



Proud To Be German - American Stolz Deutsch - Amerikaner Zu Sein

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# German - American Journal

**Volume 67 Number 4** 

**August/September 2019** 

### Heidelberg Castle from the Old Bridge





#### DANK South/German American Heritage Center

25249 S. Center Road ~ Frankfort, IL 60423 DANKChicagoSouth.org

Invites you to enjoy some German Gemütlichkeit at

### Summer Fest

Saturday, August 3, 2019



# Featuring music by the Phenix



Doors Open at 3:00 pm

Music Starts 4:00 pm

Admission: Adults \$10

Children under 18 are free

Call 708-636-3074 for more information

Outdoor event, weather permitting

Fun for the Whole Family German Music — German Food and Drink Outdoor Fun And so much more!











### **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.

### **2019 DANK National Convention**

October 11,12,13, 2019

"Mentoring die Nächste Generation"

"Mentoring the Next Generation"
Four Points by Sheraton Milwaukee Airport

# Why Should I Attend the 2019 DANK National Convention?



Meet others who share the same joy of DANK



Establish friendships with others of common desires and goals



Put a face with a name and share Gemütlichkeit



Re-energize ways to help your chapter grow



Acquire ideas on how to mentor new members and grow leaders



Learn ways to make leadership easier



Obtain tools and templates to individualize for your chapter



Explore methods of contacting and engaging members



Meet Milwaukee people who really, really want you to have a good time

### **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

During July, Astrid and I will be visiting for the first time Lübeck and Wismar, two of the best preserved Hanseatic towns on the Baltic. Both are fascinating, historic towns with some impressive medieval architecture. We're particularly looking forward to lunch at Café Niederegger in Lübeck, where marzipan was first perfected!

After some unseasonably cold and wet weather for the first few months of 2019, it's a relief to see the start of sunny weather again, allowing all our chapters to organize a variety of outdoor events. One of the biggest events of the summer is of course German Fest in Milwaukee, with delegations from several of our chapters attending. Astrid and I will be guests of DANK Milwaukee again and looking forward to another terrific weekend on the Lake Michigan lakefront. Having lived in Wisconsin for several years before moving back to Illinois, it's an event that we always look forward to. We hope to see as many of you there as possible to enjoy the fun!

Looking ahead though, different Oktoberfest celebrations will already be starting in early September. Some of the events include:

- The 99th German-American Oktoberfest and Von Steuben Parade which will be held on Lincoln Avenue in Chicago from September 6 to 8.
- Chicago South will be celebrating Oktoberfest at their Haus in Frankfurt on September 28.
- DANK Milwaukee will also be organizing a very exciting Oktoberfest event as part of the National Convention on October 12.

Almost all our other chapters will be organizing similar events. We'll publish all the details in our next e-mail Newsletter at the end of August. By the way, if you are not receiving copies of the bi-monthly e-mail Newsletter, please make sure to provide your e-mail address to Russ Knoebel at DANK National (office@dank. org). Seeing the amount of effort that our colleagues devote to events such as German Fest and Oktoberfest makes me very grateful for our DANK members who volunteer so much of their time and energy to make our organization successful.

Another upcoming important event is Russ Knoebel's wedding to Jessica Nojiri on August 17 at his parents' lake house in Minocqua, Wisconsin. Russ is of course DANK National's Board Secretary and our only full time employee. Russ joined DANK in April 2014 and manages our Membership program, the DANK Journal, DANK National's website, as well as a host of other administrative responsibilities. Russ' computer skills have been invaluable and have allowed us to streamline many of our administrative processes. We wish Russ and Jessica lots of happiness in their future life together!

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. Several of you have taken the opportunity to phone or e-mail me with ideas or issues and I really appreciate all the feedback. With everyone's ongoing ideas and support, I am very confident that we can secure a successful future for DANK.

Roger Herod



#### Der Deutsch - Amerikaner

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

### **DANK National Executive Board**

<u>President:</u> Roger Herod

<u>Vice President:</u> Erik Wittmann Christel Miske

**Treasurer:**Bob Miske

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:**

### **August**

- 2 Chicago South, Summer Fest
- 2 Benton Harbor, Fish Fry
- 5 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 6 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 12 Springfield, Meeting 6:30pm
- 16 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 18 Chicago South, Membership Meeting 2pm
- 21 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 24 Benton Harbor, Benefit Dance DANK
- 24 South Bend, Annual Picnic at St Patricks

### September

- 1 Chicago South, Frankfort Fall Festival Parade
- 2 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 5 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 6 Benton Harbor, Fish Fry
- 6 Von Steuben Parade/Chicago Oktoberfest
- 7 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 7 Springfield, K of C Oktoberfest
- 8 Chicago West, Board Meeting 1:30pm
- 9 Springfield, Meeting 6:30pm
- 10 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 12 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 15 Phoenix, Meeting 1pm
- 15 Chicago South, Membership Meeting 2pm
- 21 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 19 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 20 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 21 Benton Harbor, Oktoberfest
- 20-24 Peoria Oktoberfest on the Riverfront
- 24 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 26 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 28-29 Eastern Iowa, Waverly Oktoberfest
- 28 Chicago South, Oktoberfest

#### October

- 3 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 3 Springfield, German American Day Celebration
- 5 Milwaukee, Board Meeting 10:00 am
- 5 Benton Harbor, Oktoberfest
- 6 36th German American Day
- 8 Milwaukee, Dancing 6:30 pm
- 10 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 11-13 DANK National Convention
- 12 DANK Milwaukee Oktoberfest
- 13 Chicago West, Board Meeting 1:30pm
- 14 Springfield, Meeting 6:30pm
- 14 Bay City, Board Meeting, 7pm
- 16 Erie, General Membership Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 17 Milwaukee, Singing 7 pm, Schwabenhof
- 18 Chicago, Stammtisch/Open Haus @ 7:30PM
- 19 Benton Harbor, Oktoberfest

### **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; OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY

#### 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** 

#### <u>ILLINOIS</u>

Chicago
Chicago South
Chicago West
Fox Valley
Lake County
Northern Suburbs
Peoria
Springfield

### **INDIANA**

Indianapolis South Bend

#### **IOWA**

Eastern Iowa-Wartburg

### **MICHIGAN**

Benton Harbor Great Lakes Bay Region (Bay City)

### **OHIO**

Cleveland

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Erie Philadelphia Pittsburgh

### **WASHINGTON DC**

Washington DC

### **WISCONSIN**

Milwaukee

www.dank.org

### **Exchange Rates**

1 USD = 0.891841 EUR 1 EUR = 1.12128 USD 2019-07-16

### **New Members:**

#### NATIONAL

KEITH SCHUERHOLZ
MICHAEL DAVID GERING
ANNELIESE GREGORY

### CHICAGO SOUTH

Susan McDorman
Mike McDorman
Benjamin McDorman
Bobby Hunger
Kathy Breshnahan
Leonard Becker

### MILWAUKEE

PETER KENDL Frank Schoenbach

### Northern-Suburbs

Anderson Fisher Megan Fisher Elsie Fisher

#### CLEVELAND

RICK JANDREY

#### **P**ITTSBURGH

Carry Bondi
Bianca Bondi
Nicole Franz
Matthew Frischmann
Peter Frischmann
Corina Bondi

### **E**RIE

CAROL SNIPPERT

### **G**REAT LAKES **B**AY **R**EGION

Sonja Korthals
Timothy Hildinger
Timothy Jr Hildinger
Joesph James Hildinger
Penny Hildinger

JOIN DANK TODAY!
APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT DANK.ORG
OR
THE LAST PAGE OF THIS JOURNAL

Learn German.

Make Friends.

See the World.



Summer Semester
June through July

<u>Fall Semester</u> September - mid-December Spring Semester
January – mid-May



#### **Our Classes**

Elementary II Elementary III Elementary IV Intermediate I Intermediate II Basic Conversation Advanced Conversation Online Reading & Writing Grammar Review

dankhaus.com/Adult-German-Classes
Questions & help with registration: dank@dankhaus.com | Tel: (773) 561-9181 x 3

DANK German Language Schools of the Chicago Northern Suburbs



Learn German!



Founded in 1973, DANK German Language Schools is a non-profit organization offering a comprehensive language program.

- All ages, all ability levels
  - o PreKindergarten age 4
  - o Kindergarten
  - o Class Levels 1 through 8
  - o Adult classes- (Beginners through Advanced)
- · Run by a dedicated team of teachers educated in Germany.
- Instruction in the spoken language, grammar, reading and writing.
- AATG National German High School Examination and DSD proficiency exams offered to qualified students.
- Endorsed and financially supported by the Federal Republic of Germany as an official school of German language instruction.

Weekly classes during the school year (Sept. – May)  $\underline{Two}$  locations and times:



#### **Arlington Heights**

Saturdays 9:30 am – 12 noon Christian Liberty Academy

#### **Palatine**

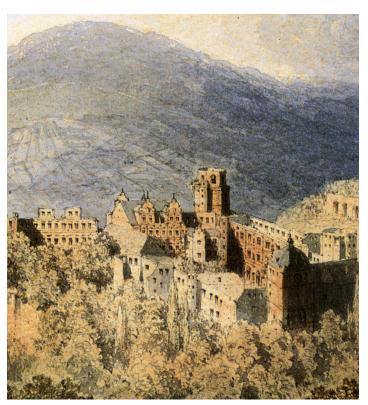
Mondays 5:45 pm – 8:15 pm Palatine High School

For additional information, or to register, please visit: www.chicagogermanschools.org

Questions? Please contact:

Dr. Silvia Schmid 847-363-7185 <u>dank@rykowski.com</u> Sabine Woerner 847-697-9735 <u>woerner@ameritech.net</u>

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



### Heidelberger Schloss

Heidelberg Castle (German: Heidelberger Schloss) is a ruin in Germany and landmark of Heidelberg. The castle ruins are among the most important Renaissance structures north of the Alps.

The castle has only been partially rebuilt since its demolition in the 17th and 18th centuries. It is located 80 metres (260 ft) up the northern part of the Königstuhl hillside, and thereby dominates the view of the old downtown. It is served by an intermediate station on the Heidelberger Bergbahn funicular railway that runs from Heidelberg's Kornmarkt to the summit of the Königstuhl.

The earliest castle structure was built before 1214 and later expanded into two castles circa 1294; however, in 1537, a lightning bolt destroyed the upper castle. The present structures had been expanded by 1650, before damage by later wars and fires. In 1764, another lightning bolt caused a fire which destroyed some rebuilt sections.

wikipedia.org

### **DANK Chapter Great Lakes Bay Region**

**By Monte Oswald** 

DANK Bay City President

Hallo Freunde!

The smooth breezes of summer now flow warmly upon the valley in our Great Lakes Bay area. The crops are coming in and soon we'll gather for some good ole hometown fun as we make sauerkraut and brats for the raising of the Maifest Pole in its new location at the Stein Haus!

For now, our gang is busy absorbing the rays of sunshine and imbibing cool German sarsaparilla. Yet, in the shade of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, many enthusiast are now finding interesting family history and language programs from native "Berliner" Sonja (Every Wed. 6:30pm). Good Job!

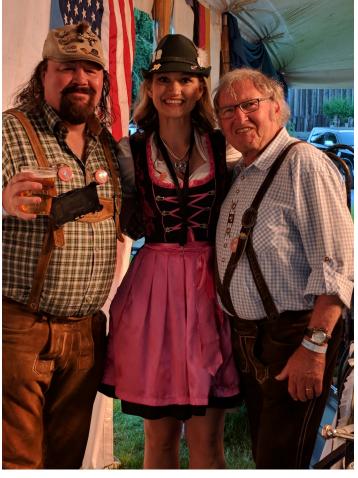
DANK Club Besprechungen in Tavern 101 on the 1st Montag of each month are going great thanks to the 50/50 jackpots and complimentary gifts awarded from Alpenland. us (magazine). Thanks to the gracious reinvestment of his winnings, Bruder Al has given us a chance to capture the National DANK Raffle Grand Prize! If we're successful in the DANK lotto Bruder Dale proclaimed that our treasury could sponsor all members to attend the National Convention in Milwaukee this October 11-13th. (He's turning out to be an awesome Treasurer).

Always the "GO-GETTER", Schwester Judy reminded all that DANK provides authentic German Music every Sunday at the online GermanAmericanHour.com. Let's have a Party! From Beautiful Bay City to "God's Country" in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, we received a cable that confirms the Annual Yooptoberfest is on for Sept 14th (Sat) and it's going to be a Humschlusher!

And finally, our friends from Sister City Ansbach, Germany are scheduled to visit for functions presented by Saginaw Valley State University! What a fantastic celebration of international friendship... Thanks John!

P.S. Remember, DANK memberships are now only \$20 so let's invite folks to join us for some "Wunderbar Together" Viel Spass!







### **DANK Chapter Pittsburgh**

By Eric Trainer

DANK Pittsburgh President

The Pittsburgh Chapter had a unique opportunity this month. A genealogy workshop hosted by the Heinz History Center was attended by some 70 members of the local area with some coming from as far as Michigan.

The day began with an opening remark by the centers historian who reiterated the fact that many Germanic peoples immigrated to our area and continue to do so. The center also supplied pastries and coffee for this large group of both budding and accomplished genealogists.

The first half of the day was facilitated by Dr. Michael Lacopo, a published and renowned genealogist from the South Bend, Indiana

While the lectures revolved around Germanic populations, care was taken to include other ethnic groups where pertinent to the discussion. After a great lunch also provided by the History Center, a series of tours were launched that discovered the center's rarely displayed Germanic immigration collections.

Following the tours led by curators of the collections there were several presentations about the Germanic Jewish immigrants and how best to trace one's ancestry in this group, which is surprisingly different than other groups of Germanic immigrants. As well as there were also talks by several curators of other collections of genealogical information in the Pittsburgh Area.

The day culminated in a discussion that focused on webbased search techniques and helpful websites

Also provided was a syllabus with a listing and synopsis of many topics discussed as well as the helpful websites

Our Chapter was also glad to get several new members and we hope to have further genealogy talks in the future. We are planning a talk in August at a winery bar near Pittsburgh, if we are able to get enough interest.



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

Show everyone that you are a DANK member with this DANK Decal. It is a die-cut oval in full color and looks really great!

The cost is \$2.00 each including shipping. For more information e-mail at wb\_dank@yahoo.com.

Order from and make your check payable to:

DANK Chapter Milwaukee Vicky Ohde 18550 Ventura Circle Brookfield WI 53045



### Der Lustige Mai, Ruhe im Juni,...Juli...and on to October!

#### By Jane Nacker

DANK Milwaukee Vice President

Der lustige Mai had the Folk Dancers performing the Bändertanz around their Maibaum at local Maifests, and the Chor participating in the North American National Sängerfest in Peoria, IL. In addition, DANK Milwaukee member, Alex Günther, who is also a member and dancer with the United Donauschwaben of Milwaukee (UDoM), was crowned Mai Prince at the UDoM Maiball.

June gave time for members to relax at the annual picnic on June 30 at Sacred Heart parish. The picnic celebrates members and is a thank you to those who volunteer for DANK at Milwaukee German Fest. Typical German picnic food and beverages were provided. New this year was a "welcome table" where members and volunteers were greeted and given tickets for door prize drawings. The table also had information on being involved at German Fest, an interest sheet for a bus trip to Chicago's von Steuben Day parade, information on Milwaukee's hosting of the DANK National Convention, and DANK National raffle tickets available for purchase.

July, of course, was German Fest Milwaukee where DANK Milwaukee members volunteered at booths throughout the grounds, and the Chor and Folk Dancers performed. The anticipation of having several other DANK Chapters travel to join in the Gemütlichkeit was exciting, especially as they were welcomed to march with DANK Milwaukee in the Saturday parade.

August and September may provide a short breather, though at the same time, final arrangements for the DANK National Convention in October will be underway. Registration information has been mailed and emailed to chapter leadership. Give this some thought:



2019 UDoM May Prinz Alex Günther and May Prinzessin Kayla Schwager with Heidi, Edwin, and Erich Günther.



Board members welcoming members and guests to picnic. L to R: Heidi Günther (VP-II), Gary Seidlitz (Membership Secy), Julia Kendl (Chor President), Jane Nacker (VP-I), Brad Ohde (Advisor and Beverage Coordinator Extraordinaire!)

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Meet others who share the same joy of DANK

Establish friendships with others of common desires and goals

Put a face with a name and share Gemütlichkeit

Re-energize ways to help your chapter grow

Acquire ideas on how to mentor new members and grow leaders

Learn ways to make leadership easier

Obtain tools and templates to individualize for your chapter

Explore methods of contacting and engaging members

Meet Milwaukee people who really, really want you to have a good time

Yes, there will be business meetings and elections, but...

Yes, there will be camaraderie.

Yes, there will be parties and entertainment.

Yes, there will be a lot of food and beverage.

Everything is at the hotel, unless you want to explore Milwaukee, our fine city! Please join us!

#### DANK Chapter Milwaukee is on Facebook!

See photos, videos, and chapter news. "Like" us at www.facebook.com/dankmilwaukee.

### Der Lustige Mai, Ruhe im Juni,...Juli...and on to October!

### By Jane Nacker

DANK Milwaukee Vice President



Dance Coordinator, Jane Nacker, with Germantown Mai Fest Bürgermeister and Village President, Dean Wolter.



Grillmaster Extraordinaire Don Wohlfeil (Advisor), Geoff Kroening, and Sally Shearer (Recording Sec)



Lots of smiling faces at the picnic, even though we had to move indoors!

### "A hula lot of Hawaiian fun!"

#### **By Anita Walthier**

DANK Chicago South Corresponding Secretary

Aloha meine Damen und Herrn! We slipped into Paradise with warmer weather the perfect way on Sunday, May 19, 2019 by hosting a Hawaiian Dance. Guests came wearing their flowered shirts, sarongs, floral décor, Panama Jack hats and flip flops. Each guest was greeted at the door with a Hawaiian Lei.

The highlight of the afternoon was a Wunderbar extravaganza, which included graceful hula Polynesian Dancers. They performed for us direct from Aloha Chicago. Their authentic costumes made you feel like you were at a Hawaiian Luau. A lot of shaking was going on along with laughter and fun in Frankfort that day! The dancers even had audience participation with two separate groups – one set for women and the other men, trying to learn the Hula. It was spectacular performance all around.

Music was supplied by the Tempos, who even played some Don Ho songs. The Hawaiian style dinner was delicious and there were pineapple cocktails served at the bar. We were delighted that other German groups joined in the Polynesian festivities like the Schwaben Verein, Niedersachsen, and DANK West. Danke or as the Polynesians say "Mahalo" to all our volunteer members, guest members and friends – young and not so young – who came to support our event. Hang ten until our 2nd annual Auto Show Sunday, July 14th and our Summer Fest on Saturday, August 3rd











### **DANK Chapter Cleveland**

By Mark R. Bohn

DANK Cleveland President

The Cleveland chapter has the privilege of announcing that we are sponsoring a concert by AkaBlas (Akademische Bläservereinigung) an der Technischen Universität Braunschweig e.v. The date is Tuesday September 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Brunswick High School Auditorium in Brunswick Ohio. Brunswick is located approximately 16 miles south of Cleveland Hopkins airport off of I-71. We are very lucky to have been picked as one of the few stops on their USA Tour 2019 for the 55th Anniversary. A small donation of only \$5 is requested for this hour plus concert. For more information please visit Cleveland DANK's website www.dankcleveland. org and Facebook or www.Akablas.de.

Our chapter is planning on sending three delegates to the DANK national convention in Milwaukee in October. We are very much looking forward to it. I know we have some important decisions to make for our organization.

Our chapter sponsored trip to the German Fest in Milwaukee is a go. I want to thank R. Erik Wittmann for all of his hard work and time in planning this. We are very much appreciative of his expertise.

Along with the newly formed German Garden & Cultural Foundation of Cleveland (https://germanculturalgarden. org/) we will be participating in One World Day at the German Garden of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens on Sunday August 25th. This a very unique event that is sponsored annually by the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation. There are currently 32 ethnic gardens on display. There will be a parade showing off all of the garden participants wearing traditional clothing and carrying the flag of that country. This annual event draws more than 20,000 people from all over Northeastern Ohio and nearby states. Please visit Cleveland DANK's web site for more information.

Our local at our next meeting will be on Tuesday at 6:30 at the Cleveland Männerchor club house.

### **SUMMER MEMBERSHIPRATES**

From June 1st through October 1st, DANK National will again have reduced rates for new members. Now is the perfect time to sign up your friends and family to DANK and share your love of German Culture! Just visit DANK.org for more information or email office@dank.org

# Winners of the Early **Bird National Raffle**

Congrats to the winners of the National Early Drawing Raffle Drawing:

1st place is David Lasich of Chapter 26 2nd place is Frank Steck of Chapter 58 3rd place is Inge Hagedorn of Chapter 03

If you would like to purchase more tickets to enter the final drawing, please contact office@DANK.org ₹.......

### Response to Roger's compliments and a little history

**DANK National Convention** Planning Committee in Milwaukee, William Bessa, Jane Nacker, Julie Seidlitz

Thank you to Roger for the kind compliments about Milwaukee Chapter's planning for the DANK National Conven-

Yes, we are busy here in Milwaukee. Our whole Milwaukee Board is playing a part in the decision making and efforts to make this one of the best conventions yet! You'll get to meet our Board and see them helping to coordinate the convention when all of you--delegates, members, and guests arrive.

On a historical note, and one that fits perfect with our theme of Mentoring the Next Generation, we want to recognize some DANK Chicago South members. We, in Milwaukee, were able to hit the ground running due to the mentoring given to us by DANK Chicago South. At their hosting of the 2017 DANK National Convention, Anita Walthier and John Stern took time to sit with William and Jane and reviewed many details and the successes and pitfalls to be aware of in planning a convention. Never having planned an event like this, and being members of DANK less years than many, we were quite green, but we were sponges for information to learn how they and their board had put together such an excellent convention. And, the mentoring that DANK South so graciously gave us has been invaluable. We've also contacted Christine Walthier for additional tidbits of information as we continued our planning. Vielen dank!

Another fine example of Mentoring the Next Generation is the guidance of Bob Miske, DANK National Treasurer and National Convention Chair. Bob is always willing to assist and is a "ready reference of information" any time we have questions.

We'll have more people to thank as we go forward. The anticipation is definitely building. We look forward to meeting so many of you in October!

### **August at the DANK Haus**

By Laura Engel

DANK Chicago Director Marketing & Events

August brings us the end of a rainy spring and lots of summer celebrations at the DANK Haus in Chicago! For starters, our August Stammtisch on August 16th features the classic music from Elvis, one of the most famous German-American entertainers of all time. We welcome back Michael St. Angel, a top notch Elvis impersonator to take us through the early and the late years of Elvis's musical repertoire. It's a real Beach Blanket Beach Party in our Skyline Lounge.

We also celebrate the 90th Birthday of Martin Hartig. Martin is one of our beloved members of DANK North and has dedicated much of his time and talents here over the years. We are delighted to honor him with a birthday bash to show our appreciation for all that he has done for the DANK Haus. If you see him, be sure to wish him well!

Mr. Wolfgang Mössinger is the new German Consulate General for the Midwest.. We are thrilled to be co-hosting a concert at the DANK Haus on August 29th featuring Dieter Köhnlein, a jazz pianist from Germany with the Consul General. Köhnlein is an award winning performer, and even wrote a composition for the 1250 anniversary of his home town Ansbach, Germany.

To celebrate summertime food, our Kultureküche cooking class will be featuring a favorite German recipe for Frikadellen, a great addition to any summer bar-b-que. Class will be held on August 30th, just in time for Labor Day weekend.

August also ushers in two new faces at the DANK Haus. Danica Polanski is our new Language Program Director. She will be overseeing our 16 part time German Language teachers and developing a robust curriculum for our school. Her background as an early education teacher at the prestigious German International Language School will be a benefit as we expand our offerings. Currently, our enrollment is 200 adult students and over 150 children. We are proud to provide German instruction for all ages.

Rosa Gallagher is the new Museum Director at the DANK Haus. She will be spearheading our recently installed genealogy department, museum, library and art gallery. We are looking forward to seeing exciting exhibitions that she will be creating to help further the preservation of German culture here in Chicago.

As August rolls to an end, we kick off September with the annual von Steuben Day Parade on September 7th! All of our students, teachers and parents will be walking in this year's parade promoting our offerings and German heritage. Our slogan for this year's float is, "Our Haus is Your Haus!" and we welcome everyone to come and visit.





1″ x 1″ German - American Flag Lapel Pin

ne	erican Journal	Page/Seite 15				
	Price \$3.00 per pin x =	\$				
	Shipping & Handling	\$1.00				
	Total Price	\$				
ı	Make checks payable to: DANK • 4740 N. Western Ave, Suite 206 Chicago, IL 60625					
	Name					
	Address					
	City					
	State/Zip					



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### **GERMANY AND ITS BEACH BASKET CULTURE**

### Francine McKenna-Klein, Staff Columnist

bellaonline.com/about/germanculture



Strandkoerben have been a part of Germany's culture for over a century, a symbol for holidays, sun, sand and sea, and evidence of extreme north German obstinacy when faced with the elements.

A cult object these days, the first Strandkorb was invented in 1882 for an elderly aristocrat with rheumatism. Elfriede von Maltzahn, who loved to visit Warnemuende, a northeast German resort on the Baltic Sea.



In today's Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Warnemuende is a beautiful mixture of sandy beaches, pine forests, lakes and history that after Germany's reunification has become a part of the new German Riviera...but its bracing weather has not changed since the 19th century.

Along with the sun, seagulls and sand dunes it enjoys strong chill winds, and is rarely really warm.

Doctors agreed sea air was good for Frau von Maltzahn's health but insisted she should not sit on the sand, so she asked Wilhelm Bartelmann, chief basket maker to the imperial court of Emperor Wilhelm I, if he had a solution.

Bartelmann designed the Strandkorb, literally a 'Beach Basket', as the answer.

Often compared to an upright wash basket, it provided shelter from the wind, rain, sand and sun as well as hiding its occupant from view, so other beach users might be heard but the chair itself was 'private' space.

Elfriede von Maltzahn's wicker beach basket was used for the first time on June 15, 1882, to such success that Wilhelm Bartelmann began production at once. In 1883 he designed a two-seater, while his wife Elisabeth opened a 'Strandkorb Rental Service'. The Strandkorb idea spread along the German coast.

Mainly single-seater at first, by the beginning of the 20th century there was increased demand for two seats. Padded to make the experience more comfortable, with adjustable roofs and small tables to hold a vacuum flask.

More than 70,000 covered wicker beach baskets are dotted over German beaches, and one of the most requested models has drawers at the base that serve as foot rests, as well as sand free storage space.

Some have armrests with foldaway wooden airport style trays; roofs that tilt back; can adjust for sunbathing; have seat heating and/or rainproof covers so it is possible to sit through the worst of storms.

The list of modifications is virtually endless.

Of course there are special models for children, while pet dogs enjoying some time by the sea also have several designs to choose from.

Anyone staying for more than a day at the beach usually books a beach chair for their entire holiday. Low sand walls are built around "their" Strandkorb, they are decorated with stones and shells, a gate added and put in place whenever they are not there. The Strandkorb becomes a holiday "Home from Home".

The basic shape hasn't changed much since it was first invented, but there are two distinct variations. A straight angular North Sea beach chair, fitting perfectly to the wild and stormy North Sea, but adjustable making it possible to lie flat and sunbathe, and the round rolling Baltic Sea design.

Baltic Sea chairs are the most popular, despite the fact that they only retract 45 degrees so are only seats. Popular on the beach, in gardens where they appear from March until late Autumn, on beach bar decks on top of shopping malls (in Berlin for example), and as furniture for inside the home.

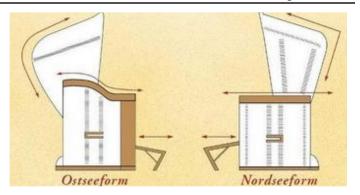
This Gemuetlich (cosy) chair, which is also known as a Minilaube (Little Arbor), is the background to many romantic holiday memories.

Wicker beach chairs are a successful export for German craftsmen, and their construction is a joint project, with each one taking a carpenter, basket maker, seamstress and upholsterer two days to produce.

Even those with 'wear and tear' from being used by thousands of tourists

have an expected twenty year life span, and this combination, together with the chairs being 'in trend' and having colorful awning, is seen as a merging of old traditions with a modern image.

For generations Germany's idiosyncratic "Strandkorb" has been an integral part of the country's culture, along with sun, sand, sea, wind and even snow, and shows no sign of going away anytime soon.





### Upcoming deadlines for the DANK German-American Journal

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

October/November: September 10
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February/March: January 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!

### A typology of Oktoberfest beer tents

### Typologie der Oktoberfest-Bierzelte



Every year the Oktoberfest begins with the opening of the first beer barrel in Schottenhammel, a tent that is especially popular among students. Visitors are even younger in the Hacker beer tent. And anyone who thinks the Wiesn, the local name for the fairgrounds where the Oktoberfest is held, is only for traditionalists is in for a surprise: Gay Sunday is always celebrated in Bräurosl on the first Sunday of the festival. As a result, the tent has cult status among gays. Roughly six million visitors attend the Oktoberfest every year, many of them from abroad. If you want to swing to and fro with Australian honeymoon couples or young New Yorkers, the best place to go is Hofbräuzelt. This branch of Munich's famous Hofbräuhaus is known all over the world and also the biggest beer tent with seating for 10,000 people.

The Ochsenbraterei and Fischer-Vroni tents are the places to go for foodies. Families feel particularly at home in the rustic Augustiner tent, where a children's day attracts visitors on the festival's two Tuesdays with favourable prices. An informal family atmosphere also prevails in Schützenzelt: a little removed from the bustle, this is where members of Munich's high society and the international aristocracy make themselves comfortable with a few tankards of beer. Apropos high society, the Marstall tent run by the Able family is the major newcomer to the Wiesn in 2014.

Sport also plays an important role at a people's fair in a city with two popular football clubs. The dividing line is quite clear: fans of Bayern Munich celebrate at Winzerer Fähndl, while the lion at the entrance of the Löwenbräu tent attracts supporters of TSV 1860 Munich. In the traditional Armbrustschützenzelt (Crossbowman's Tent) archers attempt to hit the bull's eye as often as possible.

Eventually even the best Oktoberfest day comes to an end when the bars close at 10:30 p.m. However, two tents are open until after midnight for night owls: the Weinzelt and Käfer Wiesn-Schänke, where the champagne flows and a celebrity chef cooks.

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Das Oktoberfest beginnt jedes Jahr mit dem Fassanstich im "Schottenhammel". Dieses Zelt ist vor allem bei Studenten beliebt. Noch jünger geht es im "Hacker"-Bierzelt zu. Und wer glaubt, die "Wiesn" sei nur etwas für Traditionshüter, sieht sich getäuscht: Im "Bräurosl" wird immer am ersten Sonntag des Festes der "Gay Sunday" gefeiert, weshalb das Zelt in der Szene Kultstatus hat. Etwa sechs Millionen Gäste verbucht das Oktoberfest jedes Jahr, viele davon kommen aus dem Ausland. Wer mit australischen Paaren auf Hochzeitsreise schunkeln oder mit jungen New Yorkern anstoßen möchte, ist im "Hofbräuzelt" am besten aufgehoben. Die Dependance des berühmten Münchener Hofbräuhauses ist auf der ganzen Welt bekannt und mit 10.000 Sitzplätzen das größte der Bierzelte.

Für Feinschmecker bieten sich die Zelte "Ochsenbraterei" und "Fischer-Vroni" an. Familien fühlen sich im urigen "Augustiner" besonders wohl, wo an beiden Dienstagen während der Wiesn der Kindertag mit günstigen Preisen lockt. Familiär geht es auch im "Schützenzelt" zu: Etwas abseits vom Trubel gelegen, haben es sich hier die Münchner High Society und der internationale Adel schon bei so manchem Krug Bier gemütlich gemacht. Apropos High Society: Das "Marstall"-Festzelt der Wirtsfamilie Able ist der große Neuzugang auf der Wiesn 2014.

In einer Stadt mit zwei beliebten Fußballvereinen spielt auch der Sport beim Volksfest eine wichtige Rolle. Die Trennung ist ganz klar: Fans des FC Bayern München feiern im "Winzerer Fähndl", während für die Anhänger des TSV 1860 München der Löwe am Eingang des "Löwenbräu"-Zeltes brüllt. Im traditionellen "Armbrustschützenzelt" versuchen Sportschützen, möglichst häufig ins Schwarze zu treffen.

Irgendwann geht auch der schönste Oktoberfest-Tag zu Ende, Schankschluss ist um 22.30 Uhr. Doch zwei Zelte sind für Nachtschwärmer noch nach Mitternacht geöffnet: das "Weinzelt" und die "Käfer Wiesn-Schänke", wo der Champagner fließt und ein Promi-Wirt kocht.

### The Modern Car, It All Began with Benz

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



"I believe in the horse, the automobile is just a temporary phenomenon", said Germany's last Kaiser Wilhelm II, when cars first arrived on the scene.

Nevertheless not only did he become a car fanatic, more than 130 years after Carl Benz registered his invention of a "motor carriage" in Mannheim on January 29, 1886 this "temporary phenomenon" shows no sign of going away.

His three wheeled invention, Patent Number 37435 and described as a "Tricycle - vehicle powered by a gas engine", was started by a crank, and its internal combustion engine produced 2.5 horsepower with a top speed of 18 km/h, 11.2 mph.

The "horseless carriage" was offered for sale to the public from July, 1886.

It was the creation of mechanical engineer, later founder of the company which became Mercedes Benz, Carl Benz, and is considered to be the world's first modern automobile. Despite predecessors created by various inventors across Europe, some dated back as far as the 17th century which were steam-driven or electrically-powered. While not long after Benz had patented his own invention, Stuttgart gun maker Gottlieb Daimler independently created a four wheel vehicle that resembled a horse drawn cab.

Born in Karlsruhe on November 25, 1844, the son of an engine driver, in his memoirs Carl Benz wrote how much of his success was owed to his wife Bertha who had married him in July 1872, and with whom he had five children.

Engaged but unmarried, in 1871 she used a prepayment of her dowry to invest in his business becoming his business partner and enabling the research and development to go ahead. German law of the time would not only have made this impossible had they already been married, she would also not have been allowed to patent the automobile.

She had fallen in love with the heavily in debt, but visionary, engineer. Believing in his ideas and giving him unwavering support through some hard years, as he struggled to

bring his idea of a vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine to life.

"Only one person was there beside me in the lifeboat in the days when everything was heading for ruin. That was my wife. Brave and courageous she hoisted the sails of hope", was how he described it in his memoirs.

The car had been patented and offered for sale but orders were slow coming in. Not only Kaiser Wilhelm was skeptical about the horseless carriage, and Carl was again thinking of giving up the whole project.

But Bertha had other ideas. The first long-distance automobile journey in history. She, and their 13 and 15 year-old sons Richard and Eugen, decided to take one of the later automobiles, the Model III.

Together with some local farmers, her sons had to push the car up a hill because its engine was not powerful enough to make it without help, so Bertha suggested that providing another gear might make climbing hills easier.

Everything about the experience was new, and not only to Bertha and the boys.

A noise warned them a chain had stretched so they stopped at the blacksmiths in Bruchsal to repair it, the fuel line became clogged and was cleared with a hairpin, next the ignition broke and fixed with one of Bertha's garters.

The brakes wore down and the first brake linings were made by a Bauschlott cobbler who fixed leather onto the brake shoes, and while he was working she sent a telegram to her husband and let him know she, the boys and "his baby" were fine.

No one had made this journey before so they had underestimated- the fuel needed, and as filling stations had not been invented they stopped at "The World's First Filling Station", a pharmacy that still exists in Wiesloch, to buy some "Ligroin". A solvent used to power the engine.

After arriving in Pforzheim at dusk, luckily before dark as their "Benz" didn't have headlights, Bertha telegraphed her husband that the expedition had been a success.

It was a sensation. To avoid the steep mountains, three days later they took a slightly different route on the return journey, on what is now the Baden-Württemberg Bertha Benz Memorial Route. The road was lined with people. Some awestruck others frightened by the hissing and spitting horseless carriage, but this journey was the breakthrough that changed everything.

The Benz's faith in their invention had been rewarded. Thanks to a daring road trip by Bertha Benz and her sons, for which she also was later given the first ever Drivers License, the automobile had "arrived" and was now at the beginning of its own journey to success.

### Where German is still spoken in the US



When Norman Sunday sits in front of his barn, he sometimes finds himself looking wistfully over his property. The 82-year-old farmer from the northeastern state of Pennsylvania knows that a decades-old family tradition is coming to an end. He once bred cattle here, but he's retired now and knows his children are unlikely to follow in his footsteps.

Like many in Berk County, Sunday is the descendant of German immigrants who came from the Palatinate region of southwest Germany in the 18th century to find a new home. They were farmers who worked hard, believed in God, and cultivated their German culture.

While the farmer himself has never been to Germany, his parents spoke Pennsilfaanisch Deitsch ("Pennsylvania Dutch"), a German dialect spoken by the rural population for 300 years that is still alive today. "Ich kann's ned gud schwätze, aber ich verstehe" ("I can't speak it well, but I can understand it"), said Sunday in the local dialect.

Patrick Donmoyer of the University of Pennsylvania wants to preserve this German heritage for future generations. At the German Cultural Heritage Center in Kutztown in Berks County, he teaches Pennsylvania Deitsch in a former German school from 1870 that is now a museum.

On an old school slate board in the cultural center, one can see "deitsche Sprichwadde" (German adages) written down such as "Schpaar die Geld" ("saving money"), and the unusual phrase "gut gwetzt ist halwer gmeht" ("well-sharpened is half mown"), which literally refers to the mowing of fields with a scyth.

The language is not at risk of extinction, says Donmoyer. Around 40,000 people speak the dialect in Pennsylvania alone, and around 400,000 across America. The number is rising since many Amish and Mennonites faith communities who speak Pennsylvania German as their mother tongue traditionally have large families.

Some 30% of Pennsylvanians have German ancestors, and many of the descendants still speak some form of German at home. Donmoyer says a Pennsylvanian German dialect has developed into its own language across 300 years.

Another German cultural import that is still typical across Pennsylvania and beyond is the famous "barn star" or "hex sign" seen fixed to farmhouses and barns. Ranging from decorative five-pointed stars to colorfully painted twelve-point compasses, the signature emblems were brought across the Atlantic by the Palatinate immigrants and have developed into a distinct regional art form.

At the Kutztown Folk Festival, Donmoyer demonstrates how to paint the barn stars. Contrasting colors like yellow and black give the impression that the stars are turning, he says. The emblems should not be mixed up with pagan symbols, he adds, noting that the sun, moon and stars have always played an important role for people on the land. These Pennsylvania Germans simply continued to draw what was important to them.

The popular Kutztown Folk Festival attracts 130,000 annual visitors who come to experience the lifestyles of German immigrants who have shaped Berks County to this day. In the Wursthaus, one can get their fill of German-style Pennsylvanian sausages with sauerkraut, while a brass band plays music that would not be out of place in the southern German state of Bavaria.

The band's trumpet player, Leon Moll, regularly spoke Pennsylvania Deitsch with his parents as a child. Since their death, however, he rarely speaks the language, while his children "tun es nid mehr schwätze" ("don't speak it anymore"), he explains. For many, it is only during the nine days of the annual festival that their old country customs come to life.

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### 'So deutsch sind die USA'

Whether it's Little Italy or Chinatown, the roots of the inhabitants of these lively New York neighborhoods are still evident today. Those areas actually used to be a hub of German life, with German street signs, beer gardens and pubs, yet virtually nothing can be seen of that today, other than perhaps the trendy Loreley pub and restaurant.

Back at the beginning of the 20th century, however, "Little Germany" was the name given to the district on the Lower East Side that was home to around 50,000 people, most of them with German roots. The more than 1,300 passengers who boarded the paddle wheel steamer General Slocum on June 15, 1904 were also from Little Germany. That was a Wednesday, a working day, so it was mainly women and children of the Protestant congregation who sailed off on the East River, heading to Long Island for a picnic. But the cheerful trip turned into a tragedy. The ship caught fire, and panic broke out. The lifeboats could not be detached; the life jackets were worthless. When the General Slocum finally ran aground, it was in flames. By then, countless corpses were floating around in the river, with 1,021 people ultimately dying in the event. To this day, it is the biggest civilian shipwreck in the history of the US. Nearly every inhabitant of Little Germany lost relatives in the catastrophe. Most of the families ended up leaving the city district as it reminded them too much of the disaster. By 1910, only a few German families had remained.MItalians and Chinese took over the streets. Little Germany had disappeared — like so many Ger-

### 'So deutsch sind die USA'

man vestiges in the US. But a look back to history can help us rediscover them...

For over two months, the three-masted Concord had sailed across the stormy Atlantic before arriving at the port of Philadelphia on October 6, 1683. On board were 13 German families, Mennonites from near Krefeld.NThey came to the "New World" attracted by the proposal of colony founder William Penn. The English Quaker had made land available to religious refugees for colonization. After all, in the German principalities and kingdoms of the 17th century, only the Catholic, Lutheran and Reformed Churches were permitted. Other religious communities were persecuted. In Penn's colony, the "Original 13," as the German families were called, ended up founding "Deitschesteddel": the first German settlement in the US.

A hundred years later, 200,000 people were living in Pennsylvania, a third of them with German roots. Their antiquated-sounding "Pennsylvania Dutch" — a reference to the term Deutsch, or the dialect they used, Deitsch — is still spoken in some communities today, such as among the Amish. The former "Deitschesteddel" is now called "Germantown" and is part of Philadelphia.

The influence of Germans was also marked in other parts of the Midwest, such as in the states of Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin: Most of the Americans with German ancestry live in this region, and many major breweries were founded by Germans. Commemorating the arrival of the first German settler group back in 1683, German-American Day is now celebrated every year on October 6.

It was due to a Prussian that the American colonialists were able to win the Revolutionary War (1775 - 1783) against the British colonial power: Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben was his name. Born in 1730, the offspring of a soldier family had served under Prussian King Frederick the Great before meeting Benjamin Franklin in Paris. Franklin recommended Steuben to the commanding general of the overseas colonialists, George Washington.

In 1778, Steuben arrived at the winter camp of the Continental Army. His task: to form an army out of the irregular forces, who consisted of farmers, merchants and politicians, that could stand up to the British professional soldiers. With typical Prussian discipline and drill, Steuben organized the training of the soldiers so thoroughly that they defeated the British. Since 1957, the annual Steuben Parade in New York has commemorated one of the most important German-Americans of the founding period.

Members of the German military also fought in the American Civil War (1861-1865). Among them was Franz Sigel, originally from the Heidelberg region. The German lieutenant made it to the rank of major general and was one of the highest-ranking commanders of the North's army. The then popular civil war song "I Goes to Fight Mit Sigel," with its German-English smattering of lyrics, recalls him and the around half a million German soldiers or those of German descent who took part on both sides of the war between the North and South. Franz Sigel had also been one of those in

Europe who had rebelled against the princes and kings in 1848. After the failure of the revolution, he fled to the US.

Fritz Anneke from Westphalia (who later fought for the Northern states during the Civil War) and his wife Mathilde Franziska Anneke did the same. She had already been working as a journalist in Europe, among others, for a newspaper for which poet Heinrich Heine had also written. In the US, she was then allowed to do what had been forbidden in the German states: She gave lectures on educational opportunities, gender equality and spoke out against slavery.

In 1852, she founded the German-language Frauen-Zeitung (Women's Newspaper). In 1869, she became the first vice-president of the National Woman Suffrage Association — and thus one of the most important activists of the American women's movement.

Other "Forty-Eighters," as the people who emigrated from Europe after participating in the 1848 revolutions became known, also pursued careers in the US: Revolutionary Friedrich Hecker got involved with the newly founded Republican Party and Carl Schurz became interior minister and adviser to US President Abraham Lincoln.

But all in all, the former German revolutionaries numbered few among the emigrants. Most of those who emigrated fled from hunger and poverty to the West. And the numbers grew: By the middle of the 19th century, one million Germans had arrived in the US. Only towards the end of the century did the numbers decline.

World War I began in 1914. When the US entered the war in 1917, the relationship to German-Americans in the US also changed. German-Americans Americanized their names, while authorities called for a boycott of German goods. German terms disappeared from linguistic usage. Even the popular "Sauerkraut" was renamed into "liberty cabbage." In the state of Illinois, a mob ambushed German-American Robert Prager, forcing him to hoist the American flag and sing the national anthem. He was ultimately hanged.

Even between the world wars, much of what was typically German had disappeared from everyday American life. And the people who fled to the US after the National Socialists seized power in Germany in 1933 wanted nothing more to do with the country that persecuted Jews and other unpopular minorities and murdered millions of people.

Many quickly became Americans — like Henry Kissinger, the later US Secretary of State, who fled Germany with his Jewish family in 1938 as a teenager. He assumed American citizenship in 1943 and fought as a GI against his country of birth. Unlike the Italians or Chinese who immigrated later, the traces of Germans are markedly more hidden — and yet so closely interwoven with American culture that the two can hardly be separated.

Interestingly, the US even owes its title to a German: Cartographer Martin Waldseemüller. Waldseemüller gave the newly discovered country in the West a name on his world map of 1507: "America," after navigator Amerigo Vespucci. He, however, was not German, but Italian.

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### Forest Schools, German's Waldkindergarten

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

Waldkindergarten, wood or forest kindergarten, are a natural development for Germany, a country where an emphasis is put on "nature" and the "environment" as a vital ingredient for life, and living. From its city parks and gardens to the almost 30 percent of land under protection in over 7,000 nature reserves.

Dressed for the weather, and as open air all weather schools this means whatever the season come rain or shine, for pre-school pupils at Waldkindergarten "learning" means being outside in an unstructured open setting. Experiencing all facets of nature and wildlife.

With at least half their day spent in the open air, groups of children often become dirty and wet. They climb and fall off trees, play with whatever there is to be found outside, all the time exploring, learning, and through curiosity and fantasy acquiring a basic insight into, and understanding and respect for, the na-ture surrounding them.

Often split into two groups, 18 months to three years and from three until "schulreife", ready for first grade at six years old, and with little obvious direction from teachers, children of both age groups in a Waldkindergarten combine their own choice of physical activity with quiet times.

There are no "proper" toys. They become independent and motivated, their imagination and concentration is developed, and they learn to work, play and communicate with each other.

Twigs and branches, found lying around or transported by the children to the site, make hideaways built to their own design and calculations.

A branch becomes a swing, a slide or perhaps a pirate ship. Somewhere to sit while listening to a story: looking at a book, singing, playing music with sticks, stones and seed pods, eating lunch; observing sounds and scents of the nature surrounding them or watching the patterns made by light and shade through trees.

Four twigs on the forest floor are the frame for a picture drawn in the soil; a collage made with objects found nearby. While the stick used as a prod to poke under stones today, is a magician's wand tomorrow.

Natural habitats are explored, wildlife, plants and trees inspected and discussed. Under guidance herbs, fungi, leaves, berries and other "edibles" growing in the wild are tasted. Raw, cooked, as teas brewed over an open fire, and as the children pass through the seasons, they learn the sequences of time and nature. And a sense of place.

Modern life, and reliance on television programs, often bring about a situation where young people know more about African wildlife than they do about the life outside their own doors; the nature and environ-ment in the part of the world they live.

Already in 2005 a book by Richard Louv, "The Last Child in the Woods", described this as "nature deficit disorder". For today's children the first hand experiences and contact with nature that their parents, grandparents and generations before them had, have been replaced by a virtual reality.

In urban and suburban areas of Germany increasing numbers of parents are choosing to send their pre-school children to a Waldkindergarten, and the government provides subsidies to parent associations wish-ing to found and run schools if there isn't one in their neighborhood. Some form of parental participation is part of the ideal and system of education, while once established monthly school fees are kept low.

Increasing evidence shows preschoolers who have attended a forest kindergarten are ahead develop-mentally of those from a more conservative system; that Waldkindergarten are successful among other things in developing independence, concentration, imagination, social skills, communication, coordina-tion, fitness and an appreciation and understanding of nature.

It is not a new concept but first thought of in the mid 19th century by Friedrich Froebel, who had been born and brought up in one of Germany's forested regions.

Highly educated he became committed to the idea that play and open air were an essential part of a child's growth and education, which was contrary to the practices of the time. He began an educational system that took account of his theory, and later invented the description "Kindergarten". Children's garden.

Over time his ideas and theories were replaced by conventional methods of teaching young children. Alt-hough adopted in Scandinavian countries during the 1950's, it was not until the beginning of the 1990's that they once again became acceptable in Germany, and the first Waldkindergarten was founded.

Now, although more are opened every year in cities like Berlin as well as country towns, there are long waiting lists for the hundreds of countrywide "forest schools".

Today's Forest School is a 19th century concept that fits perfectly to the 21st century, and one that is be-ginning to be followed by more countries. While in a "Green Germany", with a strong ecological and social culture, it has become a fundamental system of education, not only for present day, but also for the future life and lifestyle of the country and its people. Toys don't last forever, but experiences do.

#### **CURRYWURST**

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

On an idyllic summer evening, satisfying hunger pangs while strolling down a city street, at a snow covered Weihnachtsmarkt, or during any month and on any occasion, a sausage with curry sauce, the strangely addictive Currywurst, has enjoyed cult status as a German fast food snack for more than 60 years.

Over 850,000,000 are eaten every year in Germany, with an estimated 70,000,000 consumed in what, according to a sometimes disputed Currywurst legend, is its birthplace, the country's capital Berlin.

Herta Heuwer, a shop assistant at the KaDeWe Berlin's biggest store, was one of the many Truemmerfrauen, 'rubble' women, who throughout Germany used little more than basic tools and their hands to clear away wreckage left behind by war. In her Charlottenburg kitchen Herta used typically British ingredients she had been given from the armed services NAAFI, (Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes and Britain's equivalent of the PX, BX and NEX), to create a special recipe for the first Currywurst. In 1949 Charlottenburg was a part of Berlin's post war British military sector.

Not just ketchup with curry powder, through trial and error she turned Worcestershire sauce, spices and ketchup into a mixture that, when blended with cooked tomatoes and onions, became a warm sauce for covering deep fried sliced Knackwurst (Knockwurst). A touch of the colorful and exotic combined with the familiar, which brightened up a life where all meals were influenced by post war rationing.

Herta then bought a stall on the corner of Charlottenburg Kant and Kaiser-Friedrich-Strasse, a commemorative plaque marks the spot, and from September 4, 1949 offered a "Currywurst" for 60 pfennig, at the time about 50 US cents and 6 UK pennies, to everyone from construction workers rebuilding the devastated city to passersby.

Currywurst became so popular that soon she was serving 10,000 a week so had to employ staff, and before long being seen enjoying this new snack food became a photo opportunity for celebrities, from presidents to film stars.

Herta had patented her recipe under the name "Chillup" at the Münchner Patentamt, but kept the twelve spices and ingredients a secret that she took with her when she died in 1999, although thousands of "copycat" Currywurst providers appeared throughout Germany.

A German snack food had become part of its culture. The iconic Currywurst appears and is used as a prop in TV programs, Herbert Groenemeyer a popular German actor and singer had a huge Top Ten hit singing in praise of a Currywurst, while many books and films, covering an entire range from cold war spy stories to present day romances, somehow manage to include one, or more, in the proceedings. Being



photographed eating, or at least holding, a Currywurst is one aim almost everyone from tourists and film stars to US Presidents and German chancellors seem to share in common.

Since 2009 a Disneyesque Currywurst Museum has been open alongside the monument to Checkpoint Charlie, but this will close in December 2018. Although not because Berliners have fallen out of love with the Currywurst, through rising rents.

For non-German nationals in the days of a Berlin Wall, and divided Germany, Checkpoint Charlie was the border crossing point into an East Berlin where currywurst were also enjoyed. Although unlike in the West the sausage had no casing in the East, so it was a "Currywurst ohne Darm" as for whatever reason at the time it seems there were none available on that side of the wall. And this remains the most popular way of serving them there.

Now Currywurst are found everywhere. As take out food served on Currywurstschale, traditional recyclable paper or pottery dishes from Currywurstbude, (currywurst stands), or Schnellimbisse, (fast food stands), in restaurants using vegetarian sausages or a standard featured on children's menus, and they cost about Euro 3.50. Five star hotels with views of Berlin's Brandenburg Gate and up market bars offer them priced at around Euro 25 each, or served together with a glass of champagne for Euro 45.

It is unlikely that any two Germans will agree as to what is a perfect Currywurst, and different regions also have their own idea of how it is served, although not many would think of "Currywurst und Schampus" as an ideal combination.

Nevertheless fries or bread, mustard, onions, very spicy, not so spicy, Bratwurst, a mixture of pork and beef, or Knackwurst, similar to a short fat frankfurter, are just a few of the alternatives; and for many Germans a world without Currywurst is unthinkable whatever way it is served. However there is one thing most agree upon, although the recipe can have ketchup as a base there should be so many other ingredients that this is unrecognizable, because an authentic Currywurst is never served with ready made ketchup.

A genuine Herta Heuwer Currywurst is something I never had the opportunity to try, and even her husband had no idea as to the ingredients in the sauce, but a friend in Berlin who enjoyed them many times gave me this curry sauce recipe as being the taste that is the nearest to the original of their memories.

### 12 Food-Related German Idioms



These expressions will have your mouth watering! It's impossible in one article to discuss all the idioms in German that refer to food. But we can look at some of the most common ones with the literal translation and the meaning.

1. Er glaubt, er bekommt eine Extrawurst

Literally: He thinks he gets an extra sausage.

Does he think he's special? Like he gets an extra sausage? We all know someone like this.

2. Du armes Würstchen!

Literally: You poor little sausage.

You have a cold! Oh you poor little sausage. Let me make you some soup. (Careful, as this one is also frequently used condescendingly, which I have to say seems extraordinarily appropriate.)

3. Die beleidigte Wurst spielen

Literally: Acting the insulted sausage

Pay no mind to Sally over there. She's just acting the insulted sausage: pouting, because she didn't get her way.

4. Sich die Wurst vom Brot nehmen lassen

Literally: To let someone take the sausage off your bread. Stand up for yourself! Don't let anyone take the sausage off your bread. You're too good to be taken advantage of like that.

5. Das ist mir Wurst

Literally: That is sausage to me.

I don't care about that at all. Frankly, my dear, I don't give a sausage.

6. Sieht wie eine Presswurst aus

Literally: Looks like a stuffed sausage.

She might want to rethink the size of her clothing. She looks a bit like a stuffed sausage in that top.

7. Es geht um die Wurst

Literally: It's about the sausage.

Okay now, there are two minutes left in the game! It's crunch time people! It's all about the sausage!

8. Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei Literally: Everything has an end, only the sausage has two.

9. um den heißen Brei herumreden

Literally: To talk around the hot soup/porridge.

He simply will not get to the point. He keeps talking around the hot porridge/ hot soup, or, as we say in English, beating around the bush.

10. Jemandem Honig um den Mund schmieren

Literally: To smear honey around the mouth.

Before you ask Tim for that favor, make sure you give him lots of compliments – you know, smear honey around his mouth. (English equivalent: "to butter someone up.")

11. Jemanden ausnehmen wie eine Weihnachtsgans Literally: To gut someone like a Christmas goose.

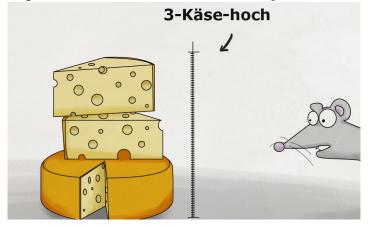
If I get another passive aggressive email from Bob I swear I

will tear him a new one. I will take him to the cleaners. I will gut him like a Christmas goose.

12. Dreikäsehoch

Literally: Three-cheeses-high.

Little Clara is celebrating her fourth birthday today. She's not but a wee little thing, barely three cheeses high! I don't know what it is, but I just love this one. It literally refers to the height of three wheels of cheese stacked on top of each other.



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









### **ER WAR STUDENT IN HEIDELBERG DORTHE KOLLO**

Refrain: Er war Student, er war Student, Student in Heidelberg

aber studiert hat er die Liebe nicht nur hier.

Nein, sein Talent, das kennt man nicht allein in Heidelberg,

doch sein Examen macht er sicher mal bei mir. Ja, sein Examen macht er sicher mal bei mir. Die Nacht war schön, er tanzte ganz allein mit mir. Es wurde spät, wir trennten uns vor meiner Tür.

Als er mich küsste, habe ich sofort gespürt,

das ist gekonnt, wahrscheinlich hat er das studiert. Das ist gekonnt, wahrscheinlich hat er das studiert.

Refrain: Er war Student, ...

Am Tag darauf sah ich ihn mit der andern geh'n. Ich weiss genau, die beiden haben mich geseh'n. Als ich ihn fragte war er bestens präpariert,

Das war gekonnt, wahrscheinlich hat er das studiert. Das war gekonnt, wahrscheinlich hat er das studiert.

Refrain: Er war Student,

### The story of the Heidelberg Kiss:

For generations, Heidelberg has developed a global reputation of romance and is known throughout the world as a lively, loveable city. Rightly so, as the following episode shows.

A long-standing institution, the Café Knösel is located at the heart of the Old Town and houses Heidelberg's residents and not least it's students. Everyone liked Fridolin Knösel, the witty, didicated chocolatier and master confectioner, and his exquisite creations.

In particular, the young ladies attending Heidelberg's finishing schools, loved his sweet chocolate delights and were frequent customers, much to the delight of many students of the university, who would also flock to the store, hoping to exchange furtive glances with the fairer sex. Alas, their ever-watchful governesses were never far away.

These secret longings did not go unnoticed by good-natured Fridolin Knösel. Ingenious as he was, he created one day a particularly delicious chocolate delight, which he impishly called the Student's Kiss. Given as a present, it was such an exquisite, gallant token of affection that not even the chaperones could object. At last, the students and young ladies had a discreet way to send a sweet message in the form of a Student's Kiss.

Much has changed since the days of Fridolin Knösel, yet his descendants continue the family tradition in the little store on Haspelgasse, where they still make Student's Kisses according to the original recipe from 1863. By hand, of course. A sweet symbol and charming souvenir of Heidelberg.

### Aus der Küche:

### **Pichelsteiner**

Pichelsteiner is a German stew that contains several kinds of meat and vegetables.

The creation of this dish has been traced to Auguste Winkler (née Kiesling). Originally from Kirchberg im Wald, she worked as an innkeeper in Grattersdorf, where she is also buried. The name is likely to have derived from the nearby Büchelstein mountain, where the annual Büchelsteiner Fest has been celebrated since 1839. As early as the 40th anniversary in 1879, the Open-air-cooking festival was considered a tradition, and because the letter ü is pronounced like i in the local dialect, the dish's name developed.

In Regen, a town in the Bavarian Forest, the citizens have met annually since 1874 on Kirchweih Monday to eat Pichelsteiner together, a tradition that is still alive today. They also claim the name's etymology. In their opinion it derives from the pot in which the stew is cooked, which was called a pichel in the past, but this version is highly questioned by Bavarian researcher Max Peinkofer.

The dish was first mentioned in a cookbook in 1894.

### **Ingredients:**

200 g boneless lamb shoulder

200 g boneless beef chuck

200 g boneless pork from belly

4 teaspoons butter or lard

1 quart vegetable broth

3 large carrots

1-1/2 cups green or savoy cabbage

1 cup celeriac

1 cup leeks

1 cup celery

1 cup parsnips

1 cup kohlrabi

1/2 cup chopped onions

salt and black pepper

3-4 tbs parsley

3 medium cut potatoes, optional

1/2 cup crème fraiche, optional



#### **Directions:**

- 1. Peel and cut the vegetable into finger-thick chunks. Cut all the meat into 2 cm thick cubes. In a big skillet brown the meat on all sides; scrape the brown parts from pan; set aside.
- 2. Saute the onions until brown and set aside. Saute the vegetables and set aside.
- 3. Now put all ingredients in a big pot, in layers one by one, sprinkling each layer with salt and pepper. First the meat, then the onions, then the vegetables, then the potatoes, if used.
- 4. Pour the vegetable broth over the top. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce the heat to its lowest level and cover the pot tightly. Let the stew simmer for 1 1/2 hours without stirring.
- 5. Serve directly out of the pot.

### **Puzzles und Spiele:**

#### Sudoku #535 (Easy) 7 9 8 6 5 5 9 1 4 7 8 5 2 3 5 6 2 3 1 8 9 6

#### Sudoku #529 (Hard) 3 2 5 1 6 7 4 3 5 4 9 1 8 4 3 6 2 9 7 6 5

KITZLIG
UMWELTSCHUTZ
SCHMEICHLER
DUSCHE
TORWART
KRANKENSCHWESTER

VERGNÜGUNGSPARK HÄKELHAKEN

**KIRMES** 

HOCHSPRUNG

KARTOFFELKELLER

HALTESTELLE SCHNIPSEL

GEHÖFT

BÜRGERGARDE

FLÖTENTÖNE

TIERHEIM

FLITZEN

SCHWERMUT SCHLAFSTÖRUNG

AUTOBAHN

**ANGEBER** 

**SCHAFFNER** 

SCHLEUDERGEFAHR

**KACHELOFEN** 

MAHLZEIT

RUINE

GASSE

HOLUNDERBLÜTENTEE

RUHESTAND AMPELMANN

**KINO** 

WELTMEISTER

### **HEUTE GIBT ES WORTSALAT!**

Christel M.

FFOTRAKSBM LAHR FRG GNΑ Ν F O BAΔ Α R MRFREAAPMORTEGHKKT S

### Gedichte für Alle:

### Septembermorgen

#### Eduard Mörike (1804 - 1875)

Im Nebel ruhet noch die Welt, noch träumen Wald und Wiesen; bald siehst du, wenn der Schleier fällt, den blauen Himmel unverstellt, herbstkräftig die gedämpfte Welt in warmem Golde fließen.

### Das erste Herbstblatt

#### Max Dauthendey (1867-1918)

Das erste Herbstblatt leuchtet wie Blut, Als ob verwundet im Strauch einer ruht. Sein Blut von Blatt zu Blatt still tropft, Sein Tod an alle Bäume klopft.

Die Sonne brennt so still und stumm, Das rote Blatt geht drohend um, Als müsste ein Mörder im Strauchwerk stehen Und wild sein Blutdurst am Weg umgehen.

Und abends steigt der Rauch dann auf. Als sei das Land ein Kehrichthauf`, So lastet am Fluss ein schwüler Dunst Wie der letzte Atem der Sommerbrunst.





### Herbst

### Detlev von Liliencron (1844-1909)

Astern blühen schon im Garten; Schwächer trifft der Sonnenpfeil Blumen die den Tod erwarten Durch des Frostes Henkerbeil. Brauner dunkelt längst die Haide, Blätter zittern durch die Luft. Und es liegen Wald und Weide Unbewegt im blauen Duft. Pfirsich an der Gartenmauer, Kranich auf der Winterflucht. Herbstes Freuden, Herbstes Trauer, Welke Rosen, reife Frucht.

### **Einen Sommer lang**

#### Detlev von Liliencron - (1844-1909)

Zwischen Roggenfeld und Hecken Führt ein schmaler Gang, Süßes, seliges Verstecken Einen Sommer lang.

Wenn wir uns von ferne sehen Zögert sie den Schritt, Rupft ein Hälmchen sich im Gehen, Nimmt ein Blättchen mit.

Hat mit Ähren sich das Mieder Unschuldig geschmückt, Sich den Hut verlegen nieder In die Stirn gerückt.

Finster kommt sie langsam näher, Färbt sich rot wie Mohn, Doch ich bin ein feiner Späher, Kenn die Schelmin schon.

Noch ein Blick in Weg und Weite, Ruhig liegt die Welt, Und es hat an ihre Seite Mich der Sturm gesellt.

Zwischen Roggenfeld und Hecken Führt ein schmaler Gang, süßes, seliges Verstecken Einen Sommer lang.

### Weinlese

#### Ernst Stadler (1883-1914)

Die Stöcke hängen vollgepackt mit Frucht. Geruch von Reben Ist über Hügelwege ausgeschüttet. Bütten stauen sich auf Wagen. Man sieht die Erntenden, wie sie, die Tücher vor der braunen Spätjahrsonne übern Kopf geschlagen, Sich niederbücken und die Körbe an die strotzendgoldnen Euter heben. Das Städtchen unten ist geschäftig. Scharen reihenweis gestellter, Beteerter Fässer harren schon, die neue Last zu fassen. Bald klingt Gestampfe festlich über alle Gassen,

### Herbst

Bald trieft und schwillt von gelbem Safte jede Kelter.

### Joseph Freiherr von Eichendorff (1788-1857)

Nun lass den Sommer gehen, Lass Sturm und Winde wehen. Bleibt diese Rose mein, Wie könnt ich traurig sein?



### In Remembrance



DANK Northern Suburbs mourns the passing of

### Christa H. Gartner

Christa Gartner passed away on June 15 at the age of 84 years. Beloved wife of Herman J. Gartner, loving mother of Clifford, Susan, and Karen. Cherished Oma of Cliff and Meryl, Ronald, Bradley, and Christopher.

Christa was a longtime DANK member. She was a teacher at our DANK Chicago Northern Suburbs Schools from 1999 to 2010, and then became School Treasurer from 2010 to 2014. She will be dearly missed by our DANK family and friends.

DANK Milwaukee mourns the passing of

### **Libo Amann**

Libo N Amann, 96, passed away peacefully April 10th. He is survived by son Rene and long time companion Patricia Boyd. Preceded in death by wife Katharina and parents Nicodamus and Katherine. Born in Karlsrue, Ukraine, Mr. Amann immigrated to the U..S. in 1951, retiring from Continental Can Co. after a long successful career as a lithographer. Mr. Amann was a world traveler and an avid bowler and golfer. He held many awards for his achievements including 4 holes in one.

Libo was a longtime member of DANK Milwaukee. His membership spanned 44 years! He will be dearly missed by DANK Milwaukee and the German community.

DANK mourns the passing of

### **Christine Weiss**

March 22, 1942 - May 23, 2019

Christine Weiss, 77, passed away early morning Thursday, May 23 at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. She was born at her home in Koln-Merheim, Germany to the late Johannes and Marie Weiss. Brought up in the difficult times of World War II, she found comfort in her childhood among the Girl Scouts which is, as she described, "where she found herself". Christine immigrated to and naturalized as a U.S. citizen.

In retirement she decided to open a restaurant with her son Kenneth in 2013 which they titled Weiss' Gasthaus. The restaurant continued to grow and built a beautiful community of customers, attracting those who desired authentic German cuisine with the homey feel of 'Grandma's house'. She hosted, managed, and baked her delicious desserts until the time of her passing. Since her time in the U.S. she has been affiliated and later named president of South Bend chapter's Deutsche Amerikanisher National Kogress where she stayed connected to her German roots. Christine has been described as "one of the most confident, kind-hearted, and genuine women I've ever known....a true example of someone living their best life" and that will ring true from the many people she's been acquainted with throughout her years.

DANK Pittsburgh mourns the passing of



### Lawrence J. Sabatini

Larry passed away on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at the age of 66 after a courageous fight with Cancer for over a 10 year period . Despite his illness he was active within the Chapter as was his wife Christine working various Chapter events from the Chapters Oktoberfest- Weihnachtsfeier and anything else requested of him. He was a good friend to all Chapter members and served on the Board of Trustees for numerous years. He will be especially missed by former Chapter President Erik Wittmann since Larry was not only a good friend but someone who could be counted on to be supportive of any and all Chapter activities. May he rest in peace and know that he was appreciated by all who knew him.

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CAROLYN U RANDALI

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