

Gary N. Deckant
P.O. Box 9181
Youngstown OH 44513
330-783-3037
e-mail: gdeckant@yahoo.com

- *M.A. in German, Middlebury College*
- *B.A. in German, Hiram College*
- *Certified (German-->English)by American Translators Association*
- *Resided in Germany for nearly 2 years*
- *Has provided translations for agencies in Germany, Belgium, Canada, China, Spain, the Czech Republic and the USA*

Work History in Translation and Related Areas

1975 to present: Free-Lance **Translator** of German to English. Completed numerous translations for individual clients including material on technical, scientific, literary and genealogical topics.

2000-2001. Self-employed as **Language Consultant**. Principal client was Pioneer-Standard Electronics of Beachwood, OH. Translated approximately 40,000 words of Quality Control documentation from English into German. Was instrumental in securing QS9000 certification for the client's German location. Tutored staff in conversational German.

1993-1994: Škoda a.a.s., Mladá Boleslav, Czech Republic. **Teacher of English and German** to professional staff of an automotive assembly plant. I was the only faculty member able to teach in two languages.

1978-1992: Volkswagen of America, Auburn Hills, MI. **Translator** of the instructional manual issued to German executives from the home office who were in the process of relocating to the US facility and later back to Germany.

Degrees and Credentials

M.A. in German, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT. Studies completed at Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, after 9 months in residence there.

B.A. in German, Hiram College, Hiram, OH. Cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Departmental Honors, 6 months of study in Hamburg, Germany.

Certified Translator (German to English) by American Translators Association.

Noteworthy Translation Projects

A 40,000-word manual of corporate documentation for Pioneer-Standard Electronics of Beachwood, Ohio, for which the translation was requested by Mr. Dan Curtin. The manual consisted of about 20 chapters, including shipping & handling, occupational hazards, security, quality assurance and control, production procedures, etc. My efforts were credited with the awarding of QS9000 certification for the company's newly established German facility in 2001.

A 7,000-word article illustrating the comparison between different types of axial piston pumps. This article first appeared in a German technical journal in 1984 and its translation was requested by an engineer at Parker-Hannifin Corp. of Youngstown, Ohio. My translation included a great deal of technical terminology and material such as charts, tables and graphs.

For several years I have been the main provider of translation services for Litco International, Inc., an Ohio company that markets products made out of pressed wood. The company is affiliated with Inka GmbH, a Munich-based company that developed a process for manufacturing pressed wood pallets. Since 2007 I have been translating thousands of words per year for Litco on a host of business-related matters, including annual reports, minutes of board meetings, letters to stockholders, reports on taxation and investments, etc.

A complete translation of the website of the German-based Transcarpathia Benefit Society, whose mission is to raise relief aid for the impoverished people of the Transcarpathia region in western Ukraine (former Soviet Union). The bulk of this project lasted several months and includes ongoing updates several times a year. The German-language homepage has about a dozen links, and each link was translated by me, covering altogether thousands of words of text (www.helptranscarpathia.org).

During the 1980's and 1990's I was very active in genealogical research and worked with numerous clients who were trying to establish their German-speaking blood lines. I had several business relationships lasting for years, where I was called upon to initiate correspondence, look up vital records handwritten in old German script, and translate those records as well as printed texts.

In the mid-1980's I translated a collection of handwritten letters which had been carefully preserved by a German family for over a hundred years. The letters were written by their distant relatives who had emigrated to America in the mid-19th century; meanwhile all contact with them had been lost by those left behind in Germany. By piecing together clues in those letters, I was able to locate the American descendants of those who had written them. The ultimate result was an ongoing contact between different branches of that family separated by the Atlantic, including numerous exchange visits across the ocean in both directions. In 1999 there was a huge family reunion in the US attended by dozens of relatives from every line of descent, both German and American. This was made possible only by the translation and research work that I had accomplished.

I once participated in a wedding ceremony in Youngstown, Ohio, where the bride and her family were German and the groom and his people were Americans. I translated the essential texts of the service into German, and then took part in the ceremony alongside the bridal party, reading the translated portions aloud for the convenience of the bride's relatives. I also attended the reception to assist the bride's family in conversations with other guests.

Among other things I have translated are: a 5,000-word transcript of divorce proceedings from a court in Switzerland requested by a client in Florida; and a three-page question & answer form used by the State of Ohio for the purpose of establishing paternity, requested by the Child Protective Services office of Mahoning County.

As a member of the German Genealogical Group, based in Long Island NY, I provide translation services for other members and non-members. The organization maintains an extensive file of local notices published in German newspapers by persons wishing to emigrate to America in the mid-19th century. Descendants of these emigrants will find these notices and send me copies, which I then translate them into English. The originals are invariably printed in the old German typeface.