

infoblatt

SUMMER 2021
VOL 36 NO. 2

A PUBLICATION OF THE GERMAN
AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

GERMAN
AMERICAN
HERITAGE
center & museum



IN THIS ISSUE

Our President Writes.....	2	Dank dem Deutschen.....	10
Jugendstil: Art for All.....	3	German Summer Celebrations..	11
Financial Front.....	4	German IQ/Danish Border.....	12
New to the Collection.....	5	Membership News.....	13
Cyndi's Genealogy Corner.....	6-7	Best of the Wurst.....	14
Travel with GAHC.....	8	Kalender of Events.....	15
Cracker Jack, German?.....	9	Fall Frolic Gala.....	16

SUMMER 2021 VOL 36 NO. 2

Published Quarterly by:
**The German American Heritage
Center & Museum**

712 W. 2nd Street
Davenport, Iowa 52802-1410

Phone: 563-322-8844
www.gahc.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Daniel Cabage

VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Motto

SECRETARY

Terri Switzer

TREASURER

Dean Kraus

Nick Eli, Tamara Felden, Kylie
Franklin, Wolf Koch, Tim Koehler,
Jerry Nieman, Todd Woeber,
Barbara Zimmerman

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kelly Lao

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Erika Holshoe

OFFICE VOLUNTEER

Joan Finkenhoefer

VOLUNTEER ARCHIVIST

Gloria Fiedler

©GERMAN AMERICAN HERITAGE
CENTER, 2021
ISSN 1528-185X

*The mission of the German American Heritage
Center is to preserve and enrich for present and
future generations knowledge of the German
immigrant experience and its impact on the
American culture.*

OUR PRESIDENT WRITES

Dear members,

Grüß Gott!

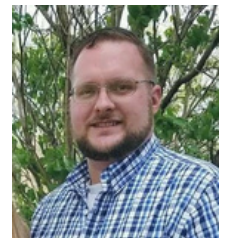
Summer is in full swing and it is refreshing to be able to begin to enjoy many of the activities that we were able to pre-Covid-19. Many in person events are in the works here at the GAHC and our doors are open for visitors with safety protocols in place. The two large events that I am personally excited for are Best of the Wurst and the Fall Frolic. These two events play a huge role in supporting our education and outreach programs and are fun for all who attend.

I also want to send a sincere thank you to all who have volunteered and continue to volunteer at the Center. Without their support, we would not be able to function properly. I would encourage anyone who has thought about donating their time to the Center to reach out to the staff and learn more. We are always seeking volunteers for special events, to be docents, or for the front desk. Volunteering is a very rewarding way to help the Center, learn about our history, and meet new people.

I look forward to seeing many of our members in person at the many upcoming events!

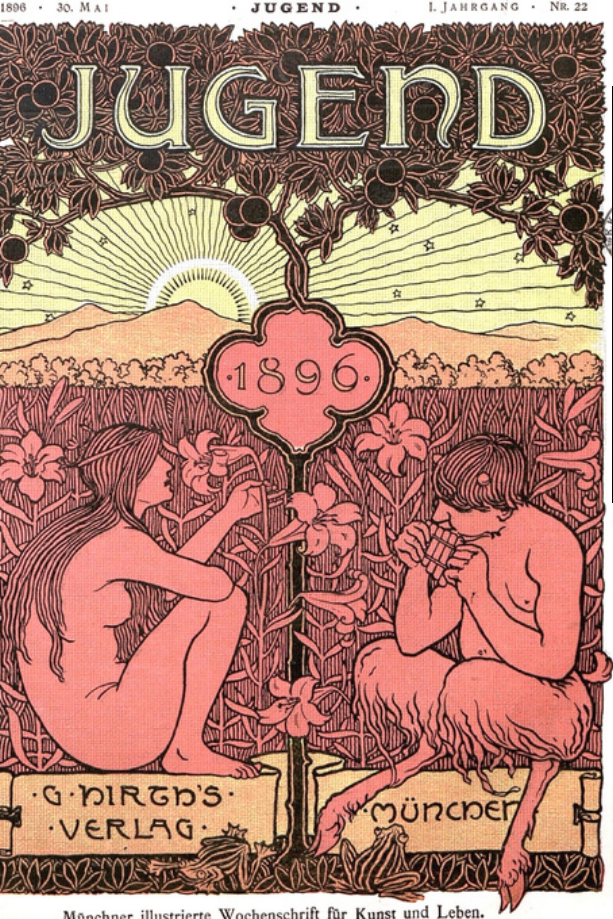
Mit freundlichen Grüßen!

Daniel Cabage



Thank you to all who donated to Birdies for Charity in 2021!

The cover image this quarter is of art nouveau elements found in the tile and newel post statue of the Grandview Apartments in the Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District of Davenport. Courtesy of Erika Holshoe.



Münchener illustrierte Wochenschrift für Kunst und Leben.

jugendstil: art for all

NEW EXHIBITION TO GRACE GAHC GALLERY

Enthusiasts of the graphic arts, architecture, interior decoration, textile and metal ware design will enjoy the visual feast in the major exhibit *Jugendstil: Art for All* opening on July 11 at the German American Heritage Center. The exhibit is curated and designed by Erika Holshoe, Assistant Director. *Jugendstil* is literally translated as “Youth Style” and represents an artistic movement that took place primarily in Germany from about 1895 to 1910. Its counterparts include Art Nouveau in France and Belgium and the Arts and Crafts Movement in Britain.

The defining features of *Jugendstil* are found in floral and plant decoration and sinuous curves, also double curves, that resisted the prior trend of neo-classical geometric rigidity. The key proponents of this change disputed the notion that painting and sculpture were superior to the applied arts, which was the prevailing philosophy of the time. *Jugendstil* artists wanted to bring back respect for beautiful craftsmanship and raise the status of all arts and crafts in a protest against the shoddy products of mass production. They aimed to create items of genuine quality that reflected both grace and function. The new flowing lines and colors from nature lent themselves perfectly to advertisements, book covers, exhibition posters and other illustrations. As the movement progressed these basic concepts were incorporated into home décor and architecture, and all elements of a pleasing and harmonious house received the *Jugendstil* touch, from doorknobs to dishes to lamps and entryways. Fashion design adopted the same smooth and soothing lines, as clothing, hats and jewelry showed the same influence. Otto Eckmann, a prominent German artist of this period, was instrumental in establishing the movement with his talents in print, typography, tile-making, furniture, textiles, and more.

The movement took its name from a 1896 magazine published in Munich called *Jugend* or “Youth.” Along with another magazine *Simplicissimus* in Munich, which greatly influenced new literary style, prominent artists in Munich provided illustrations for these publications and claimed them as their journals. Soon an entire artist colony grew around this new trend in the city, calling

continued on page 4

An example of Jugendstil used in German architecture, image courtesy of Wikipedia

themselves the *Munich Secession*. They broke away from the more formal artistic styles of the official Arts Academy. Similar groups formed in other cities, such as the *Vienna Succession* and the *Berlin Succession*, both “seceding” from the classic norms of the establishment. Weimar was an additional influential city.

In the German city of Darmstadt, a remarkable collection of *Jugendstil* buildings were created beginning in 1899. Fostered by Ernst Ludwig, the Grand Duke of

Hessen and grandson of Queen Victoria, this colony served to promote both commerce and the arts. This group made a complete break with the earlier floral styles, and was much bolder and stylized in their creations. Many artists built their own houses there, and the Grand Duke spearheaded a collective workshop for the artists, the *Maison Ernst-Ludwig*, which can still be visited today.

Graphic illustrations, porcelain, silver-plate, furniture, building style, and fashion all were

impacted by *Jugendstil* design elements. The style was revived briefly in the United States in the 1960s and 1970s, with a particular emphasis on music album covers, posters, and book jackets.

Come visit the First Floor Gallery and enjoy a look into this gentle era from Germany’s past. If you were a fan of the GAHC’s Stickley exhibit in 2015, you will recognize and enjoy its relationship to the *Jugendstil* period. Oceans apart, but close in heart!

news from the financial front

GRANTS FOR THE GAHC

Thanks to our incredibly supportive members and many opportunities from local and worldwide funders, the GAHC was able to end 2020 in the black. We are blessed to continue to do the work of sharing the stories of the German immigrant experience to our members, visitors, and community. When faced with difficulty, we look forward in order to advance our mission and vision throughout the community.

During the time when not many could visit the museum, the staff delved deep into honing their grant writing skills and this paid off with grants for operations, equipment, and exciting new exhibits.

Here are some of the projects on our horizon:

- *Botstiber Institute for Austrian-American Studies*
 - \$7,000 for Hidden Habsburgs exhibit and conference, Summer 2022.
- *Moline Foundation*
 - \$1000 for *Kultur Kits* for educational outreach.
- *Rock Island Rotary*
 - \$1000 for *Kultur Kits* for educational outreach.
- *Scott County Regional Authority*
 - \$5000 for updated technology, collection management, and exhibit display materials.

- *Regional Development Authority*
 - \$7500 for website updates and virtual field trip support.
- *Quad City Arts Arts Dollar\$*
 - \$5000 for strategic planning.



Watch for our Immigrant Passport Experience coming soon to our galleries thanks to grants from the RDA, Hubbell Waterman Foundation, and Bechtel Trusts.

new to the collection

RIDING INTO THE MUSEUM WITH STYLE!



One of our recent acquisitions is from the Kline family of Bettendorf, Iowa. Don Kline purchased this 1910s era bicycle from a dealer in the Village of East Davenport in the early 1980s. Turns out there is quite a bit of local and national history tied to the cycle.

Worthington Longfellow Mitten was born in Eldridge in 1884. He became a prominent cyclist near the turn of the century and was known for "six-day" races. This is when riders circled a track until they fell off their bikes from exhaustion or finished the race!

Mitten was very successful and made a lucrative career in cycling, often placing in the top categories in races around the world. His success came about in an era when Major League Baseball

players made \$4,500 per year and cyclists could make \$25,000 (or \$280,000 today).

Mitten began the first Davenport Cycling Club. He also ran a small company that outfitted some of the great cyclists of his era with well engineered products. Mitten made sure his bicycles could withstand the rough roads of the time.

In 1921 Mitten noticed the natural abilities of a young delivery boy. Victor Hopkins was an orphan from an unwed circus performer in Cedar Rapids whose adopted parents died and was sent to the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans Home (now the Annie Wittenmyer Center). Hopkins trained with Mitten and was named "The Iowa Farm Boy" of racing by *The New York Times* at the height of his career.

Hopkins became the 1926 National Champion cyclist and a 1924 Olympian, the first cycling Olympian from Iowa.

In the 1930s Mitten helped organize Davenport as a location on a transcontinental race, as well as many local races and athletic events. He died at the age of 57 and is buried at Oakdale Memorial Gardens.

The bicycle donated by the Kline family has wooden rims and no brakes! This was typical during the Jazz Age when cycling was a preferred sport and mode of transportation. It is in pristine condition with a leather saddle from the Brooks company. The brown color of the bicycle was Mitten's signature. The bicycle will be featured in an upcoming exhibition at the GAHC on the Roaring 20s.

cyndi's genealogy corner



This is part 10 of a recurring series in our Infoblatt. Part 9 can be found in the Spring 2021 issue. These letters were written by immigrants in America and mailed to the local newspapers in Probstei, printed in the Preetzer Zeitung and the Preetzer Wochenblatt from 1835-1852. Translated by Clara Mortiboy, Nick Pitz, and Scharlott Goettsch Blevins.

Printed in "Preetzer Wochenblatt", issue Nr. 12 Sunday 20 March 1847

Letter of the Holsteiner from North American Moline, on 1 Jan, 1847.

Dear Friend!

Happy New Year and may God Greet you! For if God is with us, then who could be against us? I want to fulfill my promise to you, you my dear fellow villagers, to share with you how it is here in the new world and how we are doing. So I will start to tell you how it is here. So I say to you, first: land and more land is to be had! That is my first call to you, you dear Laböers. The land here is all of great goodness; it rewards the worker richly for his effort, if only the weather is good. This summer the summer wheat did not grow well because in many areas a kind of fog stayed over it which you call "honey dew"; but here by far there is no shortage of wheat. The land in the state of Iowa is supposed to be the best in all America; it is here to be had as one would want to have it, quite flat and also hilly and scrubby. The North American chooses the hilly land the best because he doesn't have to dig and there is nobody that takes the water from him because no one digs on his land.

For 2-3 and 4 miles around Davenport, the land is all sold; there are wealthy people who have bought it again, and they resell it if they can profit well from it; but some will also use it themselves. However, what the price is for this land, I cannot tell you; something is sold again for the sale price and opposed to others for 3 and 4 dollars an acre. The government (public) land still has the same old price, 1 ¼ dollar per acre; it appears, however, that it will be cheaper. The government (public) land is behind the sold land, 2,3 and 4 miles from the city and how far it stretches from here I do not know. It is certainly over 60 English miles. But what does it matter to the farmer whether he travels 2 to 3 miles or 8 to 10 miles to the city to sell the products?

Woodland here in this area is not available; it is as I have heard sold for the most part and must be purchased again by another; but 10 to 12 miles back that is government (public) woodland. The wood on it is oak and hickory, good fire and building wood. Here in this place, where all the Holsteiners are, it is open prairie and on their land is hardly a tree which is 3 inches thick; There also not even 30 trunks on them; therefore, there is as little or nothing in terms of wood. Therefore there is no worry here about wood supply, because each one can drive into the woods which is next to him and fetch it from there. There are so many old trees which the wind has blown over that there is a supply for many years. Firewood is also not expensive to buy, and the load costs 1 ½ dollars. A load is over 2 cords in your measurements. It is 4 feet high 8 feet wide and the wood is 4 feet long and the foot has 13 inches. That is the measure for wood. An acre of land here contains 160 rods with a rod being 17 feet and a foot 13 inches. In our money the dollar contains 56 Fr. or 100 cents; 5 cent pieces are our smallest coins; we cannot buy anything here for under 5 cents. The grain measurement/unit, 4 bushels to a ton, will correspond to your unit. The weight is here lighter than yours; here there are 28 loth to 1 pound.

There is freedom of religion here. Everyone can be of the religion he wants; he can believe this today and tomorrow something else and go from one religion to another as he wishes. The many here are Jesuits (Christians) but also many Catholics. In Davenport there are 7 churches and there are so many nationalities in the small city. There is no Lutheran church here yet and also no school. It will however not take long that both will come here because there are here already more Lutherans than we have, and more and more will come. Then we will start a church

continued from page 6

community; the other sects do not keep us from their services. They very much like to see that we are going there and searching out a church for ourselves. But they will not succeed to separate one from us because we are directed by Psalm 105, V. 37. Silver and gold are not a necessity in our faith but rather we want to remain true to our faith until our death. Whoever abides in the true belief in Christ up to his end will die holy. Therefore do not worry about us, that we will be untrue to our faith because he called us in our hearts according to the first Book of Moses Chapter 12 verse 1: go from your homeland and from your friends into a land that I will show you, He will certainly not forsake us here when we trust in Him.

Therefore, I am also not sorry that I have moved here with my family because of how easily people can live here in this country. Here there is no worry about bread, here one can easily have something more if a person is only healthy. The earning power is very good here and the groceries are very cheap. One ton of pure sifted wheat flour of 200 pounds cost \$300. Pork and beef have a price of 1 ¾ to 2 cents a pound. I have bought over 600 pounds of pork and my brother Hinrich and I have 3 large and 1 small pig. The largest weighed 417 pounds, the other 403 and the third 385 and the little one 105 pounds. A man can have a good 200 pounds of beef. Our pigs have produced 110 pounds of lard. We are working for a man by the name of Mesias who lives in the little city of Moline on the Mississippi in the State of Illinois. We live with this man in his house, three families, I and

Hinrich and Hinrich Wiese from Lutterbeck. We are all together 7 men from Holstein who work here and earn \$4 each week including the midday meal. Hinrich, my brother, receives \$1 a day. Those who are working here are: we four brothers, Claus Arp, Hans Stoltenberg from Schönberg, and Hinrich Wiese from Lutterbeck. On Monday the 4th, Claus Mundt is also coming to us, making him the 8th. Besides us, this man has 30 to 40 men working because here a large construction project has started, namely four large water mills are being built. There will be a sawmill, a grain mill and an oil storage container, and also a large woolen mill four stories high as well as a few large packing houses. These buildings will all be standing on or in the Mississippi so that the steamships can come and go.

Here up around this city the Mississippi divides into three streams and therefore forms two islands. Between these islands the mills will be built and we will make a large wing(stone) dam from one island to the next. The islands are about 200 steps from one another and still have a large dam in the middle of the stream, about 500 steps long, which has to catch the water. Our work consists of stone work, breaking them and transporting them to the dams. The river bottom and the bank of the Mississippi is all like one rock formation.

The second half of this letter will appear in the next issue of the Infoblatt.



*Auf
Wiederschehen
Olivia!*

We must bid adieu to our Education and Development Coordinator, Olivia Covert. She joined us right before the pandemic and was instrumental in helping us through. Olivia created virtual field trip experiences, uploaded items from the gift shop to be available online, gave virtual presentations, and kept in touch with volunteers with delicious treats from Suzanne the Swiss Baker.

We thank Olivia for her time with us and cheer her on as she enjoys her work as the Development Director for the Midway Village Museum, which showcases the Swedish immigrant community in Rockford, Illinois. (Anyone see a bus trip in our future?)

a blessing after the pandemic

TRAVEL WITH BLUE HORIZON

Our 2022 Germany tour of the decade —
Journey to Germany & Oberammergau Passion Play July 5-15, 2022



This custom tour, a collaboration of GAHC and Blue Horizon Travel, offers Germany's best treasures: from castles to medieval walled towns; from its waterways to the Alps; from its vibrant cities to quaint walled villages including world renowned *Oberammergau* where we have reserved premium seats for the Passion Play. We just have 12 tickets left for this play which dramatizes the last days of Christ's life on earth with a cast of over 1000 citizens of this tiny Bavarian village.

Arrive early in Germany for our Pre-Tour to Schleswig-Holstein

June 30-July 6, 2022 \$1899 pp dbl occ
(cash/check discounted price \$1839)-Sgl sup
\$299

Many 19th and 20th century immigrants to the Midwest arrived from Germany's northernmost state of Schleswig-Holstein. We invite you to take a closer look at this ancestral region with 2 nights in Flensburg, 1 night in Burg auf Fehmarn, and 2 nights in Lübeck, the former capital of the Hanseatic League.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

SUNDAY JULY 25 2:00 PM

German American Heritage Center 4th Floor
presented by GAHC Member & Blue Horizon
Travel, Linda Meadors (309-235-5806)
712 West 2nd St., Davenport, IA

TUESDAY JULY 27 6:00 PM

Blue Horizon Lynn Center Office presented by
Bonnie Newman, Blue Horizon Travel (309-737-
0059) Available on ZOOM. 2040 N. 1100th Ave.,
Lynn Center, IL 61262

Space is limited.

**Pick up a registration kit at GAHC or
from www.bluehorizon.net.**

**Airfare will be determined in the fall of
2021.**

Main Land Tour: July 5-15, 2022 \$3999 pp dbl occ (cash
discounted price \$3899) single supplement \$999
Airfare & insurance additional.

Our tour begins in Hamburg, Germany followed by visits to the towns of Bremen, Celle, and Kassel as well as an optional visit up to the Bremerhaven Immigration Museum. We have included interior visits to the Ducal Palace of Celle and the Schloss Löwenberg. We'll journey south along the famous Romantic Road through Nördlingen, Dinkelsbühl, and Augsburg to the best preserved and completely walled river village of Rothenburg ob der Tauber for a 2 night visit. The highlight of our tour takes place in Bavaria with two days in the Oberammergau area and premium seating at the 2022 *Oberammergau Passion Play* on July 12, 2022. We will see Part 1 in the afternoon followed by a dinner break. As the sun sets in the evening, we will experience the dramatic Part 2. Since the mid-1600s, villagers have shared the story of Christ's ministry and symbolic death with a cast of over one thousand locals. The mountain tops of Garmisch-Partenkirchen and city sights of Munich round out the 11 day main tour.

Your deposit of \$500pp is fully refundable until Sept. 1st.

Post-Tour to Black Forest SOLD OUT - Waiting list only
July 15-19, 2022 \$1599 pp dbl occ (cash/check
discounted price \$1549)-sgl sup \$274

A delightfully paced optional post tour to the Black Forest in Germany's southwestern corner includes a two night stay in Tübingen as well as overnights in Heidelberg and Frankfurt.

the story of cracker jack: a summer staple at the ballpark



HOW GERMAN IMMIGRANTS CREATED "AMERICA'S FIRST JUNK FOOD"

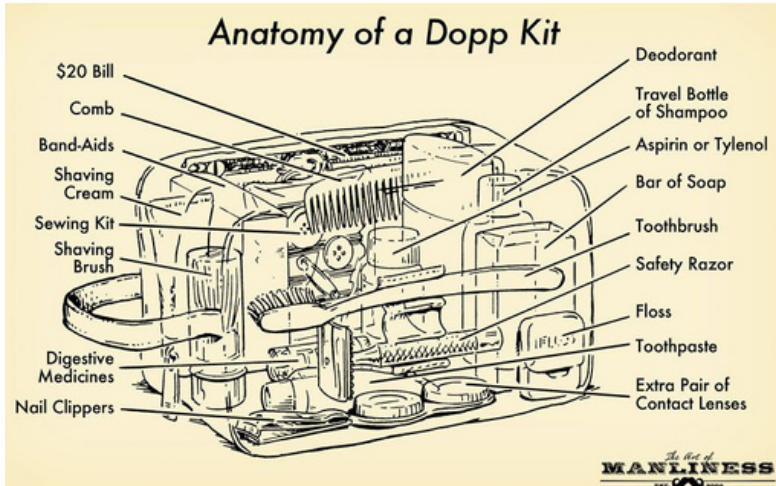
The combination of sugar-coated popcorn and peanuts has been documented as far back as 1857. German immigrant Frederick "Fritz" William Rueckheim of Chicago is credited with the origin of such a mixture in 1871, using molasses as a coating and selling it at his snack stand on the corner of 4th and Federal Streets in the city. He mixed batches by hand using steam equipment and the product had no specific name. Two years later he sent for his brother Louis to leave Germany and join him in Chicago.

The brothers produced a new product version in 1893 for the Chicago World's Fair, but the concoction stuck together in large chunks and left fingers sticky. In 1896 Louis perfected a method of adding a small amount of oil and using a cement mixer type drum to coat each batch. "That's a crackerjack!" exclaimed a customer, meaning a success, a winner, and thus Cracker Jack was christened with a name and recipe which has been sold for over 120 years. A timeline of other notable events stretches to our current era follows.



Rueckheim building on South Clinton Street, Chicago, 1885,
image courtesy of the Made in Chicago Museum

- **1899** Henry Gottlieb Eckstein invented the "waxed sealed package" which kept the snack free of dust, germs and moisture. Eckstein became a partner in the firm.
- **1907** "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" was published, creating free publicity with every chorus of "Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack!" Sales soared in America's stadiums.
- **1912** The first toys or "surprises" were added to each box. These included tiny figurines, stickers, tattoos, and decoder rings.
- **1914** The company began to issue miniature baseball cards in each box, eventually producing a series of 144 cards. Complete sets have been sold at antique auctions in modern times for over \$400,000.
- **1916** Mascots Sailor Jack and his dog Bingo were introduced on packages. Sailor Jack was modeled on Frederick Rueckheim's grandson Robert, who died tragically of pneumonia at age 8. Henry Eckstein's dog Russell was the model for Bingo. Both images are engraved on young Robert's tombstone in St. Henry's Cemetery in Chicago.
- **1964** The Cracker Jack Company was sold to Borden in a bidding war.
- **1993** The 100th anniversary of Cracker Jack was celebrated at Wrigley Field at a Cubs vs. Florida Marlins game. Sailor Jack threw out the ceremonial first pitch.
- **1997** Borden sold the brand to Frito Lay, which still produces it today.
- **2004** The New York Yankees replaced Cracker Jack with Crunch 'n Munch at home games. Cracker Jack was restored after loud and vigorous fan protests.
- **2016** Frito Lay eliminated the package prizes, replacing them with a QR code which can be used to download a baseball-themed game.



dank dem deutschen

THANK A GERMAN!

This issue begins a recurring feature highlighting a discovery, invention, product, or idea which is attributed to a German native or German immigrant. You may discover a name you never knew, or an old favorite from your days in history class. Enjoy!

In the early 1900s, Charles Doppelt immigrated from Germany to Chicago. In 1919, he founded the Charles Doppelt Company, which featured bags and cases made of fine grade leather. Having learned the leather trade in Germany, Charles was eager to find success in America. In 1919 he created an expandable leather bag designed to hold the basics of men's grooming needs - soap, shaving cream, razor, comb, nail clippers, and hair products. It was a rectangular case with a top that lifted upwards from a full length zipper, yet it also folded flat to be stowed or stored.

Originally called a "toiletory bag" that name itself never caught on, but the name "Dopp bag" or "Dopp kit," a variation based on its inventor, was widely known. The product was patented in 1928 or 1929. Prior to this design, grooming products were often assigned to awkward wooden cases with individual compartments or left to rattle around on their own in a larger

suitcase. The Dopp kit was a practical solution that was quick and easy to use, and became very popular. A contract with the U.S. Army during World War II introduced the case to thousands of new recruits and assured its continued success.

In time, women also found the case very useful and other variations were made, including those made from high grade, durable canvas. By the middle of the 20th century the Dopp kit also became a classic graduation gift for young boys transitioning into manhood. A premium leather Dopp kit monogrammed with one's initials was highly prized.

Jerome Harris, nephew of Doppelt, began working at the factory at the age of 14. Over several decades he learned the trade and introduced several new products, including miniature Dopp kits to hold jewelry. He invented the first hard-sided briefcase, thumb locks on briefcases and attaché cases, and the first leather ID tags to use up

the precious leather scraps from the cuttings for Dopp kits. He also created a new process to line ladies' clutch purses and handbags with attractive fabrics, such as paisley and faux suede. The Charles Doppelt Company was sold to Samsonite in 1970, but the original products will always be known as "Dopps."

when good fellows get to geth_er

they sing the praises of DOPP-KIT

IN the Army, Navy and Marine Corps—the VICTORY Model DOPP-KIT is contributing to the comfort and convenience of the boys in service. This compact, large-capacity toilet-kit holds all necessary shaving and toilet articles—a space-saver, easy to pack and carry. It opens wide—stays open for ready use—and flapfastener holds it securely closed. Exclusive. Patented. Priced from \$3.25 up and for sale at better stores everywhere. Send for illustrated folder.

For Men or Women

CHARLES DOPPELT & CO.
412 N. Orleans St. • Dept. D-112 • Chicago

There are special models for the ladies, too—with or without fittings, as desired.

german summer

celebrations & observances you may not know



BY WOLF KOCH

The German calendar lists many religious and civic events known to few here in the United States. As immigrants came to this country, old customs and celebrations were often lost from collective memories. This article is the fourth and last in the series which started with the Fall 2020 issue of the *Infoblatt* and continued with the Winter and Spring 2021 issues. The summer season shows a dearth of public holidays when compared to the rest of the year, but it includes summer vacations for Germany's school systems.

Augsburg Peace Festival (August 8) This holiday commemorates the Protestants' loss of religious freedom in the city of Augsburg in 1629. It also celebrates the implementation of the Peace of Westphalia. This restored Protestants' religious freedom. Is a public holiday in Augsburg in the German state of Bavaria.

The first Augsburg Peace Festival was held on August 8, 1650. Between 1651 and 1739, city officials marked the occasion by presenting the city's children with picture books.

Assumption Day (August 15, *Mariä Himmelfahrt*) This day is celebrated in most Catholic regions of the world where it is recognized as a formal public holiday. It is a legal holiday in Germany's Bavaria and the Saarland as well as in 14 of the 26 Swiss cantons and is celebrated with religious parades and secular festivals. Many Catholics attend special church services and some people collect herbs as a tradition for the day.

In the United States, the day is celebrated in the small town of Praha, Texas, the "Czech Capital of Texas", which has held its annual Feast of the Assumption homecoming festival for more than 150 years. Since Eastern Orthodox churches follow the Julian Calendar, the feast day of Assumption of Mary falls on August 28.

Summer Vacation (*Sommerferien, große Ferien*) represents the longest vacation period in Germany's school calendar. In the 1990s summer vacation was reorganized to incorporate the new states from the former East Germany. Saturday school was eliminated across Germany with exceptions permitted for local emergencies. Since there are no local school boards in Germany, all students within a given state's boundaries have the same vacation days, which are determined by a commission of all the 16 Ministries of Education.

The start and end of summer vacation is rotated so a state that dismisses early in a given year becomes the last to be released for the summer in the following year. Vacation schedules for the entire country are thus planned and published 2-3 years in advance, incorporating not only summer vacation but all major holidays. States have the individual freedom to add two "flexible" days off to their own calendars. In general, *Sommerferien* includes a period of 6-7 weeks between mid-June and mid-September.



Many Germans vacation on Germany's largest island of Rügen in the Baltic Sea. It's known for its beaches, national parks, white chalk cliffs, ancient beech forests, sleepy fishing villages and magnificent manor houses. Even writer Thomas Mann enjoyed the seaside resorts of Binz and Sellin. Image courtesy of tourism.de

test your GIQ!



GERMAN INFORMATION QUOTIENT WITH WOLF KOCH

This issue continues a series of short articles designed to feature random peculiarities of German life. Some articles will pose a question, others will serve to illustrate German life or language. We welcome your input; if you have an answer to any question, please submit it to info@gahc.org, with the title of *Test your GIQ*.

In the last issue of *Infoblatt* we relayed the story of a business traveler who had spent a week in a nice hotel but had nothing but trouble when the number 1 fell off his room door, Room 100, during the first day of his stay. Several readers responded and identified the source of his problems: in Germany, public toilets are generally identified one of three ways, *Toilette(n)*, *WC* (water closet) or "00". We should mention that Germans are much more direct and do not use euphemisms such as "Restroom(s)".

For this issue of the *Infoblatt*, we will combine two separate German idioms and ask you to identify what they mean:

Generally, most German trees go to school while most German white wines, such as Rieslings, should never go to school.



fences make good neighbors?

This year marks 101 years since the current border between Germany and Denmark was set. This occasion was marked by German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Danish Queen Margarete II along a portion of the 44 mile (70km) long border.

The area has a long and tumultuous history. Before 1864, Schleswig was a fiefdom of Denmark, while Holstein was a fief of the Holy Roman Empire (pre-1806) and a member of the German Confederation (after 1815). They were both ruled by the Danish king in his role of Duke of the territories.

Schleswig-Holstein was conquered in 1864 by Prussia; an international border was then created. In 1920, the border was moved 31 miles (50 km) to the south by Danish King Christian X, Margerette's grandfather. This returned the South Jutland region to Denmark. Citizens in North Schleswig

voted to be made part of Denmark, while South Schleswig voted to be part of Germany.

During WWII, the Nazi regime occupied neutral Denmark, violating the border agreements. They returned to the pre-war agreement after 1945.



memberships & memorials

MARCH 7 - JUNE 30, 2021



WILLKOMMEN AN BORD

Andersen, Barbara	Davenport, IA
Eichner, Elizabeth & Family	Davenport, IA
Fleming, Joy	Rock Island, IL
Foster, Nile	LeClaire, IA
Fritz, Elizabeth & Family	Davenport, IA
Hamilton-Smith, Katherine	Libertyville, IL
Heidgerken, Becky	Davenport, IA
Koski, Kevin/Jane	Rock Island, IL
Oliger, John/Julie	Davenport, IA
Puls, Linda	DeWitt, IA
Ritterbusch, Cory & Family	Shullsburg, WI
Rudnick, Nancy	Davenport, IA
Wagnitz, Michael G	Davenport, IA
Woodworth, Patsy	Davenport, IA

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Koch, Wolf/Linnea	Sterling, IL
Schaefer, Jack/Carolyn	Barrington, IL

MEMORIALS

MICHAEL BEGEY

Conlon, Walter/Kristine

ROGER MEIER

Green, Diane Meier

RICHARD KARWATH

Baum, Richard/Nancy
Bollmann, Henry/Jane
Brummer Co.
Ferris, Rodney/Rachel
Fredrichs, William/Mary
Schaefer, Carol
Schebler, Thomas/Jeanne
Schindler, Rudy/Suzanne
Schwarz, Calvin/Sharon
Voss, Warren/Patricia

WILLIAM PUCK

Hennessey, Terri
Sheahan, Marilyn

RICHARD STAHL

Sheahan, Marilyn

MARY ANN TYLER

Becker, Janice
Noser, Jennifer deSilva



Picture from Schuetzen Park during the celebration of their 150th anniversary, photo by Kelly Lao

best of the wurst

OUR FAVORITE SUMMER FESTIVAL RETURNS



Bring out your best (and loosest!) pair of lederhosen or dirndl and come out for the GAHC's most popular, sausage-based event, The Best of the Wurst!

We are bringing our 16 best friends from the Gutenberg German Band back to the stage as we celebrate the summer grilling season with beer, brats, and big time fun! Mark your Kalendar for Saturday, August 28th from 2pm-6pm for this family-friendly, outdoor event.

Tickets are just \$5 at the door or in-advance for those over 12, free for under 12. Your ticket serves as your entry to savory fun as you visit each of our competing vendors and try the Best Wurst

they have to offer. Use your ticket to vote for your favorite. This year's vendors include reigning champ, Jerry's Market, Scherer's Meats, and new contender Ruby's! Each vendor will have additional food for purchase.

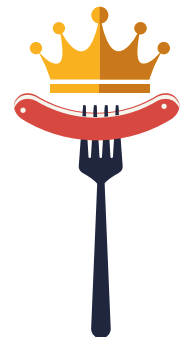
Beer, soda, and water purchases go to support our programs and events- so be sure to imbibe responsibly and tip the volunteer bartenders!

Special thanks go out to our generous sponsors Zimmerman Honda and Group Schumacher for making this event possible! Tented seating and indoor restrooms will be available. Join us rain or shine (but cross your fingers for great weather for us!)

Zimmerman
Honda

ZimmermanHonda.com 309-76-Honda

**GROUP
SCHUMACHER**



kalender of events

07

jul.

FRIDAY 2ND. KINOGARTEN:

MEPHISTO. 8pm or sundown. Outdoor film screening at Rozz Tox, FREE

SUNDAY 11TH. JUGENDSTIL: ART FOR ALL EXHIBITION OPENS

SUNDAY 18TH. LUSH BEAUTIES:

ART NOUVEAU SASH PINS. 2pm. Virtual lecture with Ann Koski. Tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

THURSDAY 22ND-MONDAY 26TH. THE UNIMAGINABLE JOURNEY OF PETER ERTEL.

Virtual Documentary screening. FREE, Register at [showandtell.com](https://www.showandtell.com)

SUNDAY 25TH. OBERAMMERGAU INFO SESSION WITH BLUE HORIZON TRAVEL.

2pm. Hosted by Linda Meadors, In-person at GAHC FREE, No registration required

MONDAY 26TH. Q+A: THE UNIMAGINABLE JOURNEY OF PETER ERTEL. 7pm. Virtual Q+A FREE, Register at [dankhaus.com](https://www.dankhaus.com)

EVERY SATURDAY.

HISTORIC WALKING TOURS.

10am. Guided walk through historic downtown & GoldCoast. \$5 per person

08

aug.

SUNDAY 1ST. "IT WAS LIKE A

PLAGUE": THE "SPANISH" FLU EPIDEMIC. 2pm. Virtual lecture with Dr. John Eicher. Tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

FRIDAY 6TH. KINOGARTEN:

TRANSIT. 8pm or sundown. Outdoor film screening at Rozz Tox, FREE

SATURDAY 7TH. SCHUETZEN PARK HISTORY & HERITAGE. 2pm. In-person lecture with Kelly Lao. FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

SUNDAY 8TH. JUGENDSTIL. 2pm. Virtual lecture with Dr. Terri Switzer. Tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

SUNDAY 15TH. A CONVERSATION WITH RUSS CURRY, CURIOUS MUSIC. 2pm. Virtual interview, Register at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

SATURDAY 28TH. BEST OF THE WURST. 2-6pm. GAHC parking lot, Live music, food & drink for sale \$5 per person, FREE under 12. Tickets at door or [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY.

GAHC @ MERCADO EN EL RIO. 5-9pm. Festival at Quinlin Park

09

sept.

FRIDAY 3RD. KINOGARTEN:

ALI: FEAR EATS THE SOUL. 8pm or sundown. Outdoor film screening at Rozz Tox. FREE

SUNDAY 5TH. GERMAN TOYS EXHIBITION OPENS/ GERMAN HAUSBARNNS. 2pm. In-person lecture with Wolf Koch. FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

SUNDAY 12TH. GERMAN SPEAKERS IN LATIN AMERICA. 2pm. Virtual Lecture with Dr. Patrick Wolfe-Farré. Tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

FRIDAY 17TH. FALL FROLIC GALA. 5-8pm at the Outing Club Silent Auction, German meal & musical entertainment! \$55 per person, tickets in advance.

SUNDAY 19TH. GENDER AND ACTIVISM IN GERMAN HIP HOP. 2pm. Virtual lecture with Amy Makota. Tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

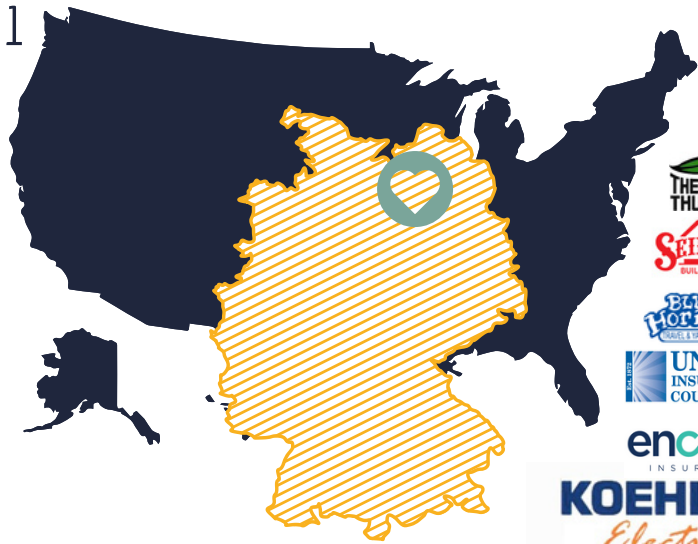
SUNDAY 26TH. BLACK GERMAN SPEAKERS IN TEXAS. 2pm. Virtual lecture with Dr. David Huenlich. Tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). FREE Members, \$5 Non-Members

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DAVENPORT, IOWA
PERMIT NO. 3277

GERMAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER & MUSEUM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

Fall Frolic



5:00 COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION
6:00 GERMAN DINNER
7:00 MUSICAL & THEATRICAL ENTERTAINMENT

THE OUTING CLUB
2109 BRADY STREET, DAVENPORT

\$55 PER PERSON - RSVP 563.322.8844 OR
EVENTBRITE.COM

*All proceeds benefit
Educational Programs & Exhibits!*