

German-American News

Deutsch-Amerikanische Nachrichten

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Issue 2

German Day Celebration

128th GERMAN DAY CELEBRATION

This year marks the 128th celebration of German Day sponsored by the German-American Citizens League of Greater Cincinnati (GACL). It is one of the oldest German day celebrations in the U.S.

THE EVENTS INCLUDE:

- German Day Keg Tapping at the Hofbräuhaus Newport on Wednesday, 31 May at 7 PM
- German Day Kickoff at Findlay Market Saturday, 3 June, at 10:30 AM
- German Day Celebration on Sunday, 4 June, from 11 AM to 11 PM at the Hofbräuhaus Newport. Raffle prizes will be presented throughout the day with the grand raffle at 5:30 P.M. The German Day Grand Prize consists of a dinner party for 30 at the Hofbräuhaus (excluding beverages).

The German Day Celebration promotes the German heritage of the Greater Cincinnati area, and also serves as a fundraiser for the German Heritage Museum. For further information contact Marge Heinemann Poole, Editor of German-American News at: 513-625-1668, or E- Mail: mpoole@cinci.rr.com, or visit the GACL on Facebook.



By Don Heinrich Tolzmann

My article on Over-the-Rhine from 1993 was one of the early calls to preserve this historic German district. Since that time, much has been done for historic preservation throughout OTR.

Cincinnati Enquirer (12 July 1993)

Time to save Over-the-Rhine

BY DON HEINRICH TOLZMANN
Guest columnist

While Columbus has a German Village and Covington its Mainstrasse Village, Cincinnati has allowed its historic German district, Over-the-Rhine, to decline into an unsightly slum.

Although it may not be too late, it appears as if the 11th hour has been reached. Every year, more of its historic structures fall victim to the wrecking ball as, most recently, did the Burger Brewery, earlier Windisch-Muhlhauser, on Central Parkway, an excellent example of 19th century German-American brewery architecture.

The German-American architectural heritage is more clearly and strongly reflected in Over-the-Rhine than in any place in the city. Even its name connotes its origin. The Miami-Erie Canal,

crossed by Central Parkway, was dubbed the "Rhine" in the 19th century, as when one crossed over it, one entered the German district.

A walking tour through the district reveals a treasure trove of German architectural heritage. At 11th and Elm, one finds the church of Cincinnati's first German congregation, *Die Deutsche Sankt Johannes Protestantische Kirche*, of course, with a German inscription, as is the case with so many Over-the-Rhine churches.

In Washington Park, there is a monument to Friederich Hecker (1811-81), the German revolutionary who came to the United States shortly after the 1848 revolution and helped establish the Turner Society here. During the Civil War, its members formed the 9th Ohio Regiment, commanded by Gen. August von Willich, whose home was at 1419 Main St. in Over-the-Rhine.

Brewery buildings still abound, such as Moerlein's, located on the



Don Heinrich Tolzmann
... decline into unsightly slum

east side of Elm south of McMullan, and Hudepohl's, at 40 McMicken St. The sites of the old, great beer-halls and gardens are still there, such as the Germania Beer Hall, 1313 Vine St., and Wielert's Beer Garden, 1408-10 Vine St.

Among the many German houses is that of the Kolping Society, 1523 Republic St., or Bremen St., as it was known before the anti-German hysteria of the World War I. The inscription there reads "Gott segne das ehrbare Handwerk" — "God bless the honorable Craft."

At the corner of 12th and Walnut, one finds the Germania Building of Heinrich A. Ratterman (1832-1923), the major German-American historian of his time. Down the street, there once stood the Turner Hall, which was torn down in the 1970s. It was known as "Ein feste Burg" — "A mighty Fortress" — which housed a theater, library, bowling alley and meeting rooms, aside from its gymnastic facilities. It served as a community center.

Recently, parts of Over-the-

Rhine have shown a few glimmers of revitalization. Memorial Hall has been refurbished by the Cincinnati Preservation Association; Old St. Mary's has a preservation association, and the Main Street businesses have even sponsored a Bockbierfest. Also, Over-the-Rhine is the home of the Music Hall and Findlay Market.

These and other initiatives are worthy of support by the City of Cincinnati. Any planning of the central city (riverfront and business district) should also include Over-the-Rhine. Unfortunately, most plans seem to stop at the Rhine/Central Parkway. It does not make any sense to develop the central city and ignore the historic district adjacent to it. They should be viewed as a whole.

Across the river, the riverfront, business district and Mainstrasse Village have been attracting crowds and tourists. Drive down Interstate 75 and the signs refer you to Mainstrasse Village and the Oldenburg Brewery, not to Over-the-Rhine and its many architectural gems.

Perhaps they will someday, but only if the City of Cincinnati gets behind doing something about saving/salvaging what's left of its historic German district, Over-the-Rhine. Recent efforts by the city — cracking down on building-code violations — are a step in the right direction. Let's hope such efforts are not too little and too late.

Don Heinrich Tolzmann, curator of the German-Americana Collection and director of the German-American Studies Program at the University of Cincinnati, is vice president of the United German-American Committee of the United States.

Muhlhauser stained-glass window

by: Don Heinrich Tolzmann

The Muhlhauser stained-glass window - This is located in the Philippus Church in Over-the-Rhine.

The German inscription on it reads in translation as follows: "In Memory of Gottlieb

Muhlhauser, dedicated by his wife, Mrs. Christine B. Muhlhauser and son Eduard Muhlhauser."

Gottlieb Muhlhauser along with his brother Heinrich and Conrad Windisch founded the Lion Brewery, or Löwen-Brauerei, in the West End.

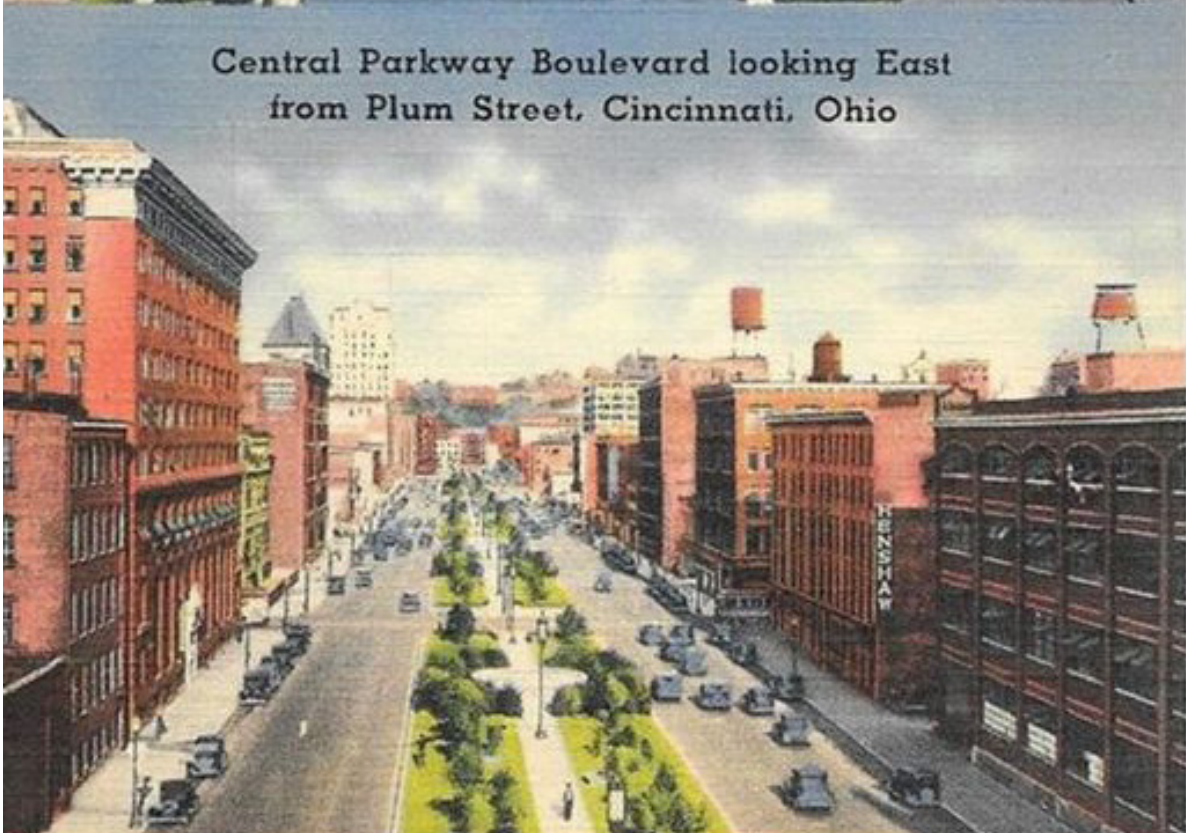


MIAMI ERIE CANAL

by Don Heinrich Tolzmann

Too bad that Cincinnati's "Rhine," the Miami-Erie Canal, is gone! When one crossed over a bridge, it was said that one was going Over-the-Rhine into the German district. The canal could have been a great tourist attraction.

Imagine boat rides on the Miami-Erie Canal!



Covington's West Side

The West Side of Covington, Kentucky – Covington is south of Cincinnati on the other side of the Ohio River, and both towns share much in common, unfortunately also including having I-75 cut right through them. John Boh has an article on Covington in the recent issue of the “Bulletin of the Kentucky County Historical Society,” and comments about this. He writes: “The building of I-75 had a tremendously negative impact on the city’s wellbeing. It separated Lewisburg and West Covington from the main city and brought other changes including depopulation.” Homes and businesses were of course displaced. A former mayor, George Wermeling, is cited as describing the area as like “a very nice little German village.” The construction of I-75 had the same devastating impact on the West End in Cincinnati.



German Church Services

Old St. Mary's Church
123 East 13th St.

Sundays 11:30 a.m. - (513) 721-2988

Christ Lutheran Church
3301 Compton Road
(513) 385-8342

Cincinnati GERMAN RADIO



Froehlich ins Wochenende
Saturdays 9:00 AM – noon

Host: Gebhard Erler

German Musikbox

Tuesdays 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Host: Joe Harpring

WAIF 88.3 FM

Streaming Live at: www.waifradio.org

Request line: 513-961-8900

Over – the – Rhine - Showcase

Your Host: Dieter Waldowski

Sunday 12:00 – 4:00 PM

On WOBO 88.7 FM

Streaming live at www.wobo88.7.com

Request Line: 513-724-3939

FAT TUESDAY 2-21-2023

Thanks again to Walt Benn for his photographic expertise.






The mission for the MSCA:
 The Munich Sister City Association [established in 1989] (which also includes the FC Bayern Cincinnati "Over The Rhine" fan Club established 2015) is a non-profit, volunteer organization facilitating business contacts, and promoting cultural, medical, educational, legal, and sports exchanges between the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio USA and Munich Germany.
www.munichcincinnati.org



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Email: cincinnati@hk-diplo.de
www.germany.info/chicago

INFORMATION FROM UTE PAPKE
 Past President of the Munich Sister City Association
 On April 3, 2023 15 students and 2 chaperons arrive from Munich Germany for 2 weeks. Our students go to Munich the last 2 weeks in June 2023. We will also be hosting several interns from May 28 to August 31, 2023. The teacher exchange which involves 8 teachers is being handled by the Hamilton County Board of Education. They will arrive the same time as the students.



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German-American Citizens League of Greater Cincinnati

Visit us on Facebook - GermanAmerican Citizens League.

April

- 1** - Pitch Tournament (card game) 6pm
Sponsored by Liberty Home German Club
More info can contact Klaus Giese at 513-571-6198
- 2** - Egg Hunt for children Open to public RSVP 2pm
Sponsored by Liberty Home German Club
More info can contact Klaus Giese at 513-571-6198
- 2** - Easter Party (Palm Sunday)
Sponsored by The Donauschwaben Society
For more information phone (513) 385-2098
- 3-10-17-24** Stammtisch at Mecklenburg Gardens 6:00 P.M.
Sponsored by Cincideutsch
- 8** - Weißwurst breakfast, buffet style, 11AM at Mecklenburg Gardens
Sponsored by Haendlmaier's Mustard Club
For more information see www.mustardclub.org
- 22** - Spring Volksmarch Sponsored by the Germania Society
For more information see: www.germaniasociety.com
- 23** - Brunnhilde Auditions 1 PM
Listen to recordings and decide who is the best Brunnhilde
Sponsored by The Wagner Society
For more information wagnersocietycincinnati.org/
RSVP at 206-851-7980
- 30** - Kolping Saengerchor Spring Concert
Sponsored by the Kolping Society
For more information www.kolpingcincinnati.com

May

- 1-8-15-22-29** Stammtisch at Mecklenburg Gardens 6:00 P.M.
Sponsored by Cincideutsch
- 13** - Weißwurst breakfast, buffet style, 11AM at Mecklenburg Gardens
Sponsored by Haendlmaier's Mustard Club
For more information see www.mustardclub.org
- 13** - Dirndl/Trachtenball Sponsored by The Donauschwaben Society
For more information phone (513) 385-2098
- 14** - Mothers Day Brunch Sponsored by the Kolping Society
For more information www.kolpingcincinnati.com
- 21** - Spring Opening of the German Heritage Museum, 1-5 P.M.
- 21** - Jessye Norman - 1PM The Seemless Soprano.
Learn about the life of the Great American Soprano
Sponsored by The Wagner Society
For more information wagnersocietycincinnati.org/
RSVP at 206-851-7980
- 31** - Keg Tapping at Hofbrauhaus Newport
by the German-American Citizens League

June

- 3** - Biergarten Band Night 5pm-10pm with the Vereins Musikanten
Sponsored by Liberty Home German Club
More info can contact Klaus Giese at 513-571-6198
- 3 -4** German Day Celebration
- June 3 at Findlay Market**
- June 4 At Hofbraeuhaus Newport**
Sponsored by the German-American Citizens League
- 5-12-19-26** Stammtisch at Mecklenburg Gardens 6:00 P.M.
Sponsored by Cincideutsch
- 9 & 10** - Schwabenfest (Friday & Saturday)
Sponsored by The Donauschwaben Society
For more information phone (513) 385-2098
- 10** - Weißwurst breakfast, buffet style, 11AM at Mecklenburg Gardens
Sponsored by Haendlmaier's Mustard Club
For more information see www.mustardclub.org

- 10** - Biergarten Band Night 5pm-10pm featuring Prost
Sponsored by Liberty Home German Club
More info can contact Klaus Giese at 513-571-6198
- 16 - 17 - 18** - Schuetzenfest - Sponsored by the Kolping Society
For more information www.kolpingcincinnati.com
- 17** - Wurstfest from 2 to 11PM Sponsored by
The German American Club of Louisville, Kentucky
for more information see www.GACLouisville.com
- 18** - The Great Bass Baritone Then and Now. 1PM
an analysis of the greats of the last century.
Sponsored by The Wagner Society
For more information wagnersocietycincinnati.org/
RSVP at 206-851-7980
- 25** - Fuchs Tournament / Goulash Dinner
Sponsored by The Donauschwaben Society
For more information phone (513) 385-2098
- 30** - Fifth Friday Froth Fest
Sponsored by The Donauschwaben Society
For more information phone (513) 385-2098

July

- 3-10-17-24-31** Stammtisch at Mecklenburg Gardens 6:00 P.M.
Sponsored by Cincideutsch
- 8** - Weißwurst breakfast, buffet style, 11AM at Mecklenburg Gardens
Sponsored by Haendlmaier's Mustard Club
For more information see www.mustardclub.org
- 8** - Biergarten (Independence Day) 6 to 10 PM
Sponsored by The German American Club of Louisville, Kentucky for
more information see www.GACLouisville.com
- 8** - Biergarten Band Night 5pm-10pm featuring Gerhard Albinus Solo
Sponsored by Liberty Home German Club
More info can contact Klaus Giese at 513-571-6198
- 22** - Biergarten Band Night 5pm-10pm featuring Rick Ipach
Sponsored by Liberty Home German Club
More info can contact Klaus Giese at 513-571-6198
- 22** - Biergarten 6 to 10 PM
Sponsored by The German American Club of Louisville, Kentucky
for more information see www.GACLouisville.com
- 26** - Keg Tapping at Hofbraeuhaus Newport by the Germania Society

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