



**DEUTSCHER VEREIN**

# Die Zeitung

November 2017

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.



**Mike and Ann Ackerman**  
**2017 German Heritage Award Winners**



**2017 German Heritage Essay Winners and**  
**Representatives of German American**

**L to R – Rachel Levin Brittany Massey, Gillian**  
**Blessinger – Essay Winner from Jasper HS, Skyla**  
**McKim – Essay Winner from Forest Park JR SR HS,**  
**Jay Baker, and Steffi Schmucker.**



**2017 German Heritage Essay Winner and**  
**Representatives of German American**

**L to R – Steffi Schmucker, Brittany Massey, Kortney**  
**Quinn – Essay Winner from NE Dubois HS, Jay**  
**Baker, and Rachel Levin.**

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### **Message from Steve.....**

Well, we have had a great start. The German Heritage Day Dinner was a huge success. Thanks to the staff at the Schnitzelbank, they really took great care of everyone. Congratulations to two very deserving people, Mike and Ann Ackerman, this year's winners of the German Heritage Award. Also congratulations to the essay winners.

The November meeting will be on November 15<sup>th</sup>, the third Wednesday. The feature of the evening will be the Auction in support of the JHS Exchange students. December 21<sup>st</sup>, the third Thursday, will be the Christmas Party. The entertainment for the evening will be ladies from St. Joseph's Choir singing Christmas carols, plus a visit from Santa Claus. Hope to see everyone of you at the meeting.

*Steve Schmitt*  
*President*

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

### November

#### Auction to Benefit JHS German Exchange Program

**Wednesday, November 15, 2017**  
**The Moose**

Doors open at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 6:30pm

Menu will be Coney dogs and potato wedges.

A-H bring salad, I-Q bring dessert, R-Z vegetable.

We will be having our annual auction to benefit the German Exchange Program. Everyone is encouraged to bring an item or two to donate for the auction. Some suggestions are homemade cookies, cakes, pies, candies, Thanksgiving and Christmas items, wine, gift baskets, gift certificates, gift cards such as gas cards, eating establishments, manicures and pedicures, etc. snack mix, jelly, jams, embroidered towels, turnips, nuts, summer sausage, ideas are endless! Please feel free to invite friends and family to come and enjoy the fun.

### December

#### Christmas Dinner with Santa and Christmas Carols

**Wednesday, December 20, 2017**  
**The Moose**

Doors open at 6:00pm, activities begin at 6:30pm

We will have a meal consisting of Fried chicken, roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, corn, and sweet and sour slaw. Price is \$10 per person. Money will be collected the evening of. Please RSVP Barb Schmitt by December 14 by calling 812-309-3992 or email at [barbschmitt12@gmail.com](mailto:barbschmitt12@gmail.com). Santa will make his usual appearance and entertainment will be provided by some of the ladies from St. Joseph's church choir singing Christmas carols. Please feel free to join in.

### January

#### Wine Tasting and Pie Making Competitions

**Wednesday, January 17, 2018**  
**The Moose**

Doors open at 6:00pm, activities begin at 6:30pm

The club will furnish meat and cheese tray with crackers. Members bring appetizers. Dessert will be pies entered in the contest, so ladies and gents feel free to make your favorite pie to enter in the contest and win bragging rights.



### February

#### Beer and Bread Competitions

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**  
**The Moose**

Doors open at 6:00pm, activities begin at 6:30pm

Club will furnish hamburgers and sausage.

Members A-H bring dessert, I-Q vegetable, R-Z salad.

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#### **Message from Laura.....**

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It's November. Must be time for the cold weather, Thanksgiving Turkeys, and the German Club auction.

Seems each year members bring amazing items to be auctioned: Fresh garden produce, pies, cookies, hand sewn items, beautiful gift baskets and interesting experience items such as dinner for 2.

Put on your thinking caps and find a creative and fun item for the auction. Bring a friend who might enjoy the fun and might like to join the club.

The process for bidding will be simple. Each person will be given a card with a number when they enter the meeting. This card is assigned to a person. The information is entered in a spreadsheet.

Each time a bid is placed, the bid amount is assigned to the bid number. At the end of the auction, I press the "magic button" and the totals are created for each person.

Since software is involved, it is NOT possible to get totals for someone who wants to leave early while the auction is still live.

Look forward to a lively auction!

*Laura Grammer*  
*Treasurer*

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#### **Address Changes for Newsletters and Temporary Address Change – Travel or Nursing Home**

Would all members who are going to be gone for any period of time, please notify Patti Goepfrich 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.

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

Dues for the Deutscher Verein are \$10 a person. Out of this \$10, a \$1 will go to the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment, \$.50 per member for dues to Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc., and \$8.50 to German Club for postage and meetings.

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### **Matthias Hilger Named the 2017 Hoosier German-American of the Year**

**L to R – Matthias and Kathy Hilger, Giles Hoyt, and Heinz Roesch.**

Matthias Hilger was named the IGHS Hoosier German-American for 2017. The presentation was made by Mr. Heinz Roesch, president of the Indiana German Heritage Society, at the GermanFest in Indianapolis on Saturday, October 14, 2017.

This honor is in recognition of his ongoing efforts to promote German-American culture in the state and for forging strong ties, and an enduring friendship between the people of Pfaffenweiler and Jasper.

Matthias Hilger was born in Pfaffenweiler and originally came to Jasper in 1987 through Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. as its first practical youth trainee. Stan Krempf gave him a job as a cabinet maker journeyman at the former Indiana Desk Company and Claude and Martina Eckert provided him with a place to live.

Matthias is married to Kathy Young and they are the parents of two adult children, Amanda and Alex.

He has been active in the Jasper Deutscher Verein and Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc. Having been a member of both board of directors. He was the first president of the Jasper Partnership Commission.

Matthias Hilger becomes the eleventh Hoosier to earn the title of IGHS Hoosier German-American of the Year.

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## **News from Sister Cities of Jasper, Inc.**

JHS German Exchange says DANKE! to all who supported our Sonntag Mittagessen drive thru dinner on Oct 8. We are selling Advent Calendars thru the month of November for \$5 each.

We would like to introduce you to two young ladies who want to come to Jasper for up to three months in 2018 to do internships. If anyone would like to be a host family for either of these ladies or perhaps has some information on possible places where they can do an internship, please contact Matt Hilger-812-309-8757 or Sandy Wehr – 812-482-2055

### **Shana Berkold**

She is currently going to the Faust Gymnasium Staufen, which is the exchange school for our Jasper High School. As she does not want to lose a complete school year going through the Homestay Program through Sister Cities International, she has talked to her teachers and can break free from her normal school schedule, next year 2018 starting May 15th, 2018 until September 7th, 2018.

As we don't want to go through the complete visa process of getting a work permit the complete stay cannot be longer than 3 months, as she then can visit with a normal Visitor Visa.

That however will also prevent her from potentially earning any income on whatever job(s) we can find her. As her plans are to go into the medical field, the HOSA program through the High School might make sense for her.

She is currently filling out a basic application form, the one we use for our Homestay program, in which she needs to introduce herself, present her family, her hobbies etc.

### **Sarah Eckstein:**

Sarah is already in her professional life. She uses English and Italian as a customer service support every day, but she also has French and Spanish language skills.

Currently she is for the company Wagner System GmbH in Lahr :

www.wagner-system.de/en. Her official job title is "Customer Relations Manager".

She is responsible for the woodworking customers of Wagner-system. Her tasks for example are to search for product solutions for customers (glides and casters for chairs, tables, sofa; sometimes even customized articles); Quoting products, sales analysis for their customers at the end of the year, preparing for exhibits etc.

She has gone several times to Italy to visit some of their customers personally and she also presented their products at large exhibits.

After graduating from the German High School called Gymnasium with the Abitur, she attended the language school in Baden-Baden where she was trained as a foreign language correspondent (English and Spanish as Business Language, Italian and French as colloquial language). Additional to the exams at the school, I gained the language certifications in English and Spanish at the IHK (Industrie- & Handelskammer Karlsruhe = Industry & Commerce Chamber of Karlsruhe) and the "LCCI" certificate (London Chamber of Commerce and Industry). In October 2014 she started to work for Wagner in Lahr.

She states, "I would like to gain work experience in the USA for a few months (4 weeks – 2 or 3 months) depending on the job and the possibilities (maybe even longer). I really like the furniture industry but I am also open to work in any other markets."

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### **What does German Heritage mean to me?**

**By: Kortney Quinn**

### **Daughter of Julie Lechner and Anthony Quinn Northeast Dubois High School**

Hallo! Wie geht es dir? For those of you who do not speak German fluently, the previous sentence states. "Hello! How are you?" To me, heritage is the unique history, knowledge, and traditions that have developed by a combination of heredity and our environment overtime. But most importantly, heritage is my history. I believe everyone should take pride in their ancestry. It is responsible for how I came to be, it is a very large part of who I am, and it can also determine what I will become. I am proud of the cultural background that I have derived from including my German heritage, although I struggle with the fact that I do not know much about my German ancestor's background in depth. However, I am certain that this culture has affected the way I was raised and has helped to shape me into the family oriented, strong willed, fun-loving, respectful lady that I am today.

I believe that finding one's true identity and learning the value of your heritage takes a lot of time, aspiration, and dedication. Life is a long journey that I will have to explore and maintain everyday. Throughout my life there will always be something new for me to be thankful for, to appreciate, or to learn. Every phase of life represents a different level of experience, and sometimes it takes more than just experience to understand where you have come from and to appreciate the real struggles and the hardships that my ancestors had to endure. Appreciating my German heritage and culture helps to develop and strengthens the ties with others who share the same traditions and helps me to identify and appreciate cultural difference.

So in conclusion, I believe that my German heritage is a combination of heredity, opportunities and the environmental factors that have personally affected me in some way, and that will continue to influence me. Since the German heritage is a part of who I am, and something that I cannot separate myself from, it is essential for me to understand and embrace my heritage.

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### **Heritage of Hard Work: Honoring Our Ancestors**

**By: Skyla McKim**

### **Daughter of Steve and Rachel McKim Forest Park Jr Sr High School**

Since a young age, I have watched my family work hard for everything that we have. The fruit of their labor has benefitted me tenfold, and has taught me that dedication and hard work will always pay off. The lessons my family members have injected into my life have helped to guide me and make me who I am today. To me, German heritage means being a reliable and trustworthy person who works for their own success and helps their neighbors whenever the need arises.

My father has worked as a pipefitter for the majority of his life, and since I can remember, I've witnessed him work up to sixty or even seventy hour work weeks just to provide for our family. Some weeks my father would be forced to go out of town to complete jobs, and I remember how hard saying goodbye could be. However, today I put his teachings into practice in my own life, working hard to achieve my own dreams. I'm grateful for everything my father has given me, and I take his life as an example. Currently, I work three jobs in order to save for college, and the life experiences I've gained add even more value than just the income earned. German heritage means working hard and exceeding the expectations set by those you value and the expectations you set for yourself. German heritage means taking pride in your work, and doing the

best you can to go above and beyond the task assigned to you.

The foundation for good character lies in how trustworthy of a person you are. It doesn't matter if you are loyal, kind, or smart if first you do not possess trustworthiness. Specifically, I remember my father sitting me down one day after he had borrowed money from my grandparents. He explained to me the importance of repaying one's debts and always being honest about your plans. This lesson has been passed down to my father from my great-grandfather, Othmar, a man who always stuck to his word. From these lessons, I have become a better person.

As I've grown, I've watched my relatives display these characteristics and they have shown me that in order to take pride in myself, I must first have pride in my work and my character. I live by these guiding principles and I understand their importance. To me, German heritage includes these ideals and more. Hard work, trustworthiness, and reliability are traits that make our German community strong and we should continue to uphold these values.

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**More Than the Food**  
**By: Gillian Blessinger**

**Daughter of Tony and Jennifer Blessinger**  
**Jasper High School**

When most people think of their German Heritage, all they can think of is the Strassenfest. But to me, my heritage means so much more. Although the Strassenfest is a great way to express the pride we have in our community, the roots of our German Heritage run much deeper and have a very important meaning to me.

Due to my German Heritage, one thing I highly value is punctuality. Germans stress the importance of punctuality, and it is something I look for among others and I highly value. I also value structure, which is something important to Germans. I find it important to live a life being a well-structured and organized person, which is something I believe my ancestors valued and is something I hold as very important.

One thing that my heritage has brought me is my religion. My family is full of strong Catholics. I am proud to proclaim the religion that my German ancestors once proclaimed. Celebrating traditional German holidays such as Christmas and Easter is a great time to gather with family members. Family is also something very special to my heritage. It is important to me to see that religion has been passed down for many generations, and it is important to me to see that the religion will

continue to be passed on along while also continuing to stay true to our German Heritage.

The arts incorporated in my German Heritage is something that is very important to me as well. My family has an interest in music. As I have been involved with music since I was a young girl due to inspiration from my grandfather and cousins. Music is also something important that is involved within the church. Composers such as Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven helped to shape the arts in Germany and also around the world. These famous composers laid the foundation for the importance of the arts in German families.

The Germans also created many important architectural pieces, such as the Brandenburg Gate, which has a deeper meaning than just the beauty.

German Heritage is something that needs to be preserved and maintained among all generations. To preserve our German Heritage, we need to keep the Strassenfest popular and thriving, but while participating in the Strassenfest, Germans need to realize the true meaning of their heritage and be able to express how it is important to them. A way to preserve our heritage is to realize the importance of punctuality and structure in our lives, because this is something that can be lost among others. Another way is to proclaim the religion our ancestors passed down to us proudly. Lastly, one way is to enjoy the arts, and observe a deeper meaning in music and architecture. The Strassenfest is more than just the food. The true meaning runs much deeper, and has shaped the lives of many.

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**At this time of Thanksgiving, 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!!**



Note: There will not be a newsletter in January, 2018. Sorry for any inconvenience. *Patti*

**Gifts to the Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment**

April 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017

**In Memory of Clara Stemle**

Ken and Rosemary Heim

**In Memory of Kenny Hochgesang**

Danny and Linda Wehr  
Springs Valley Bank and Trust  
Harvey and Bernita Berger

**In Memory of of Kathleen Jahn, Stan Krempp, Joan Oeding, Dr. J.P. Salb, Frank Ebenkamp, Irene Eckerle, Lester Merder, Clara Stemle, Morris Weidenbenner, Ruth Ann Hayes, Glenn Gramelspacher, Roberta McGovren, Rich Lichlyter, William Nordhoff**

Jim and Suzanne Webb

**In Memory of Mary Leinenbach**

Gary and Rita Egler

**In Memory of Leroy Schnaus**

Gary and Rita Egler

**July 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017**

**In Memory of Mary Ruth McCune**

Danny and Linda Wehr

**In Memory of Mick Birge**

Philip and Gloria Buecher

Jasper Deutscher Verein



**Endowments at the Dubois County Community Foundation**

**Jasper Deutscher Verein (German Club) German Heritage Endowment**

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

**Claude and Martina Eckert Sister Cities Endowment**

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

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

Enclosed is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

to the \_\_\_\_\_

(Please specify appropriate Endowment)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please acknowledge my gift to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Ein Prosit”**  
Ein Prosit Ein Prosit  
der Gemutlichkeit  
Ein Prosit Ein Prosit  
der Gemutlichkeit  
Eins, Zwei, Drei, G'suffal  
Zicke, zacke, zicke, zacke  
Hoy, Hoy, Hoy,  
Kindermachen, Kindermachen  
Ya Ya Ya  
Motorcycle, Motorcycle  
Vroom, Vroom, Vroom  
Der Deutscher Verein is Voonderbar!!

## **Beer Cheese Dip with Bacon**

Serves 15 Prep Time: 10 minutes Total Time: 2 hours

### **Ingredients**

8 ounces cream cheese  
1 pound sharp cheddar cheese, small dice  
½ pound Colby-Jack cheese, small dice  
10 ounces bacon, cooked and chopped (reserve some for garnish)  
½ teaspoon dry ground mustard  
8 ounces Amber Ale beer  
1 tablespoon hot sauce (choose your favorite)  
⅛ cup cherry tomatoes, small dice, for garnish (optional)  
⅛ cup chopped fresh parsley, for garnish (optional)

### **Directions**

Into the bowl of a 3-quart slow cooker, add the cream cheese, sharp cheddar cheese, Colby-Jack cheese, bacon, dry ground mustard, beer, and hot sauce.

Heat on high for 1-½ to 2 hours, stirring occasionally, until melted and smooth.

When dip has finished cooking, turn the heat to warm and garnish with the reserved bacon, cherry tomatoes, and parsley.

(taken from:<http://tiphero.com/crowd-pleasing-dip-recipes/>)

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