

gh GOETHE HOUSE



PERSPEKTIVEN

OVER
50 YEARS

PERSPEKTIVEN Volume 7, No. 3

Summer 2008

Learning German has many rewards

German Language and School Society champions the heritage

The society seeks to “promote and stimulate interest in and understanding of the German language and culture” by holding an annual German Essay Contest for students of all public and private high schools in the state of Wisconsin.



The 2008 Grand Prize winners (left to right): DSSV trip winner, Derek Buyan, Greenfield High School; Heiner Giese, president DSSV; AATG trip winner Cameron Botticelli, Marquette University High School; Dr. John S. Pustovjevsky, interim dean, Marquette University Helen Way Klinger College of Arts and Sciences, president AATG Wisconsin chapter.

By Fred J. Keller, Lori Keller
and Dorothy M. Smaglick

Did you know that there is another organization in Wisconsin that for over 50 years has worked to further interest in the German language and culture?

The German Language and School Society, Wisconsin, Inc. was founded in Milwaukee on June 9, 1956, as a non-political, non-religious, and non-profit educational organization. The society was founded by a small group of German immigrants who wanted to preserve the tradition of German culture and language in their new home - Wisconsin.

The Deutscher Sprach – und Schulverein (DSSV), the German title of the society, sponsored many cultural and social events for the German American community of Wisconsin.

Beginning in the early 1960's and continuing into the 1970's, the DSSV chartered flights and organized annual summer trips to Germany for its members.

The society also was host to highly popular New Year's Eve, Mardi Gras and Christmas parties. Historic Turner Hall was one of the many sites around the city of Milwaukee that was host to these festivities.

[Please turn to German, Page 4]



GOETHE-
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From the President

Good Value.
Patience. Hard Work.
Goethe House's recent move to the first floor of the Milwaukee School of Engineering Alumni Partnership Center building, with its rich background of German and European heritage as a component part of the campus, will further broaden the Liberal Arts ingredient of both our membership and the student body. Of additional value, will be a student and membership browsing room equipped with a TV screen; a new computer; a ready reference library; and a German reference library of significant value numbering approximately 10,000 volumes. Goethe House first hinted at a possible move to the MSOE campus three years ago. Due, however, to increased student enrollment the move had to be delayed. Progress is now on full track, and we should be fully opened by the beginning of August including the "Lubeck Program." (See this publication for further notices.) Nothing could be closer to the truth than the expression "come with patience and hard work."

Alles Gute, Alles Goethe!

Ted E. Wedemeyer Jr.

Put Goethe House picnic on your summer calendar

By Katharina Hren

Sommerferien! This is the word for ultimate freedom on my son's lips now that he is on summer vacation from school.

At Goethe House we are busily getting ready for the summer opening. Our office at the Alumni Partnership Center of the Milwaukee School of Engineering will be officially open in July with new magazines and a browsing section. Summer hours will be posted on our voice mail as well as the web site. The address is 1120 N. Broadway. In addition to our regular telephone number, 414.276.7435, we will also have an MSOE telephone number, which is 414.277.2304.

Our assistant for the summer is Mareike

Bredehorst, a native of Germany, who also teaches at German Immersion School and will be teaching our soccer Kinder Camp this summer at Milwaukee Kickers. I am delighted to have her assistance, for she comes to us with great enthusiasm and a penchant for organizing things!

Of course we will be at German Fest with a booth at the front of the cultural heritage tent. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, we are unable to offer the computer testing, but the tests will be back next year!

Our annual picnic will be held in Lake Park site #1 on Saturday, August 16th, from 11 a. m. to 2 p.m. Once again the Goethe House will provide the brats and beverages, and we encourage our members to bring friends and dish to pass.

Goethe House of Wisconsin Mission

Goethe House of Wisconsin is a non-profit German-American cultural institute serving Wisconsin since 1958. Our mission is to serve as a statewide resource for information about the past and present culture of all German-speaking people - especially those in the Federal Republic of Germany. Goethe House of Wisconsin invites the financial support of individuals, companies and organizations who share our mission and recognize the value of this important cultural exchange. Goethe House of Wisconsin is a not-for-profit (501) (c) (3) organization. Donations are tax deductible as the law allows.



Goethe Words of Wisdom

In German

Wenn mir eine Sache
missfällt, so lass ich sie
liegen oder mache sie besser.

In English

If there is something that I
don't like, I either leave it
alone or make it better.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Goethe House of Wisconsin is now online. Visit us
at and send your friends to:

www.goethehousewis.com

Information available on Goethe House events, membership and other resources. Satisfy your need for German culture 24 hours a day. Use our web site or e-mail address to send Letters to the Editor:

Contact@goethehousewis.com

Learning German has many rewards

[German, from Page 1]

The events were intended as fund raisers to sponsor the educational activities of the DSSV, as well to provide enjoyable social events for the members.

Today the DSSV retains its strong educational focus. The society seeks to "promote and stimulate interest in and understanding of the German language and culture" by holding an annual German Essay Contest for students of all public and private high schools in the state of Wisconsin. To qualify, students need only to be enrolled in a German class at the time of the contest.

Students who complete the essay contest are eligible to win study and vacation trips to Germany, valuable book prizes and monetary scholarships.

The German Language and School Society conducts its annual contest in conjunction with the comprehensive German language test sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG).

Since the contest began, 79 trips to Germany have been awarded! The German Language and School Society is proud of its record to have served the educational needs of our youth for half a century. The Society has sponsored the annual German Essay Contests for 53 years. Highlights from past contests are as follows:

30,837 students have participated in these contests. In 2008, 587 students from 23 schools took part. 7,939 awards were presented to the students for outstanding achievement in these contests. 79 study and vacation trips to Germany have been awarded. In 2008, two study trips were awarded – one by the DSSV and one by the AATG. 7,749 books and cash prizes were presented to qualifying students – over \$ 8,000 in 2008.

Contributions from individuals and German-American societies totaled over \$250,000 to fund this



Prize winners in the 1960's with DSSV founder and long-term President Gerhard Rohr (back row, second from left), who died in 2006.

program. The society has not received any governmental monetary grants.

We hope that Wisconsin high school German students will take advantage of this unique opportunity to compete for the DSSV study trip to Germany and monetary and book awards – and that their teachers will encourage them to participate in the DSSV Essay Contest.

The DSSV is looking to partner with the Goethe House to find further ways to support German education in our state. We are also happy to report that our new web site is now available. This site provides DSSV contest information for Wisconsin German students, teachers and parents. It also provides information related to the study of German in Wisconsin high schools. There is currently a survey on the site for German teachers. Please take a few minutes to visit our site – and if you're a high school German teacher, we would greatly appreciate your response to the survey. The address is:

www.dssvwi.org

*[Dorothy M. Smaglick and Fred J. Keller
are directors of Goethe House of Wisconsin.
Lori Keller is the daughter of Fred Keller]*

German Fest "Haus Party" is on tap

By Helga Nikolic

German Fest will open its doors for the 28th year on Thursday, July 24th at 5 p.m. and invites everyone in for its annual "Haus Party" at the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest) on Milwaukee's Lake Michigan shore.

The Fest runs through Sunday, July 27th. As in the past, a full schedule of entertainment, culture, food, beverages and interactive fun (like the costume contest, the yodel contest and dachshund races!) awaits the festival enthusiast.

Opening Ceremonies will be held Friday, July 25th, at 5:30 p.m., with the traditional parade Saturday at 2 p.m.



Magrit Heitmann

Missing from German Fest this summer is the long-time chairman of volunteers, Mrs. Magrit Heitmann, who passed earlier this year. Mrs. Heitmann had been a moving force with German Fest since 1981. She served as corporate secretary on the German Fest Board, was a Director, chaired the Advertising and Promotions area and became Chairperson of Volunteers in 1996. She was especially proud that German Fest is the only major all-volunteer Fest in the area. In addition, she worked with many of the individual German societies, in particular, DANK.

"She was well-known and respected in all the German societies," said John Schaefer, current Advertising and Promotions chair. "She always had a smile for everyone; she was so dedicated...it will be hard to find people to take her place."

Mrs. Heitmann's boundless energy and lively enthusiasm, dedication and hard work, were an example of

German Fest, itself, and what it took to make the Fest grow and prosper. Her strong belief in the Fest and its importance in keeping the traditions alive kept her going for the long hours of the Fest's run as well as the pre- and post-Fest preparations and wrap up. It was a "given" to see her "tooling" around the German Fest grounds in her golf cart, dressed in her dirndl, with a wave, a smile and a friendly word for so many. She was really a goodwill ambassador and graphic positive image of German Fest, and her presence and leadership are a great loss to German Fest and to the German community in general. She was preceded in death by her husband, Horst; she is survived by sons Hans, Klaus and Roland.

A feature of this year's Cultural Village is the "Deutsches Auswander Museum" (German Immigration Museum) from Hamburg, Germany.

[See PERSPEKTIVEN, Fall 2007 issue, for a story on the museum.]

This museum opened to the public on July 4, 2007, and is dedicated to the five million people who left Europe between 1850 and 1939 via Hamburg. The museum will be an important resource to those doing genealogy and family tree research. The museum's records and ship manifests of family members can be checked free of charge.

John Gurda, Milwaukee-born writer and historian, will give a presentation Saturday, July 26th, at 3:30 p.m. at the Musikgarten Stage. Gurda has been studying his hometown since 1972 and will give an historical overview of "German Milwaukee", a look at the pervasive German influence on our community.

Sunday, July 27th, from noon to 2 p.m., also on the Musikgarten Stage, John Peine, AIA, a local architect, will build a cable stay bridge with K-nex, with the help of children attending German Fest. Peine, of German descent, has a general architectural practice and is an educator and design consultant. He has presented Lego and K-nex activities to children and teens in the Milwaukee area. Students from the Milwaukee School of Engineering will assist him.

Also for children, the Passport Program will be available all four days of the Fest.

Please check the German Fest web site for the complete Fest schedule at **HYPERLINK** "<http://www.germanfest.com>"

www.germanfest.com

Spielplatz: Summer fun for children

Magic gardens for gnomes, pixies and fairies; bubbles; songs; dandelion chains and sculptures

die Sommerferien = im Garten spielen

Spielplatz
by Jan Beger

Create a garden for a gnome, a pixie or a fairy.



Draw a plan with your child's input. Use library books for inspiration. Pick an area that is child - friendly & less assessable to pets. Fence it off with garden fences. A miniature white picket fence would be ideal. Dig up the dirt & enrich the soil if necessary. Place a square or circle paving stone in the center. Here place ceramic frogs, bugs, shells, unusual stones, a small solar lamp; any item your child imagines a gnome, pixie or fairy would have in his/ her garden. Plant flowers in a circle around the paving stone. They should be colorful and easy to grow. Use both plants and seeds so your child can see how seeds become flowers. Have a special tea party to open the garden.

Tea party ideas : sandwiches cut in flower shapes with cookie cutters or mini muffins, grapes, strawberries, melon balls, Jell-O jigglers, frogs on a log, gummi worms, pink lemonade.

Spiel' mit Seifenblasen !

Recipe : ¼ c. dish soap { Dawn or Joy works well}

8 c. water

1 T glycerin { available at pharmacies}

Unusual bubble wands :

A margarine tub lid, with the center cut out. Use a spring type clothespin for a handle.

Old sunglasses with the lenses removed will make double bubbles.

Cookie cutters. Wagon wheel shaped pasta or rigatoni

Plastic rings from a six pack of soda or plastic strawberry basket

Dip a flyswatter in bubble solution and turn in a circle !

<http://www.wikihow.com>

www.thesilverpenny.com/gnomehome.html

www.ltscotland.org.uk/fairytales/index

Spielplatz: Summer fun for children

Magic gardens for gnomes, pixies and fairies; bubbles; songs; dandelion chains and sculptures

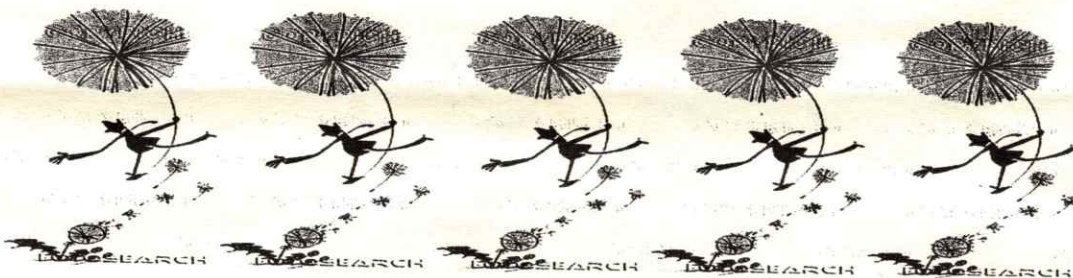
sing' ein Sommerlied ,

Pick one of these familiar songs .

Alle Vogel sind schon da
Auf der Mauer, auf der Lauer
Ein Männlein steht im Walde
In meines Vaters Garten

O wie wohl ist mir am Abend
Schmetterling mit frohen Sinn
Summ Summ Summ
Trarira, der Sommer, der ist da

Many of the songs have actions and work well for a group activity. For copies of the songs & directions go to <http://www.labbe.de/zzzebra/index.asp> , click on " Liederbaum " at the top of the page.

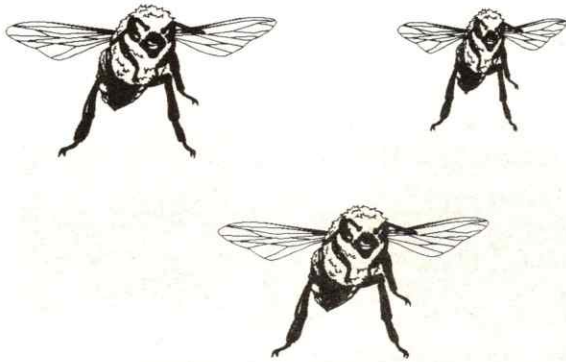


When I was a child dandelions grew every where and we used them for play. Probably you won't be able to find a dandelion in your yard, but they can be found in parks and along the roadside. Have an adult check that the dandelions haven't been sprayed with pesticides before you pick them.

Dandelion chains. You could decorate your pixie garden with these chains. Pop the flower off the stem with your thumbnail. { We used to have dandelion wars shooting the flower heads at each other. } Look at the ends of the dandelion and see which end is larger. Bend the stem into a circle and fasten by sticking one end inside the other. Put the next dandelion stem through this first circle before you close it and you have two links in your chain. You could decorate your pixie garden with dandelion chains.

Dandelion sculpture. Pop the flower head off the dandelion. With your fingernail gently make three or four inch long cuts up the stem. Repeat on the other end of the stem. Place the dandelion in a pan of water & watch what happens. The cut edges will begin to curl. The longer you leave them in the water the tighter the curls will be.

Bavarian immigrant known as “father of American beekeeping”



Keeping beehives on a property in Grafton, Wisconsin, continues a family passion that was started generations ago by an immigrant from Bavaria named Adam Grimm.

The beehives tended now at Martha Watts' Ozaukee County home are a microcosm of an enterprise Grimm began after he emigrated to the United States in 1849.

At the age of 25, Grimm and his wife, Anna, settled in Jefferson, Wisconsin, where his brother, Christopher had a farm. Grimm's fortune at the time amounted to \$20, according to John Campbell, writing in a story for The Milwaukee Journal a number of years ago.

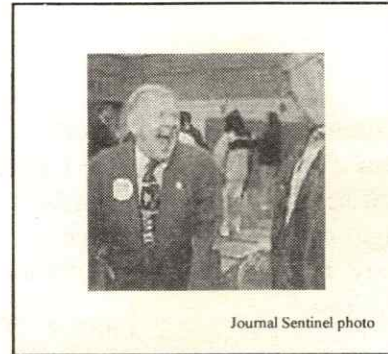
But, Grimm also brought with him a knowledge of beekeeping from the Old World and was so good at it in Wisconsin that he earned a reputation as “father of American beekeeping.”

Grimm was the great grandfather of the late George Watts, the very well-known and respected owner of George Watts & Son, the fine china, silver and glassware business at 761 N. Jefferson St., Milwaukee, and the Watts Tea Shop.

Watts died in 2005 at the age of 82. He had been raising bees since he was 10 years old, following a culture that made Adam Grimm so successful, according to Martha Watts, talking about the ancestor of her husband.

“He revolutionized beekeeping,” Martha Watts said of Grimm.

Now, Martha Watts continues the family tradition with three hives at home in Grafton. “The honey is so



Journal Sentinel photo

George Watts campaigning for mayor of Milwaukee in 2000

good,” Martha Watts said, including linden and clover.

According to John Campbell's account in The Milwaukee Journal:

Grimm developed 20 acres, a small fruit orchard and a few colonies of German black bees that he got from his brother. While running the farm and tending the apiaries, Grimm also opened a general store in Jefferson. By 1863 he had 60 colonies of black bees, which were unpredictable honey producers as well as aggressive.

Through correspondence with friends in Germany Grimm learned of an easier to handle and more productive species in Italy. In 1867 Grimm decided to gamble his savings on a voyage to Italy. Months later he returned with a cargo of Italian queens that was to galvanize the beekeeping industry.

One year Grimm reported to a trade magazine that he had sold more than 700 colonies of his bees at prices of \$8 to \$9 per colony. In 1874 he shipped more than 14,000 pounds of white comb honey to New York at wholesale prices of 25 cents a pound.

A year earlier Grimm decided that the community of Jefferson needed a bank so he gathered together a group of potential stockholders and founded the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Jefferson County.

[Please turn to Grimm, Page 10]

My Biography - Mareike Bredehorst

Ein deutsch-amerikanisches Märchen - A German-American Fairy Tale

Moin, Moin!" This is how we North Germans prefer to greet each other in our "neck of the woods." Mareike Bredehorst is my name, I am from Germany and I have moved to the United States, or more specifically, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in December of 2005. I lived in a small village called Heesen, which is located in Lower-Saxony, north of Hannover and south of Bremen on the river Weser.

I grew up on a farm with both my parents and two younger sisters, one of whom is studying to become a teacher and participated in an exchange year at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and the other currently on her year abroad in Montpellier, in the south of France. She is also a student, focusing on French studies and European Business. Both have visited me several times in Milwaukee, as did my parents.

I will be working in the new location of the Goethe House - the MSOE - for this summer, teaching the soccer camp during the last week of June as well as representing the Goethe House at German Fest. I would like to take the chance to introduce myself to everyone via this newsletter. Since January of this year, I have been teaching at the Milwaukee German Immersion School (MGIS) and I will continue to do so as the new school year resumes in the fall. During one of my visits to Milwaukee, I did an internship at this really great school, which stirred my interest and desire to work at this place at some point. Before starting my career as a second grade teacher at MGIS I have been studying at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) and successfully completed my Master in Foreign Language and Literature in December of 2007.

By now, you are probably wondering what has originally brought me to the U.S., to Wisconsin in particular, and even more particularly to Milwaukee, and what kept on bringing me back and finally made me move to this wonderful city influenced by a rich German history, featuring endless ethnic festivals in the summer, a European flavor thanks to its many music festivals, street cafes and bars. Milwaukee has the ability to make every season more enjoyable (even though I could do without the amount of snow, cold temperatures and the



Mareike Bredehorst

length of the winter) and give people the comfortable feeling of being right at home. The friendliness and helpful character of the people definitely add to this feeling.

Adding to these factors was the fact that I met my boyfriend (to whom I got married in July 2007) during my exchange year in 2003/2004 at UWM that was organized by the Hessen-Wisconsin Student Exchange Program as well as being given the opportunity to expand my education through a Master program at UWM while being a Teaching Assistant for the German department, teaching different levels of German language classes. During my studies at UWM, I worked with international students at the Center for International Education while

[Please turn to Intern, Page 10]

Bavarian immigrant was "father of American beekeeping"

[Grimm, from Page 8]

**"I have gone into banking,
but cannot think of neglecting
my bees. The bee business is so
much more profitable that
I cannot get the notion yet to
leave." - Adam Grimm**

Grimm told Gleanings magazine on Oct. 21, 1874:

"I have gone into banking, but cannot think of neglecting my bees. The bee business is so much more profitable that I cannot get the notion yet to leave it."

At the time Grimm died in 1876, he had 1,397 colonies of bees in seven or eight apiaries around Jefferson County.

Just three miles east of Jefferson sits a small Lutheran church; behind the church in a century old cemetery under a shelter of trees lies the grave of Adam Grimm. His grave monument uniquely holds a sculptured relief of an old style beehive. Engraved in an arch are words in German, stating that the most cherished aspects of Grimm's life were challenge and work.

Along with beekeeping, those are traits inherited by Grimm's great grandson, George Watts.

Watts had to take a break from his beehives when he joined the United States Marines in 1942 after the start of World War II. Watts served as part of the U.S. occupation of Japan for six months before leaving the corps.

It didn't take long after military service for Watts to be reunited with the world of bees. After their marriage and honeymoon, his wife, Martha said, they returned home.

"His mother called and said the bees had arrived," Martha Watts said, "and we had to pick them up."

My Biography - Mareike Bredehorst A German- American fairy tale

[Intern, from Page 9]

helping out a German-American family with their business as well as their kids continue to speak German.

At the university, I lead the German "Kaffeepause" (a German conversation group that met over a cup of coffee in the afternoon) and coordinated events for the German and Scandinavian Club.

Having completed the exchange program which was a fun-filled year with lots of traveling throughout the United States and upon returning to Germany to finish my studies in English, German and Education, I decided to come back to Milwaukee, the city I had fallen in love with during my first visit. Of course, this would also enable me to pursue my Master degree while spending time with my boyfriend. The idea of a relationship on two different sides of the Atlantic Ocean was not to neither of our liking.

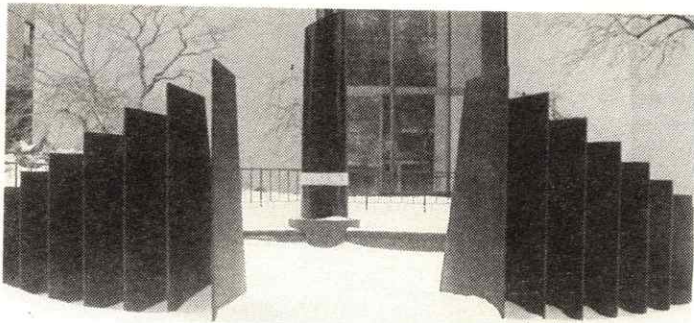
After finishing my degree at the University of Oldenburg (which is in northwestern Germany, about two hours northwest of my parents house) to which I returned after studying at the University of Kassel previously, I moved to my newly adopted home. Ever since I have been in Milwaukee, with occasional visits to Germany (of course!) and different parts in America I have fallen in love with this city, its kind people and vast opportunities! I have met wonderful people, had great experiences, learned so much about people's history and roots in the "old world" that I can honestly say that if I will ever move back to Germany, that there is another place in this world that I truly call home.

At the moment, I am looking forward to an eventful summer that is filled with exciting opportunities at the Goethe House, working at the Soccer Camp while following the European Cup, relaxing and taking long walks at Milwaukee's lakefront, continuing to learn Swedish, and enjoying the various festivals with German Fest being just one of them. I am looking forward to seeing you in the near future (maybe at the Goethe House or at GermanFest) and I hope you enjoyed reading a little bit about me!

Bis bald und auf Wiedersehen,

Mareike

German history and “darkest time” in Jewish history intersect in Jewish Museum Milwaukee



Milwaukee's Holocaust Memorial, immediately outside the museum, provides a physical space to reflect on the tragedy of the Holocaust

The Jewish Museum Milwaukee is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of the Jewish people in southeastern Wisconsin and celebrating the continuum of Jewish heritage and culture.

A central exhibit of the museum, which opened earlier this year in the historic Helfaer Building, 1360 N. Prospect Avenue, is a stark remembrance of the Holocaust.

The Holocaust was the darkest time in Jewish history.

Six million Jews were systematically murdered by Adolf Hitler's Nazi party and collaborators. The Holocaust narrative in the Jewish Museum Milwaukee is made chilling and personal through Milwaukee-related stories. Stories of survival and of destruction are also told through artifacts, pictures and personal testimony.

The Jewish Museum Milwaukee approaches the Holocaust chronologically, beginning as the Jews were identified and isolated from the general population; moving on to the Final Solution, a term that the Nazis used to describe the systematic murder of Jews and other “undesirables;” and then through liberation by Allied forces. The Museum also describes the post-war life of survivors in Displaced Persons Camps and Jewish responses to the Holocaust.

Local survivors speak about their experiences before, during and after the war in a short film, dedicated to ensuring that their stories will never be forgotten.

The Jewish Museum Milwaukee provides many other ways to discover the story of the Jewish people in Milwaukee. The museum's themes, which make up the permanent exhibition, show how Jews came to Milwaukee and established a community. The themes include immigration, a community within, earning a living and Israel and after.



Goethe House of Wisconsin

We like to thank our friends who have generously supported us.

Ein herzliches Dankeschon
Ted E. Wedemeyer Jr.

Goethe House Wisconsin
Membership

June 2007

Kowol Family, \$50; S. Francele Sherburne, \$20; Dr. A. Jerofke, \$20.

July 2007

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August 2007

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October 2007

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December 2007

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Sponsor PERSPEKTIVEN

Sponsorships are available for a minimum of \$100. We welcome business, family and individual sponsorships. Help tell the story of contributions of German-speaking immigrants to the United States of America, particularly Wisconsin.

**Write or call:
Goethe House Wisconsin
1120 N. Broadway,
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 276-7435**

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January 2008

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Arnhold Family, \$50; George Breu CPA, \$25; Stephanie Richards-Wilson, \$25.

February 2008

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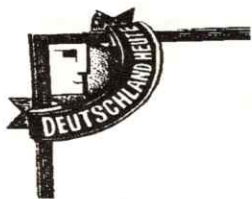
Peter Cuje, \$20; A. Bela Maroti, \$20; Ruth Hartman, \$20; Sara/Dan Grunwaldt, \$50; G.E.O. Widera, \$20; Andrew Richardson Family, \$50; Carl Backus, \$20; Diane Baughn, \$25; Herman/Patricia Delmenhorst, \$50; Karl Pintar, \$20; Marilyn John, \$20; Penny Janz, \$20; John/Carolyn Geason, \$50;

William Hentzen Sr., \$25; Michelle Nielsen, \$20; Casterline Family, \$50; Kowol Family, \$50; Christiane Grauert, \$25; Milwaukee Liederkrantz, \$50; Carl Schurz Memorial Park, \$50; LeRoy Boehlke, \$20; Dank Milwaukee, \$100; Kenneth Lukow, \$20; Albert Brugger, \$50; Bridget Johannsen Moen, \$20; Sinikka Church, \$20; Jan Fischer, \$20; Kathy O'Sullivan, \$20; Gunnar Prawitz, \$20; Heiner Giese, \$100.

May / June 2008

Dan Sweeney, \$100; Jeffrey Diehl, \$25; Janet Taylor, \$20; James Pittelkow, \$20.

Donation of \$25 in the memory of Mr. Jack Waldow of Racine, given by Tamara Lange and Steven Grobschmidt



Germany's most popular destination



Berlin. Naturally, It's always Berlin. The unchallenged number one among Germany's most visited cities is the capital: Berlin registers 9.6 million overnight stays a year and more than half of these visitors come from abroad.

Hamburg, Munich, Cologne and Dresden follow in the ranking of the most popular city destinations.

However, the appeal of the metropolis is simply much greater.

That's not surprising really since a vacation in Berlin can be simply everything: for example, a unique cultural journey - history, art and science are presented in more than 175 Berlin museums, including such spectacular collections as those on the Museum Island.

Berlin's Museum Island in the River Spree has five museum gems:

- Bode Museum.
- Pergamon Museum
- Alte Nation
- Neues Museum
- Altes Museum

Museum Island, designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999, is an almost inexhaustible treasure house. At the same time it is currently Europe's biggest cultural construction site. It will take until at least 2015 to complete the ambitious master plan and the renovation of all five museums.

German reunification in 1990 created the possibility of again combining the collections in their original location following their long division between west and east after World War II. As a result, the historical museum district commissioned by the Prussians kings in early 19th century is now transformed into a fully modernized state-of-the-art museum landscape.

It is worth noting that for a world city most restaurants have moderate prices. And if, after all this, you want to do something for your health and well being, then, for example, why not relax on the Badeschiff, where you can even swim in a pool on the Spree during the winter. Or you travel a few kilometres on the S-Bahn train to Potsdam - and discover the enchanting landscape of palaces and parks surrounded by lake and forests.

Janet Schayan - Deutschland

Goethe House of Wisconsin

Please clip this membership form and send to Goethe House Wisconsin at:
1120 N. Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3109

Date:.....
Name:.....
Address:..... City..... State..... Zip Code.....
Telephone..... E-mail address.....

Signature.....

Application for: (Check one) ☐ New membership ☐ Membership renewal

Goethe House Friends:

General Membership (Annually):

☐ Life membership (\$1,000)
☐ Patron (\$500)
☐ Benefactor (\$250)
☐ Friend of Goethe (\$100)

☐ Family membership (\$50)
☐ Association membership (\$50)
☐ Individual membership (\$25)
☐ Educator Membership (\$20)
☐ Senior membership (\$20)
☐ Student membership (\$20)

Please make checks payable to **Goethe House of Wisconsin**

Wanted!

Office Help Volunteers

The Goethe House office is now ready to be staffed in our new location at the Alumni Partnership Center of the Milwaukee School of Engineering. We need the volunteer help of our members to answer phones and assist visitors. If you can help us a few hours each week, please call our Executive Director, Katharina Hren, at 414/276-7435. She will tell you the hours needed to be covered and give you a full description of the job. You may volunteer as few or as many hours as you can afford to give. It will be rewarding to work in such a nice facility, and we expect that people will enjoy coming to the new Goethe House location in this beautiful, stately building.



Essen and the Ruhr District

European Capital of Culture in 2010

Blast furnaces and steel mills - that's all ancient history. Artists, musicians, designers and restaurateurs have long since moved into the cathedrals of industrial history. The Ruhr District is reinventing itself

Deep in the West, Where the sun turns to dust. Things are better. Much better than people think."

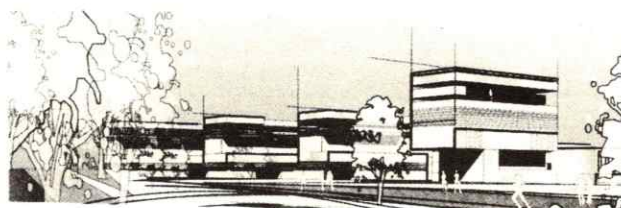
A declaration of love could hardly sound more beautiful. Pop star Herbert Grönemeyer made a hit out of his affection for the Ruhr District. And extolled the charm and the challenge of the region in a few brief words.

The Ruhr District has two faces. And they are as alike as a black-and-white film and a 3D multimedia projection.

There is the ineradicable image of smoking chimneys and clanking pithead towers. And then there is the lesser well-known picture of innovative companies, new universities, experimental theatre companies and beer gardens on the river Ruhr.

They are separated by 50 years and the radical transformation of Europe's largest industrial district into a dynamic economic region. Structural change is the sober term for this painful process.

"We have wiped the coal dust off our face," explains a report by the City of Essen. The former industrial centre wants to promote the new image of the Ruhr District. In 2010, together with 52 other towns and municipalities between Duisburg in the west and Dortmund in the east, Essen will be able to demonstrate what the Ruhr district is really like.



Transformation: This is a design for the Zollverein Coal Mine (above). The Zollverein Coal Mine (below) was one of the world's largest collieries. The miners have gone, artists have come.



An European Union panel of experts selected it to be European Capital of Culture in that year. The panel was swayed by the idea of the region's development into a new form of cultural metropolis. This urban landscape with barely discernible boundaries is presenting itself under the heading "Changing through Culture - Culture through Change."

Ten key projects are currently being prepared in the thematic fields of City of Possibilities, City of the Arts and City of Cultures.

They will include an exhibition and performance project along the B1/A40, the region's main highway, and the Folkwang Atoll, more than 20 "art islands" in the Ruhr that visitors will only be able to reach by boat.

The Second City project must be unique. The kilometres-long labyrinth of underground tunnels and seams is to be partially opened up for art.

"Deep in the West..."

**-Martin Orth
Deutschland**