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German - American Journal

Volume 66 Number 6

Dezember/Januar 2019

Weihnachtsmarkt in Regensburg



Ihre Zeitung in deutscher Sprache

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Herzlich Willkommen

Save the Date

October 11,12,13, 2019

DANK Chapter Milwaukee
will be your host for the

2019 DANK National Convention

“Mentoring die Nächste Generation”

“Mentoring the Next Generation”

at

Four Points by Sheraton Milwaukee Airport

FOUR POINTS

BY SHERATON

Leckerer Deutsches Essen in der Hauptrolle
Featuring delicious German cuisine
Can you say Schnitzel und Rouladen und Kuchen?



Guten Appetit!



Celebrate Oktoberfest
October 12, 2019

with

Blaskapelle Milwaukee



www.blaskapelle-milwaukee.com

Christmas Show 2018
„Alle Jahre wieder“

RONNY Weiland
Thüringen

Oberstdorf Musikanten
Allgäu

CLAUDIA & CARMEN
Dresden/Sachsen

Saturday, December 8, 2018
Doors to Open at 2:00pm Show starts at 3:00pm

German-American Heritage Center
25249 S. Center Road, Frankfort, IL 60423

Advance Ticket Sales: \$20.00 per person
Tickets Purchased at Door: \$25.00
Make Checks Payable to: DANK South

Contact: For Tickets & more information call: 708-636-3074

German Food & Drinks will be available for purchase

cultural event
sponsored by „Eine Reise mit Musik“

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Der Deutsch - Amerikaner

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From The President's Desk

Roger Herod, National President

rogerherod1@gmail.com

On October 6, I was invited to attend a dedication ceremony at the German Cultural Garden in Cleveland. The German Cultural Garden is one of 39 international gardens in Roosevelt Park in Cleveland, and is one of the oldest established in 1929, originally funded by members of three DANK families. DANK Cleveland, under the leadership of Tom Stromann, have been one of the main sponsors for the garden for several years. Tom and Erik Wittmann are now leading an initiative to raise funds to enhance the garden, including new benches, walkways, statues, and eventually a new fountain. This was a very inspiring event, attended by representatives from DANK Chapters in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Erie. After the ceremony, we were all invited to the Hofbrauhaus in Cleveland for excellent German food, drinks, and entertainment!

As I mentioned in the last edition of the German-American Journal, like many other volunteer organizations we are facing some significant financial challenges. In order to cover our relatively modest overhead costs, we need to find ways of generating more revenue both in the short-term and on an ongoing basis.

Based on input from the DANK National Board and our Chapter Presidents, this is the action we have decided to take to deal with our short-term financial needs:

1. We will be making an appeal to all our members, including our Lifetime Members, for additional donations at the time of the upcoming membership renewals for 2019. This could help us address our short-term financial problems. Even a \$5 or \$10 donation would be much appreciated!

2. We will of course continue to offer members the opportunity also to make donations to DANK's Education and School Fund, which provides valuable funding to many of our educational and cultural activities.

3. We will be offering members the opportunity to take out Lifetime DANK Memberships. Each Lifetime Membership costs \$500 but we are making it possible for members to pay the fees over 5 years. We already have over 75 Lifetime Members and would like to have more!

4. Printing and mailing the German-American Journal every 2 months is costly. We will be giving everyone the possibility of receiving the Journal online, which 10% of our members already do, and hope that you will consider this as an option to help us reduce our expenses.

As always, I would very much welcome comments and ideas from all members. I'm easily contacted at rogerherod1@gmail.com.

My first year in office as National President has certainly been eventful. I've been able to visit several of our chapters, in most cases with my wife Astrid. We've been delighted with the friendly reception we've received everywhere. There are still several chapters that I've not yet been able to visit, but certainly plan to do so next year. As I mentioned in the last edition of the Journal, it is an honor for me to serve DANK and you all. With everyone's ideas and support, I am confident that we will be able to secure a successful future for DANK.

Roger Herod



Der Deutsch - Amerikaner

DANK seeks to bring together Americans of German descent in the pursuit of cultivating and presenting their heritage and interests on local, regional and national levels. These were the primary reasons that the German American National Congress was founded in 1959 and they are still among the organization's primary objectives today.

DANK National Executive Board

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Roger Herod

Vice President :

Erik Wittmann

Christel Miske

Treasurer:

Bob Miske

Recording Secretary:

Russell Knoebel

Membership Chair:

Erik Wittmann

Office Manager:

Russell Knoebel

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Office Hours:

9 am - 4 pm

Monday-Friday

Calendar Of Events:

December

- 1 Springfield, Old Fashion Christmas Traditions Bus Trip
- 2 South, St. Nikolaus Celebration @ Frankfort
- 2 South Bend, German Service - 4 PM St. Paul Church
- 3 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 4 Cleveland, Meeting at Das Schnitzel Haus 6PM
- 6 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 8 South, Christmas Show "Alle Jahre Wieder 2018"
- 8-9 Cleveland, Christkindlmarkt - Trip to Pittsburgh
- 9 West, Board Meeting 1:30 pm
- 9 Milwaukee, Christmas Party Sacred Heart 2 PM
- 9 Benton Harbor, Children's Party 2PM
- 9 South Bend, Christmas Party at Weiss' Gasthaus 3 PM
- 9 Springfield, Christmas Party
- 14 Benton Harbor, Christmas Party 6PM
- 14 Chicago, Weihnachtsmarkt VIP Pre-Party 6PM
- 15 Chicago, Weihnachtsmarkt 2018 @ 12PM
- 16 South, Membership Meeting & Pot Luck 2PM
- 16 Phoenix, General Memberships Meeting, 1 pm
- 19 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 21 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM

January

- 5 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 7 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 8 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 13 West, Board Meeting 1:30 pm
- 14 Springfield, Meeting 6:30pm
- 16 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 17 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 18 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 20 South, Membership Meeting 2PM
- 20 Phoenix, General Memberships Meeting, 1 pm
- 22 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 24 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 31 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm

February

- 2 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 4 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 7 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 10 West, Board Meeting 1:30 pm
- 11 Springfield, Meeting 6:30pm
- 12 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 14 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 15 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 17 South, Membership Meeting 2PM
- 17 Phoenix, General Memberships Meeting, 1 pm
- 20 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 21 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 26 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 28 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm

Language Schools

Chicago North - DANK Haus

Pre-K to 12th Grade - Saturday's 9am-12pm
Adult Classes - Wednesday's 6:30pm-9pm

Chicago Northern Suburbs

Christian Liberty Academy, Arlington Heights, Adults and Children 3+, Saturdays, 9:30 am – Noon
Palatine H S, Adults and Children 5+, Monday's, 5:45 pm - 8:15 pm For more info: 847.392.5352

German Language School Cleveland

info@germanlanquageschoolcleveland.org

Meeting Locations for DANK Chapters

Bay City

meets at the Stein Haus, 1120 N. Water St., Bay City, MI, 48708 Tel. 989.891.2337

Benton Harbor

meets at their DANK Haus, 2651 Pipestone Rd. Benton Harbor, MI 49022 Tel. 269.926.6652

Chicago

meets at the DANK HAUS, 4740 N. Western Av. Chicago IL 60625 Tel. 773.561.9181

Chicago South

meets at the DANK House, 25249 S. Center Rd, Frankfort, IL 60423 Tel. 815.464.1514

Chicago West

meets at Redeemer Lutheran of Elmhurst, 345 S. Kenilworth Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126 Tel. 630.805.1504

Cleveland

meets at the Cleveland Männerchor Club, 4515 State Rd., Cleveland, OH 44109 Tel. 216.741.7728

Erie

meets at The Brewerrie at Union Station 123 W. 14th St. Erie, OH 16501

Milwaukee

meets at the German Fest Office, W140N5761 Lilly Rd., Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 Tel. 414.331.6957

Phoenix

meets at North Mountain Brewing Company, 522 E. Dunlap, Phoenix, AZ 85020 Tel. 602.569.9381

Springfield

meets at Engel's on Edwards, 552 S. MacArthur, Ste. A, Springfield, IL

DANK Chapter Listing**ARIZONA**

Phoenix

ILLINOISChicago
Chicago South
Chicago West
Fox Valley
Lake County
Northern Suburbs
Peoria
Springfield**INDIANA**Indianapolis
South Bend**MICHIGAN**Benton Harbor
Great Lakes Bay Region
(Bay City)**OHIO**

Cleveland

PENNSYLVANIAErie
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh**WASHINGTON DC**

Washington DC

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

www.dank.org**New Members:*****NATIONAL***DAN MEISTER
MARK POLLOCK***CHICAGO***SIMON KISSLER
NORA GERAGHTY
DAVIS ROENISCH, JR.
REBECCA POPE***CHICAGO WEST***

BERIT REUBKE DE MEDINA

CHICAGO SOUTHTHOMAS MANLEY
MARLANNE MANLEY***CHICAGO NORTHERN SUBURBS***

CARMEN IFKOVITS

SPRINGFIELDSANDA VON BEHREN
LARRY BEHREN***BENTON HARBOR***MARIA VAN HOFWEGEN
ROBERT VAN HOFWEGEN
RICHARD ELLIS
SHERRY ELLIS
VINCENT KUBLICK
PATTY JO KUBLICK***MILWAUKEE***JOHN ISLEB
DAVID LONG
JANET LONG
ASHLEY PRONDZINSKI***CLEVELAND***

LIESEL SCHMADER

SOUTH BENDJOEL ARKO
NANCY GASCHO***PHOENIX***TIMOTHY HERM
HOWARD HERM
BERENICE HERM
JOSHUA HERM
ABRAM HERM
JONATHAN HERM***ERIE***DAVID FRATZ
ROBERT WEBER
AIDEN WEBER
NOLAN WEBER
SIMON WEBER***BAY CITY***

M. PERKINS

New Life Member:**Hilda Szabo-Masica (Springfield)****We thank you all for your donations and support!****JOIN DANK TODAY!****APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT DANK.ORG****OR****THE LAST PAGE OF THIS JOURNAL**

Frohe Weihnachten



und ein glückliches Neues Jahr

**wünschen allen Mitgliedern,
Mitarbeitern und Freunden,**

**die DANK Gruppe Chicago Süd
Präsident Kathy Kruss und Vorstand**



About This Journal's Cover Image:

Christmas market on the Neupfarrplatz

Regensburg's oldest Christmas market is the Christkindlmarkt on Neupfarrplatz. For more than 200 years, the festively decorated and illuminated booths frame the Protestant Neupfarrkirche. Decorative Christmas tree decorations, gifts or wood carvings can be bought here.

Above all, however, the around 40 different types of mulled wine and the famous Knackwurstsemmeln with horseradish, gherkins and mustard are cult. Up to 10,000 people, not only tourists, but also the citizens of Regensburg, come every day in the run-up to Christmas (26th November to 23rd December 2018) to look, buy and enjoy the cozy atmosphere.

The market is open at the Neupfarrplatz from Sunday to Wednesday from 10.00 am until 8:00 pm and Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 9:00 pm.

Christkindlmarkt auf dem Neupfarrplatz

Der älteste Weihnachtsmarkt Regensburgs ist der Christkindlmarkt auf dem Neupfarrplatz. Seit über 200 Jahren rahmen die festlich geschmückten und beleuchteten Buden die evangelische Neupfarrkirche ein. Kunstgewerblicher Christbaumschmuck, Geschenke oder Holzschnitzereien können hier gekauft werden.

Vor allem aber die rund 40 verschiedenen Sorten Glühwein und die berühmten Knackwurstsemmeln mit Meerrettich, Essiggurken und Senf sind Kult. Bis zu 10 000 Menschen - Touristen, aber auch die Regensburgerinnen und Regensburger - kommen in der Vorweihnachtszeit (26. November bis zum 23. Dezember 2018) täglich hierher, um zu schauen, zu kaufen und um die gemütliche Atmosphäre zu genießen. Geöffnet hat der Markt auf dem Neupfarrplatz Sonntag bis Mittwoch von 10.00 bis 20.00 Uhr und Donnerstag, Freitag und Samstag bis 21.00 Uhr. (Stadt Regensburg)



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Pittsburgh

German Highlights of Pittsburgh!

By Eric Trainer

DANK Pittsburgh President

As I ponder what to write about for this issue for the Pittsburgh DANK chapter, I am struck by the commonality that many of us share, the Germanic heritage for sure but what else is it that makes us want to belong to such a group. I am typically not a "Joiner" per se but as I attended the first of several meetings, The Christ Kind feier, and even a national convention, I knew that I was among friends with common desires if not common goals. Having spent many of my formative years living in West Germany and then unified Germany, they are counted as some of the best of my life, I enjoy hearing stories of members that have visited the "Old Country" as they bring back many fond memories for me and I gladly share them with anyone who asks. An organization such as Pittsburgh's has so many members that continue to remain in the chapter and renew year after year. This is a very strange phenomena that has puzzled all of us for some time and perhaps can be attributed to our very busy lives. I would ask our senior members to think back and remember what it was that drew them to make that membership leap. I am willing to bet it was things like camaraderie and love of a specific history and that famous Gemuetlichkeit that called out to them. Why not try and instill that same satisfying feeling in the younger generations around you. Tell those fascinating stories that they are afraid to ask for fear of bothering you. I believe it is in this way that we may entice a new generation of joiners that have the energy to take over and give the tired few that have carried your organization for so long...rest.

Many of the Chapter activities continue to attract small numbers. We are certainly appreciative of those who do join us, but we also know there is a very large cadre of members that we have never seen. If there is something that you would like to see your chapter undertake, please suggest it. We have offered trips, holiday programs, picnics, and more in the past. This is your chapter, make it serve your needs.

Finally, a short plug for the German meetup group that meets in Pittsburgh. This group is subsidized by the National Education Fund, not for gaining membership numbers for our organization as some have argued, but to spread and preserve Germanic language and heritage as our charter dictates. The group is largely self-motivated and meets regularly in various parts of town to make it easier for attendance. These groups are very eclectic, but do share the love of German language usage and practice and even learning. And to disprove the old adage that German clubs revolve around beer drinking, the German meetup groups meet predominantly in coffee shops!

The Following is an excerpt from our own Deutschtown Website which showcases the former city of Allegheny and its predominate role of being the heimat to many German immigrants and remains so today.

Welcome to Deutschtown

Just across the river from Pittsburgh's Cultural District and next to the new North Shore, you'll find Deutschtown, also known as East Allegheny. Our neighborhood is historic, real, surprising and developing on the Northside.

Historic

Our modern history goes back to the 18th century. Because we're proud of it, we worked to get historic designations to preserve the wonderful remnants of our heritage, some of which was shaped by German immigrants.

Real

There's not a lot of pretense here. We get to know our neighbors over a hot cup of tea or mug of German beer! We love visiting with each other at the farmers market, flea market or PumpkinFest. Most of us know our business owners by name.

Surprising

Where to begin? Start with great historic architecture alongside new town homes...next to a great park and near a new riverfront park. Sports, culture, shopping, work, churches and recreation are all walkable. Young families live next to empty nesters. And Deutschtown is convenient to all of Pittsburgh's major highways.

Developing

While we began revitalizing our historic neighborhood in the late 1980s, we've seen growing momentum since 2000. Progress includes new and renovated homes, new businesses, and new homes for the Pirates, Steelers and a casino.



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter South Bend

Oh, du schöne Schnitzelbank!

By Christine Weiss

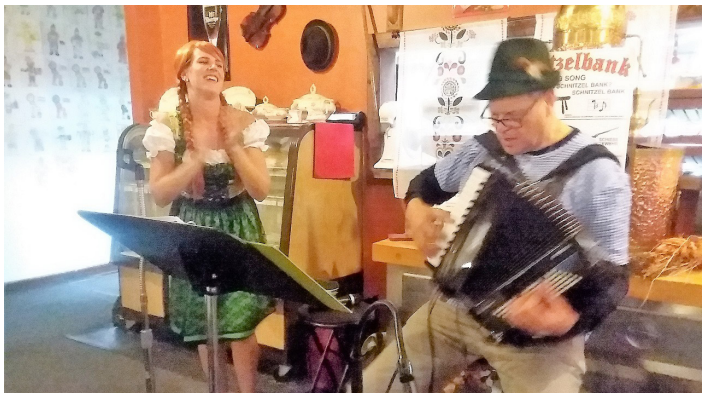
DANK South Bend President

October 12, 1810 Kronprinz Ludwig married Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities to celebrate with the royal couple. Who would have thought that it would become a yearly event attracting thousands of people from all over the world?

Our Oktoberfest celebration took place Saturday the 20th at Weiss' Gasthaus. It was truly a night to remember. Everybody participated in the festivities. Ann and her father Jim Fuchs brought the room to life with her beautiful singing and his outstanding accordion playing. The highlight was of course our beer drinking contest. Four courageous men and one fierce woman participated in the contest. Needless to say they did not know that they would be drinking out of a baby bottle and little did they know that the final winner was the woman. As the night went on it was time to sing the Schnitzelbank. A fun sing-a-long song in which all of the people are engaged in. The night continued with singing, drinking, schunkeln and shouting out many times "Ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit, eins-zwei-drei gsuffa!"



die Schnitzelbank



Ann performing with her Dad Jim



DANK members and friends



The winner of the beer drinking contest

Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Bay City

Greetings from the Great Lakes Bay Region

By Monte Oswald
DANK Bay City President

Hallo Freunde, Frohe Weihnachten!

Snow is blowing in from the great Lake Huron and over onto Saginaw Bay as we here in Great Lakes Bay Region shiver our timbers before warming up with a bit of Gluehwein!!! It's one of the coldest and yet warmest times of the year as we reflect on the wunderbar events & celebrations we shared in sunshine, rain, snow and gemütlichkeit was present in alles! We have a lot on our plate for this next year as the Bay City Train rolls down the tracks toward fun & festivals, so let's mark our calendars for the trip to DANK Haus, Sister Michigan Chapter Benton Harbor, Maifest, Milwaukee Germanfest, Stueben Parade, Ansbach Sister City Concert, and the DANK National Convention!!!!

Let's not forget the recent national elections and the BIG gov't transfer of leadership in 2020, GERMANY will again lead the European Union in Brussels, Thank God for the peaceful democratic reins of power transfer in western civilization!

What a terrific time to talk about the blessings we have here in the Land of Lakes....Oktoberfest in Beautiful Bay City was an alarming first responder activity as our Frankenmuth Gemuetlichkeit Verein bellowed Bavarian Ballads....Three firetrucks, Two Police Cruisers and an Ambulance showed up for the commotion in full regalia...No one could locate Walter for an explanation but it's rumored that all of the singing "Hot Air" caused a fire detector to malfunction!!!! Great Job Gang!

A hearty hallelujah goes out to our "Cheerie (FARM REPORT) Centurian" Herb Schmidt. We should all acknowledge his words of wisdom, "Some Bier Everyday Keeps The Doctor Away!!!"

In between the impromptu Wednesday night stammtisch sing-alongs at the Tavern 101 promoted by Millers Musikers, we should also proclaim to friends the many FREE GERMAN CLUB offerings on our DANK.org site! Our club can also offer the best price for international FREE GERMAN TV at the www.wwitv.com site with 28 channels to select from!!!!

Reach out to a friend, family member or just do an act of kindness to pass on the

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS and get a positive jump on the Glückliches Neues Jahr!



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Erie

Greetings and Hallucinations from Erie, Pa.

By Fred Huttel Jr.

DANK Chapter 71 President

And hallucinations it is. As I sit writing this, Erie got it's first taste of winter. OVER 13 INCHES OF SNOW! Thank goodness I got my snowplow prepped a couple of weeks ago. I was hoping that I wouldn't have to use it this soon, but this is typical of the unpredictable weather Erie gets. I do know from my past experiences with the Coast Guard that Erie usually gets the weather that Chicago has had 24 hours later. It seems just like yesterday we were getting over one of the worst winters Erie has had in a long time.

A quick review of our Chapter since September. Our festival which was held Labor Day weekend was successful. Although the attendance was down due to some inclement weather, We had two new bands in addition to our yearly Bob Hamilton "The Mad Bavarian". There was also a new food vendor who provided an excellent taste of Germany with their "full meal deals". A special Thank You goes out to Melissa Lesniewski for her leadership this year, to all the volunteers who helped with set-up, during, and tear down, and to Beverly Pochatko for her wisdom and foresight to keep this festival an annual tradition. We look forward to carry on this tradition for a long time.

At our October meeting we explored the world of Genealogy. It seems that some of our membership have become interested in their ancestry. Our speaker for the night was Alice Henneberry of E.S.G.R. She explained some of the tools available to their members to use in researching their ancestry. She also gave us some insight as to what is available out there to use to research their past without a membership. As a result, several of our members decided to obtain a membership with the Genealogy Society of Erie.

For November we look forward to Volkstauertag. A special time to honor all of those who gave their all and those who suffered from the results of war and violent oppression. Again, this year I will place a wreath of peace and hope at my Fathers' grave to honor him. A veteran of the German Luftwaffe in WW2, prisoner of war who became a US citizen by choice.

December is the time of Christmas and celebrations. Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 2nd. The following weekend our Chapter has been invited to participate with the Chapters from Cleveland and Pittsburgh for a visit to the Christkindlmarkt in Pittsburgh and their Chapter Christmas party. Visits to the PPG Santa Claus Display and the Nationality Rooms at the University of Pittsburgh are also on the itinerary. The season of Christmas is wonderful time for our three Chapters to come together to celebrate.

In looking to the future for the next year National President Roger Herod has asked me to conduct the election procedures for the National Convention. I will be contacting several members from different Chapters to be involved with the nominating committee in January. Until then, on behalf of our Chapter and myself I would like to wish everyone a

FROELICHE WEIHNACHTEN UND EIN GUTES NEUES JAHR!



Exchange Rates

1.00 EUR = 1.132676 USD

1.00 USD = 0.882865 EUR

Nov 14, 2018

Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Milwaukee

September Bus Trip and October Membership Meeting

By William Bessa
DANK Milwaukee President

September 8, 2018 DANK Milwaukee members and friends took a bus trip to Chicago to tour the DANK Haus and partake in the 53rd annual Von Steuben German Day Parade and Festival. On behalf of DANK Milwaukee, I want to thank all involved. To Monica Felix for being an informative tour guide of the DANK Haus. To Dagmar Freiberger of DANK North for allowing us to march with them in the Von Steuben Day Parade. To Steven Sartin of The DANK Haus / German American Culture Center for your hospitality after the parade on the 6th floor. The experience shared with Monica, Dagmar and Steven, was warm and welcoming. Thank you all again, we will keep you in mind for future tours and events!



Eveline Kehlert enjoying Gemütlichkeit at Himmel's Restaurant.



Schlaraffia room group photo of Milwaukee members and friends.

Upcoming deadlines for the DANK German-American Journal

To keep this magazine on schedule for on-time delivery please use the following schedule for upcoming issues:

February/March: January 10

April/May: March 10

June/July: May 10

Chapter news and pictures should be sent to
Russ Knoebel at Office@DANK.org.

If you need assistance of any kind please contact us!



DANK Milwaukee Chor President Julia Kendl having fun in the Von Steuben Day Parade

Chapter Chatter:



*"Joachim Heller 35 years"
"Rita Mauermann and Thomas Mauermann 40 years"*



DANK Milwaukee President William Bessa with "Leonard Alt the recipient of the 2018 DANK Milwaukee President's Award" and DANK Milwaukee Vice President Jane Nacker.

*Congratulations to
Our DANK Milwaukee Members.*

5 Years

Richard Gutenkunst
Susan Marshall
Hans Weissgerber III

15 Years

Deanna Sommerfeld
Holger Sommerfeld
Kurt Degner
Sigrid Degner Kozon
Janis Giblin
Louis Giblin

25 Years

Renate Britsch

30 Years

Adam Missun

35 Years

Grant Taylor
Joachim Heller

40 Years

Rita Mauermann
Thomas Mauermann

45 Years

Ingeborg Kowalski
Carolyn Messer
Edelgard Sawall
Helmut Sawal
John Smith
Margot Smith
Knut Apitz

55 Years

Hasso Kuehn
Rev. Joseph Haas
Siegrid Arnold
Ewald Ganswendt

Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Chicago West

By Fred Leinweber
DANK Chicago West President



DANK West held its annual meeting on Sunday, November 11th. Our annual election was held. Congratulations to the following: Kathy Nelson (treasurer), Annelies Pitz (secretary), Pete Mantel (Vice-President), and Fred Leinweber (President). We also had the privilege of honoring the following members for their many years of supporting DANK: Guenther and Anita Brucha (15 years), Ray and Karen Quitschau (15 years), and Otaia Schhmidt (45 years).

We will be having our annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 9th at 1:30. If you are interested in joining us, please email Fred Leinweber at fgleinweber@gmail.com.

Our annual Schnapps and Hops tasting will be coming up on Saturday, January 19th starting at 2 pm at the Beacon Pub located in Forest Park at 101 Circle Ave. We hope that you can join us! Also, GermanFest Forest Park will be here before you know it (June 8th and 9th).

You can check out updates for this great event on www.germanfestforestpark.com.



DANK Chapter Chicago South

DANK South Oktoberfest 2018

By Anita Walthier
DANK Chicago South Secretary

Sunshine, golden cornfields, blue skies and a warm Saturday afternoon perfect time to celebrate the season of Oktoberfest. People wore their dirndls, lederhosen, Trachten hats on September 22, 2018 to the German American Heritage Center (DANK South Klubhaus) in Frankfort, Illinois to eat, drink, dance, laugh and share some "Gemütlichkeit" together.

It is always delightful to see new families join the festivities. We appreciate our current members and their friends returning and participating in our events. Honored guests were former DANK National president Bill Fuchs and family, former DANK South presidents-Joe Osterhout, Bill Schmidt, Gary Dietz, members of DANK West, Former Chicago Rheinischer Verein Karneval Gesellschaft Prinzes Franz Josef & Prinzessin Sandra, along with Prinz Reinhard & Prinzessin Ilse. Mr. Bill Fuchs announced that he will be the next Prinz elect and started a "Schunkeling" medley with all the former Prinzenpaar.

The music was supplied by the Will Smaka Band and thoroughly enjoyed by all—even the children came onto the dance floor for the "Fliegertanz". A highlight of the evening was the Bier Krug holding contest. The winners were Ed Konrath and Frank Camodeca. There was a lot of fun in the kitchen cooking an outstanding succulent pork roast dinner thanks to Robert Kaiser's recipe and of course the traditional Oktoberfest bratwurst. Everyone enjoyed the Apfel & Kirsch Kuchen for dessert. The hall was filled in anticipation of winning the 50/50 raffle. A danke schön is extended to all the dedicated club volunteers that take the time out of their schedules to help make the events possible--also to guest Laura Konrath for taking these photos.

On November 18, there will be the official biannual club elections. Please come and show your German heritage interest in taking an active role in volunteering a position supporting the only German Club on the South Side of Chicago that it can continue to grow with pride for future generations. Then, on Saturday December 8 we will host a Christmas Winter Wonderland "Alle Jahre Wieder" celebration with entertainers direct from Germany. Please reserve your tickets early contact 708-636-3074.

Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Chicago South

DANK South Oktoberfest 2018



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chicago Northern Suburbs **Latern Walk Around Volkening Lake**

By Markus Radons

DANK School Chicago Northern Suburbs
<http://ChicagoGermanSchools.org/>
dank@ChicagoGermanSchools.org

“Ich gehe mit meiner Laterne und meine Laterne mit mir” (translated: “I am walking with my lantern and my lantern walks with me”) is a song many Germans grew up with and still remember. It is sung by small children during fall, when wandering along the streets together with their parents after dusk proudly holding their colorful, often homemade lanterns. It belongs to the German tradition of Laternelaufen (‘Walking with Lanterns’) which is celebrated during the time around St. Martin’s Day, November, 11th.

In order to celebrate this cultural heritage DANK German Language Schools Chicago Northern Suburbs organized a lantern walk in Schaumburg this year. It was a beautiful evening and almost 150 people, amongst them over 50 children of all ages walked around Volkening Lake after darkness, singing songs and keeping this family friendly tradition alive.

Once back at the starting point everyone enjoyed hot chocolate and many stayed to chat a little longer before heading home.

Thanks to everyone who came or helped organizing.



*Frohe Weihnachten
und ein glückliches
neues Jahr
von DANK West Executive Board*




*Frohe Weihnachten
und ein glückliches
Neues Jahr wünscht
DANK Chapter
Lake County, IL*

Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Lake County

Chapter Lake County, IL Elects Officers for 2018-2019

By Ursula Hoeft

DANK Chapter Lake County Publicity Secretary

DANK Chapter Lake County, Illinois held an election meeting on October 14. Board members for the coming year include Greg Hoeft, President; Reinhard Hudak, Vice President; Karl Schmidt, Treasurer, Membership Chair and Archivist; Judy Kanka, Recording Secretary; Ludwina Homer, Corresponding Secretary; Ursula Hoeft, Publicity Secretary; Patti Hudak and Fini Schmidt, Advisors.

Ludwina Homer is again making plans for our Chapter's Weihnachtsfeier as well as for our Spring luncheon. Karl Schmidt agreed to obtain the permit for our annual picnic which will be held on July 14 in 2019.

President Greg Hoeft addressed the Board, stating "working together, we look forward to another successful year."



*Front row left to right: Ludwina Homer, Ursula Hoeft, Patti Hudak, Fini Schmidt, Judy Kanka
Back Row: Greg Hoeft, Reinhard Hudak, Karl Schmidt*



Gesegnete Weihnachten und ein glückliches neues Jahr!

Chapter Chatter:

DANK Region Three

DANK Region 3 Chapters Celebrate Community!

By R. Erik Wittmann
DANK Region 3 President

September and October were an active months for the Chapters in Region 3. All three Chapters; Cleveland, Erie and Pittsburgh, either held their own Oktoberfest, German-fest activities or participated in an event sponsored by another organization. However, and appropriately so, that involvement was not limited to strictly German events, but included participating in local Alzheimer's Walks to help raise funds for that very worthwhile organization, as exemplified by the Pittsburgh Chapter.

The three Chapters worked cooperatively as a unit in assisting the German Gardens dedication in Cleveland of three new benches as part of the upgrade to that Garden, which is part of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens. On German American Day, October 6th all three Chapters had representatives present at the Garden to help the German Garden Foundation initiate a rededication of the Garden. President Roger Herod came in from Chicagoland and was present at the events, as were Pittsburgh Chapter President Eric Trainer, Erie Chapter President Fred Huttel, and several delegates from the Cleveland Chapter Board who represented Mark Bohn (who was out of the country at the time). German Garden President Thomas Stroman shared with the group, of about 60 persons who attended, the vision for the Garden and expressed his appreciation to the Eisenloeffel, Trainer and Wittmann families for their donations, that allowed for the adding of new benches and landscaping to the Gardens. It should be noted that representatives of all three families were present for the dedication, as were representatives from other organizations from the Cleveland Germanic community. After the dedica-

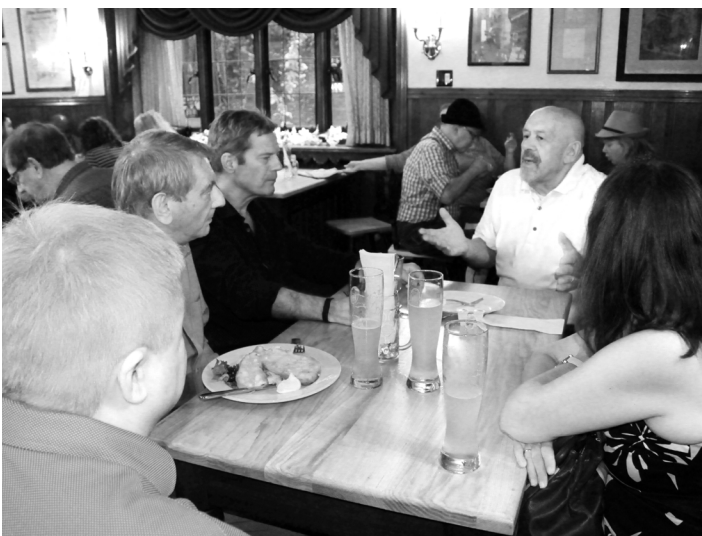
tion the participants went to the Cleveland Hofbr-ruahaus for a luncheon and share some "Gemütlichkeit" with each other. Special thanks needs to be given to both Roger Herod who took time out of his busy schedule and at his own personal cost to spend two days with the Region 3 members in attendance. Thanks go also to Erie Chapter President Fred Huttel, who provided the sound system including the music to make the event a success.



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Region Three

DANK Region 3 Chapters Celebrate Community!



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chicago

WEIHNACHTSMARKT at the DANK Haus
Two events, two days – December 14th and 15th.



DANK HAUS
GERMAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

VIP Preview Party
Friday, December 14 - 6pm to 10pm

Weihnachtsmarkt
GERMAN - INDOOR - CHRISTMAS - SHOPPING - FOOD - GLÜHWEIN - SANTA

Included in this exclusive party is:
Dinner, Drinks, Shopping, St Nicholas and Krampus

buy your tickets today at dankhaus.com

COME SHOP AND ENJOY AN EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW PARTY THE NIGHT BEFORE.

We invite you to this exclusive evening of our Weihnachtsmarkt Party being held on Friday, December 14 from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Included in the VIP ticket is:

Rahm Schnitzel Dinner- Pork tenderloin medallions seared and sautéed in butter and finished in a shallot mushroom cream sauce.

A Drink on the Haus - Whether it is a glass of wine or a cup of Glühwein or a beer, enjoy a German drink on the Haus.

Vendor specials - For this one night only, many of the vendors at Weihnachtsmarkt will be running a VIP special just for you.

Special music and entertainment - This evening is not complete without a visit from St. Nicholas and Krampus, who will surely make your evening unforgettable.

Tickets are \$25 for DANK Members and \$35 for all others.

Get your tickets while they still are available at dankhaus.com.

Come join us for a day of German-inspired Christmas shopping, food, and music!

Visit the DANK Haus at 4740 N. Western Ave., just one block west of the Western Brown Line.

From DANK Members:

Wilma Giese of Milwaukee Receives Lifetime of Service Award



By Heiner Giese

Long-time DANK member Wilma Giese, 95, of Milwaukee was the honored guest at the annual dinner of the German American Societies of Milwaukee at the Schwabenhof on October 7, 2018. The plaque awarded by the Societies stated that it was in recognition "for her contributions in advancing and preserving German culture in Southeast Wisconsin for over 60 years."

Several additional proclamations and Citations were issued in her honor, including from the Assembly of the State of Wisconsin, the Mayor of Milwaukee, German Consul General Herbert Quelle and German Fest Milwaukee.

Wilma immigrated to Wausau in 1950, organized the first "New Americans Club" and after her move to Milwaukee in 1957 became active in numerous German-American organizations, served as an officer of the German American Societies, a board member of German Fest Milwaukee, founder of the annual Trachtenschau and founder of the group "Americans of German Descent." The Citation by the Wisconsin Assembly lauded her as an example of the benefit of immigrants to this country. She was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1984.

German Meet Up/Stammtisch Groups are Successful

By Erik Wittmann

Two of the German Meet Up groups in the Penn Ohio Region have passed milestones few expected. The Pittsburgh German Meet Up group has surpassed the 1000 membership mark just 5 years after their existence while the Cleveland Meet Up Group which was just initiated at the end of March of 2018 has surpassed the 100 membership mark. Both groups meet every other week with Pittsburgh having two meet up sites currently and Cleveland continuing to meet every other week at German Central. Both groups can be accessed through their website including having members sign up and find meeting locations. Thanks to the DANK Education and School fund both groups received start up monies to create websites in order to get the word out to their local communities. Small investments can pay off in big dividends.

Weihnachten damals

(Es war doch so viel mehr)

Manchmal sitz ich da und grüble,
Kopf ist mit Gedanken voll;
denke: So ein Fest wie früher –
Mensch, das wär' mal wieder toll!

Ellenhoch verschneite Straßen,
Schlittenfahrt zum Weihnachtsbaum,
zugefrorene Fensterscheiben,
Tannenduft in jedem Raum.

Hochpolierte Weihnachtskugeln
schwebten im Lametta-Rausch,
Lichtertraum mit echten Kerzen,
Schneeflöckchen aus Wattebausch.

Bunt geschmückte Weihnachtsteller,
reich gefüllt und delikat,
sichtgeschützte Schlüssellöcher,
Bockwurst gab es zum Salat.

Gaben, die von Herzen kamen:
Puppe, Fußball, Teddybär;
die Geschenke war'n zwar schlichter –
doch sie waren SO VIEL MEHR!

©Norbert van Tiggelen 091217

Submitted By Margaret Potocki



Aus Unserer Schatzkiste From Our Treasure Chest



Vertraute Weihnachtslieder aus Thüringen

Thüringen ist Weihnachtsland - und zwar aus Tradition. Drei der ältesten Weihnachtslieder haben Thüringer geschrieben: "O Tannenbaum" der Lehrer Ernst Anschütz aus Goldlauter, "Alle Jahre wieder" der Ichtershäuser Pfarrer Wilhelm Hey, und "O du fröhliche" der Gelehrte Johannes Falk aus Weimar.

"Alle Jahre wieder" ist ein bekanntes Weihnachtslied, was auch oft auf Weihnachtsmärkten zu hören ist. Der Text stammt von Wilhelm Hey (1789-1854) und die Melodie verfasste Friedrich Silcher (1789-1860).



Al - le Jah - re wie - der kommt das Chris - tus - kind

5 auf die Er - de nie - der, wo wir Men - schen sind.

Alle Jahre wieder
kommt das Christuskind
auf die Erde nieder,
wo wir Menschen sind.

Kehrt mit seinem Segen
ein in jedes Haus,
geht auf allen Wegen
mit uns ein und aus.

Steht auch mir zur Seite
still und unerkant,
dass es treu mich leite
an der lieben Hand.

Every year again
Comes the Christ Child
Down to earth
Where we humans are.

Stops with his blessing
At every house
Walks on all paths
With us in and out.

Stands also at my side
Quietly and unrecognized
To guide me loyally
By the dear hand.



Aus Unserer Schatzkiste From Our Treasure Chest



Freunde für's Leben – Friends for Life

(Refrain- Kehrreim):
Freunde für's Leben
in Freude wie im Leid
die war'n wir alle Zeit,
die sind wir auch noch heut'
und werden immer,
in Wind und Sonnenschein,
Freunde für's Leben sein.

Ich war im Osten und Westen
und suchte nur ein Herz,
das gut ist zu mir und treu.
Ich war in reichen Palästen,
dort ist die Treue Scherz
und geht so schnell vorbei.

Freunde für's Leben
sind wie ein Diamant
den man vergeblich sucht
im weiten Wüstensand.
Findest Du einen,
und er bleibt immer Dein,
kannst Du nur glücklich sein.



Das neue Jahr sieht mich freundlich an, und ich
lasse das alte Jahr mit seinem Sonnenschein und
Wolken ruhig hinter mir.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Kiel, Germany – Sister City Kiel, Wisconsin, USA





Germany's Lucky Chimney Sweeps

by

Francine McKenna-Klein, Staff Columnist

bellaonline.com/about/germanculture

Chim chiminey Chim chiminey Chim chim cher-ee, a sweep is as lucky as lucky can be, Bert the chimney sweep sang as he and his fellow sweeps danced across London roof tops in *Mary Poppins*. Not much dancing over roof tops happens in Germany, but from medieval times a Schornsteinfeger or a Schlotfeger, literally a stone chimney brush and funnel brush or a smokestack brush, and in fact a Chimney Sweep, has been believed to be a lucky charm.

Just starting the day by seeing one of Germany's 25,000 chimney sweeps in the age old working outfit, a black suit with double breasted gold buttoned jacket, white kerchief and black top hat, or better still being able to touch one of those buttons, is believed to guarantee good fortune. On New Years Day it is especially symbolic as that should bring good luck for the entire year and of course seeing one on a wedding day is a traditional good luck omen in many countries, not only Germany.

Not surprisingly a typical gift to celebrate the New Year, or Sylvester as it is called in Germany, hopefully to bring 'good luck' throughout the year, is a small black clad chimney sweep made from pipe cleaners, silver foil covered chocolate, colored marzipan. Often clutching a four leaf clover together with the toxic but pretty 'gluckpilz', the 'lucky' red mushroom with white spots and attached to flowers, chocolates, sparkling wine or a pot filled with 'alive and growing' four leaf clover.



The arrival of winter in Germany brings with it the smell of wood smoke drifting through the air from the welcoming and warming open fires and wood burning heat storing stoves its countrymen are so fond of and which, thanks to the chimney sweeps, will burn safely and uneventfully through the cold weather months, because by law each year every one of those fires, and all types of central heating systems, must be inspected by a Schornsteinfeger to make sure they are clean and functioning efficiently.

However it is not possible to just pick up the phone book and choose a chimney sweep oneself, as the German law that decrees all chimneys and heating systems must be checked annually also insists that the one used is allocated to you because you happen to live in his district, and free choice is not an option.

Not only that if you don't want him to enter your home he is entitled to do so with the help of the police and a locksmith, and without your permission if necessary.

A hangover from Germany's pre war days when the mandatory yearly inspection was introduced, the regime of the time thought it quite useful to have people who could freely enter homes and perhaps see if anything untoward was happening there.



There are 7,888 separate 'chimney sweep' regions in Germany and each is covered by a qualified chimney sweep, together with trainees who also wear the traditional black suit outfit but with a skull cap not the 'masters' top hat.

The uniform might be from another age however the profession has become more technical, not limited to cleaning chimneys but inspecting all stages of chimney construction in new buildings, and for environmental and safety reasons checking for carbon monoxide leaks in gas heating systems, making Germany a country that has fewer problems with that gas than any other.



Earning a licence takes four years but it doesn't stop there, because the newly qualified Schornsteinfeger can exchange his skull cap for a top hat and join a waiting list to eventually have his own district, or Kehrbezirk as it is called, however as a 12 to 15 year stay on the list is not unusual, he, and there are some 'she's' but very few, will continue working as an assistant.

In the past only German nationals could become chimney sweeps, and unlike in many other countries children were never used to climb the chimneys, but in theory there is now a law in place that says anyone can learn the trade, nevertheless generally that is not the way it works. As a job for life and a closed society, places are handed down from generation to generation with some families going back to the 18th century which, together with a 'chimney sweep monopoly', means new openings are limited and protected. A German chimney sweep is 'lucky' in many ways.

Chimneys were brought to Germany by the Romans who appreciate being warm on cold nights and had developed a technique to clear the smoke produced by their fires so it was possible to enjoy the warmth without the smog.

For the Germans however things developed more slowly, castles and monasteries were their first tall stone buildings and in the beginning fires were placed in the centre of the rooms, only later being moved to a corner of two outside walls to be built around a chimney, and it was this that in the 16th century brought about the emergence of chimney sweeping as an essential service.

Open fireplaces created a lot of smoke, potentially fire hazardous waste, dirt and dead birds, soot and creosote coated the chimney, and after a visit from a chimney sweep bringing fresh smoke free air back into the home and clearing away

the debris, people were said to have 'good luck' for the next year because their houses would not burn down.

In fact since pagan times fire and firesides have been linked with good fortune and well being, and perhaps it is also because of their connection with this that in so many countries, including Germany, a chimney sweep is considered a symbol of good luck, wealth and happiness, and somehow the day is brighter if it begins with seeing a Schornsteinfeger on his way, wire brush hanging from a loop on his shoulder, ladder at hand.

Chim chiminey Chim chiminey Chim chim cher-oo
 Good luck will rub off when I shakes 'ands wiv you,
 Or blow me a kiss and that's lucky too.

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Aus Unserer Küche:

Lebkuchen



How to prepare the lebkuchen spices?

Nowadays one can find a lot many speciality stores or specific German stores from where it becomes easy to procure a premixed packaged Lebkuchen Gewürz. In case that is not available you may go on and make some on your own by following the steps below:

Spice Ingredients:

- Cinnamon: 2 T (grounded)
- Cloves: 2 tsp. (grounded)
- Allspices: ½ tsp. (grounded)
- Nutmeg: ¼ tsp. (grounded)
- Coriander: ½ tsp. (grounded)
- Cardamom: ½ tsp. (grounded)
- Ginger: ½ tsp. (grounded)
- Anise seeds: ½ tsp. (grounded)

Preparation

Preheat the oven to set the temperature at 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Then begin with a large bowl, ideally made of ceramic or glass. In this bowl add the milk, butter, sugar and eggs. Lightly whisk them till combined increase. The idea is to reach a point where the mixture is light and fluffy.

Now in separate bowl of similar dimensions mix – flour, spices, cocoa powder and baking powder. With each ingredient, you need to alternate with cream and butter mixture. Make sure that they are combined evenly. Then you can add in the nuts and the lemon zest, this has to be done while mixing continuously. Next, pour in the rum, and chopped raisins or shredded coconut. However, coconuts and raisins can also be avoided if desired.

Take a parchment paper and cut circles with diameters of 3 inches. This can be neatly done by using a cup or a biscuit cutter. Right at the center of each of the parchment paper pieces place approximately 3 tablespoons of the cookie dough. In case you are using an Oblaten then you can drop the dough upon the wafer and then smooth the edges. Use the back of the spoon to create small mounds on the center of the dough.

When you are done with that place the tray in the oven for 15 to 20 minutes. The important thing to remember is that you will have to go on and observe the cookies as they are getting baked. If the browning is happening at an increasing rate, then you should turn down the temperature to prevent them from getting burnt. When they are ready, get the tray out and allow the lebkuchen to cool down.

In the meantime, you can prepare the glaze. For this, you will need a medium non-stick saucepan. Put about ½ cup of sugar and then add about ¼ cup of water while the saucepan is medium heat. Get the water to boil and let it remain in that state for a few minutes. Then add the vanilla and rum or whatever liqueur depending on the choice. Then you can sift some amounts of powdered sugar and till it becomes a hot sugar syrup with a liquid consistently.

Next, you will need a pastry brush. Using the brush, you glaze the warm cookies. Let the cookies dry up. You will be required to dry glaze for at least a day, so that they become crunchy. The lebkuchen can also be consumed hot and fresh if preferred! To store, put in an airtight container or simply place them in a freezer.

Recipe

The following recipe will take up 45 minutes in total and should be able to serve 32 cookies.

Ingredients:

Cookie Dough

- Butter: 113 grams or ½ c. (softened)
- Sugar: 200 grams or 1 c.
- Eggs: 4
- White flour: 360 grams or 3 c.
- Lebkuchen spices: 1 T. or 6 grams
- Cocoa powder: 2 T. or 12 grams
- Double acting baking powder: 1 ½ teaspoon
- Milk: 1 c. or 225 ml.
- Almonds: 150 grams or 1 ¾ c. (grounded)
- Candied lemon peel: ½ c or 100 grams (chopped)
- Orange liqueur or rum: 1 T

Glaze

- Granulated sugar: ½ c
- Water: ¼ c.
- Vanilla: ½ teaspoon
- Rum or Liqueur: 1 to 2 T
- Powdered sugar: ½ c.

Puzzles und Spiele:

Sudoku #439 (Easy)

		9				4	5	
			7	8				1
8				1		2		
			1	9				5
5			3			7		4
					7			
7	3		5		9			
	6	1						
9	5						8	2

Sudoku #433 (Hard)

4			5	6			3	9
	9			2				
	6						5	
3							4	6
					9			
7	4							5
		2	8	4				1
		8			1			
			6		5			

WEIHNACHTEN STEHT VOR DER TÜR!

Christel M.

- KRIPPENSPIEL
- WINTERLUFT
- SCHNEEFLOCKEN
- FESTESSEN
- PLÄTZCHEN
- KIRCHGANG
- TANNENGRÜN
- STROHSTERNE
- WEIHNACHTSKUGELN
- GLÖCKCHEN
- BESCHERUNG
- SCHWIBBOGEN
- WEIHPRAUCH
- LICHTERKETTE
- WEIHNACHTSGANS
- PRINTEN
- CHRISTSTOLLEN
- WEIHNACHTSMARKT
- SPEKULATIUS
- KERZENSCHNITT
- WEIHNACHTSFEST
- ENGELSCHAR
- BRATÄPFEL
- NUSSKNACKER
- GLÜHWEIN
- LEBKUCHEN
- ADVENTSgebäck
- ZIMTSTERNE
- LICHTERGLANZ
- ADVENTSKRANZ
- EIERLIKÖR
- BUDENZAUBER
- HOLZSCHNITZEREI

TANNENGRÜNEHCZTÄLPRÄSEN
 REKENEESAIEAKTFÖNSGNEEU
 TRNGLÖCKCHENHHITEPRLHTL
 NBEKELNIEHCSNEZREKSCNNE
 ÜETISLORKDNSRITKBOUNISW
 CSTROHSTERNELSEHEKAKEEK
 TCECINANSBZEEERWBRRCERÄ
 IHKHPiWISTUFGFGHEHTRÄECN
 NERGSRENIDSAEZLNBÜOBINR
 EREANEINNNTZIZNIOEKLEEEES
 GUTNAKHNFENRNCMCEHGRÖA
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 BGCESA AHIEGPERCDRSETIEF
 BRIZTNCSCCNNECKIURTNKRW
 ITLCHKHAHTVGUKPSIBAEÖGI
 WOWICSTEHEOGEPUETKVVRWN
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 NWBFESKUIHCUARHIEWRUSAU
 SNHSWCTECSNHNTNESSETSEF
 HGKKAHLEFPÄTARBNRHOIHRT

Gedichte für Alle:

Im Winter

**Max von Schenkendorf,
1783-1817**

Die Tage sind so dunkel,
Die Nächte lang und kalt;
Doch übet Sternenfunkel
Noch über uns Gewalt.

Und sehen wir es scheinen
Aus weiter, weiter Fern,
So denken wir, die Seinen,
Der Zukunft unsres Herrn.

Er war einmal erschienen
In ferner sel'ger Zeit,
Da waren, ihm zu dienen,
Die Weisen gleich bereit.

Der Lenz ist fortgezogen,
Der Sommer ist entflohn:
Doch fließen warme Wogen,
Doch klingt ein Liebeston.

Es rinnt aus Jesu Herzen,
Es spricht aus Jesu Mund,
Ein Quell der Lust und Schmerzen,
Wie damals, noch zur Stund'.

Wir wollen nach dir blicken,
O Licht, das ewig brennt,
Wir wollen uns beschicken
Zum seligen Advent!



Der Traum

**August Heinrich Hoffmann,
1798-1874**

Ich lag und schlief; da träumte mir
ein wunderschöner Traum:
Es stand auf unserm Tisch vor mir
ein hoher Weihnachtsbaum.

Und bunte Lichter ohne Zahl,
die brannten ringsumher;
die Zweige waren allzumal
von goldnen Äpfeln schwer.

Und Zuckerpuppen hingen dran;
das war mal eine Pracht!
Da gab's, was ich nur wünschen kann
und was mir Freude macht.

Und als ich nach dem Baume sah
und ganz verwundert stand,
nach einem Apfel griff ich da,
und alles, alles schwand.

Da wach' ich auf aus meinem Traum,
und dunkel war's um mich.
Du lieber, schöner Weihnachtsbaum,
sag an, wo find' ich dich?

Da war es just, als rief er mir:
"Du darfst nur artig sein;
dann steh' ich wiederum vor dir;
jetzt aber schlaf nur ein!

Und wenn du folgst und artig bist,
dann ist erfüllt dein Traum,
dann bringet dir der heil'ge Christ
den schönsten Weihnachtsbaum.

Es schneit

**Gustav Falke,
1853-1916**

Der erste Schnee, weich und dicht,
Die ersten wirbelnden Flocken.
Die Kinder drängen ihr Gesicht
Ans Fenster und frohlocken.

Da wird nun das letzte bisschen Grün
Leise, leise begraben.
Aber die jungen Wangen glühn,
Sie wollen den Winter haben.

Schlittenfahrt und Schellenklang
Und Schneebälle um die Ohren!
- Kinderglück, wo bist du? Lang,
Lang verschneit und erfroren.

Fallen die Flocken weich und dicht,
Stehen wir wohl erschrocken,
Aber die Kleinen begreifens nicht,
Glänzen vor Glück und frohlocken.

Christbaum

**Ada Christen,
1839-1901**

Hörst auch du die leisen Stimmen
aus den bunten Kerzlein dringen?
die vergessenen Gebete
aus den Tannenzweiglein singen?
Hörst auch du das schüchternfrohe,
helle Kinderlachen klingen?
Schaust auch du den stillen Engel
mit den reinen, weißen Schwingen?
Schaust auch du dich selber wieder
fern und fremd nur wie im Traume?
Grüßt auch dich mit Märchenaugen
deine Kindheit aus dem Baume?

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In Remembrance



DANK Chapter Chicago mourns the passing of

Hans Lohr

Am 23. October hat uns Hans Lohr, im Alter von 87 Jahren, fuer immer verlassen.

Nach der Flucht und Vertreibung aus der Heimat, begann er in 1959, ein neues Leben in Amerika.

Hans war ein langjaehriges Mitglied der DANK Gruppe Chicago. Er zeigte fast jeden Samstag, unermuendlich, deutsche Filme im DANK Haus.

Wir werden ihn als warmherzigen, liebenswerten Menschen dankbar in Erinnerung behalten.

Seiner Familie gilt unsere aufrichtige Anteilnahme.



DANK Chapter Chicago mourns the passing of

Werner I. Juretzko

Werner I. Juretzko, 86, died peacefully, October 12, 2018 at JourneyCare Hospice in Barrington.

He was an involved member of DANK Chicago for a long time.

He was a proud American, devoted husband, father and grandfather who will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Rita, his daughter, Chrissy (Todd) Suma and grandson, Brett.

DANK Chapter Phoenix mourns the passing of

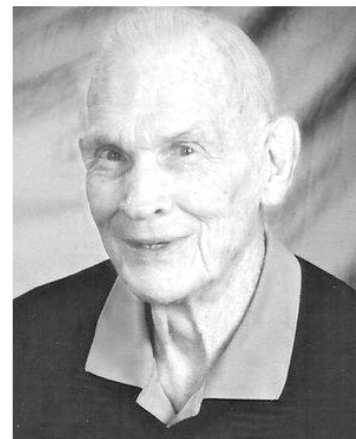
Merle Kenneth Piphon

1925 - 2018

Merle was born on May 6, 1925 in Denver, IA. He married Helen Andersen on June 29, 1947 in Cedar Falls, IA.

Merle was a dairy farmer for more than three decades before he grew tired of the cold Iowa winters and moved the family to Arizona - as he called it, "God's Country" - in 1970. He founded Piphon Milk Transportation in 1976.

He was an active member of the German-American National Congress (DANK) and served as president for nearly two decades. In 1998, he and Helen founded the German School of Phoenix, which offered language lessons to both adults and children.



Merle was happiest reading a book at home, swimming in his pool or travelling with his wife of 71 years to Germany.

Merle is survived by his wife, Helen; his son, Gerald, and Dorothe Marsden of Sonoma, CA; his daughter, Sandy Purdy of Chandler and her husband, Jeff; as well as his granddaughters, Brianna (Justus) Burkitt and Kelsey Purdy.



In Remembrance



D.A.N.K. Chapter 13 - Benton Harbor, Michigan

With sadness we have to report that in a very short time we lost two of our long time, very active, founding members of our D.A.N.K. chapter. They will be missed by all of us and will live on in our memories.

Mrs. Else Baumann, wife of Josef Baumann, died on Oct. 24, 2018

("Nachruf" will be in the next edition of the D.A.N.K. Journal)



Mr. Reinhold Lenz, husband of Helga Lenz, died on Nov. 1, 2018

**In tiefer Trauer nehmen wir Abschied von einem Freund,
langjährigem DANK Mitglied und Mitbegründer
der DANK Gruppe Benton Harbor, Michigan**

Reinhold Lenz

September 23, 1928 - November 1, 2018



Reinhold Lenz, 90, passed away after a full life, Thursday, November 1, 2018 at Spectrum Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph, MI.

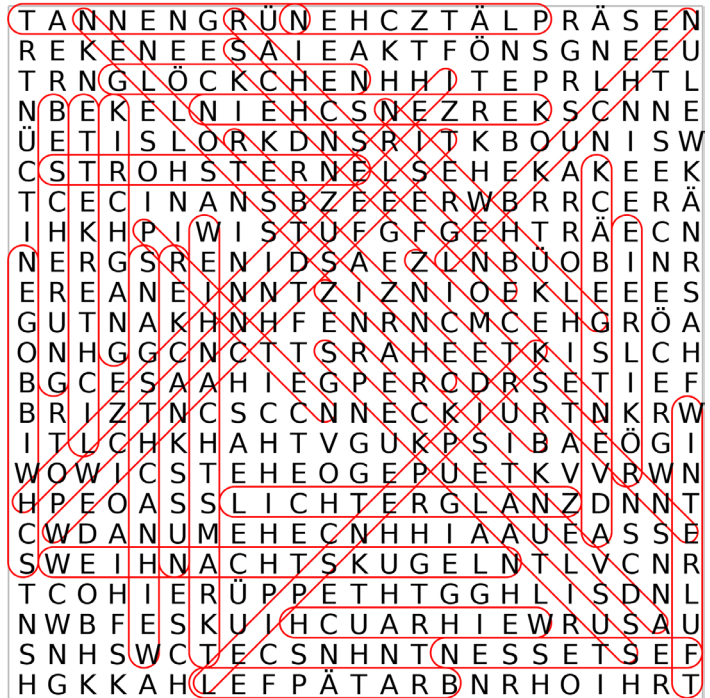
A service was held Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at the funeral home. Burial followed the service at Riverview Cemetery, St. Joseph, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church – St. Joseph, or the D.A.N.K. – Chapter 13.

Reinhold was born September 23, 1928 in Luzk, Wolhynien, Poland to Robert and Olga, nee Urbanzyk, Lenz. After his experiences in WWII he was a refugee and joined his family in Herford, Germany, and while there he was trained as a master mason. On December 30, 1954, he married Helga L. Hollmann in Bad Salzuflen. They immigrated to the United States and arrived in St. Joseph, Michigan on July 13, 1956, with their eldest daughter Annette.

In 1959, Reinhold and Helga helped co-found and open the D.A.N.K (Deutsch Amerikanischer National Kongress) Chapter 13, where they celebrated their German heritage with many friends and family. Over the years he held various positions at the D.A.N.K, especially enjoying the annual Oktoberfest, Christmas and Easter festivities with his family especially his grandkids. Among his many passions were his family celebrations, filling the room with music by playing his harmonica or singing traditional German songs, and sharing many stories of his youth in Germany. He worked for 14 years at LECO as their kiln designer, and also built many fireplaces in the surrounding area. In 1972 Reinhold and Helga began their wholesale German import business, Lenz Import Center, which is still active today.

Reinhold is survived by his wife of 63 years, Helga Lenz. His children Dr. Annette Friend (Dr. Neal Penneys) of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Marianne (Mark) Dine of St. Joseph, Michigan; Gabriele (Steve) Radies of Stevensville, Michigan; Christopher Reinhold Lenz (Melinda Wicks) of Stevensville, Michigan. His grandchildren; Jennifer (Brent) Robbins, Melissa (Joe) Behr, Richard Dine, Chad Radies, Matthew (Sarah) Dine, Justine Radies, Phillip (Alicia) Dine, and Elizabeth (Greg) Schrubba. Including his great grandchildren; Ashton, Gavin, Kyle, Aunalea, Nathan, Riley, Jacob, Zackary, and Abigail; brother Arnold Lenz, Germany; sister Hildegard Milbrandt, St. Joseph, Michigan; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews both in the United States and Germany. He was preceded in death by his parents, and a brother Herbert Lenz.

ANSWERS TO WORD SEARCH:



Der Adventskranz



„Advent, Advent,
ein Lichtlein brennt!
Erst eins, dann zwei,
dann drei, dann vier,
dann steht das Christkind
vor der Tür!“

Jeden Sonntag zündet man eine Kerze an.



NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Date

German American National Congress (Deutsch-Amerikanischer National Kongress)

D
A
N
K

Last Name			First	Middle	Email Address	
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Phone (_____)					Child's Name	
Applicant's Birth Date _____					Birth Date (Mo/Day/Yr)	
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* The Membership Fee entitles Members to receive our newspaper, the "German-American Journal"

Total \$ _____

Chapter Preference (choose one)

- Prefer to join Chapter _____
- Assign to a Local Chapter
- Prefer to be a National Member

Applicant Signature



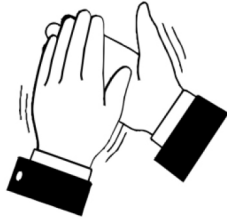
Apply and Make Payments Online at:

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