Depicted on the front cover is the seal of Germantown, Pennsylvania, founded by Francis Daniel Pastorius in 1683. The seal was designed by Pastorius shortly before 1700. The three-fold cloverleaf with Latin motto denotes the three principal occupations among the citizens of Germantown: viticulture and wine-making, flax-growing, and textile production. The Latin motto reads *Vinum Linum et Textrinum* ("grapes/wine, flax/linen, and weaving mill/weaving"). Pastorius formulated the same motto in German as *Der Wein, der Lein und der Webeschrein*.

The Society for German-American Studies has elected to display the Germantown seal on its website, stationery and membership brochure as well as on the cover of the *Yearbook of German-American Studies* in commemoration of the earliest group settlement of German-speaking immigrants in North America. Our source for the image is Rudolf Cronau, *Drei Jahrhunderte deutschen Lebens in Amerika: Ruhmesblätter der Deutschen in den Vereinigten Staaten* (Berlin: D. Reimer, 1926), 69.
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The Society for German-American Studies was founded for the purpose of encouraging and advancing the scholarly study of the history, language, literature, and culture of the German element in the Americas. This includes coverage of the immigrants and their descendants from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and other German-speaking areas of Europe. Members of the Society include representatives from various academic disciplines and others who share a common interest in German-American studies.

The Yearbook is published annually. The editor welcomes contributions in English, preferably, or German on all aspects of German-Americana from members of the Society. The manuscript should be prepared so that it can be read anonymously by the members of the Editorial Board, with the author’s name appearing on a separate sheet only. For submission, four copies of the manuscript prepared in accordance with the University of Chicago Press Manual of Style are requested. All manuscripts and correspondence concerning the Yearbook should be addressed to William D. Keel (wkeel@ku.edu). Inquiries regarding book reviews for the Yearbook should be addressed to Susan M. Schürer (schurer@sunlink.net). The Newsletter appears three times a year. Items for the Newsletter should be submitted to Daniel Nuetzel and Claudia Grossmann (dnuetzel@iupui.edu or cgrossma@iupui.edu).

The SGAS annual membership dues, which include subscription to the Yearbook and the Newsletter, are $30.00 for regular members. Membership applications to the Society for German-American Studies should be made to J. Gregory Redding (reddingg@wabash.edu). The Society for German-American Studies is open to membership from individuals, societies, libraries, and organizations.

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With this thirtieth volume of the *Yearbook of German-American Studies*, we return to the practice of publishing a selection of ten scholarly essays by our membership. From time to time, we will also publish historical materials—as in the previous volume which presented the German original and an English translation of a nineteenth-century publication by Gottfried Duden with an introduction by Steven Rowan. The essays in the current issue focus largely on the nineteenth century including contributions on Friedrich Münch by Petra DeWitt, Charles Sealsfied by Alexander Ritter, Abraham Reeser Horne by Achim Kopp, Moravians and Cherokees by Rowena McClinton, Socialist Turners of New York by Charles Reitz, among others. Other contributors engage issues of the twentieth century such as Bix Beiderbecke as a German-American jazz musician by William Roba or the dilemma of a Texas German community during the First World War by Jared Donnelly. Finally, Randall Donaldson explores the synergy unleashed by combining genealogical and historical studies. A five-year index of the *Yearbook* concludes this issue covering volumes 41 (2006) to 45 (2010) as well as supplemental issue number three (2010).

With this volume, we also extend a warm welcome to Susan Schürer of Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania as our new book review editor. Susan enthusiastically answered our call for a book review editor at the symposium last April at the University of Delaware. She has done an outstanding job in her first round of reviews and we look forward to many years of collaboration with her in future volumes of the *Yearbook*. For the time being, Susan will also be responsible for literary reviews as well as those of scholarly studies.

On a sad note, we have finally decided to discontinue publication of the Annual German-American Bibliography in the *Yearbook*. When Dolores and Giles Hoyt agreed in 1989 to continue the bibliography begun by Steven Benjamin, they knowingly took on a task of Herculean proportions. That they
have persevered for some twenty years in this effort is an achievement worthy of high praise and a tribute to their fortitude and that of their bibliographic committee. It is very understandable that they have decided at this point to consider other ways of making such a bibliography available to our members and the public. SGAS will explore other avenues for the bibliography at a future meeting of the executive committee. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Hoyts and those who collaborated with them in their bibliographic work for the Society.

We would like call the attention of our readers to the back matter of the Yearbook. The SGAS Bylaws were revised at the recent meeting of the executive committee in New Orleans in mid-October 2011. The Bylaws in this volume are the most up-to-date version and are the basis for the overall operation of the Society. The executive committee is currently revising the policies governing our research and publication awards. These have been removed from this issue pending those changes. However, we are including the policy governing the SGAS Outstanding Achievement Award for your information.

Digital Media Services of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas continues to offer its generous support in the preparation of the Yearbook as well as our supplemental issues for publication. We are most grateful for the assistance provided by Paula Courtney of that office for the 2010 Yearbook. We look forward to working with Paula on our next supplemental issue to appear in early 2012, which will be a monograph by Frank Baron (University of Kansas) entitled The German Factor in Lincoln's Nomination and Election: Turners and Forty-Eighters.

With this issue we must bid farewell to Editorial Board member Helmut Schmeller, who has recently decided to step down from the board after over twenty-five years of service. Helmut has been a critical yet fair evaluator of manuscripts for the Yearbook since 1984. Needless to say, the editor is indebted to editorial board members such as Helmut, in maintaining the fine scholarly reputation that our Yearbook enjoys. As editor I can truly say that Helmut's participation in the review process—and his at times humorous remarks in Bavarian dialect aimed at me—will be very much missed. In addition to his service with our Yearbook, Helmut also served as first vice-president of the Society from 1981 until 1987 and organized the 1982 SGAS Symposium in Hays, Kansas, featuring a tour of the Volga German settlements in that area. Helmut has recently been named the 2012 recipient of the SGAS Outstanding Achievement Award for his lifelong contributions to the field of German-American Studies. We look forward to honoring Helmut and expressing our appreciation to him at our next Symposium.

That Symposium will be held April 12-15, 2012, at the University of
Kansas and feature the dedication of the renovated historic "James Lane Stable" adjacent to the Max Kade Center for German-American Studies. The historic stone building, built by the infamous abolitionist about 1861, will house the archives of the Turner organizations of Milwaukee, New York and Lawrence in the Center's collection. We encourage our members not only to participate in the symposium next April but also to contribute their essays for consideration in the Yearbook as well as their reviews of recent books in our field. As we continue with the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, we especially invite scholarly studies on the contributions and impact of German-Americans during that critical period of American history.

Max Kade Center for German-American Studies
The University of Kansas
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