



### ...What Really Happened continued

to ascertain the whereabouts of every one-time Sekitsch citizen. Of the 6,000 residents living there before the war, only 1,000 were still alive at the time of the poll. Considering that almost 1,000 of those counted had been living in Germany and Austria prior to Partisan rule, only a very few, perhaps less than 100, survived the death camps in Yugoslavia. ❀

#### **Von der Mottr abgschrieb:**

#### **De beschti Grumbere Salat**

*(The best Potato Salad)*

8 cups (cooked, peeled, cubed)  
potatoes  
10 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled  
3 hard boiled eggs, chopped  
1 carton (8-oz) French onion dip  
½ cup pickle relish (dill or sweet)  
½ tsp. salt – to taste  
½ tsp. pepper – to taste

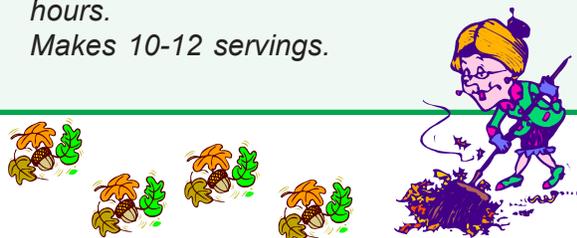
*In a large bowl, combine the potatoes,  
bacon and eggs.*

*In a small bowl, combine the dip,  
relish, salt & pepper.*

*Stir into potato mixture.*

*Cover and refrigerate for at least 2  
hours.*

*Makes 10-12 servings.*



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## **Our German Heritage**

### **Political Participation**

The very first printed copy of the official Declaration of Independence was in German, not English. It appeared in the Philadelphia newspaper Pennsylvania Staatsbote.

During the American Revolutionary War, Benjamin Franklin recruited Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, a former Prussian officer, to train American troops. Von Steuben's organization of the Continental Army was critical to its success. On the British side, there were also Germans, 30,000 mercenaries, known as the Hessians. However, many of these Germans took a liking to the enemy's way of life and by war's end, over a third had decided to stay in the new United States.

A failed German democratic revolution in 1848 forced many well-educated, politically-active Germans to flee to the United States. This group became very involved in the American antislavery movement. It is said that German-Americans were instrumental in the election of Abraham Lincoln (who owned and operated a German-language newspaper). Carl Schurz, a leading forty-eighter, was Lincoln's first ambassador to Spain, a brigadier general during the civil war, a senator and finally, the secretary of the interior under President Rutherford B. Hayes.

The German-American political cartoonist, Thomas Nast, created the Uncle Sam figure, as well as the Democratic donkey and the Republican elephant. Nast, who came to the United States in 1846, is also responsible for the modern version of that beloved, non-partisan figure, Santa Claus.

Prohibition and the anti-alcohol amendments in the United States were caused at least in part by Yankee Puritanism's prejudice against the German immigrants' fondness for beer. Particularly scandalous was the German-American habit of using Sunday to socialize in beer gardens (likely a hardworking German-American's only day off).

Herbert Hoover, elected in 1928, was the first American president with German ancestry (his family's last name was originally Huber). President Eisenhower, another German-American, could trace his ancestors back to Hans N. Eisenhauer, who came to America in 1741.