

YEARBOOK OF GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Volume 38

2003



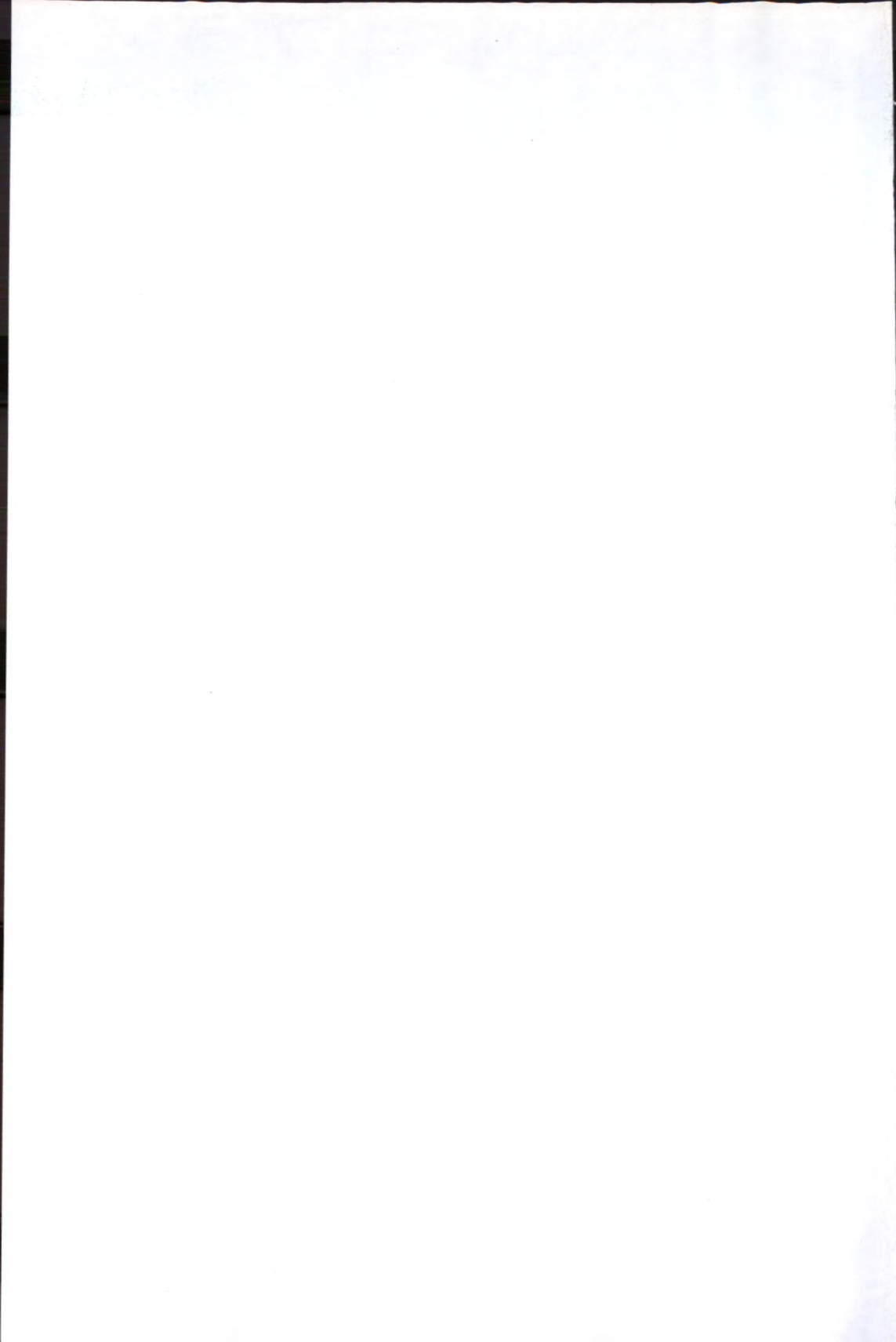
The Society for

German-American Studies

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 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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General Information

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 North America. 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 Keel, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, 1445 Jayhawk Blvd., University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-7950. Inquiries regarding book reviews for the *Yearbook* should be addressed to Timothy J. Holian, Missouri Western State College, St. Joseph, MO 64507. The *Newsletter* appears four times a year. Items for the *Newsletter* should be submitted to La Vern J. Rippley, Saint Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057.

The SGAS annual membership dues, which include subscription to the *Yearbook* and the *Newsletter*, are \$25.00 for regular members. Membership applications to the Society for German-American Studies should be made to the Treasurer of the Society, William Roba, Scott Community College, 500 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722. The Society for German-American Studies is open to membership from individuals, societies, libraries, and organizations.

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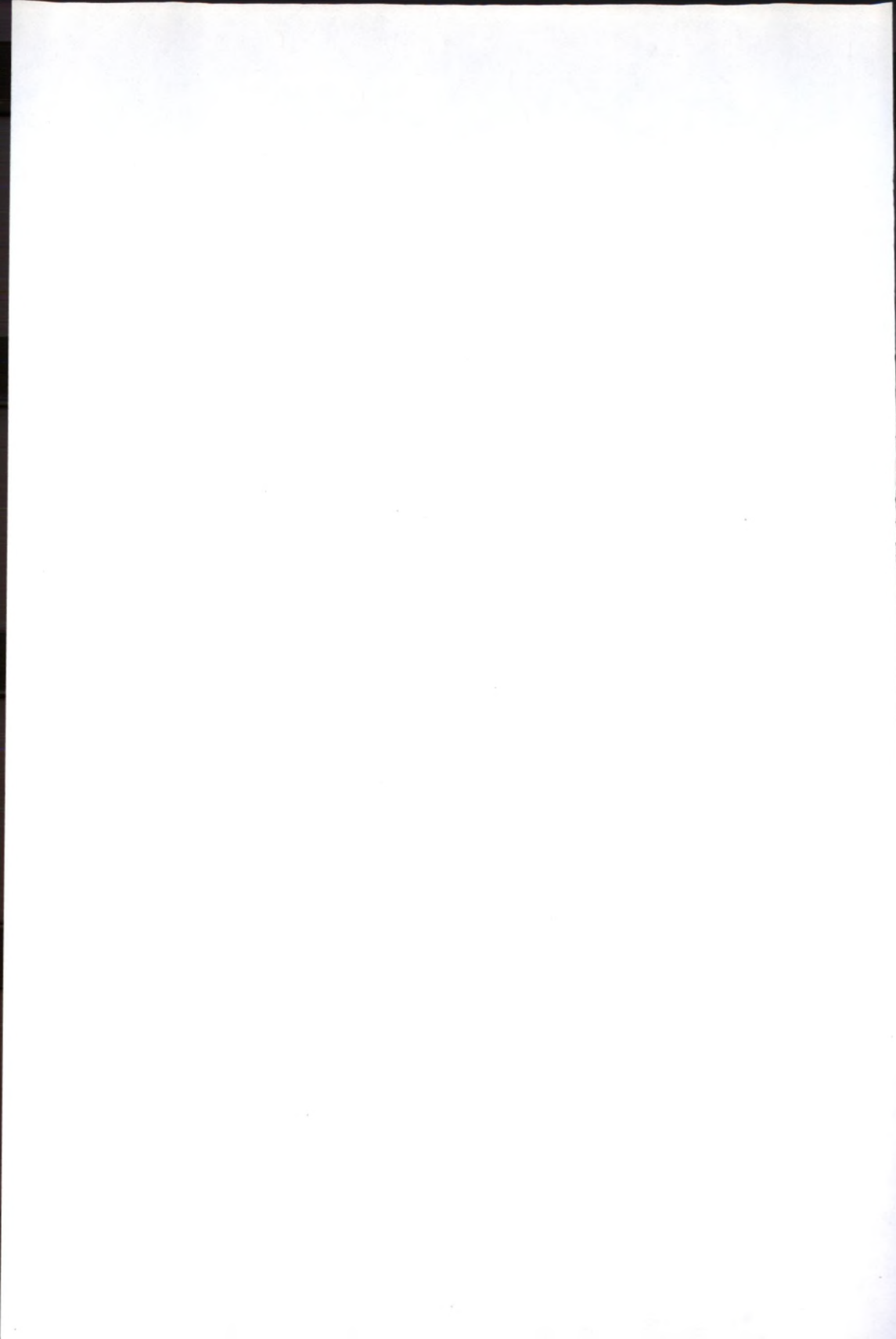


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From the Editor

The Society for German-American Studies, founded under the leadership of Robert Ward in 1968, celebrated its thirty-fifth year of existence in 2003. To commemorate this milestone in the history of the Society, the Executive Committee decided that the volume of the Yearbook of German-American Studies that bears the year 2003 should be a special issue and focus on the research of those members of the Society who have been longstanding members of the Executive Committee and the Editorial Board for the *Yearbook*. A general invitation to contribute to this commemorative volume was issued a year ago. The response from both members of the Executive Committee as well as members of the Editorial Board has been most gratifying.

As befits such an issue, the president of the Society, Don Heinrich Tolzmann provides a chronological overview of the organization, its leadership and publications. Tolzmann also contributed an essay on the possibilities of researching eighteenth-century German-American imprints digitally as well as several images of the Waldseemüller World Map of 1507 for inclusion at the end of the issue. SGAS member Margrit Krewson was instrumental in obtaining this valuable map for the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

The richness of German-American studies is brought into focus by the variety of topics. Leo Schelbert uses this opportunity to showcase the achievements of the Swiss American Historical Society, celebrating its fortieth anniversary. Alexander Ritter examines the literature of German minorities in Alsace, South Tyrol, Rumania and the former Soviet Union. Walter Kamphoefner explores the significance of German Texans as a group in Texas society.

The earliest period of German-American interaction is exemplified by three contributions. Gerhard Bassler charts the attempts of the Moravian missionaries to work with the Inuit of Canada. Donald Durnbaugh offers a biographical overview of the Sala family of Pennsylvania and Ohio who played a major role in the printing trade in the early nineteenth century. Christoph Schweitzer compares Goethe's *Werther* with the first American Novel, Brown's *The Power of Sympathy*.

The heyday of German-Americana is portrayed in several essays. La Vern Rippley elucidates the expression of ethnicity of German-American in the buildings and monuments they produced following the creation of the Second German Empire in 1871. Christiane Hertel, on the other hand, chronicles the rise and fall of the "Schiller

Cult" with a gallery of images. Timothy Holian examines labor relations in the German-American brewing industry prior to 1920. William Roba and Giles Hoyt take a more personal perspective by writing bio-analytical sketches of two largely unknown authors of the period around 1900, Emil Geisler of Iowa and Herman Zagel of Indiana, both of whom also apparently wrote some of their works in Low German (*Plattdüütsch*).

Linguistic studies by C. Richard "Dick" Beam on the history of Pennsylvania German dictionaries as well as an introduction to the history and unending variations of the infamous *Schnitzelbank* song by William Keel round out the articles of this volume. Elfe Vallaster-Dona's review essay of German-American literary production and twenty-three book reviews edited by Timothy Holian complete this issue.

The reader will quickly note the absence of the "Annual Bibliography of German-Americana." The Bibliographic Committee headed by Dolores and Giles Hoyt are preparing the full bibliography for continuance in volume 39 (2004). The bibliography in the next volume will include supplements from 2001 as well as the full bibliography for 2002 and 2003. The Executive Committee decided to publish this commemorative *Yearbook* without the bibliography, largely due to time constraints and the extra length of the essay section. We ask the understanding of the readership in this matter.

Another obvious change is the decision to bind the *Yearbook* in hard cover. Technical problems with the old binding finally led the Executive Committee to experiment with a sturdier cover. And, at the request of several members, we have decided to include the title of each book reviewed with the name of the reviewer in the "Table of Contents." We trust this will facilitate finding a particular book of interest or those books reviewed by a particular scholar. Finally, the editor would like to thank all contributors to this volume as well as the members of the Editorial Board who continue to evaluate submitted manuscripts in preparation for the next issue.

Max Kade Center for German-American Studies
at the University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas
May 2004

