

YEARBOOK OF GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Volume 33

1998



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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 the Editor, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2127. 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/Membership Chair 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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From the Editor

The year 1998 marks the one hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the German Revolution of 1848. That failed attempt to establish even a limited form of parliamentary democracy in the German territories unleashed a wave of refugees to the haven of the American republic. These German republicans arrived just in time to participate in the great American Civil War testing whether the institution of slavery would survive and even whether the union of states would survive. To commemorate this significant period of German-American history we present two contributions in this volume. Sabine Freitag examines in her keynote address presented at the 1998 SGAS Symposium in Indianapolis, Indiana, the revolutionary Friedrich Hecker's transformation from German republican to a supporter of the American Republican Party. William Keel presents the biography of an individual *Freischärler* from the 1848-49 insurgencies in Baden who finds himself in the chaos of Missouri's capital city at the outbreak of the Civil War and becomes an American superpatriot. We would also like to renew the invitation to our members to submit additional contributions treating the immigration and impact of these German refugees of 1848-49.

Beyond these commemorative articles we find investigations of German Jesuit missionaries in the desert Southwest, advice to immigrants from Friedrich Münch, Low German settlements in western Missouri, anti-German sentiment in Ohio at the outbreak of World War I, and a glimpse of Crown Prince Henry's visit to the United States a decade before that fateful war. Hermann Kurthen attacks the traditional view that the decline of German language use in the United States is linked to the negativism engendered by Germany being the enemy in two world wars in the twentieth century. Finally, we present a thoughtful examination of German-Canadian identity by Gerhard Bassler.

We want to especially acknowledge the contributions of the other members of the *Yearbook* "team." Jerry Glenn has again captured the essence of the current state of German-American literary production in his essay "From Babylon to Jasper." Our bibliographic committee under the direction of Giles and Dolores Hoyt has brought together a record number of entries for the

annual bibliography. We welcome new book review editor Timothy Holian and wish him much success.

As many of our readers know, the year 1998 also marked the passing of several of our members, three of whom were intimately involved in this *Yearbook*. Our founding editor, Toni Burzle, died in September (see "In Memoriam," p. 1). Just three weeks later, Paul Schach died on 13 October. Paul, in his eighty-fourth year, was still actively engaged in reviewing and evaluating articles for publication in the *Yearbook*. We had just received his final evaluations shortly before his death. His critiques and his wit will be sorely missed. As we go to press, we have also learned of the death of Erich Markel, president of the Max Kade Foundation, New York, on 4 January 1999 at the age of seventy-eight. Dr. Markel was instrumental in providing financial backing for the inaugural issue of the *Yearbook* in 1981 and the special issue of the *Yearbook* commemorating the German-American tricentennial in 1983. He was a true friend of German-American Studies as evidenced not only in his support of the *Yearbook* but also for his support of the several Max Kade centers and institutes throughout the United States. We shall miss him very much. This volume of the *Yearbook* is dedicated to the memory of these three pioneering colleagues in German-American Studies.

Max Kade Center for German-American Studies
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