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German - American Journal

Volume 66 Number 1

Februar/März 2018

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Der Deutsch - Amerikaner

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General Information:

German American Journal - ISSN 1086-8070 is published bimonthly and is the official publication of the German American National Congress. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, IL and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER*

Send address changes to:
German-American Journal
4740 N. Western Avenue
Suite 206
Chicago IL. 60625-2013

Annual Subscription Rate \$15.00

www.dank.org

Submit articles to Office@DANK.org

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From The President's Desk

Roger Herod, National President

rogerherod1@gmail.com

Happy New Year, everyone! Ich wünsche allen ein frohes neues Jahr.

For all of us, one of our New Year resolutions should be to reach out to as many people as possible that might be interested in becoming new members of DANK. The importance of recruiting new members was brought home to me when I was delighted to accept an invitation to attend DANK Milwaukee's Annual Membership Meeting last November. The enthusiasm of all the members and the range of DANK activities they are involved in was very impressive. I do want to single out for special mention one of the members, Clara Fairfax, who was presented with the 2017 President's Award by the Milwaukee Chapter President, Bill Bessa. Clara has been a DANK Milwaukee member for 45 years and is a very active member of their DANK Chor. Over the years, Clara has been a terrific PR ambassador and recruiter for DANK, giving out DANK flyers to neighbors and friends and distributing flyers in local shops and supermarkets. She is a great example for all of us!

Following Clara's example, we will be launching a new initiative to promote DANK early in 2018 by encouraging our chapters to reach out to as many of the German restaurants in our regions as possible. Any of their customers and staff could be potential members! The plan is to provide restaurants with DANK flyers, copies of the Journal, and other marketing materials to distribute to their customers. We would obviously try to encourage the restaurants to advertise in the Journal and on our Website. This is the approach that we have already taken with the Chicago Rosemont Hofbrauhaus, who have been very happy to cooperate with us and have already begun advertising in the Journal. To support this initiative, Russ Knoebel and I have been updating our DANK membership materials and brochure, and producing a flyer for the restaurants to distribute, which we will make available to all our chapters.

I also want to thank everyone that has already renewed their memberships for 2018 and encourage those members that have not yet renewed to do so during the next few weeks. Don't forget that you can now renew your DANK membership very easily by credit card, which a large number of members have already taken advantage of. As mentioned in my previous President's letter, we are actively looking for ways to provide additional benefits to DANK members. As an example, everyone that has renewed their membership has now received

a link and code to be able to join Tickets at Work who are partnering with us to provide discounts to DANK members on hotels, auto rentals, shows, concerts, movies, and a range of exclusive products. Please take advantage of this great new benefit.

Wishing everyone a very successful 2018!



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.

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Office Hours:

9 am - 4 pm

Monday-Friday

Calendar Of Events:

February

- 2 Benton Harbor – Fish Fry
- 3 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10 am
- 5 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7 pm
- 7 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 7 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 8 DANK HAUS, Chicago, A Cappella Concert with Vocaldente
- 10 DANK HAUS, Chicago, 2018 Kulturbrücke till March 10th
- 11 Chicago West - Board Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 12 Springfield, Board Meeting, 6:30pm @ Engel's on Edwards
- 13 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 12 Springfield, Fasching, 6:30pm @ Dublin Pub
- 14 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 14 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 16 DANK HAUS Chicago, Stammtisch – Open House, 7:30
- 17 DANK HAUS Chicago, Kinderschule Open House, 11am
- 18 Chicago South - Monthly Meeting, 2pm
- 18 Phoenix - Board Meeting 1 pm
- 21 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 21 Erie - General Membership Meeting, 7 pm
- 21 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 23 DANK HAUS Chicago, German Cinema Now, 7:30 pm
- 27 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 28 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 28 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am

March

- 2 Benton Harbor – Fish Fry
- 3 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 7 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 7 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 11 Chicago West - Board Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 13 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 14 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 14 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 16 DANK HAUS Chicago, Stammtisch – Open House, 7:30
- 18 Chicago South - Monthly Meeting, 2pm
- 18 Milwaukee, Membership Meeting 2:00PM, Sacred Heart
- 18 Phoenix - Board Meeting 1 pm
- 21 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 21 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 21 Erie - General Membership Meeting, 7 pm
- 24 Chicago South - Spring into Spring Event 2pm @ Club House
- 27 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 28 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm

April

- 4 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 4 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 6 Benton Harbor – Fish Fry
- 7 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 8 Chicago West - Board Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 10 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 11 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 11 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 14 Milwaukee, Frühlingsfest, Schwabenhof
- 15 Chicago South - Monthly Meeting, 2pm
- 15 Phoenix - Board Meeting 1 pm
- 18 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm
- 18 DANK HAUS, Chicago, Sonnenkinder, 10am
- 18 Erie - General Membership Meeting, 7 pm
- 20 DANK HAUS Chicago, Stammtisch – Open House, 7:30

Saturdays at the DANK Haus

Kino Kaffee & Kuchen – Heimat films in German, 2 pm
Lost German Chicago Exhibit in Museum, 11 am - 3 pm

Language Schools

Chicago North - DANK Haus

Pre-K to 12th Grade - Saturday's 9am-12pm

Adult Classes - Wednesday's 6:30pm-9pm

SONNENKINDER is DANK Haus Kinderschule's new weekday play-based German language group for kids ages 3 -5 filled with songs, stories, crafts, movement and play. Meets Wednesdays 10am - 12pm.

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

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 Erie Männerchor Club, 1617 State St. Erie, PA, 16501 Tel. 814.835.1939

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:*****National***

Emily Deach
Alison Katon
Grant Shreiner

Chicago South

Waltraud Schuller
Chares Balesi
Christopher Moeller
Leslie Suppan
Heinz-Dietrich Suppan

Chicago North

Mark Svalina

Springfield

Mark Svalina

Benton Harbor

Kim Styborski
Lori Styborski

Indianapolis

Travis Doto

Milwaukee

Eric Fettig
Eveline Kehlert

Cleveland

Dominic Mensurati

Chicago Northern Suburbs

Rhys Weyrauch
Daniel Weyrauch
Joy Weyrauch

South Bend

Julie Lukens
Gavyn Craft
Marcus Craft Sr.
Josefine Craft
Patricia Stonestreet
Caleb Stonestreet
Katie Grace Hayden
Christopher Stonestreet

Phoenix

Linda Wescott
Paul Wescott

Pittsburgh

Keith Douglass Will

Erie

Mitchell Dombrowski
Dennis Madura
Mitchell Kalkhof

Bay City

Barbara Heuvers
Konrad Heuvers
Kyle Sajdak

**A CAPPELLA CONCERT WITH
VOCALDENTE**

February 7 7:00 PM Piano Forte, Chicago, IL 1335 S. Michigan Ave.
February 8 7:00 PM DANK Haus, Chicago, IL 4740 N. Western Ave.

About the Musicians:

Vocaldente is a German, a capella quintet that excites their audiences with purely vocal experiences unaided, unamplified and unadulterated. Their music spans nearly every decade from the Charleston of the Golden Twenties, German Schlager, 50's Rock' n' Roll, 70's disco to the present day. Their unique performances have earned them international awards, including winning the Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival in San Francisco. Their current program is called "Life is a highway," based on the title of a Tom Cochrane song.

Ticket prices and information can be found at
bit.ly/2gZFK0o or at dankhaus.com

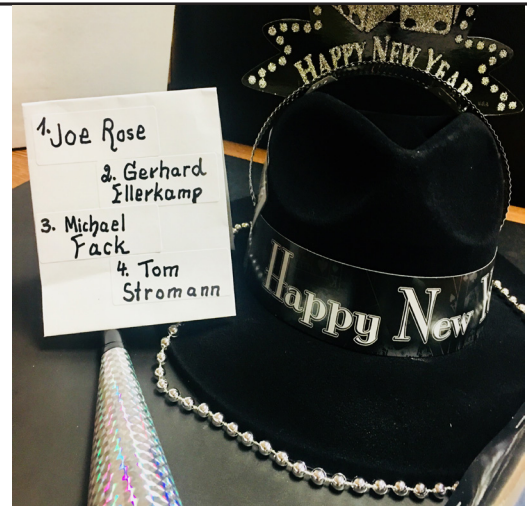


Congratulations to the 2017 DANK National Raffle Winners

The 2017 National Raffle was another success, with thousands of entries. The drawing took place at the DANK National Office in the DANK Haus of Chicago. The winners are:

- 1st Prize: Joe Rose
- 2nd Prize: Gerhard Ellerkamp
- 3rd Prize: Michael Fack
- 4th Prize: Tom Stromann

We thank everyone for their participation in the National Raffle and your continued support of DANK National. We hope you look forward to entering the 2018 Raffle. Good luck to everyone in the coming year!



About This Journal's Cover Image:

Germany's highest building site "Zugspitzbahn"

50 million Euros were invested. No other cable car in the world traverses a longer unsupported span: more than 3200 meters from the support tower to the summit station. It has the world's tallest aerial tramway steel support, 127 meters in height. The cabins travel 4.5 kilometers, covering a difference in elevation of almost 2000 meters in one section. Those are technological world records.

The first new cabin adorned with a white outline of the Wetterstein Massif, the new cabins offer more comfort and a better view. They have room for 120 passengers. The new cable car can transport up to 600 people an hour to the summit. When the glass-walled cabins whisk passengers at high speed over the single support tower, an adrenaline rush is guaranteed on the ten-minute trip.

Engineers and technicians worked on the new cable car for three years. Now the cranes have been dismantled. The three-story summit station glistens from afar. It's fully glazed, including the station platforms, technical buildings and panorama restaurant. Even getting into or out of the cabin is a thrill: the new building hangs 30 meters above a precipice.

The Austrian side already had a cable car to the Zugspitzkamm ridge, 2805 meters above sea level, in 1926. In 1963, the Bavarians went one better: in the following years, the Eibsee cable car took more than 21 million passengers up to 2960 meters. The last cabin traveled to the valley in spring 2017. Adding up all the kilometers, the old cabins circled the world more than 76 times.

The old cable car was named after Eibsee lake. This emerald-green mountain lake lies near the valley station, 1000 meters above sea level. Its name derives from the "Eiben", or yew trees, that once lined its shores in even greater numbers than now. Hiking trails lead around the lake, with its eight islands in crystal-clear water. You can also explore the area on a mountain bike.

The golden cross at the summit was damaged by a crane in May 2017 during construction work. The crane's chain tore off several of the cross's golden rays. Some of them fell deep down but could be salvaged. On December 6, 2017, in a spectacular operation, the Zugspitze's 4.88-meter-tall landmark was put back in its place.

The Zugspitze region is a veritable winter paradise and an ideal arena for winter sports, and it still has a lot of natural snow. The season for skiing and tobogganing on the glacier often lasts well into May. However, in recent years snow has rarely fallen as early as this winter. The Alps are already suffering from the early effects of climate change.



The Zugspitze cog railway first turned Germany's highest peak into a tourist paradise. It has been taking passengers from Garmisch-Partenkirchen up to the glacier since 1930. The final meters to the Zugspitze plateau are now bridged by a short aerial cable car. The trip on the historical cogwheel train takes about 75 minutes. In the summer, many hikers use this way to get to the summit.

Most tourists visit the Zugspitze in the summer, and the cable car operators rely on them. The slogan "a mountain experience for everyone," aims to attract more passengers with disabilities to the summit. The barrier-free cable car is expected to carry up to 600,000 passengers a year and run for at least 50 to 60 years. Whether there will still be snow-covered Alpine peaks remains to be seen.

from Wikipedia.de



FASCHINGSMUFFEL AND CARNIVAL

by

Francine McKenna-Klein, Staff Columnist

„Das Schönste am Fasching sind die Krapfen-Variationen und der Aschermittwoch...“

“The best things about Carnival are the different types of donuts and Ash Wednesday...”

So say the Karnevalmuffel, the many who run for the hills when “The Fifth and Foolish Season” begins. Germany’s reputation as a country filled with carnival enthusiasts is something of an exaggeration.

Celebrating carnival is regional anyway, with much of the country not involved and one fifth complaining that it is ridiculous and takes up too much TV time etc., while in the actual carnival areas less than half take part with 20 percent saying “Ich hasse Karneval”.

Even though there are several versions to choose from, with completely different traditions.

Karneval in the north and Rhineland is known for its political and social parody. Floats poke fun at everything from local, national and international politicians to the past year’s news and the people in it, including politically explosive issues. The Rhenish festivities have become especially popular over the centuries, since being used as a satirical platform to give vent to rebellious anti-Prussian and anti-French sentiments during the various occupations.

Although they often feature parody, the emphasis in many Fasching and alemannische Fastnacht regions lies instead on wearing traditional masks, often centuries old, while dressing up as devils, fools and wild beasts. And military style uniforms are less common than in Karneval regions.

Many love the fifth season because it’s when the rules allow them to be silly and unrestrained, so being silly and unrestrained only when the rules actually allow it. The crazier the better.

But what about those who have no interest in being kissed by drunken strangers, can’t stand endless loud carnival tunes and don’t want to be pelted with confetti by pirates, clowns or devils; how can they escape carnival turmoil.

Well any living in a Fasching stronghold can soundproof their homes and remain there for as long as it lasts...or take flight. While anyone living a safe distance away can enjoy their



advantage and stay there, often joined by Karnevalmuffel from the carnival regions, letting the others have their fun.

After all tastes differ and so do ideas about what makes a good party.

Stores are closed but shopping malls are often open, museums too, while for weeks travel agencies have been offering holidays in “fool-free zones”.

Especially complete contrasts such as Germany’s car free islands, with their dunes, heaths, pastures and horse-drawn carriages.

Peace and quiet in a monastery, which often offer everything from bee keeping and computer courses as well as fasting, meditation and “Days of Silence”.

Dresden, capital of Saxony and a carnival free zone, offer a “Nix für Pappnasen” break. Inviting Carnival refugees to stay for special rates, including free admission to some museums and castles.

In fact, there are many Karneval free zones to choose from in Germany, and of course the ski slopes...and – and - and.

Of course, this being a Social Media world there are also Facebook groups who exchange tips on what to do and where, as well as making fun of the Narren and Jecke, jesters and carnival revelers.

Über Karneval muß ich nur wissen, wann er endlich vorbei ist... “All I need to know about Carnival is when is it finally over”, say many...and so there is a collective sigh of relief from some quarters when it’s Ash Wednesday at last.

The official start of Lent. Even if very few people actually fast until Easter these days, historically this was the purpose of carnival. To live it up before the beginning of Lent and its strictly observed 40-day Lenten period of fasting, when people refrained from drinking alcohol or eating meat, milk products and eggs.

Now Karnevalmuffel can come out from wherever they have been hiding, “The Fifth and Foolish Season” is over for another year and life goes on...although there are some who will be nursing hangovers, and even post carnival depression, for at least a day or two, because it is “ein trauriger Tag für die Narren”...a sad day for carnival revelers.

But the end of carnival also means the approaching spring, its color, lighter nights and warmth, is closer, and that soon makes everything seem much brighter.



1918-1968-2018



Two historical events will return to the centre of attention in 2018: the end of the First World War 100 years ago and the beginning of the '68 Movement 50 years ago. What happened?

1918: end and beginning

On 11 November 1918, a German delegation headed by Secretary of State Matthias Erzberger signed the Armistice in a forest clearing near Paris. Germany's defeat in the First World War also meant the end of the German Empire. Wilhelm II abdicated. The Republic was proclaimed amidst the turmoil of the subsequent revolution. The Weimar Constitution came into force in 1919.

1968: a new era

In 1968, thousands of students demonstrated in Berlin, Frankfurt and many other cities of what was then West Germany, chanting "Unter den Talaren Muff von 1000 Jahren" ("The mustiness of 1,000 years under academic gowns"). The main reasons for the protest marches were the ossified social structures, the lack of debate on the Nazi past, and the Vietnam War. The protest went hand in hand with a new, alternative attitude towards life, which manifested itself above all in culture, but also in politics. In the early 1970s, a new political party, The Greens, emerged from the '68 Movement.

2018: important elections

Topical political decisions are also due in Germany in 2018. The new Federal Government is expected to be formed in the spring. In the autumn, state elections will be held in the Länder Bavaria and Hesse. The Prime Minister of Bavaria has come from the Christian Social Union (CSU) continuously since 1957. With one exception, Hesse was governed by the SPD from 1946 to 1999. The CDU has been in power since 1999, currently in a coalition with the Greens.

And what else?

Furthermore, the 200th birthday of Karl Marx will be commemorated in 2018. A major exhibition entitled Karl Marx 1818-1883. Life. Work. Times will open on 5 May in two museums in his home town of Trier. Sports enthusiasts are looking eagerly to Russia, where the Fifa Football World Cup will begin on 14 June. Germany's head coach Jogi Löw and his team will be attempting to defend their world championship title.

deutschland.de

Zwei geschichtliche Ereignisse rücken 2018 wieder in den Fokus: Das Ende des Ersten Weltkriegs vor 100 Jahren und der Beginn der 1968er-Bewegung vor 50 Jahren. Was war passiert?

1918: Ende und Anfang

Am 11. November 1918 unterzeichnet eine deutsche Delegation unter Leitung von Staatssekretär Matthias Erzberger in einem Eisenbahn-Salonwagen auf einer Waldlichtung bei Paris den Waffenstillstand. Die Niederlage Deutschlands im Ersten Weltkrieg bedeutet zugleich das Ende des Kaiserreichs. Wilhelm II. dankt ab. In den Wirren der darauffolgenden Revolution wird die Republik ausgerufen. 1919 tritt die Weimarer Verfassung in Kraft.

1968: Eine neue Ära

1968 gehen Tausende von Studenten in Berlin, Frankfurt und vielen anderen Städten der damaligen Bundesrepublik auf die Straßen und skandieren „Unter den Talaren Muff von 1000 Jahren“. Grund für die Protestmärsche waren vor allem verkrustete Gesellschaftsstrukturen, die fehlende Auseinandersetzung mit der NS-Vergangenheit und der Vietnamkrieg. Der Protest geht einher mit einem neuen, alternativen Lebensgefühl, das sich vor allem in der Kultur, aber auch in der Politik manifestiert. Anfang der 1970er-Jahre geht aus der 68er-Bewegung die Partei „Die Grünen“ hervor.

2018: Wichtige Wahlen

2018 stehen in Deutschland aber auch aktuelle politische Entscheidungen an. Im Frühjahr wird mit der Bildung der neuen Bundesregierung gerechnet. Im Herbst stehen Landtagswahlen in den großen Bundesländern Bayern und Hessen an. Die Christlich-Soziale Union (CSU) stellt in Bayern seit 1957 ununterbrochen den Ministerpräsidenten. Hessen wurde von 1946 bis 1999 mit einer Ausnahme von der SPD regiert. Seit 1999 ist die CDU an der Macht, derzeit in einer Koalition mit den Grünen.

Und was noch?

Außerdem wird im Jahr 2018 der 200. Geburtstag von Karl Marx gewürdigt. In seiner Heimatstadt Trier eröffnet am 5. Mai die große Landesausstellung „Karl Marx 1818-1883. Leben. Werk. Zeit“ in gleich zwei Museen. Sportbegeisterte blicken gespannt nach Russland. Dort startet am 14. Juni die Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft. Bundestrainer Jogi Löw versucht mit seiner Elf, den WM-Titel zu verteidigen.

Extrem hoch: Hotelpreise bei WM in Russland

by Ilya Koval
DW.com

Hotelpreise während einer Fußball-WM sind immer hoch, doch in Russland wird es besonders teuer. Den Vorschlag des Kartellamts, die Preise für Hotelübernachtungen zu regulieren, lehnt das Wirtschaftsministerium ab.

Wie kommt man dahin und wo übernachtet man? Vor jeder großen Fußball-Meisterschaft sind das die zwei zentralen Fragen für Fans, die ihre Tickets bereits gesichert haben. Im Sommer wird Russland zum ersten Mal eine Weltmeisterschaft ausrichten. Die deutsche Fußball-Nationalmannschaft wird ihre ersten Spiele in Moskau, Sotschi und Kasan beschreiten.

Sein erstes Spiel führt das Team vom Trainer Joachim Löw nach Moskau. Auf dem Olympiastadion-Luschniki geht es am 17. Juni gegen Mexiko. Welche Übernachtungsmöglichkeiten gibt es? Als Orientierung könnte man die Drei- bis Fünfsternehotels mit besten Bewertungen auf einem der weltweit führenden Internet-Reiseportal nehmen. Eine Übernachtung für zwei Personen im 5-Sterne-Boutique-Hotel "The Rooms", nicht weit von der Stadtmitte, würde umgerechnet rund 1220 Euro kosten*. Einen Monat davor, Mitte Mai, ist das gleiche Zimmer für rund 160 Euro zu haben. Der Preis für den Spieltag ist damit um 750 Prozent höher.

Ein nicht weit vom Kreml gelegenes 4-Sterne-Hotel, "Villa Kadashi", ist nur unwesentlich günstiger. Eine Übernachtung für zwei Personen am 17. Juli würde umgerechnet 900 Euro kosten. Im Mai dagegen wäre der Preis rund 250 Euro. Wer eine preiswertere Alternative sucht, könnte das 3-Sterne-Hotel "Esquire" nehmen, ebenfalls in der Stadtmitte. Ein Zimmer am Spieltag der deutschen Mannschaft im Juni würde rund 235 Euro kosten. Im Mai dagegen wäre das gleiche Zimmer für die Hälfte dieser Summe zu haben.

Insgesamt, so der Eindruck, würden Hotelpreise in Moskau während der WM dramatisch steigen, besonders (um mehr als das Achtfache) im teuren Segment.

Am 23. Juni spielt Deutschland gegen Schweden in Sotschi am Schwarzen Meer. 5-Sterne-Hotels für diesen Tag sind bereits ausgebucht. Ein Luxus-Zimmer (normale sind ebenfalls ausgebucht) im 4-Sterne-Hotel "Swesdnyj" würde umgerechnet rund 290 Euro kosten. Im Mai wäre das gleiche Zimmer für weniger als die Hälfte buchbar. Deutlich günstiger wäre das 3-Sterne-Hotel "Zwetnoj 5". Eine Übernachtung am Spieltag würde 130 Euro kosten, einen Monat davor ist der Preis dreimal so niedrig.



Das letzte Spiel der Gruppenphase führt die deutsche Mannschaft nach Kasan, eine Stadt rund 825 Kilometer östlich von Moskau. Dort geht es am 27. Juni gegen Südkorea. 5- und 4-Sterne-Hotels an diesem Tag sind bereits ausgebucht. Ein Zimmer im 3-Sterne-Hotel "Objekt 784" würde rund 90 Euro kosten. Im Mai dagegen wäre der Preis um das Dreifache günstiger.

Die Lage vor der WM in Brasilien 2014 war ähnlich. Nach Angaben des Verbandes russischer Reiseveranstalter stiegen die Preise in brasilianischen Hotels fast um das Doppelte im Vergleich zwischen Mai und Juni.

Um einem dramatischen Anstieg vor der WM in Russland vorzubeugen, schlug das russische Kartellamt vor, die Preise für Hotelübernachtungen während großer Events zu regulieren. Doch das Wirtschaftsministerium lehnte ab.

Einen bestimmten Rahmen hat der Staat trotzdem eingeführt. So beschloss die Regierung im Februar 2016, dass ein Luxus-Zimmer in einem 5-Sterne-Hotel in Moskau nicht mehr als ungerechnet 3670 Euro kosten darf. Auch für billigere Hotels und Zimmer in Moskau und anderen WM-Austragungsorten wurden maximale Preise festgelegt. Wer dagegen verstößt, muss mit einer Geldstrafe rechnen. Die staatliche Reiseagentur "Rosturism" droht, schwarze Schafe in eine Liste einzutragen. Allerdings scheint diese Maßnahme eher formell zu sein und würde nur ein Imageschaden bedeuten.

Doch es gibt auch gute Nachrichten für Fußballfans, die gerade eine Reise zur WM nach Russland planen. Zum einen können diejenigen, die bereits Tickets für Spiele und einen Fanpass haben, kostenlos mit Sonderzügen zwischen den WM-Städten reisen. Allerdings dürfte nicht jeder bereit sein, einen ganzen Tag etwa von Moskau nach Sotschi unterwegs zu sein.

Für Flugreisende sieht es auch nicht schlecht aus. Die Ticketpreise während der WM dürften laut Portal Aviasales nicht höher sein als sonst. Wer jetzt für Juni einen Flug etwa von Moskau nach Sotschi oder Kasan bucht, sieht noch keinen Unterschied im Vergleich zu Mai.

Groundhog Day, Hedgehogs and Candlemas

by Francine McKenna-Klein, Staff Columnist

According to German legend the forerunners of the Groundhog Day tradition were hedgehogs; a protected species in Germany with their own "Hedgehog Hotline" open to anyone with an "Igel" emergency, countrywide support associations and Igefutter, Hedgehog Food, available in almost all supermarkets.

Healthy hedgehogs enjoy their winter hibernation and sleep the time away until Spring. Except it seems many years ago, perhaps even now, when around the beginning of February they would leave their den, inspect the weather and depending on what they found decide whether or not they would disappear for another six weeks; or slowly begin to come back to life.

For several European nations, including the Romans who had been introduced to the custom by Scottish Celts, hedgehogs became something of weather forecaster, and there is an old German proverb:

*„Wenn der Igel Lichtmess seinen Schatten sieht,
so kriecht er wieder auf sechs Wochen ins Loch.“*

*"If the hedgehog sees his shadow at Candlemas,
He will crawl back into his hole for another six weeks"*

And February 2 is Candlemas.

For the Romans "weather forecasting day" was February 5 with no connection to Candlemas, however the custom was brought to the USA by both German and English immigrants; with those coming from England having their own piece of farmer's wisdom:

If Candlemas be fair and bright

Come, winter, have another flight.

If Candlemas brings clouds and rain,

Go, winter, and come not again.

For centuries many European cultures had predicted spring weather by watching the behavior of hedgehogs at Candlemas, February 2nd; celebrating when a cloudy day meant there was no shadow, as in their experience this meant a quick end to the cold winter season.

It is thought that a bear was the original "forecaster", but for reasons now lost in the mists of time it became the hedgehog.

Just how impatient "the ancients" were to see the arrival of spring was summed up by another German proverb:

*"A shepherd would rather see a wolf enter his stable on
Candlemas Day than see the sun shine".*

Wolves, now slowly being reintroduced, were at the time widespread throughout the country and a dreaded enemy of farmers, shepherds, and of course sheep.

There was an absence of hedgehogs when settlers arrived in the "New World" so an alternative was found and the shadow of a Groundhog, the Woodchuck respected by the Delaware Indians as a wise, sensible animal and their honorable ancestor, now predicts six more weeks of winter weather on a sunny and clear February 2.

A tradition followed at least as far back as the 1840s by German immigrants in Pennsylvania, and known as "Groundhog Day".

The immigrants brought with them another European tradition celebrating the triumph of light over darkness on February 2. Forty days after the official birth of Jesus, and midway between the Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox, is the religious feast of "Maria Lichtmess", Candlemas Day, in honor of the mother of Jesus and the Jewish custom of a child's introduction to temple and presentation to God.

When Christianity was introduced to Europe Christian feast days were often added to existing celebrations, and again the origins of Maria Lichtmess are in an ancient pagan festival. Midwinter's Imbolc, pronounced "IM-olk" and Gaelic Celtic for "in the belly" - of the mother; Perhaps referring to spring lambing etc.

A first celebration of spring, marking lengthening days and beginning of the farming season with festivities, had been taking place in one form or another for centuries, but "extras" learned by the Romans from the Scottish Celts, and introduced to the Holy Roman German Empire, were absorbed into existing German folklore.

For early European Christians there was a tradition of clergy blessing candles during the "Christian Festival of Lights", Candlemas that celebrated "Jesus Christ as the Light of the World", and this is a custom that the Pope continues to this day as head of the Catholic church.

All sacred candles expected to be used during the year's church services, and those of the congregation, were blessed, with those belonging to the congregation returned. To be lit and placed by the windows of their homes in the darkness of winter.

A Candlemas tradition still be found in some regions of Germany, and that includes not taking down the Christmas tree until February 2.

Germany's culture is rich with ancient Bauernregeln, farming folk lore and wisdom based on signs from nature, covering everything from "early singing of cuckoos and nightingales signaling an early summer", to "spiders disappearing from view meaning winter is on its way", and superstition is now the only form of recognition a hedgehog's appearance on February 2nd receives.

No Groundhog Day partying for him.

By the time Candlemas arrives the sun will have increased an hour since winter's solstice, and in Germany's Black Forest the optimistic feeling that days were lengthening, spring was on its way and routines could once again begin to change, was summed up with:

"Lichtmess, Spinnen vergess, bei Tag zu Nacht ess!"

Candlemas, forget your spinning and eat supper by daylight!

Candlemas came from the ancient pagan Imbolc celebration, a time when seeds were planted, fires lit, and the spirit began to reawaken. Just as in centuries past it heralds the dawning of Spring, even if the Groundhog, or hedgehog, takes one look at the weather and rushes back down into his den.

Chapter Chatter:

Great Lakes Bay Region DANK Chapter

by Monte Oswald

President, DANK Great Lakes Bay Region

Hallo Freunde!

Alles Gut here in Beautiful Bay City as our Great Lakes Bay Region DANK Club has started off the New Year with a bang! The holiday season has been fun and spiritually fulfilling...please take a moment to check out the German Edeka TV commercial with the old man tricking his children into coming home for the holiday (Google Youtube.com) by having to fake his own death to get them all together...remember our family & friends who need our companionship throughout the year! DANK Club here in Mid-Michigan is doing well as we've received many new friends from neighboring "Little Bavaria" Frankenmuth Gemütlichkeit Verein as new members...the guys really liven up the meetings with varied German Songs....If you'd like to check out our gatherings just go to Facebook.com and look up "Great Lakes Bay Region DANK" where Bruder Ron keeps timely & exciting videos, pics & news from the U.S and Deutschland....Also, FREE German TV & Radio can be found on our national DANK website www.DANK.org. Since the sale of our original meeting place "The Stein Haus" we've been circling Mid-Michigan to hold gatherings.... recently we've hovered over "Tavern 101" in Bay City...Feel free to join us on the 1st Monday of the month (Feb 5th and March 5th, 7pm) to experience German Culture with Songs & Spirits! The last bespeeching was a real hummsluscher! Brother Don lead the national anthem after a couple month hiatus of questionable health as club "Goodwill Ambassador" Judy waved the flag...The gang from Frankischland rolled in just in time to initiate the Ein Prosit prelude with a little swabisch dialect which made brother Walter's heart flutter reminding him of his native Black Forest...Walter, then feeling good, gave notice that due to incoming revenue from the sale of Edelweiss Flowers our treasury now stands in the black again above \$3k - \$10k!!!! Secretary Tamara read last months' minutes which were confirmed & seconded by honorary Treasurer Mel who stamped his approval with another round of Ein Prosit! As long as the joviality was flowing Sister Lynn began the sale of 50/50 tickets which brought in a hefty bag full of coins & cash, coupled with the unclaimed jackpots from previous raffling the wheel barrel rim overflowed a bit, Birthday Boy Herb Schmidt (99 yrs. young) drew the winning numbers but victors Harold and Sonja were in the hospital so they weren't present to win.....partial jackpot winner Jerry was present so he scraped off a little from the top to pocket , Just Under \$510...Hope that helps make you feel better Jerry! Brothers Ed & Robert noticed that the capacity crowd exceeded the fire code limit, so Dr. Phil called a conclusion to the Official meeting which Sergeant-At-Arms Dale haled! Let's have a great time at the upcoming mystery celebration in February....See you there!!!



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!

Chapter Chatter:

Alle Jahre wieder kommt das Christuskind

by Christine Weiss
Dank Chapter South Bend

Our last activity of the year is our Christmas Party which took place December the 10th at Weiss Gasthaus. It's a time to celebrate, wish everyone a Merry Christmas and enjoy an afternoon of togetherness. We had an excellent turn out and enjoyed a glass of hot spiced wine prepared after an old recipe by Trudy Muessig. The food and deserts were greatly appreciated. Of course the best to come was the singing of the Christmas songs. Karl Brenner was so nice to re type all the song sheets in better readable letters. Günter Kison, Karl Brenner and Pastor Fichtner led us in the singing.

The new year has begun and I present to you our
calendar of events for 2018
To make it more interesting I decided to do it in a poem!

*February begins with Fasching a time for laughter and disguise
Putting on a costume with a lot of surprise
May is the awakening of nature first look at spring
What better place than Fernwood to do our thing
Pizza in April at Weiss's Gasthaus we meet
To celebrate Trudy's Geburtstag oh so sweet
In June we go crazy and will have a feast
We will go Italian for everyone to please
August it's picnic time at Kison's where else
The best place of all to enjoy oneself
In September Ox Bow Park, we will visit again
To enjoy nature and friendships as well
Oktoberfest in October that's the way it should be
Weiss Gasthaus is waiting you just see
We eat, drink and schunkeln without any pause
Eins, zwei, drei gsuffa auf die Gesundheit applause
November it's time to check out the year
Say goodbye to the officers with great cheer
Re-elect a new team but o Schreck o Kraus
The same ones are back with a lot of applause
A party in December to celebrate Christmas and the birth of
Christ
And sing the old songs from long forgotten times
Wishing you the best for a new year to come stay healthy and
happy au revoir and so long Christine Weiss*



left to right Gunter Kison, Karl Brenner and Pastor Fichtner



Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chapter Milwaukee Elections, Membership Awards, and Miss DANK 2017-2018

By Jane Nacker

Dank Chapter Milwaukee Vice-President

The DANK Milwaukee Chor held elections in November with Jill Shearer passing leadership onto new Chor President Julia Kendl. Also serving a two year term in the Chor are Vice President Irene Brunner, Secretary Sally Shearer and Co-Librarians Helene Gyarmaty and Pam Mylotta. Directed by Dr. James Norden, the Chor performed with the Schwaben Männerchor at the United German Choruses of Milwaukee Annual Christmas Concert on November 26 at Nathan Hale High School, West Allis, WI.

DANK Chapter Milwaukee held its Membership Meeting on November 19 at Sacred Heart Hall. Special guests in attendance were DANK National President Roger Herod, Vice President (also Milwaukee member) Christel Miske, and Treasurer (also Milwaukee member) Robert Miske. The Milwaukee Board shared their committee activities and the accomplishments for the past two years.

Membership Secretary Ursula Günther presented members with their membership certificates and pins:

5 years: Walter Barke, Shirley Behrendt, Armin Fiedler, Irene & Leo Fox, Stephani Richards-Wilson, Gerhard Roth.

10 years: Alex, Anna, & Lydia Ohde, Mary Schaible.

15 years: Daniel Schneider.

20 years: Annette Fischer, Carolyn Fuchs.

25 years: Raymond Fischer, Sandra & Robert Kilcoyne, James Mayr, Judith Ann Panyk, Bernadette, Carla, & Kurt Van Willigen.

30 years: Edward Mueller.

35 years: Neal Degner.

45 years: Irene Barke, Clara Statz Fairfax, Gisela Murray.

50 years: Roswitha & Dietrich Schnappup, Richard Trivalos, Dr. Andreas Wesserle.

New this year and initiated by President William Bessa and approved by the Board, was a "President's Award" to recognize a member for an outstanding aspect of membership. This year's President's Award went to Clara Statz Fairfax for her constant promotion of DANK. Clara always has DANK information with her, distributes it around Milwaukee, and talks to everyone she can about DANK. Some members can attribute their joining DANK to Clara's efforts. Clara received the special DANK pin and gifts of appreciation.

Members then witnessed the election of the new Board, presided over by National Treasurer Robert Miske. Serving a two year term are President William Bessa, First Vice President Jane Nacker, Second Vice President Heidi Günther, Secretary Sally Shearer, Treasurer Victoria Ohde, Membership Secretary Ursula Günther. Advisors to the Board are: Kristina Beck, Irene and Gene Brunner, Edwin



Miss DANK Milwaukee 2017-2018, Jessica Petri, speaks to the membership after her crowning

Günther, Julia Kendl, Doris and Edward Mueller, Brad Ohde, Jill Shearer, James Schmidt, Julie and Gary Seidlitz, and Don Wohlfeil.

The Christmas party for members, and those who volunteered for DANK Milwaukee at Milwaukee German Fest, was held on Sunday, December 10 at Sacred Heart Hall. The Chor sang Christmas songs, with the membership joining in. St. Nikolaus and Krampus stopped in as cookies, stollen, and Kaffee were enjoyed. Christmas gift items were raffled off to lucky winners.

At the Christmas party, DANK Milwaukee reinstated the Miss DANK program with the crowning of member Jessica Petri for 2017-2018. Ms. Petri has been involved in a German dance group since childhood and is currently also a member of the DANK folk dance group. She grew up attending the Milwaukee German Immersion School. As a college student, she studied in Marburg, Germany for a semester. When she was not busy with the university, she traveled to Heidelberg and Saarland where she experienced German dance and practiced speaking German with those who shared the same passion and love for dance. As Miss DANK, her goals are to increase community awareness of DANK and to recruit members of all ages.

Looking forward in 2018, plans are underway for the annual spring event--Save the date to attend our "Frühlingsfest" on April 14, 2018.

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

Chapter Chatter:



National Officers attending the Milwaukee meeting. L to R: President Roger Herod, VP Christel Miske, Treasurer Robert Miske.



Milwaukee Board: Front L to R: Doris Mueller, Victoria Ohde, Jane Nacker, William Bessa, Heidi Günther, Sally Shearer, Ursula Günther. Back L to R: Brad Ohde, Jill Shearer, Kristina Beck, Gary Seidlitz, Edward Mueller, Gene Brunner, Irene Brunner, Julia Kendl, Julie Seidlitz, Edwin Günther.



Milwaukee Awardees: L to R: Clara Statz Farifax, Edward Mueller, Stephani Richards-Wilson, Roswitha Schnappup, Richard Trivalos, Neal Degner, Anna Ohde, Dr. Andreas Wesslerle, Irene Fox, Leo Fox. Seated: Carolyn Fuchs.



St. Nikolaus at the Milwaukee Christmas Party.

Weihnachtstradition Christmas Tradition

At DANK Chicago Northern Suburbs

By Dr. Silvia Schmid, Co-Director

DANK Chapter 26, Chicago Northern Suburbs

www.chicagogermanschools.org



Every year, the students welcome a special guest to our Christmas Program. It is Kasperle with his friends. Kasperle, Kasper, or Kasperl (Bavarian: Kaschberl, Swiss German: Chascherli) is a famous puppet character from Austria, Germany, and Switzerland, and usually the hero of the Kasperltheater (puppet theater). The children look forward to this moment when he makes his entrance with his entourage: Grandmother (Oma), the Witch (Hexe), Lumpi (dog), the Policeman, and others. In this year's story, the Witch Wackelzahn tried to go after Kasperl to enchant him. Lumpi, the dog, was supposed to protect Kasperle but the witch knew her way to distract Lumpi with a big, fat sausage and a sleeping pill inside. And so, Lumpi was the first one to be enchanted. After that, it was easy for the Witch to find Kasperl to enchant him as well.

Play provided by Frau Plank – or shall we say the “Kasperle Frau” – teaches level 8 in Palatine. For the last few years, she has prepared a Kasperl Theater with her students that everyone at the annual Christmas Program enjoys. The plays are funny and keeps a German tradition alive. THANK YOU Frau Plank! THANK YOU students in level 8!

Read an excerpt of “Kasperl...” on page 24!



Chapter Chatter:

Greetings From The Snowy Tundra Of Erie, PA

By Chapter 71

Well, 2017 went out with a big chill across the NW and Erie Pennsylvania accumulated 122.4 inches just in December - slightly higher than the yearly seasonal total of 108"! Of course you knew this since we kept making National News. Like the rest of the country we are basking in a Polar Freeze! Brrr... We hope that you had a Frohe Neues Jahre und eine gute Rusch zu 2018.

To recap our year, it did not start off on a good note with the passing of long time members, Christel Caldwell, Robert Brabender and Carole Wunner. It just reminds us of how quickly life can take twists and turns.

We had a great 27th Anniversary celebration and it was good to see so many familiar faces that we have missed at meetings. In July we held our annual picnic at the home of Fred & Beverly Huttel, Jr. and it was quite an enjoyable evening. Our German Fest went really well again last year. We had lost so many volunteers over the past few years for reasons of health or their passing that it was reason for concern but thankfully we had quite a few new people step up and they were so appreciated.



Ava Lesniewski, our youngest chapter member found a snow globe in her St. Nicholas stocking.



Fred Huttel explaining the Advent Wreath

We sent Fred Huttel, Jr., to the national Convention and he came back with a lot of information and ideas to boost our chapter.

Our Christmas Party was well attended and this year it was so nice to have six children attending. We were happy to welcome Erik Wittmann NVP and Tom Stromann, Secretary/Treasurer of the Cleveland Chapter. Members brought donations of supplies for hot beverages and the Chapter donated \$150 to the Russian Church of the Nativity who hosts the overflow shelter for the homeless over Christmas.

Among our accomplishments were the decisions to increase our monetary donations to various local organizations that totaled \$3,27500. In April we donated \$750 to the Veterans Miracle Center – Erie and in December added another \$500 to them. Our public Library also received \$750 towards their Heritage Room; the Erie Historical Society received \$500 towards the preservation of our German related items as well as several donated items for their collection. The Erie Society for Genealogy Research also received \$500 for their German collection; \$150 for the Mercy Center for Women and \$150 to the Church of the Nativity (Russian Orthodox) for the over-flo shelter they sponsor over Christmas and New Years. . Or course there are other smaller donations made throughout the year.

On January 19th we start with the first meeting of the New Year and our election of officers - but this will be determined by the weather. First and foremost, we want our members to be safe in this cold wintery weather. By the time you receive this Journal, we expect to have our new web page up and running for both our chapter and our German Heritage Festival. Visit us at www.dank-Erie.org, You can also check us out on Face Book at DANK Chapter 71-Erie and German Heritage Festival 2018 Erie PA. Messages can be emailed to dankerie1990@gmail.com.

Looking forward to our Spring Thaw...



Beverly Huttel and grandson waiting for his stocking from St. Nicholas

Chapter Chatter:

Cleveland Chapter

by Mark R. Bohn

President, Cleveland Chapter #30

I would like to first announce that Cleveland DANK finally has achieved 501c3 IRS status for the German Garden Foundation. It was a long year of work in getting this done. Congratulations to Tom Stromann, Secretary/Treasurer of our chapter who made this happen. Now more work for this new year, as we have our first directors meeting on the 11th of January to set the agenda for this newly formed foundation.

Our Chapter sent three delegates to the Cleveland Culture Garden Foundation Christmas party. It was a great time for all. It is good to see all of the representatives of the 30 plus cultural gardens at Rockefeller Park of Cleveland. We are very lucky to have this jewel in Cleveland. Thanks to J.D. Rockefeller who donated this land to City of Cleveland in 1898.

We had our end of year meeting and Christmas party at Das Schnitzel Haus in Parma. It is one of the best German Restaurants in the Cleveland area. A big thanks goes out to Tim Tabar who brought his accordion along and we sang Christmas songs after our dinner. We also had our local elections at this meeting. We were able to relieve Tom of his secretary duties and elected one of our newer members, Michael Lukacs. Welcome to the board Mike. We have scheduled a meeting for end of January to set our agenda and goals for the coming year. We also had the pleasure of a special visitor to our party/meeting. Dr. Joe Wendel joined us and talked about his new book. It was a very interesting discussion.

The Cleveland chapter wishes a very happy new year to all.



DANK Chicago North

by Monica Felix

Museum & Collections Manager

DANK Haus German American Cultural Center

DANK Chicago North is proud to have received an NEH Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions. With support from this grant, we will conduct a general preservation assessment of the recently acquired archive of the Eintracht German-language newspaper that was published in Chicago from 1922-2017.

We are also looking forward to hosting an International Game Night on Sat., March 31st from 1:00-9:00pm. This will be a collaboration between DANK, the National Hellenic Museum, the Chinese American Museum, and other Chicago institutions to bring diverse cultural offerings to all ages through traditional and contemporary games.

Chapter Chatter:

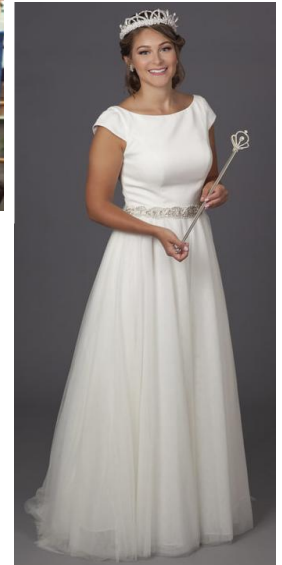
Springfield, IL - Chapter 9 DANK

The 5th Annual *Kleiner Christkindmarkt – A Little Christmas Market* was held indoors and outdoors at Engel's on Edwards Salon the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The weather was quite blustery and chilly but our spirits were not dampened. Our members turned out in force to support the club and it couldn't be more appreciated. The public really love our event and look forward to the goodies inside and out that we have available. From brats, beer, soup and potato pancakes to homemade Strohesterne and Scherenschnitte, the delights were never ending.



Taylor Badger

2018 Queen of Beaux
Arts Ball -Springfield Art
Association
Daughter of Springfield
DANK members Kathy
u. Mike Badger



Dezember 2017 Events: Springfield DANK members and friends enjoyed a fun filled bus trip to Chicago on December 2nd. Our first stop was Kuhn Delicatessen in Des Plaines where we basically cleaned the store out. For lunch, we stopped at the Schnitzel Platz in Glendale Heights on the way to the Naperville Settlement Christkindmarkt. There was much warmth from the music, lights and glühwein while for some of our members it reminded them of the good old fashioned Christmas markets from the fatherland.

Later in the month, Springfield DANK held our annual Christmas Party at the historic *Inn at 835* on Sunday, Dezember 10th. We enjoyed the presentation on the history of German Christmas songs by Dr. Sharon Graf, University of Illinois – Springfield Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology and her students, who serenaded us with those songs. The kinder told us about the “Advent Wreath” along with the poem, “Denkt Euch” followed by the passing out of gift bags for all of those that attended. What a great way to start the holiday season!

The first event of 2018, is the second annual Fasching Party at Dublin Pub. There will be prizes for best and most original costumes as we have a number of members who participate in our event. We have plans in the works for more interesting events and fundraisers in 2018 along with getting the word out about DANK. **Happy New Year 2018!**

Below: Springfield DANK members at Christmas Dinner. **Middle:** Children dancing.

Right: Springfield DANK Präsident Jeff Engel and his mother, Zetta Engel.



Chapter Chatter:

A wonderful Weihnachtsfeier! DANK Lake County, IL

*by Ursula Hoeft
DANK Lake County*

On December 3, DANK Lake County, IL members and friends gathered at the Bonnie Brook Country Club in Waukegan, IL to usher in the 2017 Christmas season with a traditional Weihnachtsfeier.

Ludwina Homer, Chapter Board member and party planner extraordinaire, once again arranged a wonderful Christmas party with good food and good fellowship – gemütlichkeit!

There was signing and reminiscing, too. Alexandra Pradella-Ott led a traditional Christmas carol sing-along, and memories of Christmases past were shared.

We have John Pieger to thank for the photos.



Left to right: Karl Schmidt, Hildegard Pieger, Ted Geiger



John Pieger and Cathy Angerer



Alexandra Pradella-Ott

A yellow rectangular advertisement with a sunburst graphic at the top. The text reads: "HAUS DANK GERMAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER" in a small font, followed by "Sonnenkinder" in a large, white, cursive font. Below that, it says "German Language Group for Kids ages 3-5" and "Wednesdays, 10am - 12pm".

<p>Exchange Rates 1 USD = 0.819663 EUR 1 EUR = 1.22016 USD 1 - 12 - 17</p>
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Chapter Chatter:

DANK Chicago South WEIHNACHTS-SHOW Von Deutschland

by Anita Walthier

DANK Chapter Chicago South

Friday December 1, 2017 DANK Chicago South held a beautiful Weihnachts show and dance. The singers direct from Germany were Cornelius von der Heyden (his 2nd appearance to DANK Süd), Orazio Ragonesi, Alex Reber, Christoph Friebe & Simon Kellerer. Many of the German folk and Christmas songs were sung in a cappella style. It was an amazing concert followed by dancing with the band the "Tempos". The German musicians mingled with the guests during intermission as well as after the concert to autograph their CDs and cards.

This Weihnachts show was somewhat of a memorial tribute to the late Armin Homann; a local Chicago German radio host that passed away suddenly in February 2017. Mr. Homann brought in many German/Austrian performers throughout his career in radio and hosted them at various Chicago area German organizations. Armin always liked hosting his programs at the DANK Haus (German American Heritage Center) in Frankfort. Armin's children sponsored the musicians to travel to the United States through the Armin Homann Foundation which supports scholarships to students for German culture and soccer. We at DANK South were grateful that they chose our club for this fabulous event. Those that did not participate in this "Wunderbar" occasion missed out on one of the best Christmas shows. Some people stated that it was the best concert ever; the songs, the lighting, the decorations and the atmosphere in general was superb. The food and desserts were "lecker" danke to the entire kitchen crew. Schumacher Imports was a grand supporter for the guests to enjoy beverages. Hopefully, we will see this German Christmas tradition continue. We hope to see you many members and friends at our upcoming 2018 DANK South sponsored events. Frohe Weihnachten mit viel Glück/Gesundheit im Neuen Jahr 2018 wünschen euch eure Freunde.



DANK Chapter Milwaukee Member is Karneval Kinderprinz



By Jane Nacker

Dank Chapter Milwaukee Vice-President

DANK Chapter Milwaukee member Alex Günther was crowned the Milwaukee Spielmannszug Kinderprinz for the 2017-2018 Karneval (Mardi Gras) on November 11, 2017. His grandparents, Edwin and Ursula Günther, who are also DANK members, were the Prinzenpaar for the 2013-2014 season. Also pictured is Spielmannszug member Kinderprinzessin Sophia I.



From DANK Members:

Story of a German-American Laborer

by *Thomas Reimer*
DANK National Member

I was seventeen when my grandfather died. We had moved from Chicago to Villa Park when I was younger so I seldom saw him in the last four years of his life. When we moved, I was of the age that I still felt intimidated by him. I never talked with him about his career. I mainly recall that he was very large, smoked a pipe and he could never remember the names of his grandchildren. If he wanted to get the attention of one of us, he began with his oldest grandchild and ran through the names aloud in descending order until he got to the one he wanted. I was the youngest

Decades after his death in 1954, I became hooked on my family's history. I began with my mother's ancestors. Her father was Otto Lueck. His parents were born in Germany. By the time I began my search, my mother had passed on so my first sources were my brother and cousins. Each told me snippets of Grandpa's life. I was told he was born in Princeton, Wisconsin. I visited there and learned the names of his siblings, his parents and his aunts and uncles by delving into the Lutheran Church's records. They had been transcribed from German to English just a few years before my visit to Princeton. I also scoured the local newspapers from the 1870's and 1880's. The papers were in a back room of the current newspaper. There was poor lighting and as I turned the pages of the large volumes, the brittle paper cracked and ripped. I found an article about the Lueck boy, age seven, breaking his leg falling off a fence. It was Grandpa.

I also went through county birth, death and property records. I visited the several farms Grandpa's parents had owned, the cemetery where they and some of his siblings are buried. I visited with a very old neighbor of their last farm. He remembered the Luecks and told me more stories about their lives. I visited the seven children of my Grandpa's youngest brother. As much as I learned and the stories I was told, I still knew nothing about my Grandpa after he moved to Chicago and married my Grandma, Marie Baruth, or about his career.

One of my cousins gave me a large box filled with old photographs. It was a treasure trove. There were photos of my great grandparents and all their children and my grandparent's wedding photo. Grandpa was tall and thin. Not the large bellied, balding man I knew. A photo of the sanctuary where they were married in Chicago was a new lead. I visited the church and found their marriage entry in their records.

It was all so exciting, I missed the significance of other photos which, when I later I studied them, began to tell me the story of my Grandpa's career. I knew he was a brick mason but had no specifics. There was a photo taken on the top of the Morrison Hotel. My Grandpa was standing with a

group of men on the roof with a note he had been one of the contractors that built the hotel.

There were two photos of the Terminal Building in downtown Cleveland. I had traveled to Cleveland for business and had been inside the modernized main floor. I had taken the rail line from the airport to the terminal. With the two photos was a letter to Otto Lueck which spoke of his work on construction of the building.

I went back to question my brother and cousins. All older than me, they were young adults when Grandpa died and knew about his years in construction.

He had worked on the construction of the State Street portion of Marshall Fields. After Grandpa died, my brother worked one summer as a hod carrier (a box on a tall pole filled with mortar.) He was told about "Big Otto." They used horses to hoist up masonry materials. A pulley was at the top of the floor they were working on. A horse would be at one end of the rope looped through the pulley and the buckets of material on the other end. As the horse walked along the State Street sidewalk pulling the rope through the pulley it lifted up the buckets on the other end of the rope.

The city ordered the horse that not walk on the sidewalk. A platform was constructed in the basement for the horse. As the story goes, the horse fell off the platform to the level below. Apparently a short fall. "Big Otto" lifted the front end of the horse up onto the platform and then the rear end.

I visited the archives which Fields had at the time to see if they had any photos of the construction. They did. None showed the workers but confirmed horses were used back then in the construction work.

I could believe the "Big Otto" story because of what I saw my Grandpa do when I was a kid. My father was painting the second story windows on the brick two flat my grandparents owned on Campbell Avenue on the North side of Chicago. When Dad finished one window he climbed down so Grandpa could move the two story extension ladder. The next time Dad started down, Grandpa shouted "Stay where you are." He promptly lifted the ladder with my startled Dad clinging to it for dear life as Grandpa carried the ladder to the next window.

I remember one story I heard Grandpa tell Dad. His firm worked on the construction of Lane Technical High School. When they had finished pouring the concrete floor and it had set, they took a large drum filled with water and pulled it across the floor to be sure he floor was strong enough to not collapse. Ever since I wish I had been bold enough to ask if the floor had collapsed, would the worker have survived? Or was my Grandpa teasing? He loved to tease.

Other buildings Grandpa worked on included Navy Pier and the fancy brickwork in the large auditorium at the far end of the pier. Also the Merchandise Mart, Schurz High School, Randolph Tower on northeast corner of Randolph and Wells Streets and the 47 story Morrison Hotel which was erected in 1925. At the time it was the tallest hotel in the world. It was demolished in 1965, which, at the time, was the tallest building in the world to be torn down.

Story continues on next page...

From DANK Members:

Grandpa also worked on the construction of the Chicago and North Western Railway Terminal through which I passed for many years on my daily commute. In its place is the Helmut Jahn designed Ogilvie Transportation Center.

It was the photo of my Grandpa standing on the roof of the Morrison Hotel just topped out which gave another big clue. Grandpa is standing behind a sign stating the building was constructed in 94 days by the National Fire Proofing Company. It was built with a "Combination of Hollow Tile & Concrete."

There are photos of Grandpa in Florida. Did he do construction work there? What other buildings are part of his legacy? The box of photos opened up the past for me in so many ways – both of his ancestors as well as his career.

When I researched old phone books and city directories, I found the name of the firm in which he became a partner. They did masonry work in fire proofing buildings. As a result of the Great Depression the firm went out of business. Knowing the name of the firm I obtained papers from the Illinois Secretary of State which declared that due to their failure to file required annual reports or to pay the required fees and penalties the stated declared the "involuntary dissolution of the company."

Grandpa was seventy-five when he died of a stroke. He collapsed on the Montrose Avenue bridge which spans the North Branch of the Chicago River. He had just gone to see some new construction work.

When I researched Grandpa's father, Gottlieb Lueck's history, one of his grandchildren told me he had constructed eleven depots along the "P- Line," a railroad which once ran between Portage and Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Gottlieb was a carpenter. The depots were all identical. Like father like son, both erected buildings.

Where did my cousin get the box of photos? When Grandma became too old to live alone, she moved to my aunt's farm in Crystal Lake. She took her bedroom set and personal belongings, including the box of photos. When my aunt passed away, long after grandma did, my cousin moved into the house and turned the farm into a nursery. In going through the attic he found the box of old photos. Having no interest in it he gave it to me.

With 1500 students, many German-Americans, a faculty with a relatively large number of German-speakers, the College knows its heritage. Two Lutheran pastors founded Wartburg College in 1852. As Lutheran churches consolidated, Wartburg moved around, settling down to its present campus in 1936. It grew slowly at first, because of the Second World War, when people were not anxious to be identified as German-Americans. Growth took off in the 1990s under Presidents like Engelbrecht, Vogel, and Ohle. President Darrel Colson today affirms the ongoing German connection. Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Wartburg (www.wartburg.edu) welcomes about 40% Lutherans, 35% Catholics, and the remainder of diverse religions and denominations.

The faculty-student ratio is 11:1, and the college is noted for excellence. More than 90% of graduates who apply to medical school are accepted. Its programs in business, communication, liberal arts, and the sciences are recognized, and 35% of students study abroad during their four years. Unlike many big universities, where it can take six years to earn a bachelor's degree, almost everyone graduates in four years. Post-graduate employment and grad school placement are high. Over 90% of students receive financial aid, and average student debt is only \$25,000. The campus has 30 new buildings, and a new \$30 million sports complex. In the German tradition of Turnvereine, men's wrestling has NCAA national championship teams and women's volleyball also. In football, the Knights do well in their league. A modern freshman dorm, which opened in 2017, provides good living and study facilities. Saemann Student Center is a popular gathering place, the Rittersaal offers snacks and sandwiches, and the Mensa offers delicious meals. And, fair-trade coffee with dessert is in the Konditorei.

The German Institute provides some scholarships for May Term in Germany. Wartburg Choir and the men's octet Feste Burg sing worldwide. The music program, with Meistersinger Scholarships, also has a fine reputation.

Family visits for prospective students are welcome. Look on their web page. You will have a student Ambassador to accompany you, and a meeting with Admissions officials. On a small-town campus, Wartburg is only 20 minutes from Waterloo and Cedar Falls.

Wartburg College is a true American seat of learning. Students can also study in Thailand, Africa, and Latin America. It is modern, internationally known, and has a global reach. Not quite a suburb of Minneapolis, Milwaukee, or Chicago, it is not distant, either.

I liked it so much that I donated an endowed Chair in German History and a Scholarship Fund. After all, a retired professor at a state university with almost 90,000 students needs to think about the next generations, too. Frankly, I'd rather be at Wartburg.

Wartburg College In Iowa

by Dr. h. c. Gerald R. Kleinfeld
DANK Phoenix Member
Professor Emeritus

Holder of Das Große Verdienstkreuz, Das Bundesverdienstkreuz, I. Kl. and das Österreichische Ehrenkreuz für Wissenschaft und Kunst, I. Kl.

Wartburg College in Waverly, IA in an old German-American settlement area, is one of the last immigrant-founded colleges to uphold the German heritage.

Christmas Celebrations in Penn-Ohio Land

by R. Erik Wittmann

National VP and Region 3 Chapter President

I must acknowledge that I do love Christmas and the various activities that come with it, but even I must admit that December 2017 was an unusual treat for me. Like most of you I enjoy celebrating with family and friends but this year I had the pleasure of joining the celebrations of the 3 Chapters in Region 3. Pittsburgh, which was my home Chapter, celebrated their annual Christmas Party on December 1, 2018 at the Teutonia Männerchor in Pittsburgh's Deutschtown section of the city. The evening started out with a fabulous German buffet and was attended by over 60 members and guests. After dinner approximately 100 members and guests celebrated upstairs in Teutonia's Grand Hall with performances by the Alpen Schuhplattler and students from South Fayette High School. To say the Program was fantastic is being modest. The Pittsburgh Chapter Board can take great pride in the event which included not only entertainment but Glühwein, homemade cookies, coffee and hot chocolate plus the hall was decorated perfectly and St. Nickolaus appeared and brought gifts for the children. Of course it was wonderful to see old friends from my days as Pittsburgh Chapter President.

The next event was the Erie Chapter Christmas party, a Brunch, which was held at the Erie Männerchor on Sunday December 3. I was invited to the event by former National President Beverly Pochatko and incoming Chapter President Fred Huttle. I was fortunate enough to have Cleveland Chapter Treasurer Tom Stromann, who is always up for a party agree to come along. Tom was not only impressed with the Erie Männerchor building but also the warmth and friendliness of the Erie Chapter Members. They were a wonderful and gracious group and truly did a wonderful job celebrating Christmas. Tom and I were not only treated to a wonderful Brunch but also were given parting goodies (Christmas cookies) by the Chapter. We both left Erie feeling special warmth towards the hospitality of that Chapter and its members, both of us vowing to return to Erie for future events.



Finally, it was Cleveland's turn, my new hometown! Cleveland celebrated Christmas in conjunction with their 50th Anniversary as a Chapter. The event was held at the Schnitzel Haus on Thursday, December 14th. The evening started off with drinks and a social hour, followed by a superb meal with attendees being able to pick off the extensive menu. Of course, I had to try the Schweinhaxen, if prepared right my favorite German food next to Wiener schnitzel. The evening brought a special guest in Dr. Joe Wendell, author of the new book "Justice Denied". Dr. Wendel shared both the highlights of the book and why he felt the need to write it. A review of this book will be published in a future edition of the Journal. In addition to the presentation of the 50th anniversary plaque to Chapter President Mark Bohn by yours truly, the evening was finished off with an hour plus sing along led by Chapter member Tim Tabar, who does a fantastic job playing the accordion. It was an evening to remember and one enjoyed by all. I hope all of our Chapters across the country celebrated with such "Gemütlichkeit" as the 3 Chapters in Region 3.

Kasperl und die Hexe Wackelzahn

*Excerpt of the Play was provided by Frau Plank
DANK Chicago Northern Suburbs*

Szene 5 (Kasperle, Hexe)

Kasperle: Trullala, trallala – so ein schöner Tag war noch nie da! Nur die Hexe darf nicht kommen! Wo nur der Lumpi ist, der soll mich doch beschützen?

Hexe: Ha, ha, den Lumpi, den wirst du lange suchen müssen! Den gibt es nicht mehr. Den hab' ich nämlich in Luft verzaubert. Und jetzt wirst du auch verzaubert!

Kasperle: Hexe Wackelzahn, ich bitte um Gnade!

Hexe: Gnade gib's bei mir nicht! Krötengift und Schnecken-schleim – auch du sollst auf der Stelle Luft sein!

Hexe: Ha, ha, jetzt ist der Kasperle auch verzaubert. Wenn ich jetzt noch etwas Gutes zu essen hätte! Die Zauberei hat mir doch großen Hunger gemacht! Ich will mal sehen, ob ich irgendwo etwas finde!

Szene 6 (Polizist, Oma)

Oma: Polizist Tunurgut! Wo stecken Sie nur wieder?

Polizist: Oma, was schreist du denn so laut, ich bin doch nicht schwerhörig!

Oma: Natürlich sind Sie schwerhörig. Wenn Sie gut hören könnten, wären Sie ja schneller gekommen!

Polizist: Nun hör auf, mich zu schimpfen. Sag lieber, was los ist!

Oma: Der Kasperle ist weg. Und der Lumpi auch. Wenn ich nur wüsste, wo die beiden sind. . .

Polizist: Hmm, Kinder, wisst ihr, wo der Lumpi und der Kasperl geblieben sind?

Polizist: Hast du gehört, Oma? Die Hexe Wackelzahn hat sie verzaubert. Das habe ich mir auch gleich gedacht! Aber was sollen wir tun?

Oma: Ja, da gibt es nur eines. Wir müssen der Hexe etwas anbieten, was sie besonders gerne mag. Am besten etwas zu essen. Und wenn sie dann zu essen anfangen will, dann können wir sie vielleicht einfangen.

Polizist: Am liebsten essen Hexen Zuckerstangen. Hier, ich habe noch zwei Stück. Die lege ich jetzt auf die Straße, und wenn die Hexe kommt und sie sieht, wird sie sich bestimmt nach ihnen bücken, und dann können wir sie mit einem Siebfänger einfangen. So machen wir das.

Szene 7 (Oma, Hexe, Polizist, Lumpi, Kasperle)

Hexe: Ich habe einen Riesen hunger. Und die Wurst hat der Lumpi gefressen. Ha! Was sehen meine Hexenaugen? Da liegen doch tatsächlich Zuckerstangen. Gleich zwei Stück! Schön dumm, wer die verloren hat! Ich schau mich mal um, ob mich niemand sieht – nein, niemand da. Nun muss ich sie nur noch aufheben und dann gleich essen . . .

Polizist: Ha, Wackelzahn – jetzt hab ich dich!

Hexe: Gnade, Gnade, lass mich los! Ich will auch alles tun, was du sagst!

Oma: Du wirst sofort den Lumpi und den Kasperle wieder herbeizaubern – sonst werfe ich dich in einen Topf mit heißem Wasser, dann streue ich noch Salz hinein und werfe eine Zwiebel dazu, und dann kochen wir aus dir Hexensuppe.

Hexe: Nein, nein. Lass mich los, und ich zaubere den Lump und den Kasperle wieder herbei.

Hexe: Schnecken gift und Krötenschleim – der Kasperle und der Lumpi sollen auf der Stelle wieder da sein!

Lumpi: Wau, wau, Wackelzahn, jetzt verschwinde, sonst beisse ich dich mit meinen scharfen Zähnen!

Hexe: Ich geh' ja schon.

Kasperl: Und jetzt, Kinder, können wir tanzen.

Frikadellen: Meat patties with love from Germany



Flattened dumplings made of minced meat in Germany and in the Dutch speaking areas are known as frikadellen. It is often linked with the meatballs hailing from regions of North Germany and proper Denmark. In Germany, you can also find them under the names of Frikadellen, Buletten, Fleischküchle or Fleischpflanzerl.

In-fact this variety of the meatball or minced meat patty is famous across Europe. Take Austria for example, the same variety is popular by the name of Faschierte Laibchen. In Denmark, the Faroe Islands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Estonia, Ukraine, the Netherlands, Lithuania, South Africa, Hungary and Sweden as well you can find similar varieties under the aegis of different names.

There are many regional varieties available in Germany itself. But, traditionally frikadellen was prepared using minced veal, pork or beef and more often than not there used to be a blend of these meats. They were prepared along with onions, eggs, milk or water, crumbs of bread or oatmeal or flour, salt and pepper. Then they are turned in the shapes of flattened balls. Finally, these patties are pan fried either in simple butter or margarine, or by using the fat from pork and/or beef. Interestingly there is also a variety which goes by the name of fiskefrikadeller. In the case of fiskefrikadeller, the meat is replaced with fish and it is served with remoulade. Frikadellen is often served with potatoes on the side which can be prepared in any form.

As far as the history of frikadellen goes, the origins largely remain uncertain. Culinary studies have shown the etymological derivation have been sprouted from fricandeau de veau. The fricandeau de veau was a dish wherein sliced veal was larded with pork fat. The spread of frikadellen is rather fantastical. You can find references of the dish in Indonesian cuisine and what is fascinating is that the spread happened due to the Dutch travelers. In the Indonesian cuisine frikadellen uses corned beef rather than ordinary beef. Furthermore, the round shape of the mixture is attained by using the yolk of the egg. It is then served with the typical mashed potatoes or cabe rawit, spring onions, shrimps, peeled corn, or mashed tofu. The legacy of the frikadellen can also be found in Sri Lanka where they are mostly found in lamprais.

Learn to cook frikadellen on the next page!

Aus Oma's Küche:

Frikadellen

There are probably as many recipes for Frikadelle as there are cooks in Germany but usually they have the same basic recipe.

Here is my favorite although I always vary it a little bit. One can eat them with ketchup or mustard or make a gravy.

Ingredients:

- 600 g ground beef
- 1 egg
- 1 roll (from day before)
- 1 medium large onion
- Paprika, ground
- Fresh ground pepper
- 2 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 - 2 tbsp mustard
- Salt
- Some garlic (optional)
- Dried herbs, like Italian herbs



Instructions

1. Cut the onion into very small cubes. Heat a pan on medium and fry the onions with some oil until they are cooked through and slightly brown.
2. Place the roll in a small bowl with water and let soak.
3. Meanwhile put the ground beef in a larger bowl, add salt, spices, herbs, mustard, tomato paste and if it matches with the rest of the menu also some garlic. Make sure you use enough salt, it tends to disappear during the cooking process!
4. Take the soaked roll and squeeze in our hands to remove most of the water. Then add to the bowl with the ground beef.
5. The onions should be ready be now, add them to the bowl.
6. Next add the egg.
7. Mix everything very well - works best with hands!
8. Heat some oil in a large pan.
9. Form about 8 Frikadellen / meat balls in about the size of your palm, don't make them flat like a UFO but also not to round.
10. Add the Frikadellen / meat balls to the pan and reduce the heat to medium so they won't burn.
11. Let fry from both sides for about 10 minutes, test on one Frikadelle / meat ball if it is cooked through.
12. Remove the Frikadellen / meat balls from the pan and keep them warm if you plan to make a gravy: Add some beef broth to the empty pan and bring to a boil. The residue in the pan will give a lot of taste. Take some sour cream and add to the pan, decrease the heat and stir. Add salt and pepper to taste
13. If you don't feel confident about making the gravy, try "Rahm Soße"! You can buy it i.e. at online German Deli and makes a delicious gravy with just the right consistency.



Aus Unserer Schatzkiste From Our Treasure Chest



Schneeflöckchen, Weißröckchen

Schneeflöckchen, Weißröckchen,
wann kommst du geschneit,
du wohnst in den Wolken,
dein Weg ist so weit.

Komm setz dich ans Fenster,
du lieblicher Stern;
malst Blumen und Blätter,
wir haben dich gern.

Schneeflöckchen, du deckst uns
die Blümelein zu,
dann schlafen sie sicher
in himmlischer Ruh'.

Schneeflöckchen, Weißröckchen,
komm zu uns ins Tal,
dann bau'n wir 'nen Schneemann
und werfen den Ball.

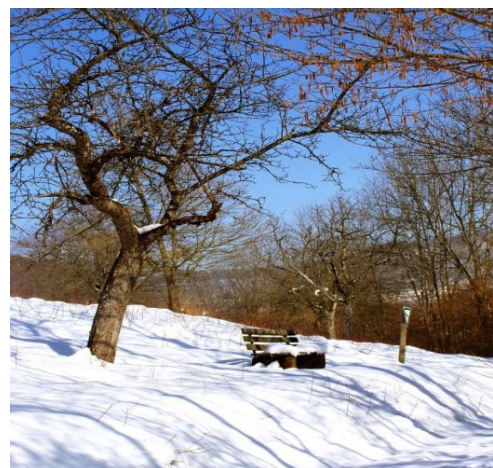
Verschneit liegt rings die ganze Welt

by Joseph von Eichendorff

Verschneit liegt rings die ganze Welt.
Ich hab nichts, was mich freuet.
Verlassen steht ein Baum im Feld,
Hat längst sein Laub verstreuet.

Der Wind nur geht bei stiller Nacht
und rüttelt an dem Baume,
Da rührt er seine Wipfel sacht
Und redet wie im Traume.

Er träumt von künftger Frühlingszeit,
Von Grün und Quellenrauschen,
Wo er im neuen Blütenkleid
Zu Gottes Lob wird rauschen.



Winters Abschied

by August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben

Winter, ade!
Scheiden tut weh.
Aber dein Scheiden macht,
Dass jetzt mein Herze lacht.
Winter, ade!
Scheiden tut weh.

Winter, ade!
Scheiden tut weh.
Gerne vergess' ich dein,
Kannst immer ferne sein.
Winter, ade!
Scheiden tut weh.

Winter, ade!
Scheiden tut weh.
Gehst du nicht bald nach Haus,
Lacht dich der Kuckuck aus.
Winter, ade!
Scheiden tut weh.



In Remembrance



DANK South Bend mourns the passing of

Ernest "Ernie" Zeller

March 13, 1934 - Nov. 10, 2017

Ernest "Ernie" Zeller, 83, passed away, unexpectedly on November 10, 2017 at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, surrounded by his family.

Ernie was born in Germany on March 13, 1934, to Johann and Martha Zeller. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his brother, Quido Zeller, his sister, Hilma Michael and his brother-in-law, Werner Branch.

On March 8, 1958, Ernie married the love of his life, Gerda Ruth Ast. They were nearing their 60th year of marriage. His wife survives. Ernie and Gerda were blessed with two sons, Richard (Deborah) Zeller and Steven (Gina) Zeller, both of Granger, IN.

DANK Chicago South mourns the passing of

Margareta Setter

It is with great sadness that we, at DANK Chapter Chicago South regrets the passing of one of our members, Mrs. Margareta Setter.



Margareta Setter was a very proud DANK supporter; along with her husband Jakob have been members since the beginning of the DANK organization (58 years). Margareta enjoyed talking to people, loved to dance and rarely missed a DANK South meeting or event until her health started to decline.

Our condolences are extended to Jake and their daughter, Doris. Wir sprechen unser Herzliches Beileid aus-- Auf Wiedersehen Margareta.

DANK Pittsburgh mourns the passing of

Frederick Bauch

1945—2017

Frederick was a resident of Illinois at the time of passing. Frederick Michael Bauch passed away at home in Naperville, Ill., on Saturday, August 12, 2017 after a brave battle with brain cancer for over a year. His beloved wife Angelika and son Jeffery and family were with him.

Fred grew up in Freeport where he was a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church and attended elementary school there.

In 1967 Fred became a member of the U.S. Army.



coming in



KAFFEEKLATSCH Coffee & Conversation

Join us for our weekly Kaffeeklatsch and practice and polish your German conversational skills.

Coming soon to the
DANK Haus
in Chicago!!!

Everyone is welcome!

Starts Wednesday, January 31st, 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm, 4th Floor Library
Hosted every Wednesday while classes are in session.

Gedichte für Alle:

Februar

Cäsar Fleischlen, 1864-1920

Schon leuchtet die Sonne wieder am Himmel
und schmilzt die Schneelast von den Dächern
und taut das Eis auf an den Fenstern
und lacht ins Zimmer: wie geht's? wie steht's?

Und wenn es auch noch lang nicht Frühling,
so laut es überall tropft und rinnt...
du sinnst hinaus über deine Dächer...
du sagst, es sei ein schreckliches Wetter,
man werde ganz krank! und bist im stillen
glücklichselig drüber wie ein Kind.

März

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1749-1832

Es ist ein Schnee gefallen,
Denn es ist noch nicht Zeit,
Daß von den Blümlein allen,
Daß von den Blümlein allen
Wir werden hoch erfreut.

Der Sonnenblick betrüget
Mit mildem, falschem Schein,
Die Schwalbe selber lüget,
Die Schwalbe selber lüget,
Warum? Sie kommt allein.

Sollt ich mich einzeln freuen,
Wenn auch der Frühling nah?
Doch kommen wir zu zweien,
Doch kommen wir zu zweien,
Gleich ist der Sommer da.

Frühling

Ludwig Thoma, 1867-1921

Über kürzlich erst gedüngte
Wiesen zieht der Blumenflor,
Und Natur, die sich verjüngte,
Kommt uns schön und lieblich vor.
Lämmer springen, Ziegen hüpfen,
Alle Tiere dünkt es recht,
Liebedurstig anzuknüpfen
Mit dem anderen Geschlecht.
Spatzen, Tauben, Stare, Schwalben
Paaren sich, und auch das Huhn
Will im Feld und allenthalben
Mit dem Hahn dasselbe tun.
Stolz erfüllt den muntern Gockel,
Und das Weibchen schwimmt im Glück.
Nur der arme Pfarrerrzwockel
Zieht sich in sich selbst zurück.
Liebesglück und Liebesschmerzen
Sind ihm fremd et cetera.
Denn er kennt nur Frauenherzen,
Die er durch ein Astloch sah.

Noch ist die Zeit...

Max Dauthendey 1867-1918

Noch ist die Zeit der blauen Bäume,
Sie schauen mit kahlem Geäst
Weit in die funkelnde Ewigkeit
Und halten sich kahl am Himmelsblau fest.
Und nur die Wolken, weiß und breit,
Bauen im blauen Baum ihr Nest.
Die Winde fegten fort verjährten Blätterrest,
Und dein Auge im Baum weiten Raum hat
Für der verliebten Gedanken luftige Lagerstatt.

FASCHING - KARNEVAL

Genießt den Fasching, fühlt euch frei,
am Aschermittwoch ist es schon vorbei.

Nutzt die Stunden volle Freude.
Nehmt euch Zeit, seid lustig Leute.
Lachen und Humor sind wichtig,
als Medizin sind sie stets richtig.

Seid mal richtig ausgelassen,
trinkt mit uns und hoch die Tassen.

Doch ihr solltet daran denken,
immer mal ein Lachen zu schenken.

Auch wenn der Fasching ist vorbei,
gute Laune war immer dabei.



Narrenrufe / Schlachtrufe: Alaaf – Helau – Ahoi – Halli-Galli – Hei-Jo

Puzzles und Spiele:

Sudoku #361 (Easy)

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

Sudoku #358 (Hard)

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

GERMAN PRODUCTS IN U.S.A.?!

Christel M.

- RITTERSPORT
- HANUTA
- KNORR
- AUDI
- STOLLEN
- DALLMAYR-KAFFEE
- ASBACH-URALT
- MAGGI
- SAROTTI
- SPEKULATIUS
- HENGSTENBERG
- WERTHERS
- MILKA
- MIELE
- NUTELLA
- ADIDAS
- HARIBO
- PUMA
- KÜHNE-ROTKOHL
- KINDERSCHOKOLADE
- PERSIL
- VOLKSWAGEN
- APPEL-HERING
- BREITSAMER-HONIG
- PFANNKÖNDEL
- LINDT-SCHOKOLADE
- MERCEDES
- BAHLSSEN-KEKSE
- NIVEA
- MELITTA

B	H	O	E	K	S	O	O	G	W	G	B	A	A	L	E	R	E	D	L
E	A	P	P	E	L	-	H	E	R	I	N	G	Ü	E	A	K	K	K	
E	-	R	I	T	T	E	R	S	P	O	R	T	T	D	O	L	S	K	E
F	L	D	T	O	E	T	D	B	H	L	G	S	A	L	S	E	E	K	W
F	U	E	T	G	H	B	E	Ö	D	K	A	L	T	T	D	R	M	I	K
A	I	T	O	E	I	I	K	L	N	D	O	K	W	E	T	I	H	Ü	M
K	L	-	R	-	N	N	N	E	I	K	-	R	C	I	H	I	H	I	O
-	L	S	A	G	O	U	O	D	O	B	I	R	A	H	S	N	L	N	B
R	A	T	S	R	T	B	A	H	L	S	E	N	-	K	E	K	S	E	N
Y	A	O	R	E	L	R	C	-	-	M	N	M	N	-	A	U	H	G	M
A	I	L	L	B	A	S	I	R	N	R	P	L	R	A	I	G	G	A	M
M	E	L	M	N	R	N	N	P	B	T	E	O	G	T	F	P	A	W	A
L	A	E	K	E	U	T	I	T	E	R	T	M	A	M	U	P	P	S	A
L	I	N	D	T	-	S	C	H	O	K	O	L	A	D	E	E	E	K	A
A	I	N	D	S	H	O	K	D	O	A	U	I	O	S	T	R	T	L	G
D	I	T	C	G	C	K	T	H	T	K	T	K	Y	-	T	S	S	O	R
K	A	T	U	N	A	H	L	I	E	E	O	A	T	S	I	I	D	V	F
H	A	I	A	E	B	I	P	P	I	G	T	L	N	U	U	L	E	K	E
I	T	E	W	H	S	I	S	-	O	T	E	K	O	E	F	N	I	R	A
Ö	N	I	V	E	A	N	S	U	E	L	H	T	O	E	T	I	D	G	B

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German American National Congress (Deutsch-Amerikanischer National Kongress)

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Last Name _____			First _____		Middle _____		Email Address _____		
Address _____						Spouse Name _____		Birth Date (Mo/Day/Yr) _____	
City _____		State _____		ZIP _____		Child's Name _____		Birth Date (Mo/Day/Yr) _____	
Phone (____) _____						Child's Name _____		Birth Date (Mo/Day/Yr) _____	
Applicant's Birth Date _____						Child's Name _____		Birth Date (Mo/Day/Yr) _____	

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- Student Membership **\$10*** \$ _____
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Chapter Preference (choose one)

- Prefer to join Chapter _____
- Assign to a Local Chapter
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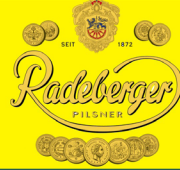
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