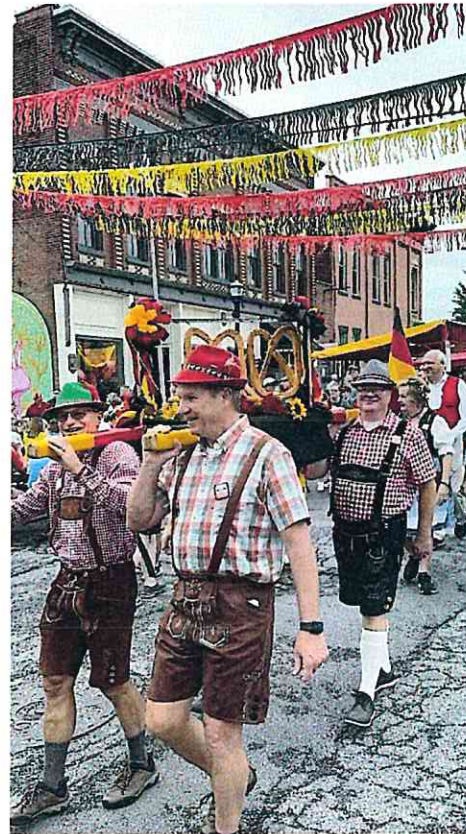


- Wear your German attire / colors
- Sign-up for opportunity to throw the first pitch!
- On field Ein Prosit
- Stein holding contest
- Polka music

More details to follow!



Be Part of the Deutscher Verein FUN!!!!!!!!!!



**Enjoying beverages at
Winzerwald Winery**





February 17, 2025

Irene Kapp
441 West 36th Street
Jasper, IN 47546

Dear Irene,

Enclosed you will find your 2024 Fund Summary for the Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment.

This report provides a detailed overview of all financial activity for your fund in 2024, including market values, contributions, and disbursements. Thank you for trusting us as your philanthropic partner. Together, we continue to make a positive impact on the causes you care about most.

We're excited to share that 2024 was a successful year for the Community Foundation's investment performance, achieving a return of 11.42%. Our total assets now stand at \$88.5M, a milestone made possible by generous donors like you who recognize the vital role philanthropy plays in building a thriving community.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you.

With warm wishes and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clayton Boyles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Clayton Boyles
Executive Director



Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment

Fund Established: May 23, 2001

Agency and Designated

2024 Fund Summary

Beginning Balance	\$48,095.40
Contributions & Additions	\$2,500.00
Investment Returns	\$6,390.78
Grants & Distributions	\$-1,485.00
Ending Balance	\$55,501.18

Total Available to Grant in 2025	\$1,651.00
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Grant Disbursements		
Sister Cities of Jasper Inc	3/20/2024	\$1,485.00
Total Disbursements		\$1,485.00

Membership Application

To sign up to be a member of the Jasper Deutscher Verein, complete the following and forward to Jasper Deutscher Verein, P. O. Box 15, Jasper, IN 47547-0015 or contact Mike Ackerman at 812-630-8756 or mike@ackoil.com.

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

Name _____ Spouse _____

Phone _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Email _____

Address: _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Winter Address: _____ When: _____

Preferred Method of Contact for Strassenfest Booth Shift Scheduling _____

Annual Dues (calendar year) \$15.00 per person (\$30.00 per couple)

Jasper Deutscher Verein

Officers:

Laura Grammer – President
laura@ackoil.com
812-630-7244

Lonnie Nicholson – Vice President
lonnie.nicholson@gmail.com

Mike Ackerman – Treasurer
mike@ackoil.com

Valerie Heim – Secretary
jasperdeutscherverein@gmail.com
812-639-6224

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

Die Zeitung
Editor: Patti Goepfrich
Phone: 812-482-4821
e-mail: pmgoepfrich@gmail.com

DeutscherVerein Website:
www.jaspergermanclub.org

Search Facebook for Jasper
DeutscherVerein

Non-Profit 501(c)(4)

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Marketing
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Bridgette Bartley–
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Patrick Schuler–
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Open-German
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Sandy Wehr-Legacy

Landen
Weidenbenner–
Immediate Past
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Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.

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Matthias Hilger – Treasurer
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Sister Cities of Jasper Website:
www.sistercitiesofjasperin.org

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