

THE GERMAN PIONEER

The Official Newsletter of the German Heritage Museum Of Greater Cincinnati



Maifest is Sunday, May 16

Come celebrate with us as we open the Museum for the summer season

Maifest is our annual celebration for the opening of the museum season. This year we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary year of the museum. The festivities will take place on Sunday, May 16th. The Opening Ceremony begins at 1:00 PM, and will include representatives from the member societies of the German-American Citizens League. We will have two youth groups present to provide entertainment. The **Kinder-gruppe** of the **Verein der Donauschwaben** will dance for us at 2:00.



They will be followed by the **Kinderchor** of the **Fairview German School**, who will sing at 3:00.

In addition, the <u>Cincinnati Carvers Guild</u> will have a continuous display and demonstration of woodcarving throughout the day. The museum will be open throughout the day, and the curators of

the museum as well as the officers of the German-American Citizens League will be present to talk about the exhibits, as well as to answer any questions. In addition, some of the museum's newest

acquisitions will be on display for the very first time! There is a large playground adjacent to the museum, so bring your children and grand-children.



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The German Pioneer is the official newsletter of the German Heritage Museum of Greater Cincinnati. The museum is administered by the German-American Citizens League (GACL). The German Heritage Museum serves as a focal point in presenting and displaying German-American culture. This museum is the first of its kind in the region and a testament to the many contributions German immigrants and their descendants have made in the growth of the Ohio Valley and America. The museum focuses especially on representing the history of German-Americans in the Greater Cincinnati area, which became and remains one of the major German-American centers in the United States. In addition, displays showcase the activities of the organizations currently under the umbrella of the German-American Citizens' League of Greater Cincinnati.

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Newsletter Editor

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Advertising Rates

Advertising is graciously accepted.

The rates are as follows:

Full page: 1 issue: \$30, 4 issues: \$90 Half Page: 1 issue: \$17, 4 issues: \$51 Quarter Page: 1 issue: \$10, 4 issues: \$30 Business Card: 1 issue: \$5, 4 issues: \$15

Contact the editor for more information, including submission requirements.

Back issues are available at no cost on the

FGHM website

Join The Friends

The Friends of the German Heritage Museum (FGHM) was formed to support the German Heritage Museum, and was established by the German-American Citizens League (GACL).

The FGHM invites the support of all who are interested in the German Heritage Museum and wish to ensure its continued success for future generations. We strongly encourage all those interested in the German Heritage Museum to become a member of the FGHM!

Friends of the Museum may also wish to volunteer as guides at the Museum or assist in locating items of German-American heritage for donation to the Museum.

Membership Category

Individual	\$20.00
Family	\$30.00
Non-profit Organization	\$35.00
Business	\$50.00
Sponsor	\$100.00
Benefactor	\$500.00

Memberships are for a one year period, and include an electronic subscription to this newsletter.

Memberships, heritage items and financial donations will support the Museum, as well as its ongoing educational programs and activities in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Make your contribution payable to the German-American Citizens League, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Gifts are tax deductible.

Please mail your membership or contribution to:

Nada Christine Huron GACL Treasurer 1716 Ella St. Cincinnati, OH 45223 nadahuron@fuse.net

Information

For further information about the museum, or the Friends of the German Heritage Museum, contact:

Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann GACL President 6829 Westin Ridge Cleves, OH 45002 dtolzmann@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events

May 16: Maifest

Museum opens for the season See story on front page

June 5-6: German Day Weekend

Museum opens for the season See story on front page

June 13: Summer Lecture Series

"Richard Wagner and His Music: Die Meistersinger Revealed," presented by Jim Slouffman, MFA, President Emeritus, Kolping Saengerchor. 2:00PM Details on page 3

August 22: Summer Lecture Series

"In Pursuit of John Hauser: Chasing a German-American Painter," presented by Dr. E.P. Harris, Co-Director, The Hauser Project 2:00PM Details on page 3

Second Monday: Stammtisch Night

Join the GACL and it's member clubs at Hofbrauhaus from 6:30 to 9:00 for general information and lots of socializing. Stammtisch participants will receive special pricing on food and beverages.

Museum Hours

The museum is open on Sundays, May 17th through October 25th, from 1 until 5 PM. The museum can also be opened by special appointment. There is no admission charge. The museum is staffed solely by volunteers. If you have a desire to view any particular artifacts, please make prior arrangements by calling (513) 598-5732.

The museum is located in West Fork Park, at 4764 West Fork Road, Cincinnati, OH, 45247.



Summer Lecture Series

Two New Presentations Highlight the Summer Season

Following up on the smash success of our first lecture series this past winter, the German Heritage Museum will present two new lectures this summer. The first of these will take place on Sunday, June 13th.:

"Richard Wagner and His Music: Die Meistersinger Revealed"

Our speaker will be Jim Slouffman, MFA, President Emeritus, Kolping Saengerchor

Out second presentation will be Sunday, August 22nd:

"In Pursuit of John Hauser: Chasing a German-American Painter"

This will be presented by Dr. E.P. Harris, Co-Director, The Hauser Project (www.johnhauserproject.com).

Each presentation will begin at 2:00 PM, and will take place in the upstairs meeting room at the museum. Admission and parking are free.





Proceedings from the Winter Lecture Series Now Available

The two presentations featured in our Winter Lecture Series are now available in print form. *My German Experience of Cincinnati* by Dr. Andrea Fieler (Northern Kentucky University), and *The Pennsylvania German Long Rifle*, by Gerald Hounchell (Cincinnati Chapter, Ohio Sons of the American Revolution), are available in two booklets at the museum. Each of these talks was very well received, with large crowds in attendance for both. If you couldn't make the original presentations, or want to relive your experience, feel free to come by and pick up a copy. Both booklets are free to museum members.

The 2010 Winter Lecture Series, including publication of the proceedings, was made possible by a grant from Northern Kentucky University.

Exterior Repairs to the Museum this Summer

Our museum is showing it's age!

The German Heritage Museum is housed in the Fesit family homestead. It is estimated that this log cabin dates to approximately 1840. The exterior of the building is showing it's age, and numerous repairs are urgently required. The chinking between the logs is in poor





condition, and needs to be entirely replaced, including new insulation and paint. The front porch, a fir deck, has deteriorated considerably, and must be replaced before it becomes unsafe. Finally, in 2009 we added a



new rear wing to the museum, but this addition lacks rain gutters. Taken together, these three projects carry a price tag in excess of \$15,000. This amount greatly exceeds our entire budget from the past year, and will greatly tax our financial resources. The museum trustees are currently putting together a proposal, and will be seeking a financial grant to cover these costs. We can use your help! If you are aware of any institution that might be receptive to our plea, please let us know. Whether it be a foundation, a corporation, or a private donor, all leads are appreciated. If you have any contacts for us, please contact Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, either at 513-574-1741 or at dhtolzmann@yahoo.com. Thanks in advance for your help!

Museum Postcards Now Available

Show your friends that you're proud to be a member of the region's primary German resource, the German Heritage Museum! Museum postcards featuring the museum crest on the front are now available free to museum members. Stop by the museum soon (maybe at Maifest?) to pick up yours.



HE GERMAN HERTAGE MUSEUM
4764 West Fork Road
Cincinnat, 0H 45247
Open Sundaya through October
and on the first Sunday in December

Evicted!

Unwelcome Winter Visitor Forcibly Removed

Green Township is justifiably proud of it's wonderful green and wooded landscape, but the museum's location adjacent to the woods leaves us a little vulnerable to the occasional wild visitor. This fellow found our



building to be irresistable as a dry home in the cold winter weather. Fortunately, we were able to have him removed before he had done any substantial damage to the museum.

"Back in Time to Over-the-Rhine"

Sixth-grader Jacob Mackie Wins Essay Contest

The Cincinnati Arts Association (CAA) has announced Jacob Mackie as the winner of its Overture Awards Essay Contest 2010: "Back in Time to Over-the-Rhine," presented in conjunction with the German-American Citizen's League of Greater Cincinnati (www.gacl.org). Jacob, chosen by six judges who are professional writers/historians/teachers, was awarded a \$250 prize for his essay, "Renewal."

For the contest, twenty-four students submitted essays on the subject of immigration in the 1870s, from the perspective of a young person their own age who has immigrated from Germany to Cincinnati. Students were instructed to include details such as:

How these people traveled from Germany to Ohio (steamship, railroad, etc.)

Where they lived in the city and what their house/apartment was like

Information about their schools

Stores, restaurants and entertainment (e.g. Findlay Market, singing societies, etc.)

What their parents did for a living

Information about Music Hall as it was at that time

All Tri-state students in grades 6-9 for the 2009-2010 school year were eligible for the contest.

Jacob Mackie is currently a sixth grader at Campbell County Middle School. Even though he won the essay contest, Jacob feels that his best strength is math. However, he continues to write for fun, because people enjoy reading what he creates. As an only child, Jacob likes to spend his free time outside riding his bike, playing on the computer, or just hanging out with his friends, and he is involved in CCMS's band and basketball programs. Every summer, he looks forward to going to Kings Island with his parents Angela and Steven.

"I am excited about winning the Overture Awards essay contest," said Jacob, "and I will use this award to help build my confidence in my creative ability."

"This was the first year for this contest, and we are very pleased with its success," said Carolyn Phillips, Education Program Manager, Cincinnati Arts Association. "We're already planning a topic for next year! Jacob did a fine job on his essay, and we are very proud of him."

Essay submissions were judged on the following criteria:

Originality: the essay topic is approached with creativity and imagination.

Quality of content: the essay is presented clearly and its material is well organized, well developed and accurate.

Style: the essay has a clear structure with a title, introduction, body and conclusion. Paragraphs are used correctly, and punctuation, spelling and grammar are correct.

Footnotes were not required, but a bibliography was highly recommended.

You can Jacob's essay, "Renewal," online **HERE**.

Buy a Brick!

Commemorate the contributions of the German-Americans of Cincinnati by becoming a part of

The Heritage Walk

at the German Heritage Museum.



The Heritage Walk is a 24 x 26 foot brick walkway directly in front of the German Heritage Museum. The purpose of the walkway is to allow the people of Cincinnati to celebrate their German-American heritage by becoming a permanent part of the German Heritage Museum. In addition, all funds derived from this program will assist in the maintenance of the museum.

It's For Everyone

You need not be of German ancestry or even from the Cincinnati area to become a part of The Heritage Walk. You need only be proud to be a citizen interested in preserving a large part of Cincinnati's history.

Gift or Memorial

An engraved brick makes a thoughtful and lasting gift to a relative or friend. A brick can also be a way to memorialize your ancestors and others. Gift cards are also available. In addition, donations are tax deductible! Bricks are available in two sizes. The large 8x8 bricks have space for up to six lines of 14 characters each. The smaller 4x8 bricks have space for up to three lines. Large bricks are available for \$50. Small bricks are \$35, or three for \$100.

Order Today!

For more information about obtaining your brick for The Heritage Walk at the German Heritage Museum, contact:

Kenny Burck kburck@juno.com

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