



# Germanic Studies

Fall 2021

Alumni Newsletter

## Letter from the Chair

I've been pondering the strange phenomenon of the quasi-post-pandemic, and it's made me think of Stefan Zweig's fascinating "Schachnovelle." If you haven't read it, it's about exiles from the Nazis on a ship to Argentina. It turns out that the world chess champion is on board. But what ends up being even more remarkable is that there is an unknown refugee on board inexplicably able to defeat the world master. The bulk of the novella involves this unknown person recounting his story to the narrator. It's a survival story of an aristocratic prisoner being held in isolation in a hotel by the Gestapo. He succeeds in stealing a book of master chess games and to maintain his sanity, plays through them, memorizing every move, and even eventually splits himself in two, as it were, to play variations on the games against himself. While the exertion brings him to a nervous breakdown, his focus is what

keeps him sane until he's eventually lead out of the Gestapo's clutches. I've always wondered about the takeaway of that novella. Is it that there's something about the human spirit, maybe its resilience, which allows it to turn cruel confinement into ennobling achievement? That would actually be a depressing takeaway. Of course, the novella is rich enough that another implication might well be to reflect on the madness—the distortion wrought on a spirit pushed to the extreme—that is the flip side of the genius necessary to escape the mental anguish of forced isolation. In either case, the novel made me wonder how we might expect ourselves to come away from our own, in most cases, quite a bit lesser anguish and exertion living through the pandemic. Are we supposed to be "resilient," as in the theme for this College's Fall Themester? There's a lot of

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# Germanic Studies

This newsletter is published by the Department of Germanic Studies, with support from the College of Arts and Sciences, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

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# Grüße aus Bloomington!

This has been a year of emergence. Most of us got out from in front of our computer screens and, blinking in the sunlight like bears in the spring, made our way back into the classroom. Thanks to the strict protocols and efficient testing and vaccination procedures established by the university, we were able to begin and continue the academic year almost normally. Masked indeed, but together.

Despite all the challenges of 2020, in this year’s newsletter you will read about perseverance. Contributors write about accomplishments in and insights on the year just past. We hope you will share their delight in a couple of joyful gains, and we know you will be saddened by a another loss.

This year in an effort to attract more newsletter contributors and readers, we sent out a request for tidbits about what people do when they’re not wearing their Germanic Studies hats. The response resulted in the first of an occasional “Pastimes” section. It will not surprise you to learn that many of these pastimes began last year as antidotes to pandemic restrictions, but the variety of interests just might. We hope you enjoy reading about them.

If you are among this year’s newsletter contributors, thank you for writing. If you have not sent in an item, please consider doing so next year. You don’t have to wait until asked (but rest assured, I will ask!) Let me encourage you to write whenever you have something to share. We especially want to hear from more alums. This is the alumni newsletter, after all. Drop a line or two anytime. See my contact information below. Everyone can also check in with us any time via the Department of Germanic Studies website Department of Germanic Studies: Indiana University Bloomington (especially under News and Events) and on the Facebook page IU Bloomington Germanic Studies Department. There’s always something going on.

As for me, I can tell you that I’m still teaching “German for Musicians”, as a happy adjunct with one foot in Germanic Studies and one in the Jacobs School of Music, and all the time wondering where the time goes. This year I was also delighted to act once again as German Diction Coach and supertitle editor for the IU Jacobs School of Music production of “Die Zauberflöte.”

For everyone else, please have a happy end of semester and a healthy New Year, do good work, and let us hear from you!

Mit herzlichen Grüßen,

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## Letter from the Chair, (cont.)

invocation of resilience around here, and surely resilience is a good thing in many ways. But what depresses me about its invocation is that it also reminds me how vastly adaptable we are, even when adaption is the last thing we should want, but instead to call things out, to make them new and different. We need a standpoint outside of our own tendency to accommodate, but what would that be? And what would keep such a standpoint from being just arbitrary and a potential source of madness in the face of what needs to be?

Via Stefan Zweig, I've come to my chair's theme for the newsletter and it is not the College's theme of resilience, but that of being unreconciled to the strange lay of the land these days; of greeting the world revealed by the pandemic, if not with indignation, then with a kind of skeptical wonderment at how askew it lies. For example, I find it remarkable, even powerful, that so many people are staying out of the labor force. Perhaps they are holding out for something better or different—but how are they doing it? In my thinking there is something, albeit only a whiff, of a general strike about it.

The labor shortages lead me to thumb through my dog-eared Rosa Luxemburg on the mass strike... or Georges Sorel on the mythic violence of work withheld. Has the pandemic made syndicalists or socialists of the masses? That's certainly going too far, but it has apparently made many people question their status quo and conclude that there is nothing inevitable about it. At its best, our situation doesn't call forth resilience so much as ... critique or reflective judgment in which we find ourselves unexpectedly wondering what new laws we need to invent in order to subsume the strange particularities of our moment.



Ben Robinson  
Chair



# Faculty + Emeriti News



**Fritz Breithaupt** just completed a new book that will be available in German first: *Das narrative Gehirn: Was Neuronen erzählen* (Suhrkamp, Berlin, April 2022). In the book, he suggests that we all are storytelling beings and that we love narratives and

narrative thinking so much because of specific emotions that we receive as rewards for our engagement. He includes a reading of the Grimm fairy-tales and conducted the largest experiment of story retelling to date with 19,000 participants (like in the telephone game or Stille-Post) with his lab. His lab, the Experimental Humanities Lab [www.experimentalhumanities.com](http://www.experimentalhumanities.com), continues to attract a wide range of students from the humanities and from cognitive science. If you want to do weird things, join them! His wife, Leela, connected the dots for him to land in eighteenth-century Germany, as she now leads the Bach-Choir in Bethlehem.

**Susanne Even** sends her yearly update: “Nothing seems to have changed much during the last year – the email inbox is still as large as ever, time is still as scarce as before, and everyone is thoroughly tired of masks and delta variants and the like. But my

promotion has gone through, everybody



in the department is vaccinated, and teaching – both online and in person – is going well.

The German Instructor Summer Program had its second year online. While everyone is hoping for a return to the immersion format on campus, this year’s topic *Alltagskulturen* still went very well. **Bettina Christner** and I thoroughly enjoyed teaching with *Die deutsche Seele* (2011), whose authors Thea Dorn and Richard Wagner investigate topics from Abendbrot bis Zerrissenheit and most letters in between. To fathom the German soul, we settled on a combination of *Fahrvergnügen*, *Kitsch*, *Schrebergarten*, *Fußball*, *Ordnungsliebe*, *Narrenfreiheit und Feierabend*, regretting that we couldn’t also do *Wanderlust*, *Waldeinsamkeit*, *Winnetou*, *Wurst and das Weib* (just to give you a taste of the letter W). We learned about the dark side of Dr. Schreber who, against common belief, did not found the Schrebergärten, about Bertolt Brecht selling his soul for an Austrian car, and we explored intercultural encounters at the world’s largest Heavy Metal Festival in Wacken, Schleswig-Holstein, and its inclusion of religion, senior citizens and people with disabilities. It was a great two weeks.

My 60-student fairy tale class is still online, and this time **Brian Donarski** who assists me, solves technological problems, and is a steady cheerful presence in the class sessions. **Cornelia Funke** joined us again on zoom, which was just as, if not more enjoyable as last year. Word has apparently gotten out that I combine fairy tales with Funke’s novel *Reckless*; I was asked to contribute a book chapter to the anthology *Teaching with Fairy Tales* (expected 2023).





I am now Faculty Advisor for ICAN@IU, a student organization which promotes the work of the Indiana Canine Assistance Network, where I got Oliver from. The service dogs in the making are mostly trained in three high security prisons in Indianapolis, but they are furloughed from time to time in order to get acquainted with the real world too. Trained student volunteers host dogs for a few weeks at a time, taking them to classes, to the library, to football games, and also into local schools where they teach kids about service dogs and how not to distract them when on duty. ICAN@IU have even sponsored their own service dog, a smart black beauty called Hoosier (above, playing with Oliver)."



of the architects of the logistics of the Holocaust and who boasted in 1957 to friends, "I have no regrets! [...] I have to tell you quite honestly that if of the 10.3 million Jews [...] we had killed 10.3 million, I would be satisfied, and would say, good, we have destroyed an enemy," presented himself as a dull, "banal" bureaucrat who was just following orders, dutifully doing his job, without harboring any specific hatred against the Jews.

While Hannah Arendt was right that evil can be done by banal people, she was as wrong on Eichmann as many others for whom he still is a symbol of a high-ranking "Mitläufer."

The work on Eichmann and today's perceptions of him prompted me to take a hard look on the ways that Germany has dealt with its past from 1945 until today and published a paper entitled "A Model for Coming to Terms with the Past? Holocaust Remembrance and Antisemitism in Germany since 1945." Despite some encouraging signs recently, Germany can hardly be seen as a model for dealing with the past as moral philosopher Susan Neiman has suggested for the U.S. Too much of its history has been suppressed and distorted for too long. Too many false accusations have been made against Jews as a result of the failure to honestly confront the Nazi era and to hold those accountable who were responsible. The idea that America should follow the German example in dealing with its own past becomes almost grotesque. More than 40 percent of the German population believe that Jews talk too much about the Holocaust. Would American society be content with having 40 percent of its population think that its Black citizens talk too much about slavery?"



**Guenther Jikeli** reports: "2021 has been an interesting year for me. On the 60th anniversary of the trial of Adolf Eichmann in Jerusalem, I was invited to reflect on the image of Eichmann today and to write about it for a French journal. This has been a

fascinating task as I realized that this man was able to put out a powerful lie at his trial and duped some of the most gifted philosophers of the 20th century, Hannah Arendt. Eichmann, who was one

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And from **Teresa Kovacs**: “Even though the academic year 2020/21 brought numerous challenges due to the ongoing pandemic, I have found a way to stay involved in scholarly debates and academic discourse. Most important, I published my article “Der

Ort des Gaffens: Theater als Ruinöse Landschaft” in the journal *Cahiers d’Études Germaniques* that I have written inspired by a conference dedicated to the relationship between theater and image. Besides, I finished articles on Schlingensief’s re-working of Wagner’s *Gesamtkunstwerk*, on political theatre as a non/human theatre, as well as on René Pollesch and his provocative introduction of the network as a ‘chorus of capitalism’ to the stage (the last one together with **Nina Morais**) that are currently in the process of review.

Even though traveling to conferences and talks no longer meant to actually leaving my own desk here in Bloomington, which I experienced as a great loss, I have attended several Zoom events to present on different aspects of my current book project on contemporary theatre and the non/human. I presented at IU (Working Papers in Cultural Studies Workshop), in the context of invited talks (Rutgers University), international conferences (e.g. at the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3), and the Modern Language Association conference. In addition, I continued my research for the *DFG Forschungsnetzwerk*

“Kulturtechniken des Versammelns,” that is now in its third year.

Besides academic involvements, I fortunately found ways to engage with theatre in more practical terms – even though my work as a dramaturg came to a hold due to the pandemic. I joined a post-screening roundtable organized by the *Volkstheater Wien* on Jelinek’s ‘secondary drama’ and became part of a larger project organized by Austrian playwright Ferdinand Schmalz dedicated to *Neue Dramatik*. This project was a delight, given that I had the chance to enter an ongoing conversation with playwright Gerhild Steinbuch about her writings for the theatre. This conversation not just resulted a conference on the question of “Dramatisch lesen,” but also in short essays on dramatic writing that will be published in the literature journal *Lichtungen*.

Otherwise, the editing of the *Schlingensief Handbuch* (Metzler Verlag) kept me busy as well as my new position as the Vice-President of the Austrian Studies Association (ASA).

This said, I am looking forward to spending the current academic year hidden away in my *Schreibstube* thanks to my pre-tenure leave and the IU Presidential Arts & Humanities award I was granted.

Professor Kovacs also shepherded an undergraduate class through the preparation and presentation of a paper at The German Studies Association Conference in Indianapolis this year. The title of their talk was “Performing Male Hysteria: Stefanie Sargnagel and





*Nestbeschmutzung* in Austria.” Two of the participants, Meghan Looney and Jerrett Alexander, have written a short report of the event for the Newsletter:



“Professor **Teresa Kovacs** reached out to us at the beginning of 2021 with an opportunity to present at the new Undergraduate Research Panel at the German Studies Association Conference. Our class with Professor Kovacs focused on protest movements in Austria, so the choice of Stefanie Sargnagel and *Burschenschaft* Hysteria as our research topic coincided with our current Germanic Studies course. Throughout the summer, we met over Zoom to discuss our sources and share our discoveries. Our paper went through multiple revisions, and eventually, we were prepared to present our research at the conference.

The GSA’s Undergraduate Research Panel was a wonderful opportunity for us to both convey our research to the audience and learn what other Germanic Studies students in the area are researching. After our own presentation

on Stefanie Sargnagel and *Burschenschaft* Hysteria, we got to hear about a wide variety of topics, ranging from plants to international law to the sexual violence faced by German women at the end of World War II. The audience was so wonderful and supportive, and Professor Heikki Lempa, who served as our moderator, did a marvelous job keeping things running smoothly. We feel as though the Undergraduate Research Panel was a great way for us to engage with Germanic Studies students from across the region and share our research with them, and we sincerely hope that the panel becomes a recurring part of the GSA Conference.”

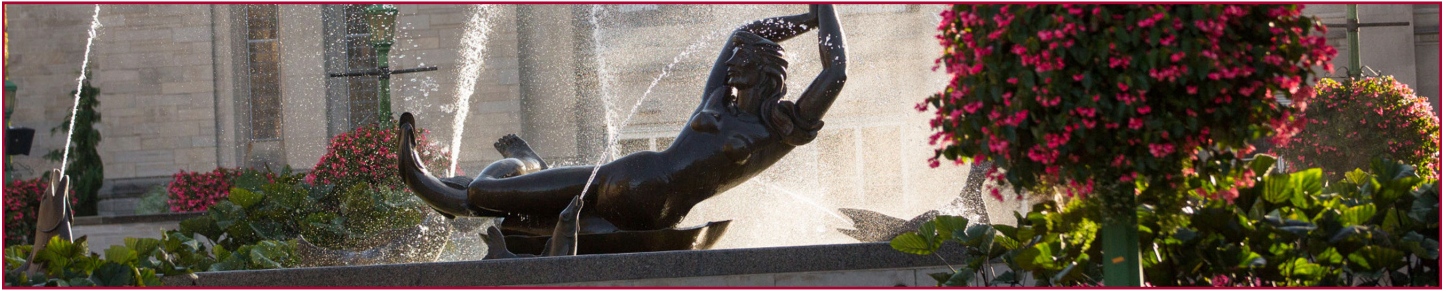
**Nikole Langjahr:** “ I am happy to announce that we have a new semester exchange program with the University of Bayreuth, and as director of undergraduate studies I was involved in the later planning stages and the student interview process.



We are looking forward to sending our first cohort over and welcoming German students over here later next year. After all the Covid-related travel cancellations, our undergraduates are very eager to go abroad, as was apparent in our Overseas Information Meeting early this fall - the first time ever held online. It had record attendance as well as a record number of student questions! Zoomtisch is STILL virtual, but we all cannot wait until in spring 2022 we will

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finally reconvene at Bear's Place. We did have our first in-person undergraduate social events since March 2020 in September and October: two very well-attended (and enjoyable!) game nights."



**Gergana May** reports on the Norwegian program: "Being away from campus and teaching fully online was exhausting and definitely not enjoyable. "Uff da!" as Norwegians express exasperation. Needless to say, both students and I are excited to be back in the classroom – the energy and enthusiasm is palpable, especially in the third semester class – all of us finally got to meet each other and interact in person! The enrollments in the language classes are, regrettably, down, but this is a trend running across the board for most of the less-commonly taught languages. My speculation is that the Covid crisis created insecurities, which currently



prompt students to study "more practical", i.e. commonly spoken languages. In contrast, the courses offered in English – "The Multicultural North" and "Contemporary Scandinavia" have been consistently overenrolled. I am looking forward to teach again a literature course - in spring 2022 we'll delve into several masterpieces of Scandinavian literature."

**Julia Roos, Associate Professor of History and Germanic Studies Adjunct**, is one of

the talking heads in the documentary, *Sie nannten sie "Kinder der Schande"* (English title, *They Called Them "Children of Shame"*:

*A Tale of Prejudice and Propaganda*); she also helped the producers with the historical research. The film focuses on the biracial children of the 1920s Rhineland occupation and their persecution under the Nazis. ARTE first broadcast the documentary on November 10, 2020. On January 10, 2021, Deutsche Welle broadcast an English-language version: <https://www.dw.com/en/they-called-them-the-children-of-shame-a-tale-of-prejudice-and-propaganda/av-56185521>

Julia is currently writing an article on biracial German "occupation children" (*Besatzungskinder*) of the two world wars for a special issue of *Aus Politik und*







*Zeitgeschichte* entitled «Schwarz und Deutsch.» As many of you know, APuZ is edited by the Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung und widely used as a teaching resource in German high schools, so this potentially could reach many young people, which would be great (!).

**Bill Rasch** keeps it short and sweet: Happily living in retirement and pandemic semi-isolation with family, including our two granddaughters.



**Christopher Sapp** was happy to emerge (sort of) from the isolation of last year's COVID conditions: "My first year on the faculty was a rewarding one. I was immediately put to work on M.A. and Ph.D. committees, but then again, supervising graduate students' research is what drew me back to IU. In terms of teaching, it is refreshing to be teaching in person again, and



I am currently offering Middle High German for the first time in many years. As I was looking through my old notes and preparing the syllabus, I realized that the room (Ballantine 233) is the same room where I first began learning Middle

High German with **Stephen Wailes**, all the way back in Fall 1998!

Over the last two years we have all become experts at online teaching and meetings, and so I co-authored a short article with my wife Dinorah for *TESOL Connections* on "Best practices for online teaching observations." I also published a study of dialectal variation in the *Heliand* and the minor Old Saxon texts, co-authored with a former student of mine from Mississippi. As for that book on dating Old Norse poetry that I mentioned in last year's newsletter, I am still revising it for publication— maybe by this time next year I will have some good news about it."

Emeritus Professor **William Shetter** let us know that he in the "Resident Spotlight" of the newsletter at the Bell Trace, where he and his wife Jeanette have lived since October 2016. We know Bill as professor of linguistics, German and Dutch in Germanic Studies for 30 years and, of course, former editor of this newsletter. The Bell Trace newsletter adds that "Bill has always enjoyed drawing cartoons, making woodcuts, riding his bike, and writing. Bill participates in the Bell Trace writing group, reviews spiritual books for a Quaker magazinem and tries to ride his bike daily (weather permitting). Bill even participated in 23 miles of the local Hilly Hundred bike tour at the age of 88!"



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**Lane Sorensen** hasn't been quite as busy as a bee in 2021, but here's the buzz: on top of his teaching and outreach duties, he has given three guest lectures since March on the topic of 'Old Norse and Runes in the Context of Germanic

Languages' for Penn State and the University of Northern Colorado, presented a pedagogical talk at the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association (IFLTA) Pam Gemmer Spring Conference, was part of a roundtable early October on university and K-12 collaborations and outreach at the GSA with Prof. **Susanne Even** and high school German teacher Amanda Beck, and will present a talk on Middle Low German 'liver-rhymes' before also leading a workshop on 'Niederdeutsche Sprache und Kultur im DaF Unterricht' this November at the University of Calgary. He and a handful of extraordinarily helpful departmental AIs also kept the German Theater Project for High Schools alive last Spring, once again online. Harrison High School won Best Comedy with their wildly creative *Rache des Gummibärgchens* and the award for Best Drama went to Fishers High School for their suspenseful mystery, *Der Mord von Alanah May*. We are all hoping and planning for the return to an in-person GTP this spring!

And finally this from **Johannes Türk**: "I have spent a part of the pandemic year in Berlin in isolation, in the spring I taught a hybrid course that allowed me to compare teaching with a mask in person with teaching on zoom.



Navigating between Europe and the US proved an interesting case study of how medical facts and political realities are shaped differently. Our recently inaugurated lecture series *New Directions in German Studies* was moved online, where I had the opportunity to host Rüdiger Campe, Deniz Göktürk, and Johannes von Moltke in a roundtable on the future of German Studies. In the spring, two conversations on forensic methods in Holocaust and Refugee Studies as well as on political affect followed. I am continuing to work at a study on exemption as well as on a second one on political affect; from the latter project a longer chapter on offense has emerged that might stand on its own."



# Alumni News



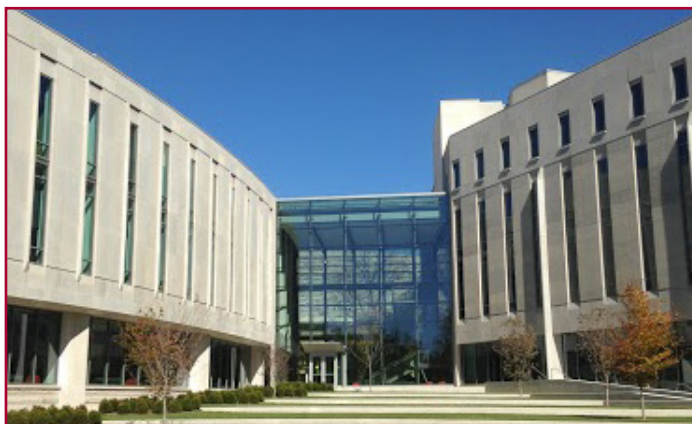
## **Maria Fink**

After two very exciting years in Berlin, we re-located to my hometown Frankenmarkt in the country side in Austria, where I am now continuing work on my dissertation. In August, my translation of Paula Köhlmeier's short story "Pablo's Story" was published by Cagibi. You can find it here, if you would like to read it: <https://cagibilit.com/pablos-story>. It's quiet and beautiful here, but I surely miss everyone at the Department. Bis hoffentlich bald!

## **Emma Kriss, M.A. 2015**

Since February, I have taken on a second job as a sorority house director (hold for laughter) here in Bloomington. As some of my former students could confirm, I have...emotions regarding Greek life. While the sorority members live up to stereotypes in some ways, overall, they have surprised me a great deal (which often raises more questions for me), and I smile at what bright futures they have ahead of them. While the bulk of the job is dedicated to keeping the inner-workings of the house running smoothly, I hope to create a positive, warm environment with them.

After 5 1/2 years away, it has been such a pleasure to return. I've been exploring the nature in and around Bloomington; going to the farmers' market; and spending time with dear professors and friends, both old and new—dinners with Susanne; watching operas with Marc and Julie; and going on walks with Lane, to name a few.



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## ***P.S. from the editor:***

*If you are among this year's newsletter contributors, thank you for writing. If you did not send in an item, please consider doing so next year. You don't have to wait until asked (but rest assured, I will ask!). Let me encourage you to write whenever you have something to share. See my contact information on page 2.*

*Stay in touch with us any time via the [Department of Germanic Studies website](#) and on the Facebook pages of [IU Bloomington Germanic Studies](#) and [German House Indiana University](#). There's always something going on - even this year.*



# Graduate News

**Tyler Kniess** starts off our news from current grads, some of whom have been busy with joyful extra-curricular events. Read on.

“The past year or so has been surprisingly good. Over the summer I was happy to have the Institute of German Studies summer research fellowship so I could continue work on a project with the Speech Production laboratory, which I presented at the Acoustical Society of America meeting in December 2020. I had the pleasure of working with Susanne Even in the fall of 2020 to create an online version of her Grimm Fairy Tales course. I worked through the fall of that year on a dissertation prospectus on nasalization in German dialects. Tracy Hall, Kari Gade, and Stuart Davis oversaw my qualifying examinations, which I passed in March 2021. I was awarded a DAAD Grant for Doctoral Candidates in the same month. I thank Tracy Hall, Paul Fogleman, and Jürg Fleischer for their invaluable help with my application. In May, I gave a talk at GLAC on the historical development of nasal vowels in Swabian. I had the honor of teaching and learning from graduate students from all over the College in the summer semester of 2021 when I taught G492. This fall I am teaching online at IUPUI in addition to teaching the same Grimm course at IUB. After several years of excellent coursework in the department and College, I am now officially a candidate and am focused on writing most of the time.

**Rachel Lulich** is a writer, a freelance developmental editor and an Air Force veteran—and now, she is the department’s newest MAT student! Rachel is originally from the Pacific Northwest, but she has lived in Bloomington since 2018 (minus a stint teaching English in Slovakia during the fateful 2019-2020 school year). She is a bit of an adventurer, having lived and worked overseas five times, and would love to do so again in the future.

Rachel has a previous Master’s Degree in Book Publishing and has her own editing company. Her writing credits include articles, flash fiction, poetry, and a play about the Confessing Church in 1930s Germany, but her main focus at present is a self-published science fiction trilogy—Book 2 releases this December.<sup>1</sup>

When she’s not studying or working, Rachel enjoys volunteering with the Civil Air Patrol, where she serves as a mentor to cadets aged 12-21, and singing in her church choir. She also loves spending time with family members who live in the area, reading, and watching her favorite TV shows and movies.

Rachel plans to teach high school or college German.



**Nina Morais**

“Hello everyone!! We are happy to announce the birth of our daughter, Diana Morais Martins. Diana was born on May 4<sup>th</sup> (on Star Wars Day, as a perfect geek’s daughter), which happened to be the day after I submitted all the students finals grades for the semester! What a punctual Germanic Studies baby! We are now a happy family of four, enjoying sleepless nights, but very happy days! Work has been going at a slow pace, as is expected with a new baby, but I’m very happy to be back teaching on Campus! I hope to see many of you around in person, and thank you for all the good wishes and love we received!”



**Kathy Pollock**

Kathy joyfully writes: “Hi Everyone! Matthew and I wanted to let you all know that Theo decided he wanted to be in the world a bit earlier than we expected. Since he was 5 weeks early, he spent some time in the Neonatal intensive care unit for observation. He still needs a bit of extra care when it comes to feeding but he is healthy and doing really well.”



**Claire Woodward**

Claire finished her PhD coursework and defended her dissertation prospectus in the spring of 2021, tentatively titled “Attitudes of Observing Suffering: Viewer Transformations in 20th and 21st century German Literature and Film.” She is looking forward to the new academic and life projects coming up, as she and her husband also welcomed a baby boy, Teddy, to their family in the fall of 2021.



# Pastimes

What do we do when we're not here in the Global and International Studies Building? We thought it might be nice to find out, so we asked. And got some interesting tidbits from faculty and grad students alike.

## *Did you know that ...*

**Fritz Breithaupt** is an avid birdwatcher who loves going out to spot the rare migratory birds in nearby swamps...

**Gergana May** sings with the Eastern European Ensemble, which performs at local venues and beyond unique renditions of folk music from the Balkans. From the slow love songs to the fast and furious dance tunes, their repertoire includes music from Bulgaria, Serbia, Macedonia & more. [photo]



**Chris Sapp** is a huge fan of home improvement—not the old TV show, but the activity! Last spring break, he and his daughter designed and built a treehouse (photo), and they added to it over the summer with some material salvaged from neighbors' old tree houses.



**Nikole Langjahr** has been “ferociously crocheting - a couple of blankets, some scarves, but mostly beanies, dozens of beanies. Some I've given away as gifts, some I've sold... Some people have started baking bread during the pandemic, I drown my covid stress in yarn and the beautiful structure of predictable patterns.”

**Susanne Even** has been busy as a community activist on accessibility, “making the city repair and lower the sidewalks on Covenanter between S College Mall Road and Auto Mall Road with the argument that it is a fundamental right for every citizen on a scooter (with and without service dog) to reach a grocery store without being run over.” She is also part of a “gang of



women with mobility issues who work with the Council on Accessibility and the Monroe Public Library on a Mobility Aid Lending Library, where canes, crutches, walkers, rollators, scooters, and wheelchairs that are not used anymore can be made available to people who need them free of charge.”

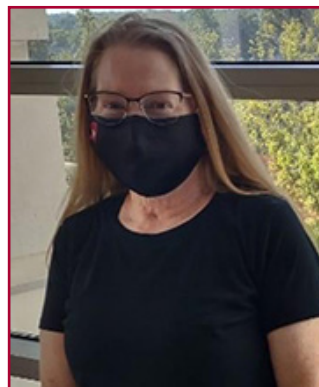
**Maria Fink** has become an accomplished home baker “venturing into the fine craft of baking sourdough bread” and more recently began perfecting “Kaisersemmerl” and “Mohnflesserl”. Yum!

**Emmet Baumgarten** finds solace and satisfaction in pottery. “The art is particularly satisfying in how directly connected to (and at the mercy of) the raw materials you are. Even those who “master” it are still foiled by irregularities in the clay, or the chaos of the kiln from time to time.”

**Rachel Lulich** sings in a church choir, volunteers with the Civil Air Patrol, and writes and publishes books (one coming out December 7<sup>th</sup>).

**Elaine Dalida** collects Disney pins (and sometimes other enamel pins). She tells us that there are many thousands of variously themed Disney pins out there that you can probably build a small collection based on almost any subject you might be interested in. One of her subjects is Germanic-themed pins.

And special recognition for unsung activities belongs to our own administrative team **Jill Giffin** and **Sara Goodwin**, both of whom are celebrating their twentieth year as IU employees. Jill has spent all twenty with Germanic Studies. In her spare time, Sara enjoys creating jewelry. Jill loves playing tennis and facilitating a National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Family Support group.



# Remembrances

**Carl Henry Ziegler**, 80, died on the April 19, 2021 in Bloomington, Indiana. Carl attended Valparaiso University spending his junior year in Tübingen, Germany. After his undergraduate studies, he was awarded a 4-year graduate fellowship in Comparative Literature at Vanderbilt University where he received his PhD. In 1966, he began his teaching career as an Assistant Professor at Indiana University/Bloomington in Germanic studies and Comparative Literature teaching German language courses and 19th/20th century European and American literature. Early in the 70's, Carl developed and taught an English composition course, "Inter-language Concepts," for educationally disadvantaged students which focused on teaching language concepts common to both English and German. Through this course he brought minority students into the German Department, and every summer for four years Carl took four students to Austria where they were enrolled in an intensive German language course and lived with Austrian families.



In 1990, Carl was appointed Director of the Collins Living-Learning Center by the College of Arts and Science. Carl's inspired at Collins were well received by the University and resulted in his receiving one of two University Distinguished Service Awards and a Bicentennial Medal of Honor. Over the years he served in Bloomington on the boards of Middle Way House, Monroe County Ministry and United Way and the Ziegler Family Foundation. (Excerpted with thanks to Allen Funeral Home, Bloomington IN)

