



# THE AMBASSADOR

## DER BOTSCHAFTER

A Publication of the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®  
Chartered as the United German-American Committee of the USA, Inc.

Spring 2022 / Page 1

### Honoring Dr. Karl Wolfgang Böer, posthumously, as the 2021 Distinguished German-American of the Year™

Following the tradition of the past 35 years, the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA will bestow its highest award for 2021 upon **Dr. Karl Wolfgang Böer** for his innovative ideas and lifelong accomplishments in the field of solar energy. This celebratory event will take place in Philadelphia on Friday, May 6, 2022, at the German Society of Pennsylvania, of which he and his wife were members, in the past.

The physicist, inventor and solar energy pioneer Karl W. Böer was born in Berlin on March 26, 1926. His father, an electrical engineer, worked for Siemens in Berlin, incl. a few years in Leningrad, until a Soviet assassination attempt in 1932 ended that assignment, and the Siemens subsidiary was subsequently nationalized. Meanwhile, the family had bought a home in nearby Spandau.

**Wolfgang**, as he was known to family and friends, was drafted into the German army, when he was barely 17 years old. He volunteered for the Air Force, since he had the romanticized idea of becoming a fighter pilot, after an earlier training as a student glider pilot. In the Spring of 1945, **Böer** was promoted to Second Lieutenant and placed in charge of a Volkssturm company, a poorly armed and trained group of older men.



With the landing of Allied forces in France, and their progress on the battle fields, he realized fighting them would be futile. Hence, he dismissed his men and sent them home, while realizing such an act would be viewed as desertion. For them, however, it represented their only chance of survival. On his own trip home, he was captured by American soldiers and held as POW for ten days. When trying to cross into Russian-occupied territory, he was captured again; but he escaped by a ruse.

When he finally made it to Spandau, he learnt his entire family had been killed by one of the war's last bombing raids. These early life experiences steeled his resolve to study physics, as soon as the Friedrich Wilhelm University (now known as Humboldt University of Berlin) opened in 1946. He graduated with a diploma in physics in 1949, and taught at the Physics Department from 1950 until 1961, while writing his doctoral thesis on solid state physics.

In 1951, Böer formed and directed a research team of eight scientists as section head of the Physics Department. Within ten years, that group grew to 26 scientists and 23 support personnel. He also founded and became director of the Section of Dielectric Breakdown at the German Academy of Sciences in Berlin. The laboratories included facilities to grow and analyze cadmium sulfide (CdS) single crystals, etc. All along, he had a unique position as a West German scientist working in East Germany.

continued on page 4

## Message from the Executive Director



Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is just around the corner, and I am delighted to inform you that we are slowly returning to a normal state. We have already had two events at our museum in Washington, DC, a lecture with social historian Dr. Michael Luick-Thrams on Feb. 26 about **Scattergood Hostel**, America's largest World War II era grassroots rescue effort of European refugees in rural Iowa under the leadership of young German-American Quaker John Kaltenbach. The message that even small acts of humanity cannot only give hope, but can truly be the difference between life and death, was particularly poignant due to the current geopolitical situation in Eastern Europe. The Russian invasion of Ukraine, which has been unfolding in real time on our TVs and computer screens, has put the world on high alert. If you are interested in making a donation to help Ukrainians, you can find a number of reputable charities online. We have mentioned <https://unitedhelpukraine.org/> and <https://razomfor-ukraine.org/> on our Facebook page as they provide much needed medical supplies and humanitarian aid to the front lines.

On March 11, we had our second in-person event of the year: an exploration of **Modern German Food - Exploring Culinary Germany** with chef and cookbook author Kit Schulte from Berlin. Ms. Schulte's innovative approach to German cuisine, one that incorporates vegetables, fruits, and wild herbs rather than the meat and starch-heavy recipes of the past, has created exciting and tasty versions of old favorites. This presentation was co-hosted by the German Embassy in Washington, DC and is part of the ongoing program **Wunderbar Together** that was first launched in 2018.

German-American friendship and more than 400 years of shared history are also at the heart of our **Commemorative Brick Campaign**. German immigrants helped build the United States through their labor, their ingenuity, and their sheer determination. Many of these German settlers from the East Coast to the Midwest used brick masonry in the construction of their buildings as the material is known for its beauty and durability. You can now create a lasting memory in front of the German-American Heritage Museum in the nation's capital with a personalized, engraved paver, which will be incorporated into the brick path in front of our building. It's a perfect way to honor a special person, to commemorate an important event, or to simply show your connection to the German-American community. **We currently offer standard-sized bricks (4" x 8") with up to 4 lines at 21 characters per line of engraved text for \$250.** Please use our online format to get your personalized brick: <https://gahmusa.org/com-memorative-brick-campaign/>

Last but not least, I once again want to bring attention to a recent **Congressional Resolution on German-American Friendship** (<https://gahmusa.org/congressional-resolution-on-german-american-friendship/>). Rep. Keating stressed the "close bond, historical ties and shared values that must be maintained and strengthened" to create and ensure peaceful, free, and democratic societies. As the war in Ukraine shows, it is a message that cannot be emphasized enough, and one that was shared by our immigrant ancestors whose desire for peace, freedom, democracy, and economic opportunities motivated them to come to the United States. Educating about the past and its implications on today and tomorrow is important for the future, and that is and remains at the very core of GAHF's mission and vision.

Yours sincerely,  
Katja Sipple

## Message from the President



Dear Valued Members:

The year 2021 ended on a positive note. Although we had not been able to have a gala honoring a Distinguished German-American due to the pandemic, we had a successful Annual Fund campaign which exceeded our goal in the last quarter of the year. I want to thank all of our individual and club members who participated in this initiative for their generosity. These extra funds will not only help cover our operational costs, but will also add to our scholarship fund which we are planning to offer in 2022. Having a scholarship award program by our foundation has my strong support, and I hope to report on our progress next time you read this column.

Part of our vision has always been to strengthen our transatlantic ties, and our Executive Director, Katja Sipple, has worked hard to foster our relationship with the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. These efforts have helped us bring more events to our museum and online streaming. Working with other German-speaking organizations, such as the Embassies of Austria, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, has proven to be more challenging, but we will continue to look for mutually rewarding opportunities.

Many of our members have indicated an interest in genealogy. So in December we offered an online workshop to assist German-Americans with family research. On **January 27th** we commemorated the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This is a sensitive topic, but one that we all need to be reminded of, particularly at a time when anti-Semitism and authoritarianism is on the rise throughout the world. Most of us were born after WWII, including myself in Berlin, and thus, with time passing, it's a reminder well worth repeating.

On **February 26th** we had our first museum event of the year with a very well received presentation by Dr. Michael Luick-Thrams about the Scattergood Hostel in rural Iowa, which helped European refugees escape Nazi persecution. On **March 11th** we had our second event at our museum entitled "Modern German Food - Exploring Culinary Germany" with cookbook author and chef, Kit Schulte. This was a yummy presentation focusing on fresh new versions of old favorites.

Our Treasurer, Hardy von Auenmueller, is announcing a gala event this **May 6th** at the German Society of Pennsylvania honoring Karl Wolfgang Böer as Distinguished German-American of the Year™ (DGA). Böer is considered a visionary scientist whose work led to significant progress in the field of renewable solar energy. We have another DGA gala event scheduled in Sacramento, CA, with Governor Jerry Brown. This had been postponed for the past two years due to the pandemic. This gala is now scheduled on **September 17th**, and more details will be forthcoming in the next few months.

Furthermore, we are all praying for a swift end of the war in Ukraine, so that the killing and suffering will stop, and the country's democracy will survive. This war affects all of us, and it is a reminder that we need to stand up against tyranny, hate and disinformation.

Last, but not least, I'd like to welcome Alexandra Hoenscheid to our museum staff. She started with us on March 1st, 2022. Her position will be as Administrative Assistant & Receptionist reporting to our Executive Director. Her background should help us achieve a higher level of digital communications in our offerings.

My warmest wishes to all our members whose support allows us to have the resources we need to continue our mission for all German-Americans in the U.S. and abroad.

Sincerely,  
Donald D. Thureau

continued from page 1

Böer's decision to immigrate to the United States was prompted by the construction of the Berlin Wall, an event that took place while he was attending a scientific conference at Cornell University. After spending a year at NYU, he resigned his position at Humboldt, sold his house in Spandau, and moved to America – a childhood dream thus realized. He began his career at the University of Delaware as an associate professor of physics in 1962. Three years later, he became full professor with expanded responsibilities.

With a vision of solar energy as a supply source for residential energy and a means to reduce America's dependence on imported oil, Böer anticipated the energy crisis of the mid 1970s, and founded in 1972 the Institute of Energy Conservation (IEC) at the University of Delaware. Under his direction, the IEC grew into a major research facility and an important training ground for many individuals, who contributed to advances in photovoltaic technology for delivery of solar energy.

In 1972, Böer also proposed **Solar One**, the first solar house to harvest solar energy for heat and electricity in a total system approach. It was built the following year on the grounds of the University of Delaware. (A replica model will be shown at our Gala on May 6, and during a subsequent exhibit at our Washington, DC museum). In 1987, the University of Delaware established the **Karl W. Böer Solar Energy Medal of Merit** in his honor. President Jimmy Carter was its first recipient in 1993.



Replica model of Solar One

The following year, Böer retired from the University of Delaware as Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Physics and Solar Energy, after receiving many awards for teaching & research. His experience in solar cells, solar energy systems & solid state physics is recognized worldwide. He holds 28 patents in solid state technology, authored over 300 articles on solar energy conversion and solid-state physics, co-authored two books and edited numerous scientific textbooks and and journals.

Dr. Karl Wolfgang Böer joins an impressive list of German-Americans as recipient of our Distinguished German-American of the Year Award™. They include U.S. Ambassador William R. Timken, the Nobel Prize winner in Medicine Dr. Günter Blobel, General Norman H. Schwarzkopf of Desert Storm fame, Doug Oberhelman, former Chairman and CEO of Caterpillar, Inc., and entrepreneur and philanthropist Philip Frederick Anschutz.

– Hardy von Auenmueller

PS: We certainly would welcome your participation in the above event, taking place at the German Society of PA in Philadelphia on Friday, May 6, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Tickets, priced at \$200 per person, are now on sale, at [gahmusa.org](http://gahmusa.org) / Events / Gala.

If you wish to support our organization by becoming a personal or corporate sponsor, you may subscribe to one of the following support levels:

- Bronze Sponsor: \$1,500 - includes four (4) guests at the dinner
- Silver Sponsor: \$2,500 - includes six (6) guests at the dinner
- Gold Sponsor: \$5,000 - includes eight (8) guests at the dinner

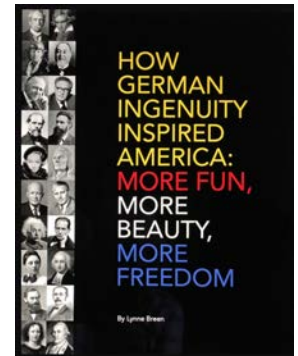


## GAHF Says Danke Schön for Book Plaudits

As proud as the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA was last year to publish our first book, ***How German Ingenuity Inspired America: More Fun, More Beauty, More Freedom***, we are equally thankful for the complimentary reviews the book has received, both online and in print.

We express our heartfelt appreciation to the following writers for their laudatory words as well as their insights into the historic and cultural value of *German Ingenuity*:

- **Michael Dolan**, of the online site HistoryNet, August 2021 article, "America's Largest Immigrant Population Introduced Teutonic Traditions That Seem Native Now," at <https://www.historynet.com/how-german-ingenuity-inspired-america-review-the-old-worlds-gifts-to-the-new.htm>.
- **Don Heinrich Tolzmann**, Editor of the *Buchnotizen* column, *German Life*, December 2021/January 2022 issue.
- **Eric Richards**, award-winning Teacher of German, Fort Zumwalt North High School, O'Fallon, Missouri; January 5, 2022, blog article, "A (non-hyphenated) American History Book for Us All?," at <https://eric-richards.com/blog/>.
- **Mark McGuigan**, President of the German Society of Pennsylvania, winter 2022 issue of the Society's newsletter, *Staatsbote*.



Also, we would be remiss if we did not express our thanks, once again, to the four individuals who so generously provided us with their "advance praise" for the book. We were proud to place their comments on the back cover of *German Ingenuity*.

- **Lya Friedrich Pfeifer**, President, Max Kade Foundation, New York City: "Congratulations to the German-American Heritage Foundation in recognizing the value of Lynne Breen's phenomenal research into the many areas of German life that influenced the development of the American automotive and space industry. Ms. Breen touched on many scientific areas which influenced our American life."
- **Dagmar Klein Freiburger**, President-Board of Directors, DANK Haus German American Cultural Center, Chicago: "I have read your book and it is a wonderful read. Even though it is factual, it is written in a way that makes it interesting and you want to keep reading. This is the kind of book that should be on the list of reading material for an American History class. Thank you for all the work that went into this."
- **Clifton Truman Daniel**, Honorary Chairman, Truman Library Institute, Independence, Missouri, and grandson of President Harry S. Truman: "It's not all beer and zeppelins. Germany has given us so much in the way of art, architecture, literature, music, film, food, science and medicine, not to mention Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. To me, personally, Germany has given Cracker Jacks, dachshunds and my wife, Polly. Her great-grandfather, German immigrant Bernhard Martin Jacobsen, served three terms in the US House while my grandfather was serving in the Senate."
- **Professor Jürgen Overhoff**, University of Münster, Germany: "This wonderful new book is a welcome and elegantly written contribution to the understanding of the invigorating German influence on a vibrant American society. German immigrants and their descendants enriched their new home country with a unique melange of hard work, democratic enthusiasm, love for the arts and music, and down to earth festivals. All readers of the aptly illustrated book will learn with amusement and admiration that Beer and Beethoven, Einstein and Eisenhower, Steuben and Schnitzel, are just a few of the many German American synonyms for fun, beauty, and freedom."

— Hardy von Auenmueller

P.S. This coffee table book is available for \$39.99, plus \$7 shipping, by placing your order with [gahmusa.org](http://gahmusa.org) (202-467-5000). A 10 percent discount is given with orders of 50 or more. The book is also available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

## Discovering the History of Texas-German Language

German immigrants have been living in Texas for more than 170 years, and their footprints are visible all over the state. They founded settlements and towns, such as New Braunfels, Fredericksburg, Weimar and Schulenburg, built churches, schools, and dance halls that still dot the countryside today, and they brought their unique dialects with them. The German settlers in the Lone Star State were unique, because they came from many different regions of German-speaking Europe, and they brought their dialects with them, which eventually developed into a very distinct language called Texas German. In most cases, ancestral languages in the United States do not survive beyond the third generation, but Texas-German, although dwindling and threatened with extinction, still exists today. The state of Texas, which once recognized German as having equal status to Spanish during the time period from 1846 to 1914, is trying to revive interest in Texas German heritage, and Dr. Hans Boas, a linguist and professor of German at the University of Texas, has dedicated 20 years to studying and recording the Texas German language, and gradually expanded his efforts to include photographs, texts, and other artifacts that tell the story of German immigration. GAHF intern **Payton Dugan**, who wrote this article, recently graduated from Southwestern University in Texas. Before that, she spent two semesters with us to research Texas German history, and introduced me to Dr. Boas with the goal of creating a digital exhibit to promote and publicize his extensive collection and research on all things Texas German. If you are interested in supporting GAHF and its museum in this ambitious endeavor, please contact me, Katja Sipple, at [sipple@gahmusa.org](mailto:sipple@gahmusa.org).

Texas German (Texasdeutsch) is a regional dialect of German that arose in Texas in the 1840s after German immigration to Texas through the Gulf of Mexico; it is an intriguing combination of German and English mixed with the cultural context of the southern U.S. (including a Texas accent!). The name, which implies that all Texas German speakers understand the same dialect, is slightly misleading: it is spoken differently throughout different regions of the state (for instance, that spoken in the Hill Country versus the South Texas dialect). Texas German was spoken by many in Texas until World War I, when ideas and stereotypes about Germans became progressively more negative. German became illegal to speak publicly and in classrooms in Texas in 1909. World War II only increased this anti-German sentiment, and soon the dialect became quite rare, even in private home settings.

Today, Texas German is dying: only about 2,000 speakers remain and the language is expected to become fully extinct in approximately the next 20 years. In large part, this quickly approaching extinction is due to the lack of knowledge about Texas German, even within Texas. As a native Texan myself, I can say that I had no idea about this dialect until I began taking German courses in college almost four years ago. Public education focuses on the influence of Mexican culture and history on Texas (which is arguably more important for the state as a whole), but completely ignores German speaking legacies across Texas, which are also quite apparent. Particularly in central Texas through biergartens, annual Oktoberfest celebrations, heritage societies, and town names (New Braunfels, Fredericksburg, Walburg, etc.), German immigration to the south is still felt today.



The spread of resources about this dialect is important not only for historical knowledge, but also for the continued preservation of German culture within Texas. While speakers continue to be proud of their heritage and language, there are now less spaces to actually speak the dialect in Texas, not to mention the death of many family members who grew up more familiar with it than their current, living descendents. However, Texas Germans should consider themselves in good company: notable members of this community include figures such as Elisabet Ney (a sculptor with works in the U.S. Capitol), former president Dwight D. Eisenhower, Dr. Karl Adolph Douai (an abolitionist newspaper editor), and Hermann Lungkwitz, a landscape painter.



Elisabet Ney Museum

The study of Texas German raises many interesting questions: How has the Texas German dialect survived when German dialects across other regions of the United States have disappeared? What are the differences between dialects across Texas, and how are they inconsistent with German spoken in Germany? What kinds of art and visual legacies have Texas Germans produced, and where are they kept today? There is much to be further studied and documented about Texas German before the dialect meets its end. This all may sound grim, but there is hope that with enough preservation and attention, Texas German can live on longer than is currently anticipated. Local groups like the Texas German Dialect Project are committed to the study of Texas German and creating audio archives for future generations to listen to. There is still a chance of maintaining this dialect and enjoying the legacy of German immigrants will continue to be a staple of Texas culture for a long time to come.

### Further Reading

<https://www.welt.de/reise/staedtereisen/article233555610/Deutsche-Spuren-in-Texas-Im-Dirndl-zum-Wurstfest-in-New-Braunfels.html> (German, page can be translated)

<https://tgdp.org/>

<http://sites.la.utexas.edu/hcb/files/2017/04/Boas-Fingerhuth-LingBerichte-2017.pdf> (German)

<https://texashighways.com/culture/sprechen-sie-texas-deutsch-how-a-variation-of-german-once-ruled-in-fredericksburg/>

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/germans>

— Payton Dugan



Panorama der Stadt Neu Braunfels, 1847



## The Great War: When German Traditions Persevered

The World War I years were an intimidating time for German immigrants in the United States. It was an era when cities renamed streets that sounded too German, a time when sauerkraut became “liberty cabbage” and German books were removed from libraries. During those years, state legislatures passed laws banning the teaching of German, and South Dakota went so far as to prohibit the use of German over the telephone. In some communities, there was even talk of banishing from their orchestras the music of Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart.

During the first three years of the war—1914 through 1916—Americans were divided whether the U.S. should enter the European conflict, extremists directing harsh words toward anyone they knew to be German. When President Woodrow Wilson in April 1917 asked Congress to declare war against Germany, these adverse sentiments grew into an anti-German hysteria that swept the entire country—causing many frightened citizens to downplay their German heritage and “Americanize” their names.

Germans, however, had lived in the United States since colonial times—too long for an anti-German wave to obliterate the contributions they had lavished on their adopted country. By 1910—seven years before the U.S. entered the Great War—one in every eleven Americans was first- or second-generation German, and German was the most commonly studied foreign language in America. While the hysteria mongers could rename their streets and pass laws forbidding schools from teaching German, they were oblivious to the many other ways Germans had influenced their lives. Without knowing it, anti-Germans were paying homage to a whole host of Teutonic innovations and traditions.

Brides and grooms planning their weddings still chose the time-honored processional, “Here Comes the Bride,” written by German composer Richard Wagner, as well as the triumphant recessional, “The Wedding March,” by Felix Mendelssohn. Music, too, was a highlight at family gatherings, with folks around the piano continuing to sing “Peg O’ My Heart” and “They Go Wild, Simply Wild Over Me,” composed by German-born Fred Fisher, and “Pretty Baby,” written by lyricist Gus Kahn, also born in Germany.

Americans continued to shop at Macy’s and Gimbel’s, both owned by families from Germany. And, store patrons still purchased Arrow shirts, even though the line’s highly successful advertisements were designed by German-born illustrator J. C. Leyendecker. Shopping for toys remained a pleasant experience—buyers apparently unaware that the first toy train was invented in Germany, as were dollhouses, jumping jacks, and miniature Noah’s arks.

The candy Americans enjoyed at home likely carried the German names of Schrafft and Brach; jars of apple butter—introduced by German immigrants during the 1700s—remained on pantry shelves; and sugar cubes still tumbled into America’s tea and coffee cups, the owners unaware that such a convenience had been introduced by German inventor Eugen Langen.

Baseball fans munched on Cracker Jack at ball games and drank beer at ball parks on Sundays, not knowing the crunchy treat had been developed in Chicago by two German-born brothers, or that the freedom to quaff beer during ball games on Sunday had been initiated by German-born Chris van der Ahe, a former owner of the St. Louis Cardinals.

People also were happy during the war years to ride the charming trolley cars in San Francisco, oblivious that the first one had been invented in Germany by electrical engineer Werner Siemens. And, families still visited Atlantic City to ride the carousel, even though the musical merry-go-round was brought to America’s shores by German cabinetmaker Gustav A. Dentzel.



Moms and dads dutifully sent their young children to kindergarten, the popular preschool program developed in 1840 by German educator Friedrich Froebel. And, college students didn't object to the physical education courses offered by American universities, even though German-born scholars Charles Follen and Karl Beck in 1826 had founded at Harvard the country's first university gymnasium.

Classroom teachers still wrote their lessons on blackboards, brought to Pennsylvania in the 1700s by German schoolteacher Christopher Dock, and calculus continued to be taught, even though the subject had been introduced by German mathematician Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz. Books favorable toward Germany may have been discarded, but librarians proceeded to loan out the works of Edgar Allan Poe, who was inspired by German writer E. T. A. Hoffmann to invent the enterprising detective C. Auguste Dupin, first introduced by Poe in "The Murders in the Rue Morgue."

Motorists in New York City continued to cross the Brooklyn Bridge, even though it had been designed by German-born engineer John A. Roebling, and trains with anti-German passengers still used the Green River Bridge in Kentucky, the bridge over the Cumberland River in Nashville, and the bridge across the Monongahela River in West Virginia—all conceived by German native Albert Fink.

Christmas was celebrated as before, with gaily decorated trees, reverent crèches, and gingerbread—traditions brought over from Germany more than a century earlier—and with Santa Claus, whose popular visage had been painted by German-born illustrator Thomas Nast during the Civil War.

— Lynne Breen

The melody to the popular song "They Go Wild, Simply Wild Over Me" was composed by German-born Fred Fisher—considered a Tin Pan Alley trailblazer for his contributions to early twentieth-century music. Shown is the cover of the sheet music, dated 1917.



**Enlist in the U.S. NAVY**

Our Jackies and Soldier Boys Enjoy

**Cracker Jack**  
The World Famous Food Confection

The crisp deliciousness and sustaining nutritive quality of Cracker Jack especially appeal to the healthy appetites of our boys in khaki and blue. "The More You Eat, the More You Want."

Everyone likes Cracker Jack. This ideal war-time confection contains much less sugar than most confections, yet satisfies the candy appetite.

**Eat More Cracker Jack—Save Sugar and Wheat!**

Cracker Jack is a well-balanced, easily-digested food. It has 5 times the food value of potatoes; 2 1/4 times that of eggs, and 1 1/2 times the nutriment of sirloin steak; nearly twice the food value of whole wheat bread. Cracker Jack contains the vital food elements.

Made from selected pop-corn and roasted peanuts, covered with delicious molasses candy and uncrushed by human hands in the process of manufacture. Put up in patented wax-sealed packages which keep contents clean, crisp and delicious.

To receive the high standard and quality of Cracker Jack in large quantities, call for samples, and send for the FREE National Song Book. (Over 24 (112) of value alone—8 cents per package.) For 15 cents, Get 15 more!

**Free National Song Book**  
Clear, musical, and easy to sing. Includes 15 songs. Send for yours today! (Over 24 (112) of value alone—8 cents per package.) For 15 cents, Get 15 more!

We also make Angles Macaroni/Spas put up in wax-sealed 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 packages

**Rueckheim Bros. & Eckstein**  
Sole U.S. and Canadian Agents  
Chicago and Brooklyn, U.S.A.

**8¢** **2 Packages for 15¢**

W. A. Stewart & Co. Sole Representatives. Publisher: Box 706, El Paso, Texas.

This newspaper advertisement for Cracker Jack, appearing on June 9, 1918, urges readers to enlist in the US Navy. German-born brothers Frederick and Louis Rueckheim of Chicago introduced the newfangled treat at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. During World War I, Frederick changed the design on the Cracker Jack box to red, white, and blue to affirm his loyalty to the United States.



In the mid-1870s, German engineer Eugen Langen developed a manufacturing process that divided large blocks of sugar into tiny cubes.

**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

**Officers and Board of Directors**

Donald D. Thureau	President
John M. Manoyan, Ph.D.	President - Emeritus
Daniel Villanueva, Ph.D.	1st Vice President
Christiane Schmidt	2nd Vice President - East Coast
Guntwin Galleisky	2nd Vice President - West Coast
Hank Stoffel	2nd Vice President - Emeritus
Hardy von Auenmueller	Treasurer
Robin Estey	Secretary

**Directors**

Erich Ast  
 Charles Borowsky, Dr.  
 Lynne Breen  
 John Carroll  
 Robert Lee Fricke  
 Frederick H.W. Hansen  
 William H. Holly  
 Ute Kattner-Horn  
 Rebecca Markert, Esq.  
 Ulrich Pelz, Ph.D.  
 Joachim Reppmann, Ph.D.  
 Hans P. Stein

**Executive Director**

Katja Sipple

**Administrative Director**

Christine Yang

**Administrative Assistant**

Alexandra Hoenscheid

**The Ambassador  
(Edition Spring 2022)**

Publisher: German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®

Contributors: Donald D. Thureau  
 Hardy von Auenmueller  
 Katja Sipple  
 Lynne Breen

Design: Christine Yang

Photos: © GAHF

Content: © 2022 by the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®  
 All rights reserved.

**MEMBERS CORNER****WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Christine Fallert-Kessides, MD  
 Rev. Richard Horn, NJ  
 Michael Huth, MD  
 Sabine Huth, MD  
 John Marsteller, CA  
 Siegfried Reiser, PA  
 Dr. Petra Specht, CA  
 Kathryn John, CA

**ANNUAL FUND DRIVE  
\$1,000 and above**

Dr. Raymond & Sally Ehrle, MD  
 Fritz Reuter Altenheim, NJ  
 Freundschaft Liederkranz, CA  
 Guntwin Galleisky, CA  
 Frederick Hansen, NY  
 Dr. Ulrich & Susan Pelz, CA  
 Plattduetsche VV of NJ & NY  
 Albert Schlenker, CA  
 Hardy von Auenmueller, PA

**COUNCIL of 1000 MEMBERS**

Erich Ast, PA  
 Donald Thureau, DE  
 Herbert & Heike Waschull, FL  
 William Holly, FL  
 Drs. Monika & James Zelloe, VA  
 Anton & Theresa Merle, CA  
 Dudley Diebold, CT  
 Waltraud Prechter, MI  
 Hardy von Auenmueller, PA  
 Norman Keller, FL  
 Guntwin Galleisky, CA  
 Paul Toebelmann, NY  
 Jeff & Shannon Sheaffer, PA  
 Christiane Schmidt, PA  
 James Werth, AZ  
 Dr. John & Susan Manoyan, CA  
 Ruth Wedelich, NJ  
 Walter & Dana Deichmann, PA  
 Dr. Raymond & Sally Ehrle, MD

**2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Yes, I/we would like to support the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA® by renewing my/our MEMBERSHIP / Becoming a MEMBER:

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Student: (Non-voting): \$ 25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Associate Member (Non-voting): \$ 50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Basic Member: \$ 100 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Supporter: \$ 250 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Benefactor: \$ 500 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Council of 1000: \$1,000 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Patron: \$5,000 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CLUB MEMBERSHIP "VEREIN'S CIRCLE"**

(Based on \$1 per Member with a \$25 Minimum)

- Basic: \$ 1 per member (\$25 minimum) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Bronze: \$ 26 - \$149 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Silver: \$150 - \$499 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Gold: \$500 and above \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I/we want to also support the Annual Operating Fund of the German-American Heritage Museum of the USA™ and the Foundation offices:

- Additional Donation for 2022 Operations \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Pledge (to be paid by \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
=====

***Your contributions are tax deductible.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT METHOD**

Please check one:  **Check:** Payable to: GAHF of the USA  
 **Credit Card:**  Visa  MasterCard  
 Mail to: GAHF, 719 Sixth St., NW, Washington, DC 20001  
 or Fax: 202-467-5440

Name: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





## German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®

719 Sixth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: (202) 467-5000 • Fax: (202) 467-5440  
Email: [info@gahmusa.org](mailto:info@gahmusa.org) • [www.gahmusa.org](http://www.gahmusa.org)

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Richmond, VA  
Permit #2367

**Address Service Requested**



### We are the perfect place!

Looking for a venue for your events? Consider the German-American Heritage Museum as an option.

The Museum is available for cultural functions, lectures, private and corporate receptions, client/employee appreciations, award ceremonies, holiday parties, and more.

Parking: Nearby parking and Metro access available.

Capacity: 100 people (cocktail reception)

Contact: Call us at 202.467.5000 or email [info@gahmusa.org](mailto:info@gahmusa.org) to discuss your needs, confirm availability and make a reservation.

