

YEARBOOK OF GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Supplemental Issue

Volume 2

Preserving Heritage:

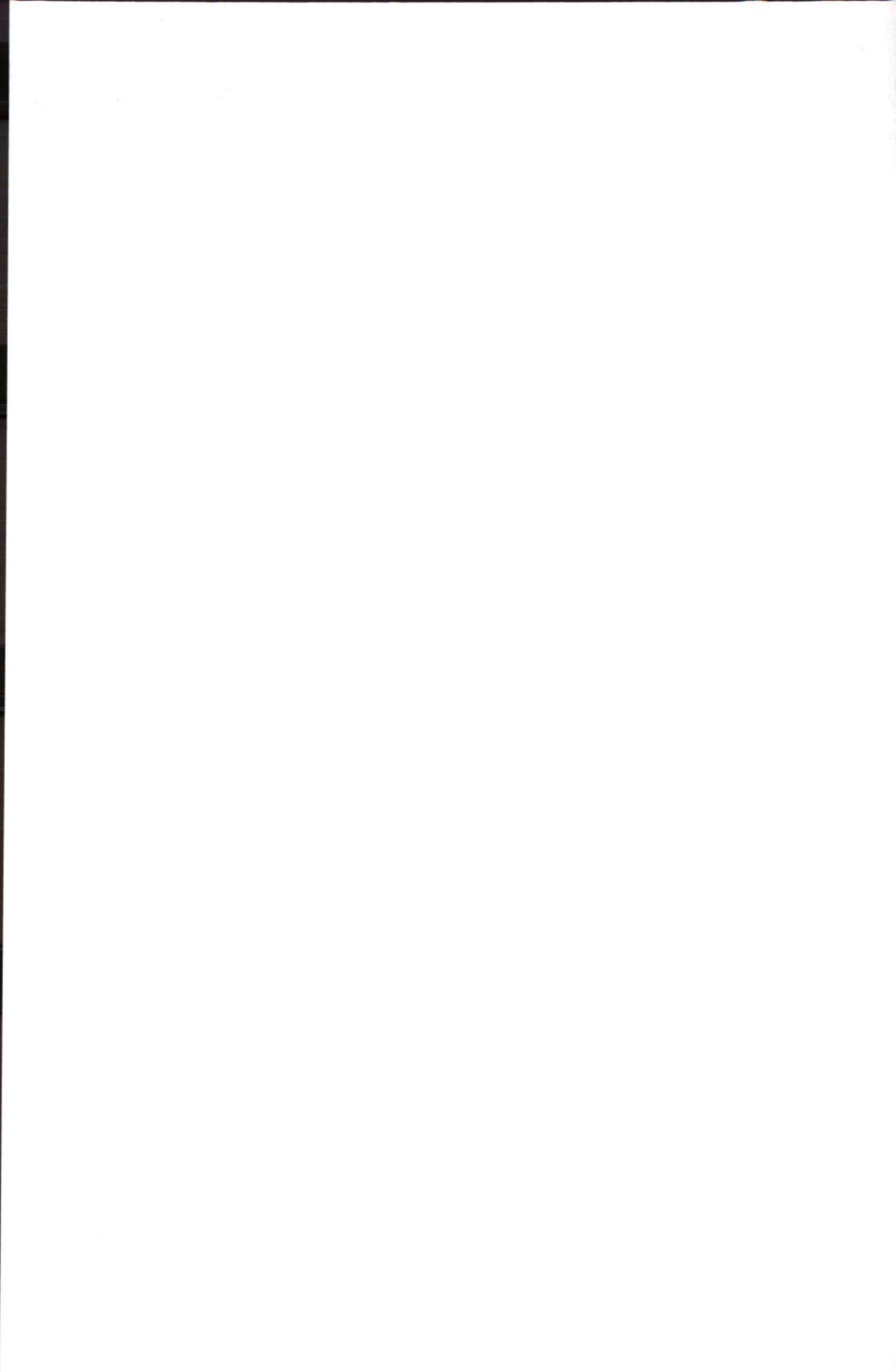
A Festschrift for C. Richard Beam

Edited by Joshua R. Brown and
Leroy T. Hopkins, Jr.

2006

The Society for German-American Studies





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William D. Keel, Editor

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From the Editor

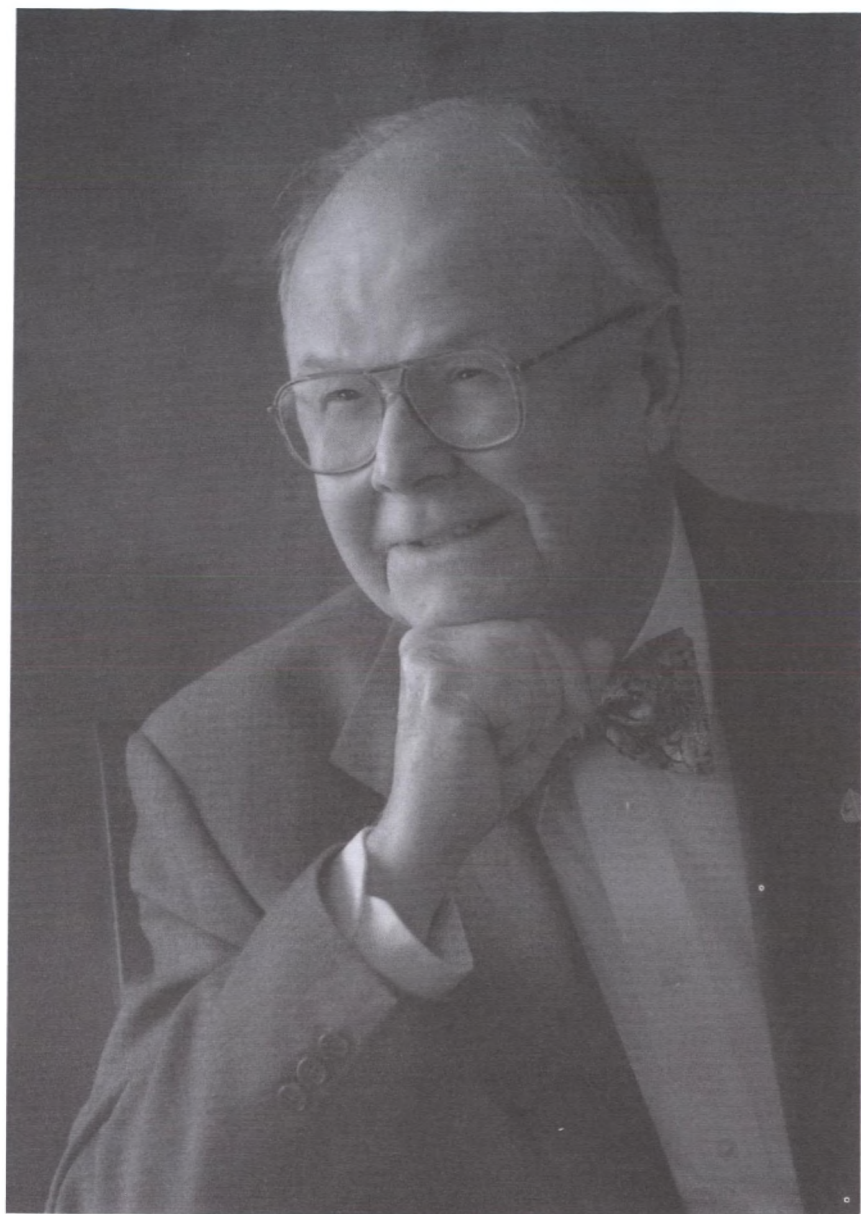
The Society of German-American Studies is honored to publish this collection of essays by colleagues of C. Richard "Dick" Beam on the occasion of his entrance into his ninth decade on the shores of this world. We are delighted to be able to collaborate with Dick's Pennsylvania colleagues, Leroy Hopkins of Millersville University and Joshua Brown of Pennsylvania State University, in compiling the contributions of those desiring to recognize the career and achievements of Dick or, as many of us know him, "der Bischli-Gnippli."

In addition to publishing this Festschrift as a supplemental issue of the Society's *Yearbook of German-American Studies*, it was the unanimous decision of both the Society's publication fund committee and the executive committee of the Society to subsidize the publication with a grant from the Society's Karl J. R. Arndt Publication Fund. In this small way, we are able to honor the many contributions of Dick Beam to the work of the Society for German-American Studies over the nearly forty years of the Society's existence.

As many of our members know, Dick was treasurer ("der Schatzmeister") of the Society for the decade of the 1980s and also instrumental in developing our membership records. We knew we could count on him to keep accurate financial records and provide us with the mailing labels for the annual yearbooks and other publications. Perhaps most importantly, Dick's wisdom, common sense and earthy humor were valuable assets at our twice-annual executive committee meetings. Knowing that Dick would be at an executive committee meeting made that event all the more enjoyable. Things have just not been the same since his retirement as Society treasurer in 1991.

We here in Kansas also owe much to Dick's generosity in sharing his publications and other materials on Pennsylvania German with our Max Kade Center for German-American Studies. He has been a true friend and colleague in the never-ending investigation of the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Pennsylvania Germans and the many other groups from the German-speaking areas of Europe who found new homes in the New World. *Mei liewer Dick*: Congratulations on your lifetime of accomplishments and all the best to you and Dorothy for the years to come.

On behalf of the Society for German-American Studies
William D. Keel, Editor
Max Kade Center for German-American Studies
The University of Kansas
February 2006



C. Richard Beam