

**...GACC continued**

enjoyable for everybody, providing he selects the right weather chairman. Good luck to all who plan outdoor events this summer!

My thoughts go today to a person who left us about a month ago. Frieda Reidt was quite a lady and on the Board of Directors for 40 years. She contributed in many ways to the programs of the GACC, and became German American of the

Year in 1981. She was a very wise lady and her knowledge of "Roberts Rules of Order" made us make the right decisions. She kept us all in a straight line; nobody got away with anything. She will be missed by all that knew her.

That's it for this time. Have a safe and glorious summer! Until we talk again...🌸



*Photo by E. Sinz*



On behalf of the members of the G.T.E.V. Edelweiß, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Adam Medel and all of the staff of the Carpathia Hall for their hard work during our Bezirksheimatfest. We have received many words of praise from our guests and we couldn't have done it without you!

**Vielen Dank**  
**Erwin Rauschendorfer**  
 1.Vorstant, G.T.E.V. Edelweiss



## **Our German Heritage**

### **Immigration Trends**

By 1800, around nine percent of the United States' total population had ties to Germany. Mass immigration started after 1815 and reached a high during the 1880s when more than 1.5 million Germans arrived. The peak year was 1882, when a record 250,600 Germans immigrated. At the turn of the century, German immigration began to slow. Since the 1970s, only about 150,000 Germans have come to the United States. Over three centuries, around 8 million Germans have come to what is now the United States.

### **Where German Americans Settled**

Like other immigrant groups, the Germans tended to settle near family members and friends who had gone ahead. In 1770, three-quarters of the German immigrants lived in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania group was the start of the famous "Pennsylvania Dutch," so-called because their English-speaking neighbors called all German-speaking people from continental Europe "Dutch." When the first American census was taken in 1790, one third of Pennsylvania's population was of German origin.

As the United States spread westward, German immigrants moved in that direction, too. The vast majority settled in the midwestern states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. Today, Wisconsin has the largest population of German Americans, 53.8%, and Milwaukee boasts more people with German heritage than any other American city.