

German and American Summer Pastimes from *Die Hausfrau*, 1920

Pamela Tesch



Illustration accompanying Oppermann's poem "Im Freien," *Die Hausfrau*, June 1920

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With the arrival of summer, our thoughts turn to outdoor activities and nature's bounty. If you are wondering how summer was celebrated in the past, we offer this glimpse into the summer of 1920, as portrayed in the June, July, and August issues of *Die Hausfrau: Eine Monatsschrift für die Frauenwelt Amerikas* (The Housewife: A Monthly Magazine for the Women of America).

First appearing in 1904 as *Die Deutsche Hausfrau*, this Milwaukee-published magazine was touted early

on as "the German Ladies' Home Journal."* The Max Kade Institute has many issues of *Die Hausfrau*, ranging from 1905 to the 1980s, and the journal continues today, published in Athens, Georgia, under the title *Das Fenster*. In its earlier incarnation, the magazine serves as a window into the lives of women in German-speaking immigrant communities in the United States. Each issue is filled with articles about travel, crafts, fashion, food, and homemaking, as well as a section for readers' letters and one with responses from the editors.



her garden on a swing laced with flowers, smiling coyly (see illustration, left) Her dark short hair and eyes are accentuated by a dark fur, and she is wearing a well-tailored summer dress. Is this the German American *Hausfrau*?

Although there is no specific celebration on the *Die Hausfrau*'s June calendar, the German and American traditions for this warm-weather month are evident throughout the issue. The joys of wandering in nature are expressed in a song by Hermann Baxmann, "Am Waldsee." Many families during this time made music and sang together as a form of entertainment, and every issue of *Die Hausfrau* includes a song with musical notation.

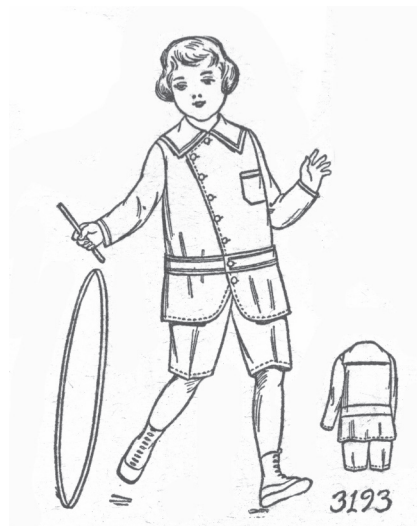
Techniques for making summertime floral bouquets and pressing flowers for winter are described in the article "Wie man sich die Blumen für den Winter aufheben kann." A poem by

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At the end of each issue one finds "Wer sucht Verwandte oder Bekannte?" (requests for information about relatives or acquaintances), and "Briefwechsel erwünscht" (correspondence, or penpal, desired). Each issue is rich in poems, songs, games, and stories enhanced by artwork. In fact, the magazine itself is of such artful design it is a joy just to browse, and we can imagine a young wife or mother paging through a freshly printed issue. The summer issues all have a beautiful two-color cover printed in an art deco style with lettering in both Fraktur and roman. Each features an oval frame containing a black and white photograph; at the bottom of the oval frame are the Interlocking letters D. H.

June 1920

June's cover has a rusty-red, faded-rose frame in the shape of an oval mirror, in which a black-and-white photo displays a beautiful woman sitting in



Two clothing patterns from the June 1920 issue show children playing with sticks and hoops, a popular pastime

Greetings, Friends and Readers!

The last academic year wrapped up, as it always does, on a high note with our Friends Annual Meeting. Our day in Appleton was hands-down a success, thanks in large part to the excellent organizational work of Sue Marshall, Antje Petty, and Randi Ramsden. Thanks so much, Sue, Antje, and Randi, as well as the many Friends who joined us!

Another high point of the spring was our involvement in the 49th Annual Symposium of the Society for German American Studies, which was held April 24–26 in Milwaukee. I am deeply grateful to the organizing committee, all of whom were affiliated with MKI: Viktorija Bilić, Josh Brown, Alison Efford, and our own Randi. Of the 48 total presentations at the symposium, seven were delivered by MKI staff and/or Friends: Antje, Kevin, Randi, and myself, as well as John Balz, Bill Petig, and Pam Tesch; MKI Friend and Board Member Jana Weiss moderated a session; and a UW–Madison graduate student working on a German American and Norwegian American dissertation topic, Hannah Brewer-Jensen, also presented. A singular highlight for MKI at the SGAS symposium was the recognition of Bill Petig's decades of contributions to German American studies through his receiving this year's SGAS Outstanding Achievement Award. The laudation speech was given by former MKI Director Cora Lee Kluge, and Bill gave a fantastic talk on the Wisconsin German pastor, writer, composer and publisher, Alfred Grimm. Congratulations, Bill!

On the outreach front, Antje and I were quite busy this past year. Between the two of us, we delivered over fifty public presentations, including several sponsored by Badger Talks, which is an MKI record! Two special highlights of our programming were the genealogy workshop that Antje held in December and the *Kurrent* (old German script) workshop that Antje and I led in February. It is exciting to see how MKI is building an international reputation connected with the decipherment of *Kurrent* texts through the weekly virtual transcription group led by Maria Sturm and Antje. A hearty thanks to Maria and Antje for their excellent work!

Machine translation and artificial intelligence are presenting translators with both tools and challenges. What is becoming clear is that accurate translations of anything but the most mundane texts need to be produced by human beings with professional training and practical experience or at least vetted by them. This is especially true of historical documents written in the old German script. Before these texts can be translated, they need to be deciphered, which is something

that human translators with the necessary expertise are still best qualified to undertake. Even after documents in *Kurrent*, in particular those produced by German speakers in America, have been transcribed, their successful translation into English requires familiarity with the considerable variation found in them: spelling variations; English-derived words, many of which were spelled creatively; as well as historical and local terminology. We at MKI are committed to supporting the work of translators and researchers through our work with *Kurrent*.

I am pleased to announce that this spring we raised \$1,000 to match a \$1,000 gift from one of our good Friends for the restoration of books in our collections and new acquisitions. We will begin the restoration process and purchases in the fall semester. *Vielen Dank!*

All of us on the MKI staff wish you, our Friends, an enjoyable summer. Thank you so much for all you do to support our work!

With gratitude,
Mark

Board of Directors, Friends of the Max Kade Institute

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We wish to apologize for misspelling Charles and Lynda Way's last name in the Spring 2025 article, "Memories of Max and Annette Kade." The correct spelling of their name is "Way."

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Oppermann, "Im Freien" (see cover illustration), celebrates the beauty and joy of the outdoors, with artwork showing the clouds above looking like lambs, the flowers blossoming around two children playing in the meadow, while in the background a mother sits on the ground with two younger children. Certainly an idyllic moment in a German American woman's busy life!

In a special section called "Die Küche im Monat Juni," June is celebrated with early summer recipes that include seasonal berries: strawberries with sugar, jelly, or pineapples; gooseberries with sugar and rhubarb; currants with carrots; cherries with honey; pickled or dried cherries; raspberries with sugar; green walnuts; cherries with pudding; and sauces.



Summer fashion for June 1920



Die neueste Mode-Liebhaberei sind recht bunt gestreifte und gebülmte Sonnenschirme. Sogar der Griff ist mit demselben Stoff überzogen

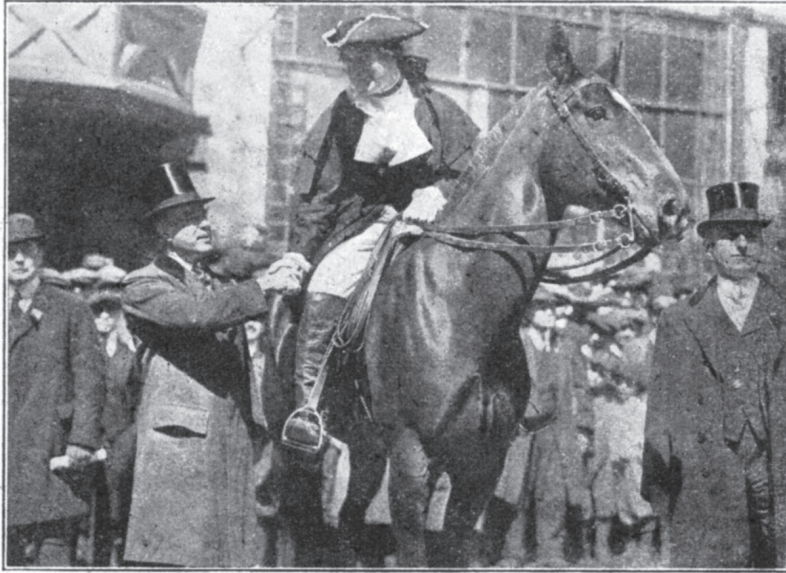
From the June 1920 issue (translation of above text): The latest fashion trend is brightly colored striped and floral parasols. Even the handle is covered in the same fabric.

And to prepare for upcoming vacations there is the article "Sommer- und Reisezeit. Einige praktische Winke für die Ferienreise" (Summer and travel season. Some practical tips for your holiday trip). After all, "Jede Reise will gut vorbereitet sein, wenn sie wirklich ihren Zweck erfüllen soll: Erholung und Vergnügen zu bringen" (Every trip needs to be well prepared if it is to truly fulfill its purpose: to bring relaxation and enjoyment).

July 1920

July's cover is yellow with a dark blue frame surrounding an oval picture of mountains with a cabin near water on the lower left. The mountains above are capped in white snow, but the forest and path around the cabin enjoy summertime greenery.

July in America has long been a time for celebrating our country's independence, and this issue of *Die Hausfrau* includes a photo from a reenactment of Paul Revere's historic



Zur Erinnerungsfeier an den historischen Ritt von Paul Revere, welcher in dem Jahre 1775 mit Sturmesseile die Nachricht von dem Anmarsch der Britischen Truppen nach Lexington trug, und überall auf dem Wege Alarm schlug, wurde das ganze Ereignis möglichst getreu wiederholt. Unsere Abbildung zeigt Sergeant Harry D. Bishop von der Massachusetts-Staatsgarde, welcher die Rolle des Paul Revere übernommen hatte, in dem Augenblick, als ihm der Bürgermeister Peters von Boston, Mass., Glückauf zum Ritt wünscht. Derselbe verfolgte genau dieselbe Richtung, welche von Paul Revere genommen wurde, und die Route entlang waren überall Empfangsfeierlichkeiten vorbereitet worden.

From the July issue (translation of above text): To commemorate the historic ride of Paul Revere, who in 1775 carried the news at lightning speed of the approach of British troops to Lexington, sounding the alarm along the way, the entire event was reenacted as faithfully as possible. Our illustration shows Sergeant Harry D. Bishop of the Massachusetts State Guard, who had assumed the role of Paul Revere, at the moment when Mayor Peters of Boston, Mass., wished him good luck on his ride. He followed exactly the same route as Paul Revere, and reception ceremonies were prepared all along the way.

ride. However, there is no specific recognition of the Fourth of July as a celebration in this issue, nor does the July 1920 issue of *Ladies' Home Journal* make note of it. This may be because, although Congress made July 4th a federal holiday in 1870, it did not become a paid holiday until 1941.

July is also the month when German American families went on vacation. There are photos of new fashionable summer clothes to wear to the seaside resorts and patterns for practical midsummer clothes and stylish wear for hot days. To celebrate

the tradition of taking vacation, there is another poem about summertime travels by Alice Freiin von Gaudy, "In der Sommerfrische."

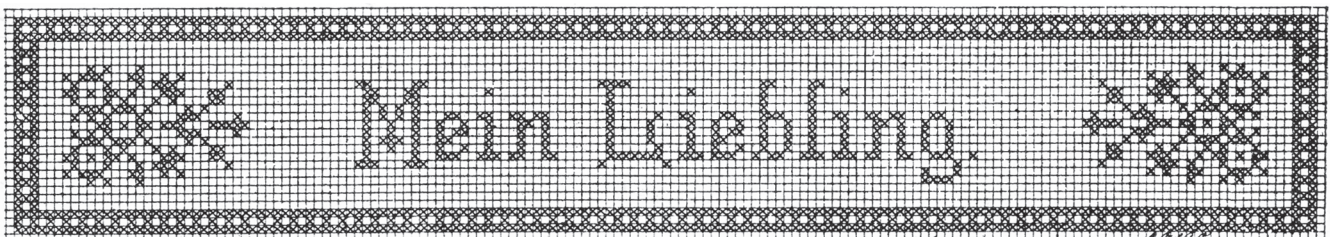
"Die Küche in der Mittsommerzeit," or the midsummer's kitchen, includes canning recipes for beans, pickles, green beans, salad beans, tomato juice, and tomato marmalade. There are ideas for making candied fruit, cold tea, pineapple water, cherry lemonade, veal with gooseberries, chicken, rhubarb casserole, raspberry and strawberry sauces, simple cakes, homemade mustard, cherry soup, and herbs and spices.

August 1920

August's cover is light blue with a dark blue oval frame in which there is a black and white photo of a forest waterfall; one can see various types of trees including the white trunks of birches, and in the foreground the white waves rush toward the front bottom of the oval frame. What a cool and refreshing image for the hottest of summer's months!

German American traditions in August 1920 include spending the day in the summer sun in rest and

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Template for a filet crochet insert for a children's pillowcase, from the August 1920 issue

Collecting Immigrant Letters: The Transatlantic Cooperation of Joseph Schafer and Joseph Scheben

Walter D. Kamphoefner

I may be considered a pioneer in the transatlantic tracing of German immigrants and the collection and utilization of German immigrant letters in historical research.¹ But it turns out that I was beaten to the punch four decades earlier by the transnational team of Joseph Schafer and Joseph Scheben. They cooperated on the collection and transcription of more than 450 immigrant letters, mostly written to the Rhineland from various American destinations, typescripts of which were deposited in Bonn and Madison.² With Schafer's methodological coaching, Scheben also wrote an innovative dissertation based on transatlantic tracing of immigrants from Kreis Adenau in the Rhineland to Westphalia, Michigan, demonstrating the potential of linking individual-level data from emigration lists with entries in the U.S. manuscript census.³

Schafer was the more prominent and better known of the two scholars, especially in his native Wisconsin. Born in 1867, he grew up on a farm near Muscoda, Grant County, the son of German immigrants. His father Mathias, from a prosperous vintner family in the Moselle valley, emigrated in protest against family pressure to enter the priesthood. Before then, he had been a classmate of Karl Marx at the Gymnasium in Trier, and they shared a freethinking ethos, but not Marx's economic views. Joseph's early education, in part from his school-teacher father, was interrupted by

farm work and later by teaching. He did not receive his B.A. in history from the University of Wisconsin until he was 26. After teaching in the Dakotas, Schafer began graduate studies at Madison in 1898 under the famous frontier historian Frederick Jackson Turner, earning his Ph.D. in 1906. After twenty years of teaching at the University of Oregon, he returned to Wisconsin in 1920 to become the superintendent of the State Historical Society.⁴ His scholarship, especially the Wisconsin Domesday Book series, was a model of what came to be known as social and political "history from the bottom up," to which my generation of scholars is greatly indebted. The first in this series, *The Yankee and the Teuton in Wisconsin*, traces the cultural clashes between the groups and pushes back against the Anglocentric view of the time: "The concept of the American population which sees it as a growth from an original English stock, only more or less modified by the absorption of elements from other European countries, is quite too simple to satisfy the exacting requirements of historical methodology today." But Schafer was not an ethnic chauvinist, debunking the myth, at least for Wisconsin, that Germans had elected Lincoln president.⁵

The scholarly cooperation between Schafer and the much younger Scheben (1901–1973) might seem improbable. Growing up in a prosperous Catholic family in the Rhine-



Joseph Schafer, Ph.D., Professor of History, University of Oregon Yearbook (*Oregana*), 1919

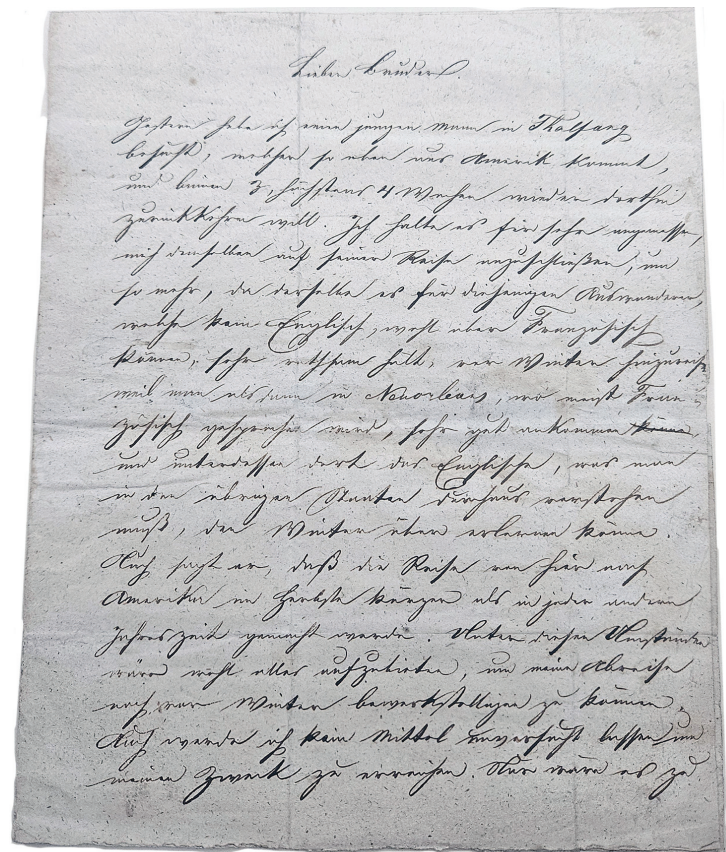
land, Scheben had initially studied Catholic theology before interrupting his studies for health reasons. Resuming his education at Marburg in 1929, his mentors called his attention to a recent appeal Schafer had made for European scholars to collect immigrant letters, a task which Scheben took up as a doctoral student at the University of Bonn.⁶

The State Historical Society in Madison has an extensive file of two-way correspondence between Schafer and Scheben that aids in the reconstruction of their scholarly cooperation, as does a 1932 report by Schafer.⁷ In 1928, he had visited Europe and promoted the collection of immigrant letters in the British Isles, Germany, and neighboring countries, an effort that proved disappointing except for the German echo. Scheben wrote to Schafer in November 1931 on the letterhead of the Institut für Geschichtliche Landeskunde der Rheinlande an der Universität Bonn, sketching his project and offering

his cooperation, signing off “Mit dem Ausdruck ausgezeichneter Hochachtung.” Schafer replied two weeks later: “let me assure you that your proffer of cooperation in the interesting study of emigration from that region, with its correlative immigration to the United States, is most welcome to me, and you may count on a hearty response.” This was the beginning of a cordial exchange of letters that numbered more than sixty by February of 1936.

Although Schafer obviously knew German (well enough to translate Carl Schurz’s letters), his active German may not have been as good, since he consistently wrote to Scheben in English. However, he may have dictated his letters to a secretary who did not know German; he does mention in a letter of June 21, 1933, that he dictated a translation of one of the German letters that Scheben supplied. It was also apparent that Schafer had trouble with the German *Kurrent* handwriting, and may have needed to have it transcribed for him. Scheben, away from his typewriter, wrote a short letter of less than 100 words from his home town of Rheinbach, and Schafer wrote back 15 days later on April 18, 1934, “I have not yet deciphered all the words in your letter, for the German script is a stumbling block to me.”

On both sides of the Atlantic, the team often had to deal with skeptical common folk reluctant to part with documents passed down in their family. Scheben’s strategy included appeals to priests and schoolteachers and talks to local history clubs, offering efforts to reconnect with relatives in the New World. Rather than permanently acquire the letters, he simply borrowed them to make typescripts, including carbon copies to be sent to Madison.



“Superintendent Schafer received recently from a relative in Germany the gift of a letter written July 9, 1840, by his father, Mathias Schafer, at Morbach, Germany, announcing his intention of emigrating to the United States, which he did in the following spring.” (Wisconsin Historical Society). The letter is written to Mathias’s brother, and is in *Kurrent*, the German script Joseph Schafer found challenging.

On the American side, Schafer translated some of the more interesting letters and sent them to newspapers in the communities from which they had been written, where their publication sometimes elicited responses from the descendants of the writers.

The Scheben collection has sometimes been used by linguists, and it is also of great value to historians. With 66 pages of indexes in the published version, researchers can focus on geographic sources and destinations of migrants, and pinpoint topics of interest broken down by continent from which letters were sent. Genealogists can learn the names of letter writers, recipients, and other persons mentioned. Linguists, however, need

to proceed with caution. Despite the editors’ assertions on p. xv that Scheben never explained his editorial principles, and that there is no way to verify his transcriptions, Scheben himself wrote that he modernized spelling, punctuation, and paragraphing, and rendered some of the nonstandard forms in standard German.⁸ Moreover, a few of these letters (numbers 2-10) have resurfaced in the Gotha immigrant letter collection, allowing direct verification and confirming what Scheben wrote.⁹

Although the correspondence ends in 1936, leading the editors to conclude that the two became

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MKI Friends Reunion in Appleton, Wisconsin Annual Meeting 2025



The Hearthstone House in Appleton, Wisconsin

On May 3, 2025, a day of gorgeous early spring weather, nearly eighty Friends came together in Appleton, Wisconsin, for the annual meeting. The business meeting was held at Mark's East Side Restaurant. The Board of Directors reported on the state of the organization, and Max Kade Institute staff

highlighted some of the many activities and projects undertaken over the year. Three candidates were elected by the membership to three-year terms on the Board of Directors (see page 11).

After the meeting, our group enjoyed a delicious luncheon that included traditional German dishes

such as *Wiener Schnitzel*, *Spätzle*, and sweet and sour red cabbage. George Schroeder, Executive Director of the Hearthstone Historic House Museum, gave an informative and moving presentation titled "*Gemeinschaft: Lessons from German Immigration and Integration*." He discussed the multiethnic make-up of Appleton



Above left: Ed Langer. Above right: Cora Lee Kluge and Bill Petig



Sue Marshall, Antje Petty, Randi and August Ramsden



George Schroeder

during the World War I era, focusing on its German immigrant community. Especially touching was the story of a military unit, Company G of the Wisconsin 42nd National Guard, that was mostly comprised of ethnic Germans from Appleton. They were among the

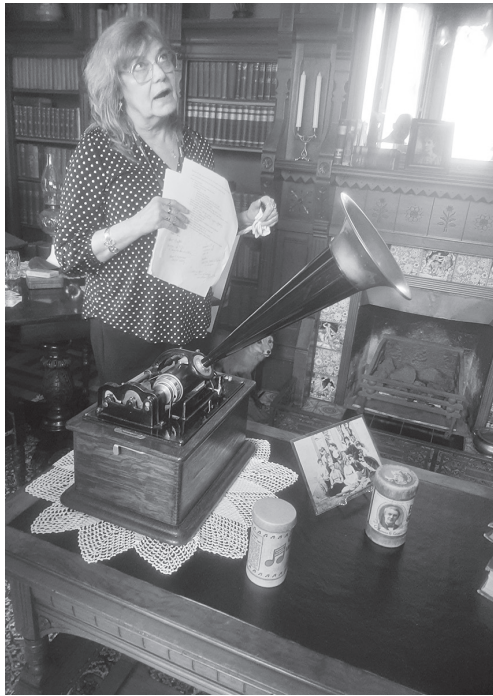
first to fight in France at a time when anti-German sentiment at home ran high.

The day continued with a private tour of the Hearthstone Historic House Museum, magnificently organized by George Schroeder and

several volunteers. On the National Register of Historic Places, Hearthstone House is a time capsule of the Gilded Age in Wisconsin. Built in 1882 in the Queen Anne Victorian style by Henry J. Rogers, the owner of the Appleton Paper Company and Pulp Mill, the house reflects the



In the kitchen of the Hearthstone House, during the tour



During the tour of the Hearthstone House



Don Zamzow and Bill Petig

booming Fox River Valley economy of the late nineteenth century that was based on state-of-the art manufacturing companies. Hearthstone House was not only the first private residence in the world to be illumi-

nated entirely by hydroelectricity, it also introduced the latest innovations in plumbing, heating/cooling, and kitchen technology.

Even more fascinating than the building itself, though, are the stories

of its inhabitants: the ever innovative and ambitious Henry Rogers and his equally business-minded wife Cremora; their daughter “Kitty” who grew up in exceptional privilege only to die alone and in poverty; Fredrika Crane, an artist and porcelain painter who became Kitty’s friend; Ken Quade, the Dutch immigrant master carpenter who created the splendid woodwork throughout the house; Mary Deimer, the German-speaking cook who served the Rogers at the Hearthstone House as well as on their travels, whose descendants still live in the Appleton area; and Theresa Moder, the German-speaking ladies maid.

We thank everyone at the Hearthstone House for this splendid tour! A big “thank-you” also to our Friends who came to this annual meeting event. If you were not able to join us, consider making Appleton and Hearthstone House a destination in the future! 🍷



Kay Gruling with Navya Buttke, Randi Ramsden with August Ramsden, Calla Buttke with Anika Buttke

MKI Friends Board of Directors, 2025–2026

At the annual business meeting of the Friends on May 3, 2025, three members were elected for the 2025–2026 Board of Directors. Julie Larson-Guenette was elected for a second term, and Heiner Giese and Mark Wagner were elected for a first term.

Dorothy Smaglick and Sue Marshall had to rotate off the Board after two terms. We are very grateful for their hard work on behalf of the Friends and the Institute. Dorothy most recently was the Friends' President and Sue served as Secretary of the Board. Thank you very much, Dorothy and Sue!

We are delighted to welcome Heiner and Mark!

Heiner Giese is an attorney in Milwaukee who has been active in German American activities for many years. From the early 1980s until recently, he served as President of the German Language and School Society (DSSV) and continues as Senior President. He has been a board member of Goethe House Wisconsin for over 30 years and currently serves as its treasurer. Heiner is listed among the “trusted attorneys” maintained by the German Consulate General in Chicago. In 1981, he incorporated German Fest Milwaukee and served on its board of directors in the early years.

Heiner has been a long-time member of the Friends and even remembers the ceremony at UW–Madison when the Max Kade Institute was founded. He appreciates the Insti-



Heiner Giese

tute's cultural and academic work and looks forward to contributing “immigrant letters” from his late mother, Wilma Giese, to the MKI once he has had a chance to organize them.

Mark Wagner is a German teacher at Nicolet High School and Glen Hills Middle School in Milwaukee County. For over forty years, he has worked to create opportunities for Germans and Americans to learn about and from one another. Mark has led sixteen exchanges through the Goethe Institute's German American Partnership Program, and many of his former students have gone on to study in Germany or participate in the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange

Mark's interest in German began when he was growing up in Marathon County, Wisconsin, in what he describes as a “German Catholic bubble.” He later learned that his ancestors were among the first Europeans to settle in Marathon County in the mid-nineteenth century. He looks

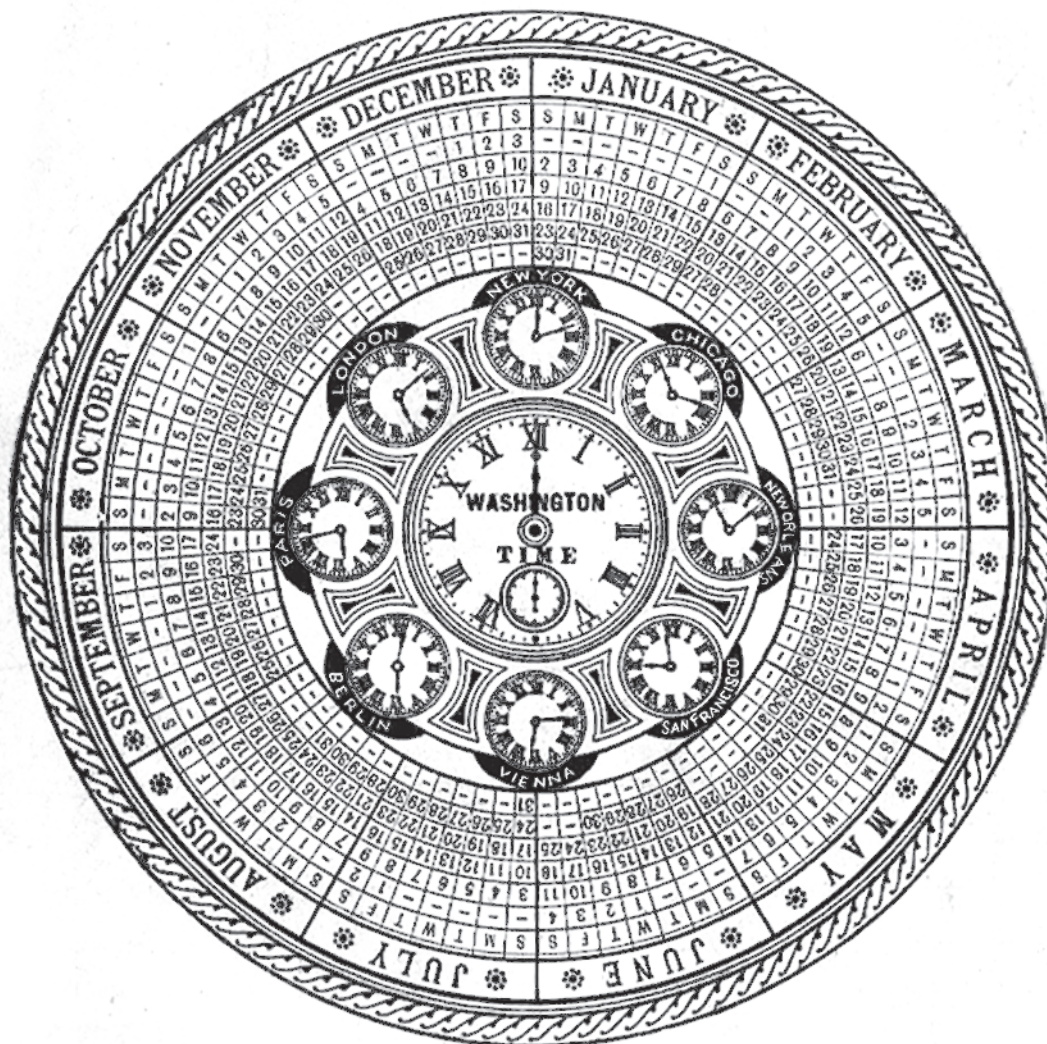


Mark Wagner

forward to becoming more actively involved with the Friends, building on his personal interests in the evolution of German identity in North Central Wisconsin and the preservation of the stories of those who still remember “the olden days.”

At a brief Board of Directors meeting after the annual business meeting, the following officers were elected: Pamela Tesch (President), Viktorija Bilić (Vice President), Julie Larson-Guenette (Secretary), Calla Buttke (Treasurer), and Mark Wagner (Member at Large). 

Zeittafel.



Obige Zeittafel enthält außer einem vollständigen Kalender zugleich die Angabe, welche Zeit es in andern bedeutenden in- und ausländischen Städten ist, wenn es in Washington 12 Uhr ist. Die Angaben sind, wie dies auch sonst in unserem Kalender geschieht, nach der mittleren Zeit gemacht.

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The above image of a circular calendar is taken from the 1887 *Germania Kalender* (Milwaukee: Verlag von Geo. Brumder). In addition to providing a perpetual calendar, the center timetable provides information about what time it is in other important domestic and foreign cities when it is 12 p.m. in Washington, DC.

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estranged, there is no sign of this in the correspondence. Schafer had been invited to present six lectures on the history of American agriculture at the University of London, and had initially planned to make an excursion to the Rhineland and meet Scheben and his mentor personally. But Schafer wrote on December 14, 1935, that for medical reasons it was “more than doubtful that I shall visit Germany or Bonn,” adding that “My regret over the curtailment of the European visit is particularly keen inasmuch as it will probably prevent me from having a personal conversation with you.” Scheben replied on February 21, equally disappointed, but included one more appeal, passing along an invitation of his parents to be their house guest for a few days. As an American reviewer of his 1939 dissertation notes, Scheben “repeatedly acknowledges his considerable indebtedness to Dr. Joseph Schafer,” saying in his foreword that he was “zum tiefen Dank verpflichtet.”¹⁰ That was indeed appropriate, for it appears that Schafer had first called Scheben’s attention to the Eifeler settlement in Westphalia, Michigan. In a letter dated October 5, 1933, Schafer sent an excerpt from an 1880 county history and suggested the use of the 1860 manuscript census; he even facilitated an order for a microfilm copy.

German migration research in this era was saturated with Nazi ideology, coupled with efforts, mostly futile, to instrumentalize ethnic Germans abroad in support of the Third Reich. But Scheben proved to be largely immune to this virus, to his

own detriment. As the latest German assessment of his scholarship observes, “Researchers like Scheben, who continued their studies without conforming to the new political and social conditions, ended up in a defensive position.”¹¹ Oblivious to the menacing horizon of 1939, Scheben in his published dissertation expressed hope for greater cooperation between American and German scholars.¹²

When I began my dissertation research in 1975, a copy of Scheben’s book lay in the University of Münster library, its still uncut pages testifying to the futility of his efforts. Despite my efforts to publicize Scheben’s accomplishment, a copy of the work in the Stadtbibliothek Mainz was discovered to be similarly untouched in 1995, when Helmut Schmahl undertook his dissertation research on Hessian immigration to Wisconsin.¹³

Unappreciated on either side of the Atlantic during his time, Scheben left behind a wealth of first-person accounts of the German experience in America—particularly from Wisconsin, the subject of more than 100 of the Scheben letters. 

Walter Kamphoefner is Professor of History at Texas A&M University.

NOTES

¹ Walter D. Kamphoefner, *The Westfalians: From Germany to Missouri* (Princeton U. Press, 1987); Walter D. Kamphoefner, Wolfgang Helbich and Ulrike Sommer, *News From the Land of Freedom: German Immigrants Write Home* (Cornell Univ. Press, 1991).

² The Scheben collection has now been published in its entirety: Jürgen Macha, Marlene Nikolay-Panter, and Wolfgang Herborn, eds., *Wir verlangen nicht mehr nach Deutschland: Auswandererbriefe und Dokumente der Sammlung Joseph Scheben (1825-1938)* (Frankfurt am Main et al.: Peter Lang, 2003)

³ Joseph Scheben, *Untersuchungen zur Methode und Technik der deutsch-amerikanischen Wanderungsforschung* (Bonn, 1939).

⁴ Biographical details are included in John D. Hicks, “Memorial to Joseph Schafer, Presented to the Faculty, February 3, 1941,” *Wisconsin Magazine of History* 24 (1941), 249-52.

⁵ Joseph Schafer, “Editorial Comment, Immigrant Letters,” *Wisconsin Magazine of History* 16 (1932), 211-15, here 211. Schafer, “Who Elected Lincoln?” *American Historical Review* 47 (1941), 51-63.

⁶ Andreas Rutz, “Auswandererforschung im Nationalsozialismus: Joseph Scheben und das Deutsche Ausland-Institut / Research into Emigration during the NS-Period: Joseph Scheben and the ‘Deutsches Ausland-Institut,’” *VSWG: Vierteljahrschrift für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte* 105 (2018): 34-63, here 37. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/26591127>.

⁷ Schafer papers (Mss 746), State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.

⁸ Scheben wrote to Schafer in a letter of November 12, 1931: “Um den Text auch für den ausländischen Leser verständlich zu machen, wurde er im allgemeinen unter Beseitigung dialektischer u.a. Besonderheiten der modernen Rechtschreibung entsprechend gebracht. Der Gliederung in Absätze ist in der Regel sinngemäß, nicht nach der Vorlage

erfolgt. Ebenso ist die Interpunktion in der Regel sinngemäß und nach heutigem Brauch.”

⁹ <https://www.auswandererbriefe.de/>. The letters are filed in the collection under the names “Schiller-Niedenhofen.” The late Wolfgang Helbich reported in an e-mail of March 21, 2004: “I checked a few pages. . . . Found no cuts or embellishments, but spelling and punctuation were changed occasionally (1 or 2 cases per handwritten page), though without recognizable system.”

¹⁰ See Rutz, “Auswandererforschung im Nationalsozialismus,” 41-2, who states in Fn32 that a claim by Macha/Nikolay-Panter/Herborn, p. xi, of an estrangement “ist falsch.”

¹¹ My translation from Rutz, “Auswandererforschung im Nationalsozialismus,” 63.

¹² Scheben, *Untersuchungen zur Wanderungsforschung*, 105-7, 118.

¹³ Kamphoefner, *The Westfalians*, 8. Helmut Schmahl, *Verpflanzt, aber nicht entwurzelt: Die Auswanderung aus Hessen-Darmstadt (Provinz Rheinhessen) nach Wisconsin im 19. Jahrhundert* (Mainzer Studien zu Neueren Geschichte, Bd. 1), (Frankfurt am Main, 2000), 21.

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relaxation. There are several poems about summer days, and a song by Dutch composer Elizabeth Kupper, "Sommerruhe." The poem "Am Wasser zu spielen, welch' eine Lust," includes a drawing of four children dressed in their beach clothes on summer vacation; the poem describes how the ducks and geese go barefoot, with no need for shoes or stockings, and so we should do that, too.

The kitchen in the month of August is bursting with salad recipes: pear salad, melon salad, plum salad, orange salad, and cooked cucumber salad. Recipes for rose soup and hops soup are offered, and for dessert, how about waffles, along with treats made with summer's bounty of fruits: blueberry mousse, raspberry bowl, blueberry pudding (or cobbler); raspberry treat, and fruit sauce?

In addition to short literary features and recipes, the magazines contain ideas for knitting, patterns for sewing and crocheting, advice for the garden, and travel descriptions. Just as these ideas for summer pastimes inspired the German Americans in 1920, my hope is that they may inspire you to celebrate your summer, while making new memories of your own. 🍷

NOTE

Printers' Ink, vol. 57., no. 1, Oct. 3, 1906, p. 42.

Pamela Tesch teaches German at the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater, and is the current President of the Friends of the Max Kade Institute.

Die Hausfrau



Nein, welche Freude, es ist nicht zu sagen,
Die Ferien beginnen in wenigen Tagen,
Und lange Wochen ist man dann frei,
Adio, Aufsatz und Rechnerei.
Dann pfeif' ich auf die Gelehrsamkeit.
Es wird auch wirklich die höchste Zeit,
Weil in der drückenden Julihitze
Ich alles doch wieder gleich verschwinke;
Wie gestern, wo ich mich nicht besann,
Wann der Trojanische Krieg begann.
Und auch das Rechnen wird mir so schwer,
Na, in den Ferien gibt's das nicht mehr,
Da zähl' ich nur noch die Butterbrote,
Die Segelschiffe und Ruderboote,
Die Kameraden klein und groß,
Die Käferlein im grünen Moos,
Die Schwäne, die vorübergeschwommen,
Die Löcher, die in die Hosen gekommen,
Und die Klapsche, die es dafür gegeben. —
Ach, Sommerferien, herrliches Leben!

Some of us may still recall the "indescribable joy" we felt as school-aged children when summer vacation finally arrived. This poem from the July 1920 issue (above) has the narrator ready to say goodbye to essays and arithmetic, ready to forget about learning altogether. The sweltering July heat will sweat out all that knowledge anyway, why "just yesterday I could not recall when the Trojan War began, and arithmetic is getting difficult." But in summer one has only to count sandwiches, sailing ships and rowboats, friends big and small, the beetles in the green moss, the swans that swam by, the holes that appear in one's pants, and the slaps given for them. Ah, summer holidays, wondrous life!

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