



THE AMBASSADOR

DER BOTSCHAFTER

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Winter 2019 / Page 1

CURRENT EXHIBIT: How German Toymakers Captured the Hearts of Americans: 200 Years of German Toys

On the evening of November 30 our current exhibit, titled "How German Toymakers Captured the Hearts of Americans: 200 Years of German Toys," opened to a large and curious group. In attendance were many new faces as well as local members. In addition, our Treasurer Hardy von Auenmüller and our 1st Vice President Donald Thureau traveled from Pennsylvania and Delaware, respectively, to be present that evening.

Our keynote speaker at the exhibit opening, Laura Simo, is the C. Malcolm Watkins Fellow in the Division of Culture & Community Life at the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. Working in this division, Simo encounters domestic and household artifacts that were used in the United States from the 17th-century onwards on a daily basis. With her expertise in this area, she informed guests about some of the special toys that the National Museum of American History has in their collection, including a Noah's Ark produced by German toymakers. She provided insight into the American historical perspective on German toys and through her enlightening speech showed us how historians in the United States evaluate and research toy artifacts that originated in Germany. To contrast the German toys on display in our exhibit, Laura Simo also showcased some of her favorite American toys in the Smithsonian's collection and made insightful comparisons among the two countries' stylistic choices in regards to toy production.



Laura Simo addresses guests at the exhibit opening.



Katja Sipple shows off some of the toys to a visitor.

The exhibit, which will run until March 28, is a celebration of German toys that were so beloved in the 19th and 20th centuries. It explores themes such as the major toy areas in Germany and why certain types of toy production thrived in those regions; how the Industrial Revolution and the rise of material culture changed toymaking forever; working conditions for toymakers in Germany; and some of the most influential companies and people that created a name for German toys in the United States. The exhibit also features a play area, which allows visitors to experience contemporary German games and toys hands-on. If you haven't yet had a chance to stop by the museum to see this exhibit, we encourage you to do so before it closes. Should you be

unable to visit during the week, we have two remaining Saturday dates for this exhibit: March 9 and March 23, from 11 am – 4 pm. We'd love to see you there!

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OUR MISSION

The German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA® is dedicated to preserve, educate and promote the cultural heritage of Americans of German-speaking ancestry and to be a leading voice of German-Americans in cultural and public policy matters in the USA.

We serve as a national membership organization through which Americans, proud of their German heritage and language, work together on vital issues of common concern.

The German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA® was established in 1977 and chartered the following year as the United German-American Committee of the USA, Inc. as an independent, tax-exempt, educational not-for-profit organization.

We are committed to:

- Sharing a positive image of Americans of German-speaking heritage by focusing on their historical contributions to American society
- Strengthening the ethnic awareness and cooperation of German-Americans
- Promoting the German language and culture
- Cultivating German-American friendship and cooperation
- Supporting cooperative efforts among German-Americans and their organizations

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Message from the Executive Director

Dear Members and Friends,

Looking back at my first year as Executive Director, I can truly state that it's been a rewarding experience. In addition to tried and true programs, such as our St. Nikolaus Party with the Alpine Singers, we have ventured out into new territory and offered some Halloween-themed events, including a lecture about the ghostly folklore and superstitions of the Pennsylvania Dutch and Mennonites. In November, we also opened a new exhibit, "200 Years of German Toys", and if you have not yet had a chance to visit, I encourage you to do so now, as it wraps up on March 28. A brief video clip, providing a glimpse of our beautiful toys by German N24/WELT TV, is available at www.gahmusa.org.

As winter gives way to spring, we are getting ready for our second beer tasting event with the International Club of DC on April 4 from 6:30 – 9 pm at our German-American Heritage Museum. During a 45-minute VIP reception, guests will get to try premium beers from Bavaria and Austria, followed by other German and German-Americans beers for the rest of the evening. The duo Liab' und Schneid will once again play traditional entertainment and dance music from the Alpine regions of Austria, Bavaria, and South Tyrol. If you live in the metropolitan Washington area, pack your dancing shoes, put on your Dirndl or your Lederhosen and get ready to polka and waltz, while sampling delicious German brews along with pretzels and German sausage.

However, we are not just about beer and dancing at the GAHM, although it fits nicely with our next exhibit "Culinary Customs: A Taste of Germany", courtesy of the German-American Heritage Center in Davenport, Iowa, but about promoting German culture, heritage, and traditions. Language is an essential component of culture, and I am very pleased that we are currently preparing for our very first German-language course for beginners. Starting on Wednesday, March 20, we will meet from 5:30 to 7:30 pm for ten weeks to acquire a solid foundation of vocabulary, pronunciation, phrases, and grammar skills. I hope that interest will be great enough to develop and sustain a multi-level course system which will eventually encompass advanced conversation and reading classes.

Last but not least, our campaign to become a designated National Historic Landmark is progressing, and we are now actively working with the DC Preservation League to ensure that Hockemeyer Hall, the home of our museum, receives the protection and recognition it deserves. The original 1888 residence, designed by architect Samuel R. Turner, and the two-story meeting hall added in 1893 once acted as an important and popular center of German-American social life. Most of these ethnic social halls and club houses have long disappeared as the immigrants merged with mainstream American society.

If you want to stay informed about all developments and upcoming events, please look at our Website at www.gahmusa.org and/or join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GAHMuseum.

Yours sincerely,
 Katja Sipple

Message from the President



Dear Members and Friends,

I am greatly honored to return this year as your elected President of GAHF for a third term. Thank you, all, for placing again your trust in me to represent our organization at such a level of responsibility. It is always a distinct privilege to be asked to serve, in any capacity, and I look forward to doing so, once more, to the best of my ability.

On behalf of GAHF, I would also like to express our deepest thanks to our outgoing President, Hardy von Auenmueller. During his second tenure, Hardy deftly guided GAHF, once again, with vigorous and sound leadership, maintaining our organization on the path of improved fiscal and financial health. In addition to being one of our most generous and active benefactors, Hardy, to our great fortune, continues to serve on the board as our Treasurer. We remain grateful, beyond words, for his wise counsel, his most distinguished leadership and his patient mentoring.

A word of thanks, also, to our officers, board directors, general members, and friends for their support and generous contributions, and, most especially, to our staff for their professionalism, dedication and excellent work.

We remain determined and committed to fulfilling the vision and mission of our organization. I invite you to carefully peruse the messages, announcements, events, and articles in this issue of our newsletter to appreciate the ever-expanding number and variety of exciting programs and activities that our organization now offers to members and the general public.

I thank you, all, for your continued participation in our Foundation and Museum and for being part of the GAHF family. It is because of your trust and involvement that our Foundation has been able to thrive and provide so many important benefits not only to our own members, but also to the larger German-American community. We continue to broaden our relations and collaboration with German and German-American organizations well beyond our home base while supporting our individual members and member clubs in other parts of the country as a critical part of what we do as a heritage foundation. We are proud to share our exhibits and present theirs in our museum space in DC.

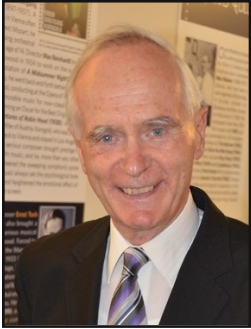
There is much in store for 2019 and beyond. I am confident that GAHF will continue to meet the challenges and opportunities the future will bring to further its mission to present, through our increased recognition, truly relevant exhibits and activities, and to serve as a key source of information, and as a catalyst, in the discussion of issues and ideas of interest and concern to German-Americans as well as to the American public at large.

On behalf of everyone at GAHF, we gratefully thank you for your continued sponsorship and involvement that make our achievements, programs, and aspirations possible and allow us to keep GAHF a vibrant institution for all of us to enjoy, experience, and be proud of.

With sincere appreciation and warm regards,

John M. Manoyan, Ph.D.

Message from the Outgoing President



Dear Members and Friends:

Fifteen months ago, you entrusted me, once again, with the leadership responsibility for the German-American Heritage Foundation, and its museum in Washington, DC. It has, indeed, been a pleasure and distinct honor to serve as your President for the calendar year 2018, while our organization needed to be restructured – with a set of new officers and a change in executive staff. Fiscal discipline was reintroduced, resulting in a financial turnaround at the operational level, and a further improvement of our bottom line.

I am also delighted that **John M. Manoyan** has been elected to be our our new President, as of last November, when I turned nine square in age, and became a full-fledged octogenarian. I have worked closely with him for many years, and his financial and legal advice has proven to be invaluable to me over the past year. I am also grateful to our officers, board colleagues, members and friends for their continued support and generous contributions to our Annual Fund, for which we had set an ambitious goal of \$40,000 that, ultimately, was slightly exceeded.

As indicated above, good progress was made in our restructuring efforts. By hiring **Katja Sipple** as our new Executive Director, as of January 1, 2018, and the subsequent employment of **Sarah Marsteller** as Museum Curator, we now have a staff on hand that was able to show five exhibits, last year – starting with "Luther in Mansfeld", prepared by our board member, **Yogi Reppmann** and two other German-American historians, Peter Lubrecht and Don Tolzmann, to recognize the importance of the Reformation's quincentennial celebration.

Thereafter, we were able to present two travel exhibits: First, "Homestory Deutschland", a collection of thirty biographies of African-Germans, the earliest covering the life of Anton Wilhelm Amo, who wrote his doctoral thesis about the legal position of blacks in Europe and became a valiant contributor to the early Enlightenment movement in Germany. And then, excerpts from the Permanent Exhibition of the "German Exile Archive 1933-1945" in Frankfurt am Main, a city which recently partnered with Philadelphia.

Over the summer months, we were able to develop and present – in cooperation with our most important and dedicated member clubs – large size poster panels featuring their respective histories, including photos and current activities. Some of these German-American organizations date back to colonial times. In fact, The German Society of Pennsylvania was founded in 1764, and is thus twelve years older than the United States. These panels, or copies thereof, will now be shown as a permanent exhibit in our museum's staircase.

Our German-American clubs, on both sides of the continent, will also have the opportunity to participate in the **DeutschlandJahr USA 2018/19** celebration, sponsored by the German federal government, and from which we garnered support for our project of **"500 Years of German Lager Brewing"** with sommelier and beer expert / author Marnie Old. In a two-hour dazzling performance, she presents a beer tasting seminar with ten different brews, including local craft beers. Please call our office, if you are interested in hosting such a event.

And finally, we have been presenting "How German Toy Makers Captured the Hearts of Americans", since last November. With this exhibit, which was developed by our own staff, we honor a cultural legacy by displaying German toys from the 19th, 20th & 21st centuries. You will also be able to read up on the cottage industry of Germany's ore mountain region, or such household names as Käthe Kruse, Margarete Steiff and Gebr. Märklin. Incidentally, a silent auction of several display items is run parallel to the exhibit – until it closes, late in March.

Notwithstanding all the excitement that these exhibits aroused within the German-American community, I believe last year's highlight was our gala, held at the beautiful, historic building of the Organization of American States, at which we honored the technology entrepreneur and investor, **Peter Thiel**, a native of Frankfurt am Main in Germany, as our **32nd Distinguished German-American of the Year**. By the way, I consider that city also as my US place of birth – (ever) since my very first employer, Hoechst AG, transferred me to New York, sixty years ago.

Very cordially yours,
Hardy von Auenmueller

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Featured Artifacts

If you're unable to visit the exhibit because you live far away, don't worry – once the exhibit has ended, PDFs of the exhibit panels and the brochure, plus more photos of the toys, will be uploaded to our website for everyone to access. In the meantime, here are a few unique artifacts included in the exhibit that will pique your interest.

Buffalo Bill Set – Heyde

On loan from the Frazier History Museum in Louisville, KY

Georg Heyde was primarily known as a producer of toy soldiers and his sets were extremely popular in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This set includes 99 figures and was produced in 1910. Though not a soldier set, Heyde's unique figurines, depicting scenes from history or cultural phenomenoms, set him apart from other producers and contributed to his reputation. While not historically accurate or sensitive in its depiction of a fight between Buffalo Bill and Native Americans, this set captures the interest in the American Old West genre that was mounting during that time.



A figurine from the Buffalo Bill Set by Heyde, on loan from the Frazier History Museum in Louisville, KY.

"Billy" Doll by Hertel & Schwab Porcelain Manufacturers

On loan from the Coleman Collection in Washington, D.C.

Billy's head, made of bisque (unglazed porcelain), was produced by the Hertel & Schwab porcelain firm located in Thuringia circa 1910. Thuringia was one of the most important porcelain-producers of Germany, and doll heads coming from Germany are almost certain to have originated from that region. Billy's facial features mark the beginning of the transition away from refined, adult-like faces on dolls towards more expressive, child-like faces. What makes Billy unique is that, unlike other dolls imported from Germany into the United States, he does not possess a stamp stating "Made in Germany." This is because he was purchased in Germany by a private individual as a gift for a little girl and resident of Washington, D.C., named Dorothy Smith.



"Billy" doll by Hertel & Schwab, on loan from the Coleman Collection in Washington, D.C.

Teddy Bear from Steiff

On loan from Linda Gruhn in NY

As you can see in the photo, this Steiff bear still possesses its original tag stating "für immer Dein" (always yours), making it attractive to Steiff collectors, of whom there are many in the United States. While this bear is from the 1970s, the Steiff teddy bear's origin story dates back much further than that. Steiff, who primarily produce plush animals and still exist to this day, began producing stuffed bears as early as 1892. Their export to the United States began with an American buyer, who fell in love with the bears and wanted to sell them in the United States. Their name, however, came ten years later, when in 1902 U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt went on a four-day bear-hunting trip to Mississippi. Roosevelt's companions had captured a bear cub to ensure Roosevelt of a kill; he ended up shocking his guests when he refused to kill it. American political cartoonist Clifford Berryman immortalized this occasion with a drawing of "Teddy's Bear" in the *Washington Post*. From then on, Berryman would always draw the cub alongside the president in his cartoons, and it was this cartoon that helped give Steiff's "teddy bears" their name and contributed to their great popularity. While American toymakers also produced stuffed bears, Steiff had the advantage of having been on the market longer. By 1907, Steiff teddy bear sales had reached almost one million worldwide.



Teddy bear by Steiff, on loan from Linda Gruhn in NY.

Toy Exhibit's Silent Auction Opening Online

Our silent toy auction will be live online for the last month of this exhibit! Through www.32auctions.com, our members and supporters will be able to bid on toys from producers like Ravensburger online until March 28. All of the proceeds will go towards supporting programming and exhibits at the German-American Heritage Museum. Although some of the items have already been purchased in person at the museum through the "buy now" option, we still have some very unique toys and games left. If you, your children, or your grandchildren are a board game enthusiast, you might wish to check out our auction at <https://www.32auctions.com/gahm-german-toy-auction> and place your bid before time runs out! Please contact Sarah Marsteller at marsteller@gahmusa.org with questions.



Bachmann Trains garden-size model locomotive including two coaches, donated by Bachmann Trains.

UPCOMING EXHIBIT

"Culinary Customs: A Taste of Germany"

Sauerkraut, sausage, and spätzle, oh my! Most of us are well-acquainted with these beloved German foods, but do you know the history and traditions behind some of Germany's most popular dishes? With our new exhibit, "Culinary Customs: A Taste of Germany," opening April 9, visitors will discover Germany's delicious culinary traditions and be able to learn about some of the regional varieties in German cuisine. Whether you're a connoisseur of German *Küche* or simply a food lover, this exhibit will delight anyone who loves to eat! Coming to us from our friends at the German-American Heritage Center in Davenport, IA, this traveling exhibit will be on view at the GAHM from April through July.

In addition to the exhibit itself, we have many exciting events planned alongside it – all food-related! On April 4, we will be hosting a beer tasting in partnership with the International Club of Washington, D.C. Stop by the museum to taste German and German-American beers and enjoy music, dancing, and snacks. We also plan to have a bakeoff on Saturday, April 27; bring your tastiest German-American baked goods to compete for valuable gift cards and prizes! Wilhelm Jonach, former chef at the Austrian embassy, will be hosting an *Apfelstrudel*-making demonstration in the spring, so attendees will be able to learn how to make this classic treat from a certified pastry chef. More information about these events and more will be distributed via our social media channels and our email-mailing list as the dates get closer.

As the exhibit opening date approaches, we are still searching for a few artifacts to round out the exhibit with, 19th and 20th-century versions of the following:

- German and/or German-American cookbooks and magazines showcasing traditional recipes
- Cookware and utensils specific to German cuisine (e.g. Spätzle graters or presses)
- Recipes passed down through German-American families

If you possess any of the above items and would be willing to loan them to the museum for an approximately four-month period in conjunction with this exhibit, please email Sarah Marsteller, museum curator, at marsteller@gahmusa.org. Every week, we will also be featuring our favorite German-American recipes sent in by members on our Facebook page and in our email updates. Send in your recipe and its backstory to info@gahmusa.org for a chance to be featured on our page – staff members will also be choosing our favorite recipe submissions and winners will be eligible for prizes!

PAST EVENTS

The end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019 has been a busy time for us here at the GAHM. Not only did our toy exhibit open on November 30, but we have had many successful events during this time period that we are excited to share with you.

“Germans, Graves, and Ghosts” – An Evening with Historian Bill Oosterman on October 25

Just in time for Halloween, this exciting evening of ghostly history and folklore with editor and translator Bill Oosterman was a rousing success. Oosterman is a native of Lancaster, PA whose Palatine and Swiss ancestors arrived there in 1712 and have been there ever since, mostly now under mossy tombstones. He has degrees in languages and history, and has been involved in local history and museum work for years. At the event, he spoke about the Pennsylvania (and by extension Maryland and Virginia) Dutch history and folk culture, with a heavy emphasis on death, funerals, graves, graveyards, and ghosts and ghost stories. His lecture spanned from common tales that you may be surprised to find have German origins to lesser known legends, and included portions of tales read aloud.

“500 Years of Lager Brewing: German Tradition Meets the American Dream” – Beer Tasting and Seminar with Marnie Old on October 27



This kickoff event for our beer testing seminar series, funded by a grant from the German Foreign Office as part of their Deutschland-jahrUSA 2018/2019 program, was wildly popular. Led by award-winning drinks educator Marnie Old, the seminar directed guests through a guided tasting of ten beers, while exploring the history of German and American beers from the last five centuries. Marnie Old informed guests on monastic brewing practices, beers of the masses, and the remarkable rainbow of lagers from German and



American brewers that reflect the time-honored traditions of classic German brewing styles and the limitless innovations of modern American craft brewers.

***Der Vampir auf der Couch (Therapy for a Vampire)* Film Screening on October 30**

Once again following the Halloween theme, on October 30 we screened *Der Vampir auf der Couch* which takes place in Vienna in 1932 and tells the story of Count Geza von Közsnöm, a Romanian vampire fed up with his centuries-long marriage and bored by his wife, Countess Elsa. Count Geza, seeking professional psychiatric help for his matrimonial woes, begins seeing none other than Sigmund Freud, who is entirely unaware that his patient is a member of the undead. Freud suggests Count Geza commission a portrait of Elsa, who, unable to see her own reflection in the mirror, is desperate to be reassured of her beauty. What follows causes Geza and his wife to become entangled in the lives of a young couple, while being forced to examine their own relationship. This screening was an evening showing and guests commented that this timing worked well for their schedules; therefore, we are scheduling more evening film screenings for the future. Check our event calendar for dates!

Evening with Herbert Quelle – Diplomat, Blues Expert and Performer on November 16

Following an early snowfall, German Consul General Herbert Quelle visited us from Chicago where he directs the German Consulate. In his lecture he talked about a little known piece of musical history – the connection between one of Germany's famous instruments, the harmonica, and Southern Blues – which he discussed in his book *"Monika's Blues: On the Trail of the German Harmonica and African-American Blues."* Signed copies of his book and CD were for sale, and Herbert Quelle serenaded guests with a short performance. His CD also provided a lovely soundtrack for the post-lecture drinks and discussion.



Tod in Venedig (Death in Venice) Film Screening November 20

Based on the classic novella by author Thomas Mann and directed by the Italian Luchino Visconti, *Der Tod in Venedig* contrasts tragic themes against the backdrop of stunning Venetian scenery. The main character, Gustav von Aschenbach, travels to Venice in search of a better climate following health problems. There, he becomes obsessed with a Polish teenager named Tadzio, who is staying with his family at the same hotel as Aschenbach. Tadzio emerges as a symbol of youth, beauty, and good health; this is in stark contrast to Aschenbach himself, who never speaks to Tadzio but merely admires him from afar. Staying true to the original novella, the film explores themes of health, beauty, artistic inspiration, and the correlation among them.

Christmas Party featuring the Alpine Singers on December 6

On a cozy December evening, local members and museum-goers gathered for Glühwein, singing, and Christmas cheer. The Alpine Singers, led by Herbert and Carol Traxler, gathered to lead guests in song and performed a beautiful rendition of *Stille Nacht*. Also in attendance was Henryk Broder, columnist for *WELT*, whose special request for "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" was happily obliged by the Alpine Singers.



Die Feuerzangenbowle (The Punch Bowl) Film Screening on January 11

Our first screening of the cult classic *Die Feuerzangenbowle* was so wildly popular that it will become a yearly event! Guests came together on January 11 for the film showing and to indulge in the rum punch, after which the film gets its title. Particularly loved by students and usually shown around Christmastime, university screenings of *Die Feuerzangenbowle* will gather huge crowds; in Göttingen in 2006 over 10,000 students participated in a screening. Armed with props, such as alarm clocks and flashlights, the interactive nature of the screening makes it a very popular event. The story follows a renowned writer, Dr. Johannes Pfeiffer, who was homeschooled as a young boy. While reminiscing about his youth, he begins to feel that due to his homeschooling, he missed out on classic adolescent experiences. To remedy this, he decides to go undercover as a student at a small-town high school; the hijinks and mischief that follow will cause all those watching to reflect back fondly on their own schooldays and the carefree attitude accompanied by youth. Buy your tickets early for next year's screening to make sure you get a seat!



***Datsche* (Summer House) Discussion with Writer and Director Lara Hewitt on March 5**

In cooperation with the DC International Film Festival, who are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year, we held a discussion and Q&A session at the museum following the DCIFF's official screening of *Datsche* on March 3 at the Miracle Theater. Director Lara Hewitt showed pertinent clips of the film and gave insight into its creation and behind-the-scenes. *Datsche* tells the story of Valentine Hermann, an actor from New York with German heritage. When Valentine's grandfather passes away, Valentine goes to Germany to oversee his grandfather's former *Datsche*, or summer house, located just outside of Berlin. A novice gardener, Valentine learns the ins-and-outs of maintaining a summer cottage and along the way meets Adam, a refugee who is hiding out in the cottage's attic in fear that he will be discovered and thrown out of the country. The film explores themes of friendship and immigration; Hewitt, a native of the UK, has described the film as her "personal love song to a country [she has] now left, a sad farewell from one Brit to the EU." View the film's trailer at <https://www.datschefilm.com/videos>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars! Spring is coming, and with it some exciting new events for you to attend. Though all dates are concrete, final details, including entry costs and time, are not always set. Please check our website closer to the date for finalized information.

March 21, Factory Toys and Their Discontents: Artistic Playthings in Germany and Austria ca. 1900 – Lecture and Discussion with Dr. Megan Brandow-Faller. 5–7 pm. \$13 nonmembers; \$9 for members. In conjunction with our current exhibit, Dr. Megan Brandow-Faller will deliver a lecture on the "artistic" or reform toy movement that began in German-speaking Europe starting in 1900. Brandow-Faller will inform visitors as to how the artistic movement known as the Vienna Secession spawned a push for a return to the "primitive" and childlike toys of pre-industrial Europe, in opposition to the industrialized and mainstream toys that were popular at the turn of the century. Her research on the role of gender in the design of reform toys will also shed light onto an often unexplored area of history: women's role in toy production. Signed copies of Dr. Brandow-Faller's book, *Childhood by Design: Toys and the Material Culture of Childhood, 1700 – present*, will be available for purchase.

Megan Brandow-Faller is Associate Professor of History at the City University of New York, Kingsborough. Her research focuses on art and design in Secessionist and interwar Vienna.

April 9, Exhibit Opening for "Culinary Customs: A Taste of Germany." Evening. Cost undetermined. View the newest exhibit which will be on loan from the German-American Heritage Center in Davenport, IA and speak to members of staff about its creation.

April 27, German-American Bakeoff and Bake Sale. Afternoon. Cost undetermined. In concurrence with the upcoming exhibit, we are holding a bakeoff with valuable prizes and highly-qualified judges, including Wilhelm Jonach, former chef at the Austrian Embassy. Put on your apron and get baking your favorite German or German-American pastry, pie, cake, or sweet treat in order to win prizes! The contestant's treats will then be sold as part of the bake sale and will be available for purchase by the slice. Also available for purchase will be fun gift shop items such as cookware and drinkware emblazoned with the GAHM logo.

Make sure to periodically check out <https://www.facebook.com/GAHMuseum/> to stay informed of upcoming events and get updated information. There's so much to participate in and you don't want to miss out! If you are not currently on our email list, please contact us at info@gahmusa.org so we can add you.

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Save the Date: Washington, DC Premiere of German Documentary "Hiwwe wie Driwwe" at the GAHM on June 21

More than 300 years ago Germans from the Palatinate left their ancestral home to seek a new life in Pennsylvania. They brought along their unique dialect, their culture and customs, which came to be

known as Pennsylvania Dutch. Even today, almost half a million people still speak a variant of this unique Palatine language.

Five German filmmakers along with protagonist and YouTuber Douglas Madenford went in search of these common roots and continuing connection in Pennsylvania and the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate. The result is a highly entertaining and informative documentary film called "Hiwwe wie Driwwe" – or "Over Here as Over There" – which will celebrate its Washington, DC area premiere at the German-American Heritage Museum on Friday, June 21. The filmmaker team, led by producer Christian Schega, will be on site for a lively Q&A session and DVDs of the film will be available for purchase. More information will be posted soon at www.gahmusa.org.



Christian Schega
Producer

