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# German - American Journal

Volume 67 Number 1

Februar/März 2019



## Thre Zeitung in deutscher Sprache

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Herzlich Willkommen

## **DANK'S FUTURE**

DANK was founded 60 years ago to bring together German-Americans in the pursuit of cultivating and presenting their heritage and interests on local and national levels. We are proud of everything that has been accomplished to promote and maintain German-American culture and traditions in the U.S. In addition to their annual membership fees, many of our members make additional donations to DANK National and to DANK's Education and Schools Fund,

which are much appreciated.

Some of our members have suggested that we should encourage members to consider including bequests in their wills to help secure DANK's long-term future. Many of our members have been DANK members for many years, are very proud of our organization, and would like to know what they can do to help make sure that DANK continues its mission. As a result, we are asking our members to consider making bequests to DANK as part of their estate planning and in their wills.

If you are interested in potentially making a bequest to DANK, please contact either our National Treasurer, Bob Miske, at 920-452-1655 or our National President, Roger Herod, at 847-847-1542.

## 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

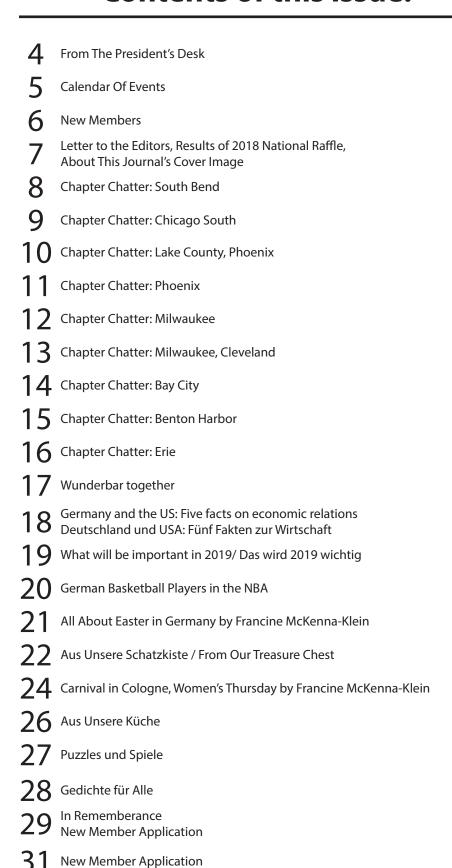
DANK Milwaukee is pleased to announce our keynote speaker John Gurda.



## The topic will be "German Milwaukee"

Join Milwaukee historian John Gurda for a fast-paced look at the Teutonic roots of America's most German city. His talk will cover typical neighborhoods, religious patterns, Socialist politics, the cataclysm of World War I, and the continuing Germanic influence on the community's character in the 21st century.

## **Contents of this Issue:**





#### Der Deutsch - Amerikaner

Editorial Staff: Russ Knoebel Christel Miske Bob Miske

<u>Correspondents:</u> Francine McKenna

*Typography:* Russ Knoebel

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## From The President's Desk

#### **Roger Herod, National President**

rogerherod1@gmail.com

Frohes Neues Jahr, Happy New Year, to all our DANK members!

As we look forward to 2019, I feel honored and privileged to have been a part of so many DANK events during 2018. In April, highlights included DANK Milwaukee's Fruhlingsfest and a very popular wine tasting event in Springfield. Chicago West's well attended Germanfest in June was also a lot of fun. In July, Astrid and I had a great time at Germanfest in Milwaukee, where we had the honor of riding in the Parade in a convertible along with Miss DANK Milwaukee.

Another memorable event for us was Alpine Fest, organized by Chicago South in August, where I had the privilege of handing out awards to long service members. In October, I participated in the dedication of Cleveland's German Gardens, along with members of our Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Erie Chapters. In November, Chicago Northern Suburbs Chapter organized a traditional lantern walk around a lake in Schaumburg, which was thoroughly enjoyed by both adults and children that participated. In December, we had our annual Christmas Program and Concert for our Chicago Northern Suburbs Schools, where as usual I introduced the program and then helped serve food and drinks to all the students, teachers, parents, relatives, and friends. Then a visit to the DANK Haus to enjoy their terrific annual Weichnachtsmarkt. Entertainment, food and drink, lots of vendors- congratulations to all the DANK Chicago volunteers that make this event possible.

With over one million visitors each year, interest in German culture and traditions, and of course cuisine, can be seen at December Christkindlmarkets in Midwest cities such as Chicago, Milwaukee, Naperville, and Cincinnati. If you have the chance, try to sample Bratwurst, washed down with Gluehwein, and followed up with German desserts such as Marzipan, Stollen, and my favorite, Apfel Strudel.

In the last edition of the Journal, I appealed for support from members to help ensure DANK's financial future. I'm delighted with the positive response we've received from our members. To date, we have received about \$5000 donations to DANK, over \$1800 to DANK's Education and School Fund, and over \$5000 from new Lifetime members. I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone that has made donations or become new Lifetime members. We need more help financially, but we're off to a good start.

As you can see, 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. There are still several chapters that I've not yet been able to visit, but certainly plan to do so in 2019. By the way, take a look at our new website, which Russ Knoebel has done a great job to improve: https://dank.org/

As always, I would very much welcome comments and ideas from all members. I'm easily contacted at rogerherod1@gmail.com or at 847-847-1542. With every-

one's ideas and support, I am very confident that we will be able to secure a successful future for DANK.







#### 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.

#### <u>DANK National</u> Executive Board

<u>President:</u> Roger Herod

Vice President: Erik Wittmann Christel Miske

**Treasurer:**Bob Miske

<u>Recording Secretary:</u> Russell Knoebel

Membership Chair: Erik Wittmann

Office Manager: Russell Knoebel

DANK National Executive Office 4740 N. Western Avenue Suite 206 Chicago IL. 60625-2013

Email: Office@DANK.org Phone: (773) 275-1100 Toll Free: 1-888-USA-DANK

> Office Hours: 9 am - 4 pm Monday-Friday

#### **Calendar Of Events:**

### **February**

- 1 Benton Harbor, Fish Fry, doors at 5:30
- 2 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 3 Benton Harbor, Super Bowl Party, 3pm
- 4 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 7 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 10 Chicago 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
- 16 Benton Harbor, Dance, Dinner 530
- 17 Chicago South, Membership Meeting 2PM
- 17 Phoenix, General Membership 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

#### March

- 1 Benton Harbor, Fish Fry, doors at 5:30
- 2 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 4 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 7 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 10 Chicago 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 Milwaukee, Membership Meeting, TBD
- 17 Phoenix, General Memberships Meeting, 1 pm
- 17 Chicago South, Membership Meeting 2PM
- 20 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 21 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 23 Benton Harbor, Benefit Dance
- 26 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 28 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm

### **April**

- 1 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 4 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 5 Benton Harbor, Fish Fry, doors at 5:30
- 6 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 8 Springfield, Meeting 6:30pm
- 9 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 11 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 13 Milwaukee, Frühlingsfest, Schwabenhof
- 14 Chicago West, Board Meeting 1:30 pm
- 17 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 18 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 19 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 21 Phoenix, General Memberships Meeting, 1 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 Tavern 101, 101 Center Ave, Bay City,MI. 48708, 989.778-1431

#### **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 Brewerie 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** 

#### **ILLINOIS**

Chicago
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

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Erie Philadelphia Pittsburgh

#### **WASHINGTON DC**

Washington DC

#### **WISCONSIN**

Milwaukee

www.dank.org

#### **New Members:**

#### **C**HICAGO

Elisabeth Niemann Irene Burckhardt Brianne Lemke

#### CHICAGO SOUTH

CAROLYN REARDON
RICK REARDON
JOAN REARDON
BRIAN REARDON
KEVIN REARDON
WILLIAM SCHUBERT
JOSEPH SCHUBERT
ZEKE SCHUBERT
KATIE SCHUBERT
WILLIAM DUBAUSKAS
DONNA DUBAUSKAS
ADAM DUBAUSKAS
BRIAN DUBAUSKAS
MARIA DUBAUSKAS

#### NATIONAL

SCOTT LEISINGER EVELYN LUKEY

#### ERIE

CHRIS MYERS
DEBRA MYERS

#### CHICAGO NORTHERN SUBURBS

Robby Bartholomai Eleanor Bartholomai Jeff Gorski Kersten Wagschal-Gorski

#### SOUTH BEND

Margi Cowells

#### **B**ENTON **H**ARBOR

Robert Kreiger Christopher Takemoto Latoya Bruce Takemoto

We thank you all for your donations and support!

**New Life Members:** 

Susan Knoebel (Milwaukee)

**Albert Pizzato (Chicago South)** 

**Horst E. Siegel (Chicago)** 

JOIN DANK TODAY!

APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT DANK.ORG

OR

THE LAST PAGE OF THIS JOURNAL

#### **Letter to the Editors**

#### By Jane Nacker

DANK Milwaukee Vice President

Kudos to you, editors of the German-American Journal and to the Chapters who submitted articles for the December-January issue. Honestly, I could not put this issue down once I started reading. It was attractively presented with Christmas greetings and Christmas tradition information. Then I connected with the words from Eric Trainer's article, "...I knew that I was among friends with common desires if not common goals." I could feel the sentiment of these words as I read through each Chapter's article. The humor, the pictures, the creative activities, I am grateful to be part of such an organization and am so delighted to hear what other Chapters are doing to keep DANK vibrant. I appreciate the effort it takes to write and gather information and pictures for submission. And, I appreciate the efforts of our editors to present it in an appealing manner. DANK Chapters, please heed Russ' bimonthly request to submit something about your Chapter. It is part of the glue that keeps us together. No matter how long or short the article, or just a picture, it lets the rest of us know that you are out there...with common desires and goals. DANKe!

# Results of the 2018 National Raffle

#### By Bob Miske

**DANK National Treasurer** 

We congratulate our winners of the final drawing of the 2018 National Raffle.

- 1. Ronald Schroeder of St. Joseph, Michigan
- 2. Amy Edelmann of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 3. Kathy Badger of Springfield, Illinois
- 4. Gerhard Greiff of Chicago, Illinois

Thank you for your participation



## **About This Journal's Cover Image:**



## Cologne Carnival

The Cologne Carnival (German: Kölner Karneval) is a carnival that takes place every year in Cologne, Germany.

Traditionally, the "fifth season" (carnival season) is declared open at 11 minutes past 11 on the 11th of the 11th month November. The Carnival spirit is then temporarily suspended during the Advent and Christmas period, and picks up again in earnest after 6 January (Biblical Magi) in the New Year. The time of merrymaking in the streets is officially declared open at downtown square Alter Markt on the Thursday before the beginning of Lent. Street carnival, a week-long street festival, also called "the crazy days", takes place between Fat Thursday (Weiberfastnacht) and Ash Wednesday (Aschermittwoch). The highlight of carnival is Rose Monday (Rosenmontag), two days before Ash Wednesday. All through these days, Cologne folks go out masqueraded. The typical greeting during the festival is Kölle Alaaf!, a Kölsch phrase.

wikipedia.org

## **DANK Chapter South Bend**

## Alle Jahre wieder kommt das Christuskind...

#### **By Christine Weiss**

DANK South Bend President

Our last activity of the year was of course our Christmas Party. It took place Sunday the 9th of December at Weiss's Gasthaus. The aroma of the hot spiced wine filled the room and people were eager to share stories with each other. Our lunch followed and we sang German Christmas songs. Arco, our new member, surprised us with a little concert. He brought his accordion and played some very familiar tunes.

Happy New Year to all of you May the year bring only the best to you Let us be thankful for each new day And care for each other in every way With lots of sunshine during the year And sometimes a little rain to clear the air Our calendar of events invites you to come And share happy moments with all and some

I am wishing you all A Happy 2019



Arko Joel our new member, thank you Arko for bringing us music



#### **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:

April/May: March 10

June/July: May 10

August/September: July 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 Chapter Chicago South**

#### **2018 Year End Events**

#### **By Anita Walthier**

DANK Chicago South Membership/Correspondence Secretary

Another year comes to a close for DANK Chapter #1 Chicago South. In November, we had our monthly meeting and biannual elections. We proudly presented 30-year membership pins to two of our members: former National DANK President Bill Fuchs which is also the current Chicago Rheinischer Verein Karneval Gesellschaft-German Mardi Gras "Prinz Wilhelm" and his wife "Prinzessin Darlene". A heartfelt Danke schön is recognized to the outgoing board 2016-2018 for their dedication and volunteer services in making a successful 2 years to our chapter. Those board members were President Kathy Kruss, 1st Vice-President Chris Buetow, 2nd Vice-President John Stern, 3rd Vice-President Pat Glavin, Membership Al Combs, Record-ing Secretary Lorin Schab, Corresponding Secretary Anita Walthier, and Treasurer Christine Walthier. The newly elected board is President Bill Schmidt, Vice-President Don Lockmann, Recording Secretary Kathy Fandl, Membership/Corresponding Secretary Anita Walthier and Treasurer Christine Walthier. Also, to all the members that are in the "Beirat" (Trustees), thank you so much for volunteering and helping our club to raise funds. Without your generous gift of time and dedication we could not survive. You, the volunteer, are the heart of our organization!!!

Also, on December 8, 2018 we had a wonderful opportunity to work together with Gisela Lewis in hosting a fabulous Weihnachts Show--"Alle Jahre Wieder". Ms. Lewis arranged this cultural event sponsored by "Eine Rieise mit Musik" to perform for 1 night only at our Klubhaus with entertainers direct from Germany. The show consisted of Herrn Ronny Weiland (Thüringen), the duo Oberstdorf Musikanten (Allgäu) and twin sisters Claudia & Carmen (Dresden/Sachsen). The show was a dynamite hit featuring not only singing but gymnastics, Saxophone performances, comedy, hula-hoop tricks and of course a German Christmas sing-along. Many of our guests raved about the performances and can't wait to come again for a show like this one. We are looking forward to hosting similar featured entertainers in the future.





# DANK Chapter Lake County A Wonderful Weihnachtsfeier!

#### By Ursula Hoeft

DANK Lake County Secretary

On December 9, DANK Lake County, IL members and friends gathered at the Bonnie Brook Country Club in Waukegan, IL to usher in the 2018 Christmas season with a traditional Weihnachtsfeier.

This year's party was a team effort. Judy Kanka, Karl Schmidt and Ludwina Homer combined their party planning expertise and arranged a wonderful Christmas celebration for our Chapter that included good food, good fellowship and plenty of German Gemütlichkeit! There was singing, too, and reminiscing.

Fond memories were recalled. Dora Totzke, who passed away on June 5 of last year, was remembered. Dora played her accordion at many of our Chapter's Christmas parties and led us in singing. We will miss Dora and her music.



With Dora, clockwise from left: Ursula Hoeft, Adina Young, Judy Kanka, Gwennie Young (from a past Christmas party)

## **DANK Chapter Phoenix**



VP Inge Wallmann, Jerry Wood, Rainer Fischer "a-caroling"



Suzan and Jerry Wood, Inge Wallmann, and Nancy Williams All photos taken by Greg Hoeft and Suzan Wood



## **DANK Chapter Phoenix**

### **Weihnachtsparty in Phoenix**

**By Jerry Wood**DANK 48 President

There is a trend among several DANK chapters apparently that some aren't holding regular meetings. Congratulations to those who continue to meet regularly. In Phoenix, we are continuing to meet every month from September to May (it gets pretty hot here in the other months for regular meetings). We still manage to offer three gatherings of celebration during those months as well: German-American Day in October, Christmas in December, and our Maifest in May (obviously). Although our attendance at meetings consists of 6-10 members, we've decided that we don't want to lose our time together; first of all, because it's important to keep our group together; and second of all, we like each other and enjoy each other's company. Despite the "graying" of our chapter, we shall continue meeting together-and I might add that our celebrations attract considerably more members and guests than our meetings.

Back to the Weihnachtsparty: As is our tradition, we gather in a local restaurant, The North Mountain Beer Company. Even though this isn't a German restaurant, the management has a private room for all of our gatherings. For our parties, some members arrive early and decorate the room with the appropriate themed table cloths, etc. Our meeting and partying time is around 12:00 PM, allowing attendees the opportunity to do their driving to our restaurant's central location in daylight hours. We have taken to providing our own entertainment: Rainer Fischer brings his accordion and zither, and we sing German Christmas carols. We usually have a silent auction, which always offers interesting items. Vice-President Inge Wallmann, Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Williams, and board members Marie and Dennis Howard, Romy Solomonson, Werner and Bärbel Wagner are stalwart contributors to this effort and with providing raffle items for a drawing. These are traditional activities, and our members enjoy participating in them...and they help us keep on keeping on!

For the past two years we have had guests from the DANK Chapter Lake County, Illinois, Chapter President Greg Hoeft and his wife Ursula. This year, we added Past Vice-President Richard Bookie and his wife Joyce to our guest group. We look forward to more visits from all four of them.

There is our chapter. In case you are in the Phoenix area between September and May, we meet on the third Sunday of every month in the above named restaurant. Drop by and join us for brunch. We look forward to meeting you!

## DANK Lake County, IL "Snowbirds" enjoyed a warm Arizona Christmas Party

**By Greg Hoeft and Ursula Hoeft**DANK Lake County, IL President

Greg and I attended the Phoenix, Arizona DANK Chapter 48 Christmas party on December 16. Chapter members' warmth and hospitality made us feel right at home. We were pleased to see fellow DANK Lake County members Joyce and Richard Bookie there, too. The Bookies now call Arizona home.

The party was held at the North Mountain Brewing Company where the Chapter normally meets. Lunch was followed by a Christmas carol sing-along with accordion music played by Rainer Fischer. As you would expect at a German party, there was plenty of Gemütlichkeit!

During the many years that we spent winter in the Midwest, the Christmas season always meant cold, ice, snow, warm clothes – Glühwein for warmth was a necessity – so, for us, getting into the Christmas spirit in sunny, warm Scottsdale can be a challenge. But know that I'm not complaining! And we find that Christmas is as important to folks here as it is to people in the Midwest. Christmas carols are played everywhere, houses are decorated, even cactus plants are decked out with ornaments.

Our thanks go to Chapter President Jerry Wood and the Chapter's members for their warm, gracious hospitality! They made our Arizona Christmas very special. And we didn't have to worry about getting stuck in the snow on our way home after the party.



Richard and Joyce Bookie; Jerry Wood; Ursula and Greg Hoeft

## **DANK Chapter Milwaukee**

## **DANK Chapter Milwaukee Celebrates Christmas and Miss DANK 2019**

By Jane Nacker

DANK Milwaukee Vice President

The Christmas holiday spirit was ignited as the DANK Milwaukee Chor, directed by Dr. James Norden, performed with the Schwaben Männerchor at the United German Choruses of Milwaukee Annual Christmas Concert. They combined with the other choruses for a resounding finale. The concert was held on November 25 at Nathan Hale High School, West Allis, WI.

Holiday festivities continued as Milwaukee held its Christmas party on Sunday, December 9, at Sacred Heart Hall, for members and those who volunteered for DANK Milwaukee at Milwaukee German Fest. The Chor, again directed by Dr. Norden, sang Christmas songs, with the partygoers joining in.

Attendees were then captivated by an entertaining puppet show of Rotkäppchen (Red Riding Hood), performed by DANK members, the John Murphy family. The presentation was humorous and educational as the hosts, Clare and Joe Murphy, introduced the story line in both English and German. They periodically paused the show to narrate more of the story and to review more German words with the audience. They would then join their sister, Grace, backstage to work the puppet strings. Parents, John and Maggie Murphy, also played a part in making sure the presentation went off as planned. Older brother, Matt, typically performs with them at Milwaukee German Fest, but he was away at college for this performance.

The day continued with the crowning of Miss DANK Milwaukee 2019, Anna Ohde. Anna is from a family of DANK Milwaukee members. She is the daughter of Brad and Vicky Ohde (former Miss DANK and Miss DANK USA), and the granddaughter of Gene and Irene Brunner.

Anna attended the Deutsche Sprach und Schulverein and is currently a high school student. As Miss DANK, she looks forward to representing DANK Milwaukee at many events. Another former Miss DANK Milwaukee, Heidi Günther, assisted with the crowning.

After Kaffee, Kekse, und Stollen were enjoyed, Christmas gift items were raffled off to lucky winners.

Looking forward to 2019, members will regroup again at the Membership meeting on Sunday, March 17. Plans are underway for the annual spring event--Save the date to attend our "Frühlingsfest" on April 13, 2019, and, of course, the National Convention in October, 2019.

DANK Chapter Milwaukee is on Facebook! See photos, videos, and chapter news. "Like" us at www.facebook.com/dankmilwaukee.



L to R: Heidi Günther, Miss DANK Milwaukee 2019 Anna Ohde, Victoria Ohde, DANK Milwaukee President William Bessa



Singing Christmas carols

## DANK Chapter Milwaukee



The puppeteers. L to R: Clare, Grace, and Joe Murphy



Die Kinder had front row seats at the Rotkäppchen puppet show.

# DANK Chapter Cleveland Greetings from Cleveland Chapter

**By Mark R. Bohn**DANK Cleveland President

The Cleveland chapter has ended the year of 2018 with our annual Christmas Party/Dinner and election of local officers. We had our dinner at "Das Schnitzel Haus" who serves great German food and beer. We all love meeting there for our meetings.

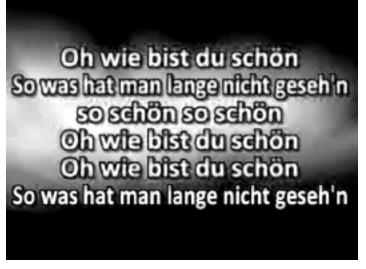
Our chapter sponsored two trips last year. One to Toledo for the German American fest and to Pittsburgh for Christ-kindlmarkt. A big thanks to Erik Wittmann for planning and setting up these trips. This is something new for us to do for our chapter so we are learning as we go with the help of Erik. We are planning our next trip to Milwaukee in July for the German Fest which most people of DANK are very familiar with.

DANK Cleveland also set up a German Meetup (again with the help of Erik). This year we will again sponsor the meetup and meet at the Cleveland Männerchor club house. We are hoping to enlist more members of DANK through this meetup.

Our next chapter meeting is Thursday January 24th at 6:30pm at the Cleveland Männerchor club house. I look foward to see a good turnout to discuss more of our activities that are being planned.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and that the New Year bring you joy and more DANK members.

Lets look foward to a very nice and warm summer.



## **DANK Chapter Bay City**

## **Greetings from Northern Michigan**

**By Monte Oswald**DANK Bay City President

The cool weather is still blowing in off the Big Lake Huron here in the "Great Lakes Bay Region DANK". Yet, Mother Nature's sunshine keeps our hopes up that warm temps are just around the corner.

This year is starting out with a bang as we promote the Federal German Embassy's program "Wunderbar Together" (www.wunderbartogether.org) which couples wonderful activities of German Culture here in America! Check it out for a fun time, or tell them about your event and get it published locally for your DANK chapter party. A big thanks to sister chapters who promote the "German Meetups" and talk about them in this Journal, so we can get something going here in Michigan too. Remember, our national organization has a lot of FREE stuff to offer at www.DANK.org and the site www. wwitv.com provides live & locally broadcast shows from the little bergs in Deutschland!

Since Karnival & Fasching is in the air along with St Patrick's Day let's have some Sehr Guten Spass, while spreading the word of our Great German Culture through DANK (Deutsch Amerikanischer National Kongress) by wearing something German throughout the week somebody will see and inquire! Have a DANK brochure ready to give with a smile!

If you're in the Bay City area and would like some German friendship stop into the Tavern 101, where Walter carries on the Stammtisch Sippings, or drop in on the 1st Monday of the month, 7pm for our DANK gatherings. For updates on the Pretzel Making Party give President Monte a buzz, (989)280-0712

\*\*MARK YOUR CALENDAR\*\*
NATIONAL DANK CONVENTION IS
OCTOBER 11,12,13 2019\*\* MILWAUKEE, WISC







### **Exchange Rates**

1.00 EUR = 1.13960 USD 1.00 USD = 0.877504 EUR

Jan 16, 2019

## **DANK Chapter Benton Harbor**

#### Pictures taken By Donna Lippert

At their Weihnachtsfeier/Christmas party the members of our chapter enjoyed, fine food and desserts brought by club members. Donna Lippert called bingo and to round it all up a gift exchange was done. Everyone had a good time and looks forward to another get together at our beautiful "DANK Haus Benton Harbor".

Please check our monthly calendar for other events and activities.











## **DANK Chapter Erie**

## **Looking Back and Planning Ahead**

#### By Fred Huttel Jr

Dank Chapter 71 President

Hoping everyone had a wonderful and Merry Christmas. Here in Erie we had a complete reversal of weather from one year ago. It was a welcome relief.

This month I decided to put together a series of pictures of some of our activities from the past year including a flyer of a new tradition we hope to start. They say, "a picture is worth a thousand words". Here's wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year.









## **Wunderbar together**



"Wunderbar together" is the motto of the Year of German-American Friendship. From October 2018 until the end of 2019, over 1,000 events between the East and West coasts of the USA will show that the two countries are close and share many values and experiences. This certainly does not mean that the current tensions in transatlantic relations are being swept under the carpet, as the motto might suggest. However, differences at the political level have less influence on civil society than many think, says Germany's ambassador to the USA, Emily Haber: "As current studies show, Germany continues to be perceived favourably in the United States, in fact to a growing extent – as an economic engine, a technology hub, and as a modern, tolerant, open-minded country."

The two civil societies should engage in discussion and continue their long tradition of dialogue, especially in the face of current political differences. And this should not only take place in the big cities, but also in the so-called heartland, the rural regions in the centre of the United States. That is the core idea behind the large-scale initiative that the Federal Foreign Office is organising in conjunction with the Goethe-Institut and the Federation of German Industries (BDI).

The Goethe-Institut, which is responsible for programme planning, has put together an impressive series of events with 300 project partners. They include, for example, four pop-up institutes that the Goethe-Institut will open in vacant buildings and stores in the cities of Minneapolis, Houston, Kansas City and Seattle. "We want to improvise," explains Christoph Mücher, who is coordinating Year of German-American Friendship on behalf of the Goethe-Institut. "We're fascinated by the question of what we can achieve in these cities with nothing other than an upbeat mindset, a little money and a lot of enthusiasm." To be as present in as many places as possible, a so-called WanderbUS will tour about 60 cities throughout the country and the Fulbright Commission's Meet-a-German programme will take young German "ambassadors" to schools in all 50 states of the Union.

The BDI is participating with a pop-up tour called Straight to Heart(land), which will give German businesses an opportunity to present themselves. It will also make clear how close the economic ties between the United States and Germany are. Insights into the digital future are being provided by the re:publica conference, which is taking part in the initiative with a digital road show in Los Angeles, Austin, New York, Portland and Detroit.

You can find out more about the programme on the Wunderbar together website.

"Wunderbar together" heißt das Motto des Deutschlandjahrs in den USA: Von Oktober 2018 bis Ende 2019 zeigen mehr als 1.000 Veranstaltungen zwischen Ost- und Westküste, dass sich die beiden Länder nah sind und viele Werte und Erfahrungen teilen. Das bedeutet keinesfalls, die aktuellen Spannungen in den transatlantischen Beziehungen außen vor zu lassen, wie das Motto nahe legen könnte. Doch hätten Differenzen auf politischer Ebene weniger Einfluss auf die Zivilgesellschaft als viele denken, sagt Deutschlands Botschafterin den USA Emily Haber: "Wie wir aus aktuellen Studien wissen, wird Deutschland in den USA nach wie vor und sogar in wachsendem Umfang positiv wahrgenommen – als Wirtschaftsstandort, als Technologiestandort, als modernes, tolerantes, offenes Land."

Die beiden Zivilgesellschaften sollen ins Gespräch kommen und an die lange Tradition des gemeinsamen Dialogs anknüpfen, gerade angesichts aktueller politischer Meinungsverschiedenheiten. Und dies nicht nur in den großen Metropolen, sondern auch im sogenannten Heartland, den ländlichen Gegenden im Zentrum der USA. Das ist die Kernidee hinter der großangelegten Initiative, die das Auswärtige Amt gemeinsam mit dem Goethe-Institut und dem Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI) ausrichtet.

Dafür hat das für die Programmplanung verantwortliche Goethe-Institut zusammen mit 300 Projektpartnern ein eindrucksvolles Veranstaltungsprogramm erarbeitet. Darunter etwa vier PopUp-Institute, die das Goethe-Institut in Minneapolis, Houston, Kansas City und Seattle in leerstehenden Gebäuden und Läden eröffnen will. "Wir wollen improvisieren", erklärt Christoph Mücher, der das Deutschlandjahr für das Goethe-Institut in den USA koordiniert. "Uns fasziniert die Frage, was man in diesen Städten machen kann, wenn man mit nichts kommt als einem positiven Gefühl, ein bisschen Geld und Enthusiasmus." Um möglichst flächendeckend präsent zu sein, fährt ein sogenannter "WanderbUS" rund 60 Städte im ganzen Land an, und das Programm "Meet-A-German" der Fulbright Kommission bringt junge deutsche "Botschafter" an Schulen in allen 50 Bundesstaaten.

Der BDI beteiligt sich mit einer PopUp-Tour namens "Straight to Heart(land)", in dessen Rahmen deutsche Unternehmen Gelegenheit bekommen, sich zu präsentieren. Und es wird deutlich werden, wie eng die wirtschaftlichen Verflechtungen zwischen den USA und Deutschland sind. Einblicke in die digitale Zukunft gibt die Konferenz re:publica, die sich mit einer "digitalen Roadshow" in Los Angeles, Austin, New York, Portland und Detroit beteiligt.

Mehr über das Programm erfahrt ihr auf der Website Wunderbar together



# Germany and the US: Five facts on economic relations

What is the relationship between the German economy and the US economy? A glance at the figures shows: Both countries benefit from close relations.

Strong trade flows

The US is the most important export market for Germany, with goods exports there totaling 111.53 billion Euros in 2017. Yet at the same time, it is also fact that the US is the fourth most important importer for Germany, with more imports coming into the country only from China and the neighbouring countries France and the Netherlands.

Considerable investments

In 2016 German direct investments in the US amounted to 223.8 billion Euros according to Bundesbank calculations. According to the US Dept. of Commerce, Germany ranks fourth top investor in America, behind Great Britain, Canada and Japan. In comparison, US direct investments in Germany amounted to 54.8 billion Euros in 2016. Companies that are headquartered in the United States have committed around 156 billion Euros in Germany.

Numerous jobs

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, subsidiaries of German companies in the US employ about 674,000 workers. US firms in Germany provide about 650,000 jobs.

Strong sales

While the top 50 US companies in terms of sales volumes booked 2016 sales in Germany totaling 176 billion Euros, sales in the USA that same year by the 50 largest German companies came to 370 billion Euros. The plant of German company BMW in Spartanburg in South Carolina is the largest exporter of cars in the US.

Global cooperation

Germany is a valuable partner for the US not least as the largest European national economy. The European Union and the US together generated 47 percent of the global gross domestic product in 2016 and represented 59.2 percent of foreign direct investment world-wide.

deutschland.de

# Deutschland und USA: Fünf Fakten zur Wirtschaft

Wie stehen die deutsche Wirtschaft und die US-Wirtschaft zueinander? Ein Blick auf die Statistiken zeigt: Beide Länder profitieren von engen Beziehungen.

Starke Handelsströme

Die USA sind für Deutschland mit einer Warenausfuhr im Wert von 111,53 Milliarden Euro im Jahr 2017 das wichtigste Exportland. Zugleich gilt: Weltweit sind die USA der viertwichtigste Importeur für Deutschland, lediglich aus China und den Nachbarländern Niederlande und Frankreich importiert Deutschland mehr.

Umfangreiche Investitionen

Im Jahr 2016 beliefen sich die deutschen Direktinvestitionen in den USA auf 223,8 Milliarden Euro, so die Bundesbank. Deutschland belegt nach Angaben des US-Handelsministeriums Rang vier der Top-Investoren in Amerika, hinter Großbritannien, Kanada und Japan. Zum Vergleich: US-Direktinvestitionen in Deutschland summierten sich 2016 auf 54,8 Milliarden Euro. Unternehmen, die ihren Hauptsitz in den USA haben, waren mit rund 156 Milliarden Euro in Deutschland investiert.

Zahlreiche Jobs

Laut dem US-Handelsministerium beschäftigen Tochterfirmen deutscher Unternehmen in den USA rund 674.000 Arbeitnehmer. US-Firmen sichern in Deutschland ca. 650.000 Jobs.

Hohe Umsätze

Während die 50 umsatzstärksten US-Unternehmen in Deutschland im Jahr 2016 insgesamt 176 Milliarden Euro umsetzten, belief sich der Umsatz der 50 größten deutschen Firmen in den USA im gleichen Jahr auf 370 Milliarden Euro. Das Werk des deutschen Unternehmens BMW in Spartanburg in South Carolina ist der größte Autoexporteur der USA.

Globale Kooperation

Nicht zuletzt als größte europäische Volkswirtschaft ist Deutschland ein wertvoller Partner für die USA. So erwirtschafteten die Europäische Union und die USA allein 2016 gemeinsam 47 Prozent des globalen Bruttoinlandsproduktes und standen für 59,2 Prozent der weltweiten ausländischen Direktinvestitionsbestände.

## What will be important in 2019

Looking into the new year: you should be aware of these dates from politics and current events if you want to be in the know in 2019.

As from 1 January 2019, Germany will be a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for two years. This is the sixth time that the Federal Republic has assumed responsibility in this role. The four core goals to which the Federal Government is committed are peace, justice, innovation and partnership.

19 January 2019 marks the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in Germany. Despite the formal existence of equal rights, equilibrium has not yet been reached, especially in politics and business. The proportion of women in the German Parliament (Bundestag) has improved over the years. Even so, it is currently only around 31 percent.

Since 2003, 22 January has been celebrated as 'Franco-German Day'. It was created to mark the 40th anniversary of the Elysée Treaty. A new Elysée Treaty is to be adopted in 2019, providing for even closer cooperation between the two countries. 50 members of the Bundestag and 50 from France's National Assembly are to meet publicly at least twice a year in the future.

Germany's first parliamentary democracy, the Weimar Republic, will be celebrated on 6 February 2019. It was on this day in 1919 that the Constituent National Assembly met for the first time in the Thuringian city of Weimar. Alongside many other events, the 'House of the Weimar Republic' will open its doors near the erstwhile conference venue in the Deutsches Nationaltheater.

On 4 April 2019, 70 years ago, twelve states founded the North Atlantic Treaty Organization NATO. Today, 29 European and North American countries belong to the defence alliance. Germany participates in numerous missions.

On 23 May 2019, the Federal Republic of Germany will celebrate its 70th anniversary. This was the day in 1949 on which the Basic Law came into force. The German Democratic Republic (GDR) was founded shortly afterwards on 7 October 1949. As a result, two German states existed until reunification in 1990.

9 November 2019 will be the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The peaceful revolution by the people in the GDR brought down the border between East and West. The trigger on the evening of 9 November 1989, however, was an unprepared answer given by GDR Politburo spokesman Günther Schabowski during a live press conference. When asked when the new GDR travel law would be coming into force, he was confused and replied: "As far as I know... immediately, straight away." Whereupon thousands of GDR citizens set off for Berlin's border crossings. The GDR officials gave in to the rush. The Wall was history.

### Das wird 2019 wichtig

Blick ins neue Jahr: Diese Termine aus Politik und Zeitgeschehen solltet ihr kennen, wenn ihr 2019 mitreden wollt.

Vom 1. Januar 2019 an ist Deutschland für zwei Jahre nichtständiges Mitglied im Sicherheitsrat der Vereinten Nationen. Damit übernimmt die Bundesrepublik zum sechsten Mal in dieser Rolle Verantwortung. Die vier Kernziele, für die sich die Bundesregierung einsetzen will, sind Frieden, Gerechtigkeit, Innovation und Partnerschaft.

Am 19. Januar 2019 jährt sich das Frauenwahlrecht in Deutschland zum 100. Mal. Trotz der formalen Gleichberechtigung ist bis heute vor allem in Politik und Wirtschaft noch kein ausgeglichenes Verhältnis erreicht. So hat sich zwar der Anteil von Frauen im Bundestag über die Jahre verbessert. Er liegt aber derzeit nur bei 31 Prozent.

Der 22. Januar gilt seit 2003 als "Deutsch-französischer Tag". Er wurde zum 40. Jahrestag des Elysée-Vertrags geschaffen. 2019 soll ein neuer Elysée-Vertrag beschlossen werden. Er sieht eine noch engere Zusammenarbeit beider Länder vor. Jeweils 50 Abgeordneten des Bundestags und der Nationalversammlung sollen in Zukunft mindestens zweimal im Jahr öffentlich tagen.

Am 6. Februar 2019 wird die erste parlamentarische Demokratie, die Weimarer Republik, in Deutschland gefeiert. An diesem Tag trat 1919 in der thüringischen Stadt Weimar erstmals die verfassungsgebende Nationalversammlung zusammen. Neben vielen anderen Veranstaltungen soll auch das "Haus der Weimarer Republik" öffnen – in der Nähe des einstigen Tagungsorts im Deutschen Nationaltheater.

Am 4. April 2019 vor 70 Jahren gründeten zwölf Staaten den Nordatlantik-Pakt Nato. Heute gehören dem Verteidigungsbündnis 29 europäische und nordamerikanische Länder an. Deutschland beteiligt sich an zahlreichen Einsätzen.

Am 23. Mai 2019 feiert die Bundesrepublik Deutschland ihr 70-jähriges Bestehen. An diesem Tag trat 1949 das Grundgesetz in Kraft. Die Deutsche Demokratische Republik (DDR) wurde wenig später, am 7. Oktober 1949, gegründet. Damit existierten bis zur Wiedervereinigung 1990 zwei deutsche Staaten.

Am 9. November 2019 jährt sich der Mauerfall zum 30. Mal. Die friedliche Revolution der Menschen in der DDR brachte die Grenze zwischen Ost und West zu Fall. Auslöser am Abend des 9. November 1989 war aber die unvorbereitete Antwort des DDR-Politbüro-Sprechers Günther Schabowski während einer live übertragenen Pressekonferenz: Auf die Frage, ab wann das neue DDR-Reisegesetz gelte, reagierte er verwirrt: "Das tritt nach meiner Kenntnis... ist das sofort, unverzüglich". Tausende DDR-Bürgerinnen und Bürger brachen daraufhin zu den Berliner Grenzübergängen auf. Die DDR-Beamten gaben dem Ansturm nach. Die Mauer war Geschichte.

## **German Basketball Players in the NBA**

Dirk Nowitzki is not alone! For the first time ever, seven German basketball players are suiting up for NBA teams. With the new season on the horizon, take a look at the impact Germany's ballers can have.



1. Dirk Nowitzki, Dallas Mavericks

By far the most successful German basketball player ever, 40-year-old Notwitzki is set to become the first ever player to play 21 NBA seasons with the same team. He will be relegated to bench duty this season, but he still has the ability to score double-digit points.

#### 2. Dennis Schröder, Oklahoma City Thunder

Schröder has a fresh, shorter hair style with his new team, who acquired him from the Atlanta Hawks in the offseason. The Thunder will need him at his best when former MVP Russell Westbrook is injured.



#### 3. Daniel Theis, Boston Celtics

He became a solid bench contributor for the Celtics before suffering a knee injury near the end of his first NBA season. Now part of a stacked Boston bench unit, Theis may be the German most likely to win an NBA Championship this season.



#### 4. Maxi Kleber, Dallas Mavericks

Like Theis, Kleber had a relatively strong first NBA season in Dallas, by the end of which he was starting for the Mavericks. However, the German center's playing time may drop significantly after they acquired DeAndre Jordan.

#### 5. Moritz Wagner, Los Angeles Lakers

After playing three years at the University of Michigan — and reaching the college basketball championship game — Wagner will suit up for the historic Lakers. He may not get playing time right away, but he could be sharing the floor with Lebron James by season's end.

#### 6. Isaiah Hartenstein, Houston Rockets

Hartenstein may finally get a taste of NBA basketball after signing a three-year contract with Houston in the offseason. He spent last season in the NBA's developmental G-League, but did play in two of Houston's four preseason games.



#### 7. Isaac Bonga, Los Angeles Lakers

Drafted by the Lakers in the 2nd round of the NBA Draft earlier this year, Bonga is the latest German teenager to test his game in the US. The former Frankfurt Skyliners forward isn't likely to see much of the floor this season, but Lakers coach Luke Walton recently told California broadcaster Spectrum Sportsnet that he likes Bonga's playmaking ability.

#### ALL ABOUT EASTER IN GERMANY

#### By Guest Author - Francine McKenna-Klein

Eggs and rabbits play an important role in the mix of religious, secular and folk traditions that is Ostern in Deutschland...Easter in Germany. Although the celebration does tend to be a traditional not commercial holiday, and throughout the country Good Friday and Easter Monday, which were originally "free days" for workers to attend church services, are now public holidays.

It all begins with Palm Sunday, Palmsonntag, the Sunday before Easter. The first day of Karwoche, Holy Week, and also for the first communion for many young people. Processions in towns and villages symbolize the journey made by Jesus as he rode a donkey along palm branch covered roads to Jerusalem, and are poignant sights.

Priests and choirs lead young and old, fit pushing the infirm in wheelchairs, families, children in baby carriages and babes in arms, all singing and carrying Palmbuschen. The decorated pussy-willow bouquets that will be blessed during the morning church service, and replace difficult to find palm branches. These are usually the first Easter decorations in a home, and this blessing was believed to give them protective qualities for home, family, even stables, until next Ash Wednesday.

Thursday, Maundy Thursday, is Gründonnerstag Green Thursday in German speaking countries, which has been celebrated since the 13th century and originally had no connection to the color green, but stemmed from an old German word, "greinen" to groan, mourn or weep. The day commemorated the Last Supper and the betrayal by Judas.

Over time this association was lost, replaced by "green" as the color of hope and symbol for the awaking of nature after winter.

Homes are cleaned and decorated with green branches or ornaments, it is also time for decorated "Easter trees" to appear, while green food, green vegetables: spinach, beans, broccoli, leeks with chives and other herbs, make up the meals of the day. Popular ones are Gruene Bohnensuppe - Green Bean Soup, and Sieben Kräuter Suppe - Seven Herb Soup, because of a custom based on an old superstition that green foods eaten on Gründonnerstag give protection for the rest of the year.

Good Friday Karfreitag is from "kara" - "care", Caring Friday, and the week after Palm Sunday, Holy Week, is known as Karwoche "Caring Week" in Germany. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday used to be dedicated to an account from the bible, but now only Friday is marked by a special liturgy; a day of remembrance for the crucifixion, with church services and religious processions.

Including the Kreuzwegandacht. A walk in prayer along the fifteen "Stations of the Cross", usually held at 3 p.m., the time it is believed Jesus died on the cross. No church bells are rung, and children are told these have flown to Rome to be blessed. Fish is usually on the Good Friday menu, and it could be anything from herring salad or fish soup to an extravagant fish terrine.

In many areas bakers mark the crust of the day's bread with a cross; although its four sections might also have represented the quarters of the moon honoring the pre-Christian festival of Eostre, the goddess of spring. This later became Easter, a religious festival controlled by the lunar calendar.

Saturday's Easter Bonfires, "Osterfeuer", in some regions on Easter Sunday or Monday, follow a Christian belief that fire is a sign of the resurrection of Christ. Although the tradition in this form also dates back to at least the 16th century with its origins probably in pre-Christian days, and families, friends and neighbors who gather around bonfires, made mainly from old Christmas trees, are not all Christians but there for simply for enjoyment.

Perhaps accompanied by some grilled Bratwurst, beer or Glühwein, they celebrate the tradition of the light and warmth of fire symbolizing an end of winter and arrival of spring.

Osterraeder, huge flaming wood and straw wheels, are an alternative way of marking Easter and winter's end, and 2,000 years ago they were used to represent the sun. Seen especially in areas of North Rhine Westphalia, they are spectacular; rolling down hills leaving hundreds of meters of burning tracks behind them, with wheels that make it to the bottom of the hill a sign the next harvest will be successful.

Ostersonntag, Easter Sunday, and Karwoche ends. It is a day of celebration for the triumph of life over death, while the Easter rabbit or hare brings colored and chocolate eggs, hiding them or leaving them in nests children have prepared.

This odd combination of rabbit, eggs and a Christian Festival began in the Middle Ages.

Rents due from tenant farmers had to be paid on the Thursday before Easter and, as they were not supposed to be eaten during Lent, Medieval landlords were paid in eggs that had been cooked and preserved. In addition to any hares caught on their property.

Although it was not until the mid 20th century that finally the rabbit/hare was chosen as "Egg Bringer", beating the foxes, storks and cranes that had shared the tradition up until then.

And with all those cooked eggs around Frankfurter Gruene Sosse mit Eiern, Eggs with Frankfurter Green Sauce, using herbs left from Green Thursday, is a favorite dish often added to the Easter Sunday end of Lent meal.

Ostermontag, Easter Monday in Germany, is the final day of Easter celebrations. A public holiday and family day when the extended family can meet for lunch, which used to be lamb but the tradition is no longer as strong as it was; there might be egg rolling competitions, long walks in the countryside or mountain areas, visits to parks, sports events or festivals.

It is the St. George Parade, a horse mounted pilgrimage in traditional dress, riders in armor and "maidens" in medieval costumes, accompanied by brass bands. The climax of the parade is a blessing given to a gathering of around 500 local horses, which are always a diverse mixture of shapes, sizes, ages and types but none are outshone by "St. George's" pure white steed. The last day of Easter celebrations, but not the end of Eastertide.

That is Whitsun, Pfingsten, and in Germany many of the trees, branches, wells and fountains decorated with colored eggs, together with greenery remaining from Palm Sunday, will stay in place for fifty days until the celebrations for Pfingsten and Pfingstenmontag have ended.

Frohe Ostern! - Happy Easter



# **Aus Unserer Schatzkiste From Our Treasure Chest**



## **ZWEI KLEINE STERNE (HEINTJE)**

Refrain:

Zwei kleine Sterne steh'n am großen Himmelszelt. Sie werden mit dir gehen wohl in die weite, weite Welt. Zwei kleine Sterne sind mein allerletzter Gruß. Oh, denk' an mich, wenn ich fortgeh'n muss!

Es war Abend, als am Fenster ich einst dich leise gefragt: Wirst du immer bei mir bleiben? Ach, mein Kind, hast du gesagt.

Refrain

Ach, so mancher steht am Fenster, wenn die Nacht herniedersinkt, und es sind dieselben Worte, die der Wind von fern ihm bringt.



## Two Little Stars (English translation)



#### Refrain

Two little stars stand at the big heaven's tent.
They will go with you, well in the wide, wide world.
Two little stars are my very last greeting.
Oh, think of me, when I have to go away!

It was an evening, at the window, I once asked you softly: Will you stay with me forever? Oh, my child, you have said.

Oh, so many (people) stand at the window, when the night falls down, and there are the same words that the wind brings to them from afar

## WHAT'S A "BRÜCKENTAG" IN GERMANY? von Christel M.

A "Brückentag" or "Bridge Day", is a working day that falls between two work free days.

For example, if a public holiday happens to be on a Thursday, then the Friday would be a so-called "Brückentag".

You have to know... these bridge days are extremely important for the vacation planning of Germans... Why? Because Germans love to travel! Germans are one of the most well-travelled people in the world.

If you are able to take a vacation on one of these 'bridge days', this is great! Why? Because it means you can get a long weekend and go travelling! Yes. Germans go crazy when it comes to 'Brückentage'.

So, you better understand this quickly: at the beginning of the year, Germans sit down and search the calendar for these bridge days, just to be the first ones in January to go to the work team calendar and take vacation on those days. Some work places even do a 'bridge day lottery'. No kidding. Bridge days are in high demand.



"Ein Winter ohne Schnee, ein Frühling ohne Klee, ein Sommer ohne Wespenstich – das wäre eine Freundschaft ohne dich!"



# **Aus Unserer Schatzkiste From Our Treasure Chest**



## Als wir jüngst im Allgäu waren...

Text: M. Allmendinger, S.A. der Sektion "Schwarzer Grat", Leutkirch Umdichtung von "Als wir jüngst in Regensburg waren " in: Deutsches Ski-Liederbuch (1931)

Als wir jüngst im Allgäu waren sind wir zünftig Schneeschuh gefahren da waren viele Holden die mitfahren wollten Ja! ja! ja!

schwäbische bayrische Dirndeln , juchheirassa wollten Schneeschuh fahren Auf des Schwarzen Grates Höhen blieb manch Dirndel zaghaft stehen stille ward manch schöner Mund ob der Abfahrt tiefem Grund Ja! ja! ja!...

Skimann, lieber Skimann mein Soll's denn so gefährlich sein Skimann, sag's mir ehrlich ist's denn so gefährlich Ja! ja! ja!...

Wer noch frei und ungebunden landet froh und sicher drunten doch wer heimlich liebt – o weh stürzt kopfüber in den Schnee Ja! ja! ja!...

Und ein Mädel von zwölf Jahren ist ganz munter abgefahren weil sie noch nicht lieben kunnt fuhr sie sicher bis zum Grund Ja! ja! ja!...

Doch die andern all, mein Lieber stürzten in den Schnee kopfüber Skimann glaubt drum bis zur Stund´ das hat seinen guten Grund Ja! ja! ja!





### **DANK Decals are here!**

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## **CARNIVAL IN COLOGNE, WOMEN'S THURSDAY**

## Francine McKenna-Klein, Staff Columnist

bellaonline.com/about/germanculture

Weiberdonnerstag or Weiberfastnacht, "Women's Thursday", is a dangerous day for any well dressed male to be out and about.

Thursday before Ash Wednesday is the first day of Carnival, and "Women's Carnival Day" in Germany's mainly Catholic Rhineland cities. Where it is definitely not a good idea for any man to wear his favorite necktie when walking along streets in Cologne, or nearby towns.

None will do so willingly unless they are tourists who have no idea of its significance. Or someone who, for whatever reason, has lost complete track of time and does not remember what time of year, or day of the week, it is.

Perhaps even an unsuspecting delegate at one of the international organizations based in neighboring Bonn, who has not been warned and is due to attend something important.

In that case he will make quite a statement when entering the conference room.

Unlike German Carnival celebrations in other regions, during the 24 hours of Women's Carnival Day, any man in the Rhineland area knows better than to wear a necktie. Unless he specifically wants it to be cut off and displayed as part of a collection, anywhere from inside a bank to the local medical center. Or put together by the "hunter", or even the "hunted"





with other remnants, and used as a trophy belt.

A tie is considered to be a symbol of a man's power, so when the festivities are taken over by women it is a case of Schnipp-Schnapp and "off with the ties".

He will receive a "Bützchen", a little kiss, in exchange for the loss of most of his necktie, but if there are women anywhere in the vicinity, carrying pairs of extra large scissors, it is still better to run as fast as possible in the opposite direction.

Although there will be a chase, and more often than not anyone who is pursued is also caught, so special, ugly, ties are bought just for the occasion.

Nevertheless if the victim was not amused when his necktie was cut to a stump, a law allows him charge his scissor bearing attackers in court in front of judges, and claim damages.

In Cologne the carnival is opened at 11.11 am by the three traditional figures: the Prince, the Peasant, and the Virgin who is always a man dressed in a rather fetching medieval maiden's outfit, and immediately women symbolically assume power over their male-counterparts.

Conservative workers and housewives transform into thousands of mischief-making women in multicolored fancy dress, who descend on local towns and cities to celebrate; taking over City Halls, playing pranks on any passing males, or even one who just happens to be stationary for a few seconds.

On Women's Carnival Day those collecting tickets, selling newspapers, looking in a map, including policemen, are not safe.

That dentist appointment? Your hygienist might be wearing vibrant colored upturned pigtails and a clown's outfit complete with extra large shoes, but don't let it worry you.

Thought you might pick up some cold cuts for lunch? Behind the counter will probably be someone wearing a curly



wig, their face decorated with silver star shaped sprinkles and a bright red bulbous nose, but those sprinkles are stuck on with special adhesive and won't decorate your slices of roast beef.

It's an unofficial holiday and most businesses will shut after 1 pm. One reason being the majority of female employees will no longer be there, while another is any remaining male employees would rather not be there.

With a few exceptions there are no parades, and all the "partying" happens in the bars, in close proximity to a never ending supply of beer, and out and about on the streets.

An unmissable part of Rhineland and Köln Carnival culture now, but how did it begin.

Well as a part of German Carnival history it could almost be a fairy tale, because it all started with a group of washerwomen in the small town of Beuel, which lies along the banks of the Rhine River not far from Cologne.

As the sun shines longest on that side of the river it was the area for Washer Women, because their freshly washed linen could be put out on the grass knowing it was fairly certain to dry during the day.

It was 1824 and again the annual carnival. Their men were off celebrating, not expected to reappear for days, and as usual wives had been left behind surrounded by piles of washing. Just the same as every other day.

Some of the washer women decided "Enough was enough", and the group they founded, "Alten Damenkomitee von 1824", the Beuel Women's Carnival Committee, still exists.



And they certainly were not all Alten, "old", women, either in the 19th century or now.

As it was almost unheard of for women to have any rights of their own in those days this was in effect a revolution; a revolt against male oppression, and it became the first women's rights movement in the Rhineland area.

The women came into town and stormed City Hall, taking the key to the city as a symbol of emerging power, freedom and rebellion against their husbands.

Over 180 years later still hold a procession, and their velvet clad Washer Woman Princess "reigns" from November 11 until Ash Wednesday. The town hall is raided, as are many others, but of course now everything is an eagerly awaited television spectacle.

At the same time until relatively recently anything that took place during Weiberfastnacht, Women's Carnival, could not be used in a divorce court. A relief to many no doubt.

Not for nothing are these days known as "The Fifth Season" and "The Crazy Days".

It is a long way from the days of The Washer Women of Beuel, their lawns covered by drying linen, tempers frayed because their husbands were off on their annual fun and games, and the beginnings of an early feminist movement.

Now a Carnival in Cologne without the "high jinks of Weiberfastnacht" would simply no longer be a Rheinland Carnival.



## **Aus Unsere Küche:**

## **Kartoffelpfannkuchen: Potato Pancakes The German Style**



Potato pancakes or Kartoffelpfannkuchen is a traditional dish of potatoes indeed hailing from nay regions of Europe. You can find the same and variants of Kartoffelpfannkuchen in – Germany, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, the Bukovina, Luxembourg, Poland, the Ukraine, Belarus, Austria and Bulgaria.

Among the few ingredients used in this simple recipe are peeled and raw potatoes. They along with eggs and flour are mixed in the form of dough and then salt and nutmeg, if at all are added and then they are baked or shallow fried in the form of a hot fat cake.

#### **Ingredients:**

- Potaotes: 2 ½ cups grated
  - Water: 3 cups
- Lemon juice: 1 teaspoon
- Potatoes: 1 large boiled and mashed
  - Egg: 1 beaten
  - Milk: 2 tablespoons
- Vegetable oil as and when needed

#### Recipe

There are many regional variations of the following recipe. They have been mostly created with the addition of oatmeal, onions, bacon, fat quark, buttermilk, garlic, marjoram, parsley, smoked salmon or other known.

You can also go on serving the potato pancakes along with certain kinds of sweet and savoury ingredients. Applesauce and sugar generally are the more popular kinds of supplements that they are served along. Furthermore, in Bergisch Land, in Münsterland and Rhineland you will find that people use buttered brown bread placed along with beef, apple butter, jams and many other things. Sauerkraut is another popular side dish from the Bavarian region. Soups of green beans are also popular in certain regions of Saarland and the northern Rhineland-Palatinate and Hessen.

#### Preparation

First begin by taking a medium sized bowl and mix enough water and a bit of lemon juice so that when you grate the potatoes, they can submerge within the water. Then, by using a strainer or a cheese cloth drain the liquid from the potatoes. Moreover, make sure that they are drained well enough.

Then in another bowl of similar measurements add milk, salt, egg and salt along with the cooked and raw portions of the potatoes. You will have to beat this mixture and form a batter like consistency.

Next, it is time to take a frying pan and add some 3 T oil to it. When the oil heats up you can carefully make pancakes out of the batter. With respect to the following batter volume, you should be able to make close to 3 to 4 pancakes. While frying keep in mind that the pancakes remain firm on the bottom side. Then turn them carefully and try to achieve a nice golden brown crust on the other side.

In the meantime take a serving plate and attach paper towels on to them. Then put the pancakes on them and one at a time remove the excess quantity of oil from each of them.

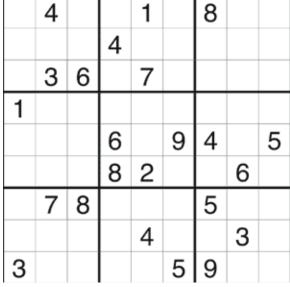
Then take the pancakes and serve them while they are warm. You can use your favourite toppings or just serve it plain and simple.

## **Puzzles und Spiele:**

#### Sudoku #457 (Easy)

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

#### Sudoku #451 (Hard)



# SO SCHÖN IST DIE DEUTSCHE SPRACHE! Christel M.

**AUGENSCHMAUS HERZENSWUNSCH HIMMELSZELT AUGENSTERN KUMMERSPECK LAUSBUBE FERNWEH FINGERSPITZENGEFÜHL PUSTEBLUME HEIMWEH SCHLUCKSPECHT** KINKERLITZCHEN **BUDENZAUBER WAN-DERLUST** FRÜHLINGSGEFÜHLE **BACKFISCH ESELSBRÜCKE MUMPITZ** BLÜTENZAUBER **STECKENPFERD OHRENSCHMAUS DÄMMERLICHT MAUERBLÜMCHEN JÄGERMEISTER BAUCHGEFÜHL LEBENSLUST P LAUDERTASCHE GLÜCKSKIND NASCHKATZE TOLLPATSCH** 

KCABCP HRRS UDENZA SRLLOTUUWHBTANÄHE

## Gedichte für Alle:

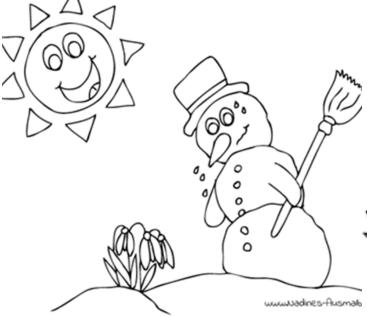
#### Karneval

#### Wilhelm Busch, 1832-1908

Auch uns, in Ehren sei's gesagt,
Hat einst der Karneval behagt,
Besonders und zu allermeist
In einer Stadt, die München heißt.
Wie reizend fand man dazumal
Ein menschenwarmes Festlokal,
Wie fleißig wurde über Nacht
Das Glas gefüllt und leer gemacht,

Und gingen wir im Schnee nach Haus, War grad die frühe Messe aus, Dann können gleich die frömmsten Frau'n Sich negativ an uns erbau'n.

Die Zeit verging, das Alter kam, Wir wurden sittsam, wurden zahm. Nun sehn wir zwar noch ziemlich gern Die Sach' uns an, doch nur von fern (Ein Auge zu, Mundwinkel schief) Durchs umgekehrte Perspektiv.



### März

#### Theodor Storm 1817-1888

Und aus der Erde schauet nur Alleine noch Schneeglöckchen; So kalt, so kalt ist noch die Flur, Es friert im weißen Röckchen.

## **Berliner Fasching**

#### Kurt Tucholsky, 1890 - 1935

Nun spuckt sich der Berliner in die Hände und macht sich an das Werk der Fröhlichkeit. Er schuftet sich von Anfang bis zu Ende durch diese Faschingszeit.

Da hört man plötzlich von den höchsten Stufen der eleganten Weltgesellschaft längs der Spree und den Kanälen lockend rufen: "Rin in die Eskarpins!"

Und diese Laune, diese Grazie, weißte, die hat natürlich alle angesteckt; die Hand, die tagshindurch Satin verschleißte, winkt ganz leschehr nach Sekt.

Die Dame faschingt so auf ihre Weise: gibt man ihr einmal schon im Jahr Lizenz, dann knutscht sie sich in streng geschlossnem Kreise, fern jeder Konkurrenz.

Und auch der Mittelstand fühlts im Gemüte: er macht den Bockbierfaßhahn nicht mehr zu, umspannt das Haupt mit einer bunten Tüte und rufet froh: »Juhu!«

Ja, selbst der Weise schätzt nicht nur die hehre Philosophie: auch er bedarf des Weins! Leicht angefüllt geht er bei seine Claire, Berlin radaut, er lächelt ...



## Der Frühling kommt bald

#### Christian Morgenstern, 1871-1914

Herr Winter, geh hinter der Frühling kommt bald! Das Eis ist geschwommen die Blümlein sind kommen und grün wird der Wald.

Herr Winter, geh hinter, dein Reich ist vorbei Die Voegelein alle, mit jubelndem Schalle, verkünden den Mai!



## In Remembrance



DANK Chicago mourns the passing of

## **Hans Schuschel**

Hans H. Schuschel, 90, of The Villages, FL, passed away peacefully at home with family on Friday, November 2, 2018. He was born April 20, 1928 in Memel, Germany to Hermann and Gertrude (Doblies) Schuschel. He immigrated to Canada where he married his wife, Vilya Glawion in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. They moved to Chicago in 1956 and then to The Villages in 2001. Hans was a commercial and residential property owner and manager. He was an avid chess player and enjoyed judo and playing tennis.

Hans is the patriach of the Schuschel family line in the United States. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Vilya Schuschel of The Villages, daughters, Iris Schuschel Richter, Sonya Schuschel, Christina Schuschel and, son, Dietrich Schuschel, and 3 grandchildren Jacob, Evan and Wyatt. In lieu of flowers, a tax deductible donation may be made in his name to the U.S. Chess Federation, by check with his name in the memo "Tribute Hans Schuschel" to U.S. Chess, PO Box 3967 Crossville, TN 38557 or online, uschess.org/donate by clicking "yes" to tribute and type his name "Hans Schuschel". Hans's signature smile, warm personality and quick wit will be missed by all who had the honor of calling him their husband, father and friend.



DANK Chicago South mourns the passing of



## **Lorin Schab**

passed away in November 2018. Lorin was recently our chapter's recording secretary serving under Presidents Gary Dietz and Kathy Kruss. He was an integral part of the board always willing to volunteer when needed. Lorin had great ideas for decorating the clubhouse and Bier Garten for our events and was knowledgeable in all facets of history. He was the tour guide for German History at Midewin National Tall Grass Prairie during the last DANK National Convention. He enjoyed brewing his own beer. Lorin closely resembled a painting on the wall of our banquet hall—so he will always be with us in spirit. Our sincere sympathies are sent to his wife Renate and their two sons.



DANK Chicago South mourns the passing of

## Helmuth Erdmann

passed away October 2018. He was a member for many years. Helmuth seemed to always have a smile on his face, enjoyed dancing, and socializing with people at our events. Helmuth's deceased brother-in-law was former DANK South President Manfred Quast. Our condolences are extended to his wife Herta and family.



## In Remembrance



DANK South Bend mourns the passing of

## **Franz Haas**

Franz Haas, 89, of Granger, Indiana, passed away Sunday, December 9, 2018 at the Center for Hospice Care in South Bend, IN. During the last nine years, while living at Village at Arborwood Senior Community in Granger, he enjoyed playing bingo and Skip-Bo card games, eating monthly birthday cake, and participating in other entertainment.



Franz was born September 26, 1929 in Franzfeld, Yugoslavia, to the late Karl and Barbara (Armbuster) Haas. On July 15, 1950 in Spittal, Austria, he married the former Anna Beck, who survives.

On June 15, 1955, he brought his wife Anna and three young children to America to start a new life for his family. He was a very proud man and took great pride that Anna was able to stay home to care for their six children.

Franz Haas has been a DANK member of 50 years. Contributions were made in memory of him to DANK National.

DANK Chicago South mourns the passing of

## **Erich Leuttke**

It is with sadness that DANK Chicago South mourns the passing of member Erich Leuttke. He was born in Germany, and kept his culture vibrant by being a member of our chapter along with his wife Juanita for 50 years. Together they attended many of our functions. He always had a smile on his face especially when he shared jokes. May his wife Juanita know that her friends at DANK South extend our sincerest condolences.

DANK Bay City mourns the passing of

## **Herbert Schmidt**

Herbert Otto Schmidt, 99 years young passed away just shy of his 100 yr birthday party. "Herb" entered eternal life as his sister Stella sang German songs to him which put a smile on his face. Herb was a big influence in the farming community as a radio announcer for the well known

WXOX "Big OX" station where he added humor to the important Daily Farm Report. Herb's leadership in the church and support for German Culture through DANK will be missed. R.I.P.

DANK Benton Harbor mourns the passing of

## Elsa Baumann

Else Baumann, wife of Josef Baumann, passed away on October 24, 2018, after a brief illness. Else was born on February 28, 1926, to Otto Gustav and Herta Helene (Radtke) Bohnke in Soczewka, Poland. She attended trade school in her earlier years where she learned how to be a switchboard operator. On November 24, 1945, she married the love of her life, Josef Baumann, in Germany. Most important to Else was her family.



Else was a founding member of DANK Chapter 13, St. Joseph-Benton Harbor, Michigan since 1964 along with Josef, who was the founding president in 1964. Else was a very active

member and a familiar figure at the DANK Haus. She supported Josef throughout the years and made numerous friends at the local chapter and at the DANK headquarters in Chicago. She was a member in the chapter's Frauengruppe where she contributed her time and tasty baked goods for over 30 years. Even in 2018 she still baked cakes and visited with the members on Wednesday nights and Friday Fish Frys.

Else will be missed dearly by all.

"Mom was the Sun, Moon and Stars for us. As the Moon she set the course. Our lives ebbed and flowed at her direction. Her kindnesses and generosities are numbered like the Stars in the Sky. She was our Sunshine.,"

#### **ANSWERS TO WORD SEARCH:**

DANK Benton Harbor, MI Fish Fry Schedule



February 1st March 1st April 5th

The House Of Gemütlichkeit DANK Haus - Benton Harbor 2651 Pipestone Rd. Benton Harbor, MI (269)926-6652 · www.dank13.org

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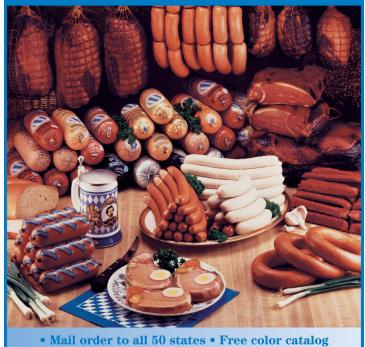


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