

# Max Kade Institute

## FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE MAX KADE INSTITUTE FOR GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES • VOLUME 11 NUMBER 3 • FALL 2002

### Festival Explores Music's Role in Migration

by Kevin Kurdylo



Music in the migration experience was the theme of the Max Kade Institute's most recent conference, held September 12–14. The well-attended conference was both educational and entertaining, a unique melody of scholarly presentations, engaging discussions, and musical performances.

Thursday evening the Yid Vicious klezmer ensemble from Madison treated the audience to songs ranging from haunting, sensuous melodies to happy, bouncy beats. They ended with a lullaby to help everyone get a good night's rest before jumping into the conference.

Philip Bohlman from the University of Chicago gave the first presentation. He noted that it was appropriate the confer-

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*Above, The Monroe Swiss Singers perform Saturday evening in the Memorial Union's Tripp Commons. Left, Ann Reagan speaks about German-American music societies. Below, Alan Burdette presents a paper on the Germania Männerchor from Evansville, Indiana.*



**More photos  
from the Sounds  
of Two Worlds  
Conference,  
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# Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie Featured at Book Festival

by Antje Petty

The Max Kade Institute together with the Center of the Studies for Upper Midwestern Cultures is sponsoring a mini-symposium on Wisconsin history and culture as revealed through food at the first Wisconsin Book Festival. Join us from 9:30 to 11:30 on October 12 in the UW—Madison's Memorial Union (check "Today at the Union" posting for room number) to hear about the MKI's most recent publication *Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie*.

Speakers will be MKI Assistant Director Antje Petty and Terese Allen, the author of several books about regional foods, seasonal cooking, and culinary folklore. She is also a cooking instructor, a contributing editor for *Wisconsin Trails* magazine, and a food columnist for Madison's *Isthmus* alternative newspaper. Terese will give a 45-minute tour of Wisconsin food and folklife while Antje will take a historical look at the most popular cookbook for nineteenth-century German immigrants to Wisconsin: Henriette Davidis'

*Practical Cookbook*.

*Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie* is the reprint of this best-selling German cookbook that was adapted for Germans living in America. As several German-language editions were published in Milwaukee, the recipes evolved considerably, and the book was eventually translated into English.

The result is a fascinating mix of recipes from Old and New Worlds, ranging from traditional German fare (such as the beef rouladen) to very American dishes (try the version of strawberry shortcake) to frontier cuisine (how about some roasted beaver tails?). In addition to such culinary delights *Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie* offers a glimpse into life in a nineteenth-century immigrant household and how immigrants tried to preserve the old ways while adapting to a new environment.

Author Henriette Davidis (1801–1876) is widely regarded as Germany's most famous and influential cookbook author. A minister's daughter from Westphalia, she spent her young adult years working as a housemistress at wealthy estates and as a teacher at a school for young women. Striving to educate her students to be good housewives and proper young ladies, she saw a lack of written guidelines in the education of young girls and women, especially in their education as young cooks.

In the middle of the nineteenth century, at a time when more than four hundred mostly regional cookbooks were flooding the German market, Davidis created a cookbook of "tested recipes" from all over German-speaking Europe, recipes that were so clear "that even inexperienced young housewives and children could follow them and become good cooks." Her *Practical Cookbook*, first published in 1844, became an instant success. It went through twenty personally revised editions during her lifetime, and another forty-two editions before 1906. In addition to English, it was translated into Dutch and Danish.

*Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie* will make a wonderful gift in any season. You can find more information at <http://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/books/2419.htm> or contact your favorite bookstore.

## MAX KADE INSTITUTE

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**Max Kade Institute  
for German-American Studies  
901 University Bay Drive  
Madison, WI 53705**

**Ph: (608) 262-7546 Fax: (608) 265-4640**

Any submissions via e-mail may be directed to  
[nasaylor@students.wisc.edu](mailto:nasaylor@students.wisc.edu)

**Visit the Max Kade Institute on the  
World Wide Web at:**

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# MKI Helps German Fest-goers Research Heritage

by Thor Templin

Several MKI staff members endured unusually hot weather July 26—28 to hand out information at the annual German Fest along Milwaukee's lakefront.

Sharing a booth with the UW–Milwaukee at Henry W. Maier Festival Park, MKI staffers answered questions about the Institute and its programs, and assisted genealogists in finding city, town, and place names using our Ortslexikon (a gazetteer from the late nineteenth century), deciphering family names via MKI's own *Dictionary of German Names*, and finding archives in Germany.

The festival featured German bands such as Melody Sextett, Musikverein Zolling and the Hoehberg Buam, and German-American musical groups including Dorfkapelle, Alte Kameraden, and Sterne der Heimat. The event also



MKI staffer Thor Templin assists genealogists and answers questions about MKI.

boasted cultural exhibits, fourteen dance troupes, eight German-American singing groups and, for the seventeenth year, a five-handed Schafskopf (sheepshead) tournament, the card game of choice of many German-Americans in Wisconsin. Besides all the entertainment there was plenty of *Spanferkel* (roast pig), Usinger *Bratwurst* and *Kuchen* to satisfy

the German-American palate.

The MKI is always looking for volunteers to help at its German Fest booth. If you are interested, contact Antje Petty at [apetty@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:apetty@facstaff.wisc.edu). For more information about German Fest, typically held the last full weekend of July, click on [www.germanfest.com](http://www.germanfest.com).

## The Friends of the Max Kade Institute Board of Directors are:

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## Brandenburg Family Donates Diaries to MKI

by Fran Luebke

The descendants of Rev. Bernard C. Brandenburg, a prominent German Methodist Episcopal minister in La Crosse, have donated five volumes of his diaries to the Max Kade Institute. The volumes chronicle his life from January 1, 1893 until December 31, 1931. The first three volumes were written in German and German script and the final two were written in English.

Brandenburg emigrated from Prussia at the age of ten and arrived with his parents, Johann and Augusta Brandenburg, and two sisters, Ida and Maria. They were aboard the ship *Germania* and

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# Friends profile: Rose Marie Barber

by Nicole Saylor

When Rose Marie Barber was a little girl, her parents would take her to the Milwaukee Turners for dances and parties. She remembers wandering into the gym and watching the athletes from the balcony.

“I always thought, when I grow up, if I have sons I want them to come here,” said Rose Marie, who grew up Rose Marie Winkler in a predominantly German neighborhood on Milwaukee’s near West Side.

She ended up having *five* sons, all of whom started in the Turner program at age five. Two went on to become gymnastic coaches there.

Today, Rose Marie is the executive director of the Milwaukee Turners, a job she came to after decades as a parent volunteer.

Her interest in German-American studies, cultivated by a lifelong connection to the Turners, has led her to a position on the Max Kade Institute Board of Directors. Elected to board in May, Rose Marie attended her first meeting September 12.

“I would like to foster a relationship between Madison and Milwaukee where Max Kade events

could be held at the Turners from time to time,” she said.

As the Turners’ executive director, Rose Marie, 69, is busy this fall working on two major projects:

- The Fourth Street Forums, a free series Thursdays at noon that promotes dialogue on important political and social issues. Forums are held at Turner Hall, 1034 N. 4th St., and co-sponsored by The Milwaukee Idea and the UWM Center for Urban Initiatives and Research. For a schedule of topics, see [www.uwm.edu/MilwaukeeIdea/events.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/MilwaukeeIdea/events.htm).

- The \$4.5 million renovation of the grand ballroom, the centerpiece of the National Landmark built in 1882. As money comes in, repairs are made to the room — new windows, pillar restoration, and air conditioning improvements. “I can’t wait to dance my first waltz in the new ballroom when it’s complete,” she said.

For a schedule of Turner events see [www.milwaukeeturners.org](http://www.milwaukeeturners.org).

## Turner History on Display in Sheboygan

by Robert Harker, Executive Director  
Sheboygan County Historical Museum

The Sheboygan County Historical Museum is featuring an exhibit about the history and activities of the Sheboygan Turners, an athletic society that has been active in the community since it was first established by German immigrants in 1854. There were hundreds of dedicated Turners over the decades who guided the organization and this community through good times and bad. The Civil War, WWI, and WWII were hard on the organization as the young men providing membership, leadership, and financial support for Turners enlisted or were drafted into the military, but the Sheboygan Turners maneuvered through these challenges and adapted to the emerging interest of the young people.

Some Turners performed professionally in the Sheboygan-based Seils Sterling Circus, in vaudeville, or trouped independently at county fairs and city

festivals. When they came home, they returned to the Turners and added the professional skills they had learned on the road. The Sheboygan Turner Indoor Circus was born in the late 1930s, and soon cities throughout Wisconsin were hiring this circus for festivals of all kinds.

The Museum exhibit includes hundreds of photos of physical, social, and cultural activities from the early 1800s to the present, as well as several binders of additional research information. The exhibit also features many pieces of restored gymnastic apparatus. The traditional apparatus on display include rings, India clubs (with an electric pair from 1915), side horse, parallel bars, pommel horse, and horizontal bar. Equipment used by the “professional” performers also

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Continued on page 13

# Frank Zeidler Turns 90

In his retirement, Milwaukee's ambassador still runs circles around most folks

by Nicole Saylor

Ask Frank Zeidler what he's been up to lately, and he'll tick off a laundry list of committees he serves on – Peace and Justice Committee of the Greater Milwaukee ELCA, Central North Community Council. Of course, there's the Socialist Party, the Milwaukee Turners, and until recently, the Max Kade Institute's Board of Directors. The complete list of affiliations could take up this page.

At 90, his idea of retirement is busier than most people's working life.

He had been working as an arbitrator but much of that work has trailed off. When he's not giving lectures on Milwaukee's German heritage around town or attending an event as the president of the city's Greater United Nations Association, he's sifting through big piles of mail.

"I get as many as 10 letters a day," he said. Most are from people he's come to know over almost three quarters of a century as the mayor of Milwaukee from 1948–1960 and a pivotal figure in the American Socialist Party.

On September 18, two days before his nintieth birthday, 600 people showed up at a birthday party for Zeidler hosted by the Interfaith Conference. It was held at the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St., Milwaukee. The Interfaith Conference is a group he help found in 1970.

During his tenure as Milwaukee mayor, Zeidler doubled the size of the city, helped start the public television station, expanded libraries and fire stations, and built an unprecedented amount of public housing.

He still lives on North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, his residence since 1946. As for moving, he has no plans: "Out the front door in a casket maybe," he said, laughing.

Zeidler, whose German ancestry can be traced to four parts of Germany ("I'm what the Germans used to call 'mixed pickles'"), makes himself available to lecture on the city's ethnic heritage. He said the city is home to 70 nationalities and the demographics continue to change.

"Milwaukee has switched away from its German



*In June, Frank Zeidler accompanies Helmut Schmahl to the grave of Sebastian Walter, a German immigrant to Milwaukee who was a generous philanthropist in Ober-Flörsheim (near Worms, Rheinhessen). On behalf of his hometown historical society, Schmahl put a wreath on Walter's grave in Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee. Schmahl presented Zeidler with a book about Ober-Flörsheim's famous emigrant. Photo courtesy of Helmut Schmahl.*

heritage," said Zeidler, who pointed out that now the largest concentration of German Americans live in Milwaukee's suburbs. "It's become an African American and Hispanic city."

His wife, Agnes, five daughters and one son are doing well, he said. His youngest daughter, Jeanne Zeidler, followed her father into politics. She's the mayor of Williamsburg, Virginia. His other children work in careers ranging from education instructor at UW–Milwaukee to expert in computerized equipment.

Zeidler said his health is holding up, but added, "It's fragile. When you're 90 years old, you've got to watch it." Zeidler's commitment to his city is what keeps him engaged and involved. "Oh, yes," he said at the end of a recent telephone interview, "I'm also an honorary member of the Interfaith Cabinet."

# Meet the New Additions to MKI's Staff

By Felecia Lucht

Lisa Blochwitz joined the Max Kade staff this summer as its program assistant. This new position was created with generous financial support from the UW–Madison College of Letters and Sciences. Lisa will also be sharing her time with the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures and the Folklore Program.

Originally from Park Falls, WI, Lisa moved to Madison in 1980 to study French at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Having never been to Europe, Lisa found a work program with Educational Travel that would allow her to spend time in Switzerland. Hoping to be placed in the French-speaking section of the country, she instead got a job at a hotel in Davos, a German-speaking city near the Austrian border. To prepare for her trip, Lisa took three weeks of German classes at a Berlitz language center. The two-and-a-half months she spent abroad inspired her to continue learning German. Upon her return home she switched her major to German and received her B.A. in 1986.

For eight years Lisa worked as the Undergraduate Coordinator in the German Department and has recently completed her M.S. in Educational Administration with a focus on higher education.

In her work at the MKI Lisa is looking forward to continuing a close association with “all things German.” She finds genealogy very interesting and is eager to research more about her mother’s side of the family.

CSUMC director Ruth Olson says, “I’m really excited about Lisa being here because she brings with her lots of resources — her connections to the German Department and the rest of the university community, her own good sense and efficiency, and her terrific, friendly personality.”



*Lisa Blochwitz*

By Eric Platt

Nicki Saylor brings significant experience to her new position as editor of the Friends newsletter and head of publicity at the Max Kade Institute.

Nicki’s tasks at the Institute during the course of the upcoming year will be varied. Besides editing the Friends newsletter, she will be in charge of getting out publicity on upcoming MKI events to the Friends and other interested parties. Beginning in early 2003, she will also be editing a new newsletter published by the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Culture. Nicki hopes that these publications will help raise the MKI’s and CSUMC’s profile in Wisconsin and the rest of the Upper Midwest during the upcoming year.



*Nicki Saylor*

This fall marks the beginning of Nicki’s work toward a master’s in library science. She is especially interested in studying archiving and folklore during her time in the program.

“I love finding and telling stories,” she says. “Archiving allows me to access all kinds of information and helps me tell stories of people not usually seen as being very important.”

Studying to be an archivist may represent a career change for Nicki, but she has been finding and telling stories about others most of her adult life. She comes to the MKI after working several years in the newspaper business, including a stint at the *Kansas City Star*. Nicki’s most recent position was as Assignment Editor at the City Desk for the *Wisconsin State Journal*.

When she is not busy with her class work or with her duties at the MKI, Nicki likes to kayak, bike, and participate in her book club. The highlight of Nicki’s summer was a backpacking trip to the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho, where her mother is a wilderness ranger.

# MKI News

## Briefs

### Donation Expands Frautschi Archives

Rick Frautschi, living in Belmont, California, was quite excited to discover the Frautschi Letters Virtual Archive, an on-line exhibit of letters written between 1852 and 1904 by members of his Swiss immigrant family (see: <http://csumc.wisc.edu/FLVA/FLVAhomed.html>). This archive greatly rounded out his own investigations into the Frautschi family, and he felt there was a home for the other original documents in his possession.

On Friday, September 20, Rick and relatives from North Carolina, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, met at the MKI to view letters and diaries. Rick donated several additional materials to MKI, including Swiss passports dated 1842 and 1852 for Jacob (Jacques) Frautschi; a land grant assigning forty acres of land in Mineral Point to Jacob Frautschy, signed in 1854 by President Franklin Pierce; the grave stone receipt for Mary Elise, wife of Jacob Frautschi, dated August 18, 1866, with a note that it is to be a good job; and Jacob's 1861 naturalization document.

The MKI is greatly honored to receive these documents, which will be added to the existing collection.

### German Ambassador to Visit Madison

On Wednesday, Oct. 16, the German ambassador to the U.S., Wolfgang Ischinger, will speak about "Transatlantic Relations: Challenges and Opportunities," 4 p.m. at the Fluno Center, 601 University Ave., Madison.

**Tuesday, Oct. 1:** Ruth Olson will be speaking to the Vernon County Historical Society in Viroqua on "What Barns Tell Us," 7 p.m., as part of the Wisconsin Humanities Council Speakers Bureau. She will be giving the talk again on Oct. 12: Dartford Historical Society, Green Lake; Oct. 21: Sauk County Arts, Humanities, and Historic Preservation Committee, Reedsburg; Nov. 9: Cedar Lake Campus Historical Center, West Bend; Nov. 21: T. B. Scott Merrill Public Library, Merrill.



**Saturday, Oct 12:**  
As part of the Wisconsin Book Festival, Antje Petty and Terese Allen will present "Eaters' Digest: A Mini-Conference on Food and Books," from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the UW-Madison Memorial

Union (check "Today in the Union" for room number). This will be a brief symposium on Wisconsin history and culture as revealed through food. Antje and Terese will take a historical look at nineteenth-century cookbooks used by German immigrants to Wisconsin and what they tell us about immigrant adaptation. 9:30 a.m.: Antje Petty, "Beyond Recipes: A Look at Immigrant Life through German American Cookbooks"; 10:30 a.m.: Terese Allen, "Cheese, Brats, and Beyond: A Tour of Wisconsin Food and Folklife." (See article page 2.)

**Saturday, Oct. 19:** Family History Month Genealogy Fair, presented by the Walworth County Genealogical Society, St. John's Lutheran Church, 104 S. Broad St., Elkhorn, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, contact Peggy Rockwell Gleich [pgleich@ticon.net](mailto:pgleich@ticon.net) or Donna Long Kjendlie [Kjendlie@ticon.net](mailto:Kjendlie@ticon.net).

**Tuesday, Oct. 22:** Lecture in German, "Syntaxwandel hautnah: Das Verbeluster im Plattdeutschen der Mennoniten," by Dr. Göz Kaufmann, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre (Brazil), cosponsored by the MKI and the Gesellschaft fuer deutsche Sprache, 4:00 p.m., 1418 Van Hise Hall, UW-Madison.

# MKI Finds Success with Music Conference, Cookbook, and More

New MKI director brings with him expertise in Pennsylvania German

Greetings from the Keystone House! It has now been just over two months since I stepped in for Joe Salmons as acting director of the MKI and I am happy to report that the 2002–2003 academic year has gotten off to a great start. I'd like to fill you in on a few of the major changes and events that have happened recently, but I also thought you might like to know a bit more about my interests in German-American studies.



Mark Loudon  
MKI Director

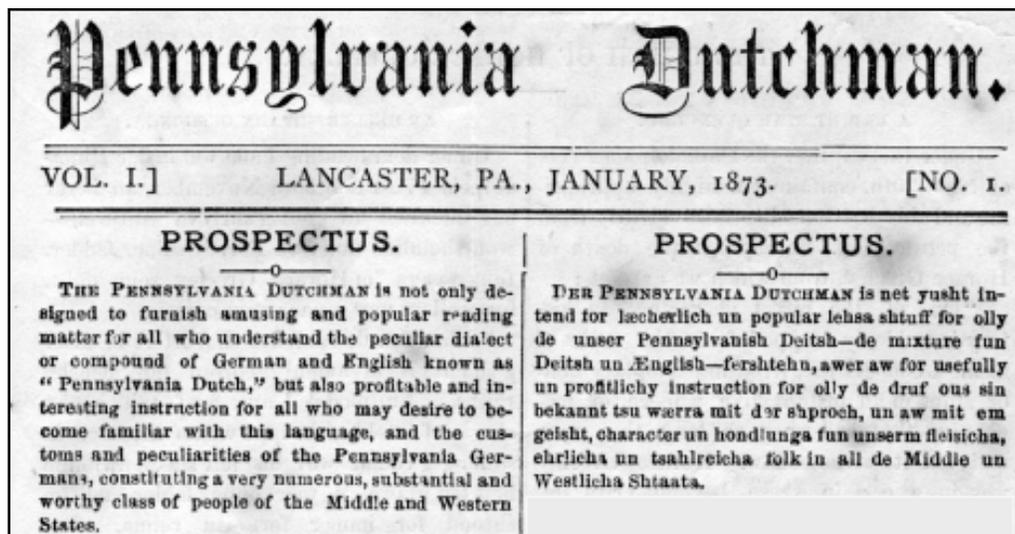
First off, I am pleased to welcome two new important members of the MKI/CSUMC team, Lisa Blochwitz and Nicole Saylor. Lisa is our new administrative assistant, and divides her time between the MKI and the Folklore Program. Lisa worked for several years in the UW–Madison German department and recently completed her master's degree in educational administration with an emphasis on higher education. Nicki, a graduate student in Library and Information Studies, has been hired as a project assistant to work on publicity, including the newsletter you are reading right now. With her considerable experience in journalism, Nicki is a perfect addition to the staff of both the MKI and CSUMC. Lisa and Nicki have already distinguished themselves as key members of an outstanding, hardworking staff team.

Just how hardworking our staff is was aptly demonstrated during our recent *Sounds of Two Worlds* conference devoted to music and migration to and from German-speaking Europe. By all measures the conference, with its diverse mix of speakers, exhibits, and entertainment, was very successful. (Read more about the *Sounds* conference elsewhere

in this newsletter!) I should also add one very special expression of thanks to Professor Philip V. Bohlman of the University of Chicago who helped so much to plan the conference program. Phil is certainly no stranger to the MKI. His most recent book, *Land without Nightingales: Music in the Making of German-America*, coedited with Otto Holzapfel, is due to appear any day now in the MKI monograph series.

And speaking of our publications . . . the monograph series continues its steady growth. Following on the heels of *Land without Nightingales* will be *Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie*, a reprint of the classic German-American cookbook by Henriette Davidis with an introduction by Louis A. Pitschmann. Many of you will remember Lou from his time at the UW–Madison, when he was an active supporter of the MKI. We were sad to see him leave last year when he assumed the position of Dean of Libraries at the University of Alabama, but are very grateful for all he has done to see the Davidis reprint project through to completion. We will all be excited to see *Pickled Herring and Pumpkin Pie* in the bookstores just in time for the holiday season!

Now a few words about myself. This is the beginning of my third year as a linguist on the faculty of the UW–Madison German department. I came here in 2000 after twelve years at the University of Texas at Austin. I received all my academic training at Cornell University, where I completed my Ph.D. in Germanic linguistics in 1988. My dissertation was on Pennsylvania German, and that's pretty much how I became interested in German-American studies. Most of my publications have dealt with Pennsylvania German in some form or another, though I also work a good bit with Yiddish, which is why I serve as a member of the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies here at the UW.



*This excerpt is from the first issue of the bilingual magazine, Pennsylvania Dutchman, founded and edited by Edward H. Rauch.*

From the time I started learning Pennsylvania German back in 1985, my interest in the language and its history has only increased. Among the several German dialects spoken in the United States, Pennsylvania German stands apart for a number of reasons. First, its roots extend back to the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries when large numbers of German-speakers, mainly from the Palatinate region of west-central Germany, settled in "Penn's Woods." Around the time of the Revolution, the various regional dialects these immigrants brought with them had coalesced into what has been known ever since as Pennsylvania Dutch. The term "Pennsylvania German," while more precise in terms of reflecting the dialect's origins in German- rather than Netherlandic-speaking Europe, has been pretty much limited to scholarly discussions of the dialect. Most Pennsylvania German-speakers themselves have historically felt little connection to things German (including later waves of German-speaking immigrants). They see themselves as very much American, and that is reflected also in the dialect, which includes a pretty hefty dose of vocabulary borrowed from English.

Like other spoken German dialects, Pennsylvania German has often been negatively compared to its more prestigious cousin, the Standard ("High") German used in schools and writing. The dialect has not lacked its ardent supporters, however, and I like to count myself one of them. Over the last century and a

half, a number of dedicated individuals have sought to improve the public image of Pennsylvania German by committing it to writing. One nice example of this was the *Pennsylvania Dutchman* magazine started in 1873 by Edward H. Rauch, a native speaker of the dialect and an abolitionist active in the Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania. Rauch also fought as an officer during the Civil War, and became an important newspaper editor in southeastern Pennsylvania during the nineteenth century. An excerpt from the first number of the *Pennsylvania Dutchman* is included. For those of you who read High German, you'll notice Rauch's Pennsylvania German spelling looks more like English than German. That's because most Pennsylvania German-speakers have typically only learned to read English, so many dialect writers have found it more practical to follow English orthography when putting Pennsylvania German to paper.

As I settle in to the directorship of the MKI, I hope you will feel free to call me or just drop by the Keystone House to chat. I look forward to following in Joe Salmons' (very large) footsteps and continuing his sterling work to promote the dual mission of the MKI in research and outreach. I can't thank Joe enough for what he has done to secure the Institute's future; it sure makes my transition as incoming director a very positive one indeed.

With gratitude and optimism,  
Mark Loudon

# Highlights of Recent Library Acquisitions

by Kevin Kurdylo, MKI Librarian

Once again we highlight a small number of the many donations and other items added to the MKI Library over the past few months, selected from the Published in the United States, Subject, and Family History and Archives collections. A complete list of recent acquisitions will be available on our Web site at: <http://csumc.wisc.edu/mki/Library/NewAcqs.htm>. Contact the MKI Librarian at 262-7546 or at [kkurdylo@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:kkurdylo@facstaff.wisc.edu) to view these titles or donate materials to the Max Kade Institute. We would like to express our gratitude to Max Gaebler, Alice Wendt, and Madeline Kanner, among others, for their recent donations.

## Published in the United States

Schenck, Leopold, ed. *Puck's Volks-Kalender für 1885*. New York, NY: Keppler & Schwarzmann, [1885]. 96 pp., ill.

With a colorful cover, this calendar includes poems, plays, cartoons, articles, stories, and advertisements, in addition to monthly listings of Protestant and Catholic holy days, moon cycles, and sunrise and sunset times. In one cartoon that displays a nice play on a German word, two children are conversing: Maxchen: "Du, Lottchen! Ist es wirklich wahr, dass der Storch die Kinder bringt?" Lottchen: "Das erzählt man uns blos! Aber ich weiss es besser: sie wachsen im Kinder-Garten!" [Max: "Is it true, Lottie, that the Stork brings children?" Lottie: Oh, they only say that, but I know better! They grow in kindergarten!]

## Subject Collection

Bruhin, Herbert. "Theology His Profession, Botany His Passion: Thomas A. Bruhin, 1835–1895." *Swiss American Historical Society Review*. Vol. 38, no. 2 (2002): pp. 5–48, ill.

Biography of Joseph Gottfried Anton Bruhin (later Pastor Thomas Aquinas Bruhin), who came to the Milwaukee area in 1869 and compiled a catalogue of Wisconsin's flora. Includes bibliography of Bruhin's publications.

Cowley, Betty. *Stalag Wisconsin: Inside WWII Prisoner-of-War Camps*. Oregon, WI: Badger Books, 2002. 311 pp.

Includes histories, anecdotes, and recollections of camps in Antigo, Appleton, Barron, Bayfield, Beaver Dam, Billy Mitchell Field (Milwaukee), Cambria, Chilton, Cobb, Columbus, Eau Claire at Altoona, Fond du Lac, Fox Lake, Fredonia (at Little Kohler), Galesville, Genesee, Green Lake, Hartford, Hortonville, Janesville, Jefferson, Keesus, Lodi, Markesan, Marshfield, Milltown, Oakfield, Plymouth, Reedsburg, Rhinelander, Ripon, Rockfield, Sheboygan, Sturgeon Bay, Sturtevant, Waterloo, Waupun, and Wisconsin Rapids.

Strohschänk, Johannes. "The Official Word vs. the Horse's Mouth: Descriptions of Wisconsin for the German Emigrant in the 1850s." *Yearbook of German-American Studies*. Vol. 36 (2001): pp. 129–56.

Examines the information contained in a pamphlet describing Wisconsin issued by Wisconsin's Commissioner of Immigration in the 1850s. The information in this pamphlet, copies of which "could not be found," may have been derived from texts written by Increase A. Lapham, state geographer, or John H. Lathrop, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin. Compares this information with other publications by German emigrants designed "to offer advice to fellow Germans regarding Wisconsin as a desirable place for settlement.

## Family Histories and Archives

Brandenburg, Bernard Christian. [*Diaries*]. 1893–1931. 5 journals and 1 binder.

Diaries of Reverend Bernard Christian Brandenburg, a German Episcopal minister. Vol. 1, in German, January 1, 1893–July 31, 1902; Vol. 2, in German, August 2, 1902–December 31, 1907; Vol. 3, in German, January 1, 1908–December 31, 1918; Vol. 4, in English, January 1, 1919–December 31, 1927; Vol. 5, in English, March 23, 1928–December 31, 1931.

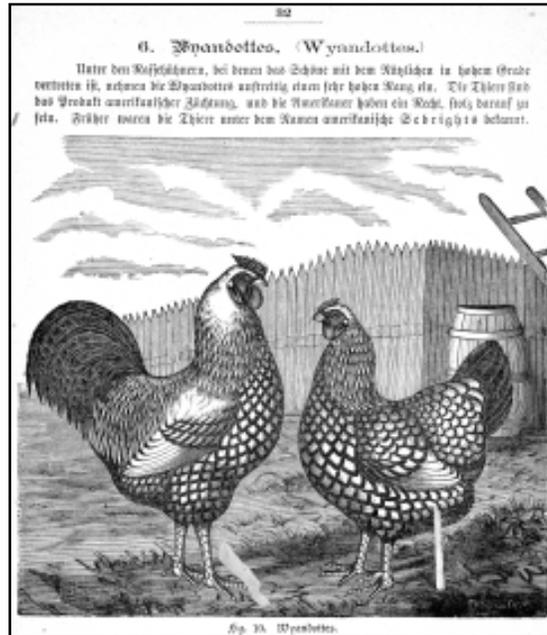
# Collection Feature: Books for Farmers

by Kevin Kurdylo, MKI Librarian

German immigrants to Wisconsin in the nineteenth century often relied upon agriculture as their main economic activity. Inexpensive government land, good soil, and other favorable conditions (as described in letters to family and friends back in Germany as well as in tracts published by Wisconsin's Commission of Immigration) prompted many immigrants to purchase plots in the growing state. Much of the land was heavily forested, but this "permitted impoverished settlers to make farms with very little investment, living on fish and game, berries, and crops grown on small clearings" while allowing them to take advantage of the trees for building materials, fencing, and fuel as they gradually expanded their commercial acreage. (Conzen, *Making Their Own America*, p. 17.)

The MKI Library's Published in North America Collection contains several books produced for the German-American farmer; there are also a number of materials in our Subject Collection that describe the experiences of these landholders in an unfamiliar land. Some of the titles from these collections have been arranged below for your consideration.

Of principle interest is *Der deutsche Farmer*, advertised as being especially useful to new settlers and immigrants. Intended for German immigrants who lacked experience in farming, especially amid unfamiliar environmental conditions, or were skilled in a few farming techniques, the book provides an overview of beginning and managing a farm, from the growth of plants and soil fertilization, to choices in equipment, planting procedures, and the care of livestock (including bees). By providing essential information in ad-



A picture of Wyandottes from *Der Amerikanische Geflügelzüchter* by Hans Buschbauer [1887].

vance, the book hopes to prevent a farmer from having to exclaim, "Hätte man das damals gewußt, oder daran gedacht!" ("If only I had known or remembered that at the time!")

If you would like to view any of the items described below, or have related materials you would like to donate to the MKI Library, please contact Kevin Kurdylo at (608) 262-7546 or [kkurdylo@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:kkurdylo@facstaff.wisc.edu).

## Books on Farming Techniques

- ◆ Buschbauer, Hans. *Populäres Handbuch des Grasbaus, Futterpflanzenbaus, und der Milchwirtschaft. Unter Berücksichtigung der Bedürfnisse amerikanischer Landwirthe*. Milwaukee: Brumder, 1883. 276 pp., ill. Explains the techniques needed to operate a successful farm. Includes descriptions of various grasses, fodder-plants, and grains, along with information on the care and handling of cows, and techniques for milking and processing milk and butter.
- ◆ *Der deutsche Farmer im Busch und auf der Prairie. Praktisches Lehr- und Handbuch für alle Zweige der amerikanischen Landwirtschaft, als Ackerbau, Viehzucht, Garten-, Obst- und Weinbau, Urbarmachung und Einrichtung neuer Farmen ... Mit besonderer Berücksichtigung neuer Ansiedler und Einwanderer*. Milwaukee: Brumder, 1882. vi, 335 pp.

**Continued on page 12**

### Farming books from page 11

- ◆ Farmer Fritz. *Der Baum: Praktische Ratschläge für die Anpflanzung und Erhaltung der Bäume. Ein Handbuch für amerikanische Farmer, Garten- und Hausbesitzer*. St. Louis: Louis Lange, 1885. 194 pp.
- ◆ MacGregor, Wallace F. and W. W. Dingee. *Wissenschaft von erfolgreichem Dreschen = Science of Successful Threshing*. 4th ed. Racine, WI: Case Threshing Machine Co., 1904. 227 pp., ill.  
Includes a German-English vocabulary list.

### **Books on the Care of Farm Animals**

- ◆ Buschbauer, Hans. *Der amerikanische Geflügelzüchter: [Gründliche Anleitung zur Zucht und Nutzung Hühnern, Truthühnern, Gänsen, Enten und Tauben]*. Milwaukee: Brumder, [1887]. 244 pp., ill.  
Guide to poultry farming, extensively illustrated. Includes information on selecting stock (with names in German and English), constructing a henhouse, feeding, and breeding.
- ◆ *Der Haustierarzt für den amerikanischen Farmer und Viehzüchter*. Milwaukee: Brumder, n.d. xvi, 375 pp., ill.
- ◆ Stewart, Robert. *Das Pferdebuch des amerikanischen Farmers, enthaltend eine ausführliche Beschreibung der Ursachen, Symptome u. der in Amerika vorkommenden Pferdekrankheiten. ... Das Werk ist insbesondere für den Gebrauch der Landwirthe bestimmt*. Cincinnati, OH: Vent, 1866. 592 pp., ill.
- ◆ Zünd, Johann Joseph. *Handbuch der Pferde- und Vieharzney-Kunde, in besonderer Beziehung auf innerliche Krankheiten, Heilmittellehre, Wundarzney, Geburtshülfe u. s. w., für den Landmann und Pferdebesitzer*. Philadelphia: Heinrich Hory, 1832. 376 pp.

### **Books Detailing Farmers' Experiences**

- ◆ Barnitz, Laura. "The German-American Family Farm in Missouri: A Personal View." In *The German-American Experience in Missouri*, edited by Howard W. Marshall and James W.

Goodrich (Columbia, MO: University of Missouri–Columbia, 1986), pp. 177–192.

- ◆ Borie, Beauveau. *Farming and Folk Society: Threshing Among the Pennsylvania Germans*. Ann Arbor, MI: UMI Research Press, 1986.
- ◆ Conzen, Kathleen Neils. *Making Their Own America: Assimilation Theory and the German Peasant Pioneer*. Washington, DC: German Historical Institute, 1990.
- ◆ Duden, Gottfried. *Report on a Journey to the Western States of North America and a Stay of Several Years Along the Missouri (During the Years 1824, '25, '26, and 1827). An English Translation*. Edited by James W. Goodrich, et al. Columbia, MO: State Historical Society of Missouri, 1980.  
Duden's report of his experiences farming land in Missouri attracted thousands of Germans to the Midwest, and particularly to Missouri. He presents his account in the form of personal letters, and he includes meticulous descriptions of clearing, fencing, and harvesting.
- ◆ Haas, Carl de. *North America Wisconsin Hints for Emigrants (Nordamerika Wisconsin, Calumet: Winke für Auswanderer)*. 2nd ed. Elberfeld and Iserlohn: Julius Bädecker Verlag, 1848.  
The author, a farmer from Calumet, Wisconsin, reports about his experiences in this area. Includes descriptions of climatic conditions, soil quality and cultivation, trees, animals, roads, and prices for food and farm equipment.
- ◆ McLellan, Marjorie L. *Six Generations Here: A Farm Family Remembers*. Madison, WI: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1997.  
Photographs and family stories of the Krueger family, Pomeranian immigrants who purchased a Wisconsin farm in the mid-nineteenth century.
- ◆ Schmahl, Helmut. *Verpflanzt, aber nicht enturzelt: Die Auswanderung aus Hessen-Darmstadt (Provinz Rheinhessen) nach Wisconsin im 19. Jahrhundert*. Mainzer Studien zur neueren Geschichte, Bd. 1. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2000.  
Includes descriptions of farming in Wisconsin. A translation of Dr. Schmahl's book is forthcoming from the Max Kade Institute.

### **Brandenburg Diaries from page 3**

docked in New York City on June 8, 1872. The family immediately went to Chicago where Augusta Brandenburg had brothers who were in the construction business. During the time in Chicago, young Bernard became deeply involved with their church on Ashland Avenue. Johann worked with his brothers-in-law until 1883 when he headed to Tulare, Spink County, Dakota Territory, with a train car loaded with household supplies, lumber, and equipment to farm the prairie. In 1885, two years after settling there, his father was killed in a tragic accident when a bull kicked him and broke his neck.

As the only son, Bernard was expected to assume his role as the head of the household and take over the homesteading responsibilities of his deceased father. The diaries chronicle the family and social pressure he encountered to assume these duties or follow his calling to the ministry. He assisted with the farming for some time but entered the ministry in 1886 and served as pastors in Watertown and Wessington Springs, SD; Lena, IL, Decorah and Colesburg, IA, as superintendent of the Galena District, and finally settled in La Crosse where he ministered to several churches until his retirement. He died in La Crosse on August 22, 1933. He and his wife, Albertina Raasch, were parents of five children.

Each year on January 1 he began a new volume.

On January 3, 1919, he wrote “I have written these many years since I have been in the ministry. I have filled 3 different books, but they are all written in german and german script. If [I] had it to do over I would have written them all in english but it is hard for them (family) to read the german script. So from now on I shall write in englisch.”

His switch from German to English documents aspects of his linguistic transition including two spellings of the word English within two sentences. Both the German and English volumes provide rich resources for linguists as well as historians.

The donation was made possible through the efforts of Howard and Rose Marie Thiel, La Crosse, and Betty Brandenburg Arnold, Black Mountain, NC. Descendants of Rev. Brandenburg and his sister Ida (Brandenburg) Luebke were present for the presentation on July 19. Present were Marian Brandenburg, widow of Bernard’s son Harold, and her daughters Jean Berndt and Janet Fox of Madison, and her son Dr. James Brandenburg and his wife Nancy of Madison. Descendants of Rev. Brandenburg’s daughter Vera and Howard and Rose Marie Thiel (La Crosse), descendants of Rev. Brandenburg’s daughter Vera Brandenburg Thiel. The MKI staff provided an excellent tour of the library holdings and discussed programming done by the Institute. The ceremony concluded with a reception.

### **Sheboygan Turners from Page 5**

became part of the Turner experience, including the single, double, break-away, and five-girl trapeze; and the teeter board, ladder, and loop walk. More contemporary items such as the uneven bars and balance beam are also included.

A Turner reunion banquet and program was held on Friday, June 21, 2002, in conjunction with the exhibit. Members and instructors returned to Sheboygan from across the country. The program covered each era and was highlighted by slides and film of Turner Circus routines from the early 1940s. The camaraderie of earlier years was expressed in endless hugs, hundreds of stories, laughter, and tears. The Friday banquet was followed on Saturday with a picnic at the Museum to allow more time to visit, view the exhibit, and show off the

current youth classes.

Local access TV 8 also put together a one-hour film that provides a guided tour of the Turner exhibit.

The Steering Committee for the exhibit included twenty-three Turners and two Museum staff. The Museum staff provided space and organizational support, and guided the restoration of artifacts, the design of the exhibit, and the program and picnic. The Turners did the research and compiled photos and text for each era; they also located, transported, and restored the equipment. The partnership created a special historic moment for the Turners and an important opportunity for the community to reflect on what the Turner organization has meant to Sheboygan for nearly fifteen decades.

## **Festival from page 1**

ence took place in September, the beginning of the Oktoberfest season, and spoke on the importance of music in Oktoberfest celebrations. Music, Bohlman contends, is a sound that communicates across the two worlds of the immigrant, creating a space for communicating traditions and customs while making it possible for humans to locate themselves in the spaces created.

**Ursula Hemetek** from the Institut für Volksmusikforschung at the University of Vienna, Austria, explored the music of minority ethnic groups in Austria, including Croats, Roma, and Bosnians. She played several recordings to demonstrate the intellectual and emotional power of the music. For example, a folksong from the Croats living in the Burgenland region, *Jurto Rano*, has the same melody of Joseph Haydn's "Gott erhalte." Hemetek remarked that Haydn was no doubt inspired by his multicultural surroundings, making it difficult to know who borrowed from whom. Hemetek concluded that music of the minority groups in Austria is a rich topic for ethnomusicologists, and can be considered a national treasure.

**Joel Rubin**, a klezmer musician living in Berlin, presented research by himself and Rita Ottens on the expressions of Jewish music in Germany. He said that most Jewish-culture music being performed in Germany today, specifically klezmer, is played by non-Jewish groups.

Klezmer music is becoming stereotyped at the same time it is being appropriated by others, and

this trend reveals some disturbing continuities with World War II anti-Semitism. Ironically, Rubins states, while klezmer music is being played in Germany, the topic of Yiddish music itself is being silenced.

**Pamela Potter** of the UW–Madison spoke on German and Austrian influence on the classical music tradition in America. She noted that while World War I created a period of anti-German sentiment that seriously affected American music, for the most part Americans welcomed the large influx of composers, conductors, performers, and German musicians fleeing the Nazi regime during World War II.

On Friday night, conference participants assembled in Old Music Hall for a concert featuring little-known German-American music selected from the Wisconsin Music Archives of the Mills Music Library. Ernst Krenek's moving *Symphonic Elegy* for string orchestra began the concert. Next, virtuoso mezzo-soprano Kathleen Huegel Otterson sang songs by Edna Frida Pietsche and Hugo Kaun. The final two selections were a *Canzonetta* for horn and piano (Edna Frida Pietsch) and a passionate performance of the challenging *Fantasiestück* for violin and piano, op. 66 (Hugo Kaun). The concert was followed by a reception, after which everyone wandered into the dark evening, heads and hearts filled with music.

**Jim Leary** of the UW–Madison's Folklore program began Saturday's presentations



*The crowd joins in a snake dance during Thursday night's performance by Yid Vicious.*

by exploring the long-standing stereotype of the "Dutchman" as portrayed in dialect songs. Dialect songs in Wisconsin and throughout the Upper Midwest are a genre; they often include foreign-inflected English and present a theatrical and exaggerated image of immigrants. Although German immigrants are often portrayed as indulging enormous appetites for sausage, pretzels, and beer, a more positive stereotype sometimes appears showing them to be hardworking, practical people. Leary concluded that some of today's performers show a certain post-modern sophistication in their creation of German-American stereotypes.

**Alan Burdette** from Indiana University explored how the Germania Männerchor in Evansville, Indiana, has managed to keep a nineteenth-century cultural institution vital. Today, few members speak German fluently or at all, but the choir continues to sing traditional songs in German. Burdette witnessed the rebirth of the organization as it celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

He showed a video of the German Männerchor that he shot in 1994. The film, interspersed with black-and-white footage from 1948, wonderfully revealed the organization's ability to create *Gemütlichkeit* among its members.

**Christoph Wagner** spoke on Swiss music entertainers who toured the Swiss-American community circuit in the late nineteenth century. Wagner read reviews in the Swiss-American press about such performers as Fritz Zimmerman, Hans in der Gant, the Mosel Brothers, and the Scheidegger Seven. The reviews referred to the performers' ability to take listeners back to the Alpine homeland and ease their homesickness. Entertainers often performed in native costume or before paintings of alpine scenes. Wagner concluded that Swiss-Americans attended these performances for a nostalgic glimpse of the homeland.

**Ann Reagan**, a professor of music history at the U.S. Air Force Academy, gave a presentation on German-American music societies and nationalistic sentiment during the late nineteenth century. While German Americans have always been committed to America in all civic matters, in the cultural arena their hearts and minds remained utterly and unabashedly German. German-American music societies saw it as their mission to reveal *die Macht der deutschen Musik* (the power of German music) to Americans, and to show them that there is more of beauty in the world than the "almighty dollar."

**Helmut Schmahl** of the University of Mainz was the conference's final presenter. He



*Friday night, Philomusica performs little-known music from the Wisconsin Music Archives.*



*At left, Jim Leary talks about "Dutch" music. Photo by Charles James. Above, Yid Vicious kicks off the conference Thursday.*

used nineteenth-century German travel reports to elaborate on a theme discussed by Reagan. In these reports, American music in particular is viewed unfavorably. Indeed, one writer even proposed that the American climate itself conspired to rob people of song. Therefore, writers often exhorted German immigrants to bring culture to America, especially through the use of music and song.

The conference was concluded with three special musical performances on Saturday evening, beginning with the **Monroe Swiss Singers**. Their performance incorporated educational elements, including a history of the Swiss in Green County, Wisconsin; music

on alpenhorn; and discussions of authentic dress. Next were the **Madison Männerchor**, singing traditional German songs and a few songs in English; lyrics were provided to allow the audience to sing along. The final act was the **Jerry Schneider Polka Band**. Couples took to the floor to dance, even if some had not known how to polka. "I've learned so much at this conference, including how to polka," said MKI assistant director, Antje Petty, an indication of the conference's success. For more photographs of the conference, visit our Web site at <http://csumc.wisc.edu/mki/>.

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