

50 YEARS



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From the President

Yes, you can believe! On December 6th at our tenth annual meeting and holiday party, at Karl Ratzsch's Restaurant, GOETHE HAUS will start its 50th year of activities. Congratulations everyone and thanks for your continuing support and interest.

In addition to our usual measure of merriment, we are privileged to have as our guest speaker Dr. Eckhart G. Grohmann. Dr. Grohmann, as you undoubtedly know, is a collector of art and has donated his collection of Man at Work to the Milwaukee School of Engineering. To house this vast collection he also purchased, renovated and donated a former federal building located on the MSOE campus. Both the building and the collection are magnificent new destination points in the Milwaukee area art scene. Dr. Grohmann will tell us how the collection came into being and why he selected MSOE as the final repository for this collection. It promises to be a most interesting presentation.

On a sad note, I must mention the recent passing of Oscar Druml. Oscar served as an active member of our board for many years and only a serious accident prevented him from becoming President. He could always be counted on to assist in GOETHE HAUS achieving its goals. Oscar, we shall miss you.

[Please turn to President, Page 3]

From "top of the world" in Germany

By Katharina Hren
Executive Director

Greetings!
Just a short time ago I was standing with my family on the Zugspitze, the tallest mountain in Germany at almost 10,000 feet. It felt rather like standing on top of the world. It is certainly awe-inspiring to imagine what manpower and resources it took in the 1920s to begin building the train tracks to go up the mountain.

This past year at Goethe House has been filled with challenges that are bringing us to new perspectives and a sense of expanding directions! September and October were filled with activity as we took part in the Global Union Music Fest in Humboldt Park on September 15-16. The band we sponsored, the 17 Hippies from Berlin, got the crowd dancing up a storm. I saw many of you in the crowd and I know that many others wish they hadn't missed it! The Film Festival was also a big hit, and the six films we sponsored were well attended. The festival broke some new records, as there were over 30,000 attendees! It is an exciting event to take part in, although after so many movies, everyday life starts to feel like a movie.

In October I had the distinct privilege of meeting Professor Udo Simonis and his wife, former Minister President Heide Simonis. If you missed his panel discussion on environmental politics with the 4th St. Forum, go to your local library. The Milwaukee Public Library now has DVD copies of past 4th Street Forum programs thanks to the Faye McBeath Foundation. You can go to your local library, check the on-line catalog, and order programs that cover a wide range of civic and social issues. I took the Simonis couple to Alterra on the Lake, and we had a most interesting discussion about water conservation. To my delight, Professor Simonis told me that in Germany at certain times of the year and near places with water, even under the Autobahn, you will find frog crossings! He went on to say that we can learn two lessons from frogs: If a frog gets trapped in milk, it will move around until it has created butter and hop out. However, if it is in hot water, it cannot sense increasing temperatures and can die. Wise words from a most engaging and interesting individual, as are the words below:

"Sometimes our fate resembles a fruit tree in winter. Who would think that those branches would turn green again and blossom, but we hope it, we know it." -

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Schoene Weihnachtsgruesse, Katharina



Goethe Words of Wisdom

In German

Alles Gescheite ist schon
gedacht worden, man muss
nur versuchen, es noch
einmal zu denken.

In English

Everything intelligent
has been already thought;
one only has to try
to think it again.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

[President, from Page 2]

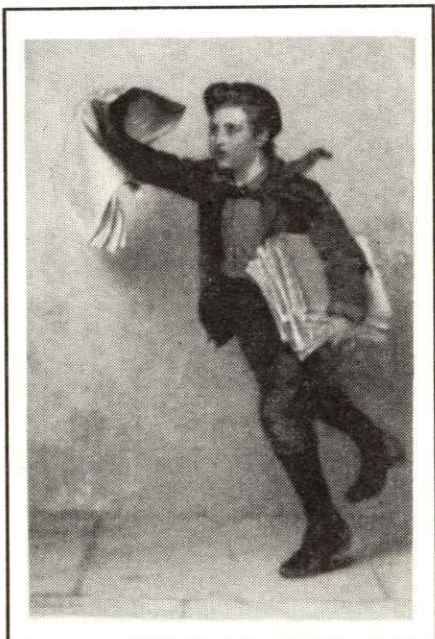
A special note. Thanks to Jill Haas for her tireless efforts in making GOETHE HAUS' participation in Milwaukee's International Film Festival a smashing success. We have received high compliments. So "Froehliche Weihnacht und Glueckliche Feirtage, Allerseits!"

Alles Gute

Alles Goethe!

Ted E. Wedemeyer Jr.

Grohmann's "Man at Work" at MSOE



John George Brown
Extra, Extra (The Paper Boy) 1904

With nearly 700 European and American paintings and sculptures that depict various forms of work, The Eckhart G. Grohmann Collection Man at Work at the Milwaukee School of Engineering is the world's most comprehensive collection of its kind.

The artworks span over 400 years of history (17-20th centuries) and comprise a variety of styles and subjects that document the evolution of organized work, from manpower and horsepower to water, steam and electrical power.

The works were gifted to MSOE in 2001 from the collection of Milwaukee businessman and collector Dr. Eckhart Grohmann. This is the first art collection acquired by the university.

In discussing his gift, Grohmann identified the similarity between the evolution of work and the pragmatic educational approach of MSOE. A university setting provides students, staff and visitors with a historical context for their own activities as they relate to engineering and business. "Exposure to this collection will help open students' eyes to the historical evolution of work from its early, modest beginnings and allow them to

better understand the roots of today's production processes," said Grohmann.

"The beneficiaries of Dr. Grohmann's generosity are the MSOE students, faculty, staff and the community who will be exposed to this collection through visits to campus or through the book," said MSOE President Hermann Viets, Ph.D. "It will be of ongoing value to all of MSOE."

The collection is housed in the Grohmann Museum, 1000 N. Broadway, Milwaukee.

Comment

To: Whitney Gould, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

I am shocked that you are criticizing the new Milwaukee School of Engineering Grohmann Museum for not providing "proof of political affiliation or non-affiliation" of the German artists whose works are displayed there.

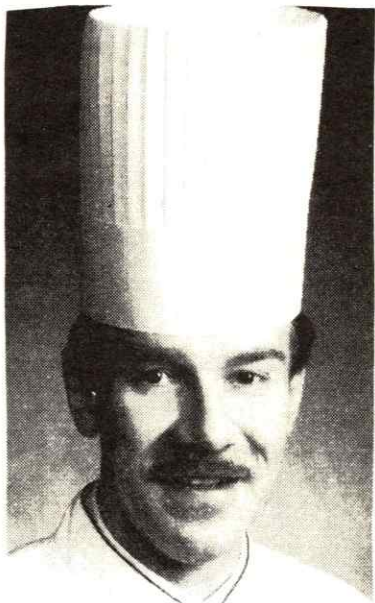
The arts are to be considered "free from political censorship" as has been illustrated by the Art Institute of Chicago allowing a display of an American Flag on the floor where it would be trampled. As you stated, the Grohmann exhibit displays "Man at Work" regardless of his or her race, political affiliation, or other criteria.

Dr. Eckhart Grohmann generously donated the collection to MSOE so that its students could view the multitude of vocations and learn the appreciation of art while studying engineering.

As the daughter of parents who witnessed Kristallnacht, Nov. 9-10, 1938 when most synagogues in Germany were burnt and Jews, including my father arrested, I am most aware of Nazism and Anti-Semitism, but must speak out when it is used unjustly. To apply "guilt by association" criteria to artists who lived in Nazi Germany is as wrong as the Nazis were, and it is a disservice to both the Jews who perished and the many Germans who opposed the Hitler regime.

Lorraine Hoffmann
Milwaukee, WI

Chef Josef's Dresdner Stollen recipe



Chef Josef N. Zimmermann
Milwaukee Athletic Club

Josef N. Zimmermann, educated in the finest culinary schools in Germany, has brought a new kind of dining experience to the MAC. He has worked in Europe at prestigious five-star dining rooms in Germany, Switzerland and England.

Dresdner Stollen recipe

1/2 cup diced mixed candied fruit
1/4 cup golden raisins
1/4 cup dried currants
2 tablespoons candied citron
3 tablespoons rum
1 (1/4 ounce) package active dry yeast
1/3 cup plus 1 teaspoon granulated sugar
2 tablespoons tepid water 1/3 cup milk
6 tablespoons unsalted butter
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 3/4 to 3 cups flour
1 egg, plus 1 egg yolk, beaten
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
2 ounces chopped almonds (about 1/3 cup)
4 tablespoons melted butter
confectioners sugar

In a bowl, combine the mixed fruits, raisins, dried currants., citron and rum. Toss the fruits and let them stand for 1 hour.

Drain the fruits, reserving the liquid.

In a small bowl, soften the yeast with 1 teaspoon of the sugar in the tepid water for 10 minutes.

Heat the milk with the butter, the 1/3 cup of sugar and the salt until the butter melts, and the sugar dissolves. Let the mixture cool until lukewarm.

In a large bowl combine 2 1/2 cups of the flour with the milk mixture, yeast, whole egg, egg yolk, rum and 1 teaspoon lemon peel. Mix the ingredients well to form a dough. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured board and knead for 10 minutes, adding 1 to 2 tablespoons of flour if necessary to produce a smooth and elastic dough.

Toss the fruits and the almonds with 1 1/2 tablespoons of the flour. Knead these ingredients into the dough, a little at a time, until they are evenly distributed. Place the dough in a large buttered bowl and turn so it is lightly coated with butter. Cover the bowl with a towel and let the dough rise in a warm place for 2 hours, or until it has doubled in bulk.

Roll it into an 8 x 12 inch oval. Brush the dough with 2 tablespoons melted butter. Fold one side lengthwise over the center of the oval and press it down lightly. Fold in the other side, overlapping the first by 1 inch and press the edge down. Transfer the roll, seam side down, to a buttered baking sheet, cover with a towel, let it rise in a warm place for 1 1/2 hours, or until the roll has almost doubled in bulk.

Bake the stollen in a preheated 400 degree F oven for 10 minutes, reduce heat to 350 degrees F and bake it for 25 to 30 minutes longer, or until it sounds hollow when it is tapped on the bottom.

Transfer it to a rack, brush it with the remaining 2 tablespoons melted butter, and let it cool.

When cool, sprinkle with confectioners sugar.

This recipe makes 1 cake, 12 inches long.



Spielplatz: St. Lucia's Crown wreath

and Snowflakes and Stars - a Jan Beger treat



Adventzeit ist Bastelnzeit by Jan Beger

To help our children appreciate their German heritage, I created Advent Coffees. We invited a different family for coffee & cookies each of the Sunday afternoons leading up to Christmas. After coffee, we always had an activity for the children. One year my husband taught how to cut elaborate snowflakes. The messiest year was when we had an old fashioned taffy pull.

I adapted a recipe for bread in the shape of a St. Lucia's Crown to use as an Advent wreath. We always made this bread for the first Advent Coffee. My recipe called for making the bread from scratch. I combined it with an easier recipe to make the one below. Since it calls for cardamom, which you may not have in your cupboard, I suggest you add your favorites from the list of add ons.

Ingredients one package hot roll mix, plus the ingredients to prepare mix
 red & green candied cherries
 add ons: 1 tsp. cardamom, ¼ cup chopped silvered almonds, 1 T lemon
 or orange peel, ¼ cup chopped citron, ¼ cup raisins or craisins
 powdered sugar glaze
 4 candles

1. Prepare hot roll mix according to package directions. Add two or three add on ingredients. Knead dough on lightly floured surface until smooth, about 5 minutes. Cover loosely & let stand in bowl about 15 minutes.
2. Grease two baking sheets & set aside.
3. Punch down dough. Cut off 1/3 of dough for top braid & reserve. Divide remaining dough into 3 equal parts. Roll each part into a 20" rope. Place close together on greased baking sheet & braid strands. Shape into a circle & pinch end to seal.
4. Divide the reserved dough into three equal parts. Roll each part into a 12 inch rope. Placing on second greased baking sheet repeat the braiding process, form into a circle & pinch ends to seal.
5. Cover dough loosely & let rise in a warm place until doubled in bulk, about 30 minutes.
6. Preheat oven to 376°. Bake 25- 30 minutes or until golden brown. Cool wreaths on wire rack.
7. When cool drizzle braids with glaze. Insert candles. Cut green cherries in slices & create sprigs of holly with the red candied cherries.

Glaze 1 cup powered sugar, 1 tsp. almond flavoring, 1-3 T. water
 Add flavoring to sugar & then add water 1 tablespoon at a time to desired consistency.

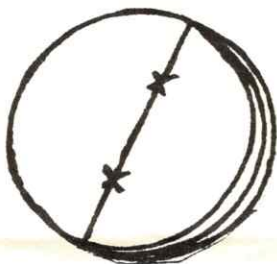
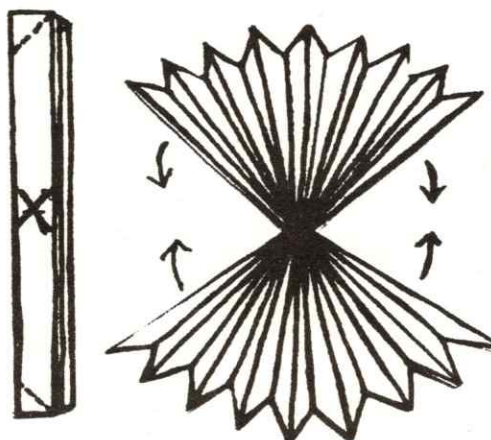
Spielplatz: St. Lucia's Crown wreath

and Snowflakes and Stars - a Jan Beger treat

Snowflake or Star Pattern

Depending on the type of paper used, you can create a snowflake { regular copy paper } or a star { gold foil wrapping paper }. A sheet of copy paper is a good size to use.

Fold the paper lengthwise in $\frac{1}{4}$ " pleats. Holding the pleated paper flat, staple in center [X]. While it is still collapsed points can be cut off each end and triangle cuts made in the edges of the folds. Open like a fan { arrows } and glue or tape ends together. 1



Segmented Balls

Two different colors of construction paper can be used to create these colorful balls.

Cut 5 circles, 4" diameter of one color & 5 circles of another color. Fold each circle in half & crease the middle. With the circles open, stack them, alternating the colors. Staple in the center [X]. Alternating top & bottom, fasten the edges together $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way up or down, with a dab of glue. Run a thread through the top to hang. 2

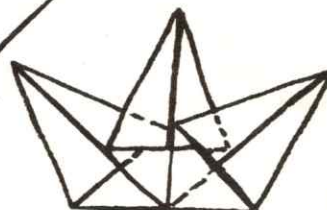
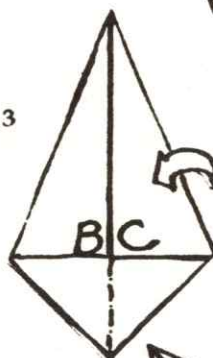


Stars from Squares

8 squares 3" x 3"

Suggested materials : colored copy paper, foil wrapping paper, {for the adventurous } tissue paper

Fold a square in half diagonally to create a center fold. Open up the square & fold 2 corners into the center fold, as if you were making an airplane. Glue corners in place with a glue stick. Assemble as shown in diagram. 3



- Sources
1. *Creating with Paper* by Pauline Johnson
 2. *Christmas Magic* by Margaret Perry
 3. *Window Stars* by Thomas Berger *

* A Window Star Kit can be purchased inexpensively from Hearthsong.com



German Fall fashion: Slim down and get cosy

The season has inspired fall's fashion: Dark and grey

As the summer gave way to fall, fashion aware Germans began wearing more dark clothing. Trendy women cuddled up in cosy sweaters. While men had to sweat first before fitting into the new season's outfits.

Fall marked the start of the year's fashion calendars as Europe's biggest cities rolled out the carpet for fashion shows.

Elke Giese, director of the German Fashion Institute, said she and her colleagues look closely at the collections from the major designers to get inspiration and see what ideas they can take further. "Many factors come together," she explained. "There is no one collection that is the fall collection."

Whereas most fashion observers would quickly include the French, Italians and even British in their list of best-dressed Europeans, Germans often get short-sighted. But that's changing, according to industry experts like Giese.

"There are always those people who don't care," she said. "But in general, Germans are fashion conscious."

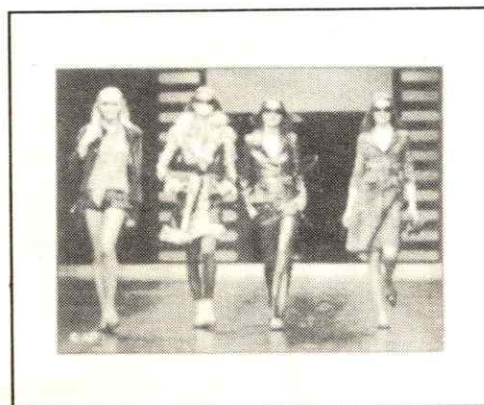
Their purchasing habits are largely determined by what types of fashion products find their way into commercial stores. These in turn are selected by retail buyers for the large stores who look for items that are both stylish and wearable. The price also plays a big part in determining what people wear.

In Germany, consumers are also influenced by fashion role models. According to Giese, German shoppers traditionally look to see what others are wearing before they decide to buy.

"Sure, in every bigger city there are individuals with their unique style, but the masses need role models to know what to wear to be fashionable," she said. "And Germans successfully follow them."

So what are Germans wearing this season?

According to Giese, this fall will be dark. A large part of the season's collections consist of black and dark-grey colors. Women can get away with a few



touches of shiny highlights in electric blue, yellow-green, as well as red and hot pink, which are part of this fall's wardrobe, she said.

Men's fall clothing is cut close and straight on the body. Fashionable women will be dressed for the cool temperatures, covered from head to toe in oversized, cosy comfortable clothing.

Styles from the 1950s and 1960s are also making their way back into German closets.

Men won't be able to spend the season chilling out on the sofa. The new suits and shirts are narrow, slim and cut straight on the body, putting pressure on trendy guys to keep up a healthy diet and plenty of exercise.

The stylish German women will be right on target with this fall's style if they tuck their skinny jeans into boots, add a knitted sweater with a large thick collar and a men's white blouse underneath. As an alternative to narrow jeans, leggings are also making a comeback.

The fashionable man will also be wearing skinny jeans, accompanied by a waisted shirt, a slim-cut suit with narrow collar and a thin tie. Now every piece of clothing is meant to be cut close and straight on the body.

Perhaps the fashion industry sneakily plans to be part of the German initiative "Fit instead of Fat,"



A German's quest for authentic America

Germans are pedantic, obsessed with "Ordnung," beer and bratwurst. Americans are loud, superficial and pushy. True or false? A German-US artist duo wants to find the answer.

"1000 Stories" is the name of a project launched by a Berlin-based media artist and a US film maker with the backing of the Goethe Institute. It sets out to explore some of the perceptions and misconceptions in the trans-Atlantic relationship, in the process identifying the "real" American and the "real" German.



Florian Thalhofer

Florian Thalhofer planned to spend 40 days traveling through the United States, on a quest for an authentic America. While he documents his experiences in a daily video blog, his American counterpart Mark Simon will be embarking on an odyssey through Germany, recording his own thoughts about the land of sauerkraut, fast cars and soccer.

"I used to think America was dreadful," Thalhofer said, adding that he eventually began to wonder if there might not be more to the United States than he thought. Ever since, he has made it his mission to distinguish between imposed ideas and personal experience.

As an artist, he said he was intrigued by the fact that every country trades in clichés. In many ways, he explains, they serve a practical purpose, and they often have an element of truth.

But sifting through them and separating fact from fiction is a complex matter. Thalhofer would describe himself as typically German, when ultimately he is hard pressed to explain exactly what that means.



Mark Simon

As an example of cultural misunderstanding, he cites the fabled American friendliness, which Germans like to dismiss as superficial. "It's just one way of dealing with people," said Thalhofer. "It's like trying to adjust two radios to the same wavelength. In Berlin people are essentially grumpy, in America they're friendly."

Thalhofer said he believed that telling and listening to stories was the best way to understand the world, but that the stories did not necessarily have to be linear. That's one of the reasons why he chooses to work with fragments. He collects tales and images and allows viewers to assemble their own version of his documentary work.

To this end, Thalhofer has developed a customized authoring tool for media artists, which he has named the Korsakow System. A computer program that helps create a database of narrative films, it serves as a storage center for short films about his many experiences. The user is left to decide in what order the material is used, while the program merely makes suggestions.

The video Weblog at 1000Stories.com will be accompanied by an installation at the Goethe Institute in New York. The idea is to expand it as the two protagonists' trips unfold. On Oct. 1, Thalhofer set off on the trip. At the end of the trip, he said he planned to turn his video material into a Korsakow film.

So far, reactions have been mixed.

"I think Germans find the project more challenging than the Americans," he said.

- DEUTSCHE WELLE

German-Chinese Co-Production Plans John Rabe Movie

Following in the Hollywood footsteps of World War II Nazi-turned-hero Oskar Schindler, fellow Third Reich follower John Rabe is to be the subject of a new \$20 million (14.2 million euro) Tinseltown blockbuster.

Rabe, a German businessman and Nazi, was part of a group of expatriates who set up a safety zone for Chinese refugees in the Japanese city of Nanking during the slaughter of at least 150,000 Chinese civilians and the rape of tens of thousands of women.

Filming of Rabe's story was scheduled to begin this fall and will be directed by German Florian Gallenberger, a student of director Wim Wenders and the winner of the best live action short film Oscar in 2001. The film will be a Chinese-German co-production between Huayi Brothers and Hofmann and Voges Entertainment.

The screen adaptation of the German's extensive diaries will be filmed in Shanghai and Nanjing, the modern name for Nanking.

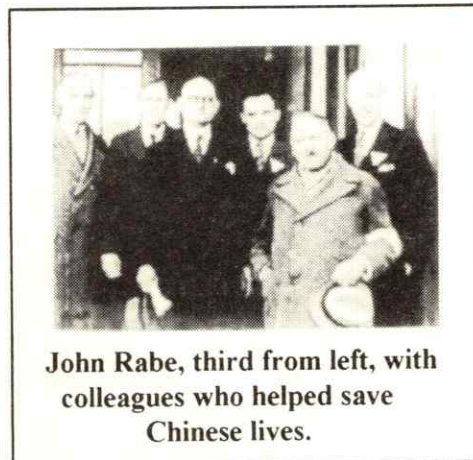
Rabe, born in Hamburg in 1882, was a business representative for Siemens in Nanking from 1931.

In December 1937, he set up the Nanjing International Safety Zone Committee with a group of foreign friends, which saved hundreds of thousands of local residents in one month during the notorious massacre. Rabe sheltered thousands of Chinese refugees in his own house over the course of the massacre and protected them from being killed.

The announcement of the film came just weeks after the John Rabe House Development Fund was set up in Nanjing as part of the 3-year-long "Germany and China -Moving Ahead Together" campaign.

The charitable fund will seek to generate revenue to support the John Rabe and International Safety Zone Memorial Hall, and John Rabe International Research and Exchange Center for Peace and Reconciliation.

- DEUTSCHE WELLE



John Rabe, third from left, with colleagues who helped save Chinese lives.

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