

Collection #  
SC 3116  
DVD 0699-0701

**GERHARD KLEMM  
ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW, 3 JANUARY 2012**

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Processed by

Paul Brockman  
July, 2015

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department  
William Henry Smith Memorial Library  
Indiana Historical Society  
450 West Ohio Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 folder, 3 DVDs

COLLECTION  
DATES: 3 January 2012

PROVENANCE: Gerhard Klemm, Indianapolis, Indiana, June, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ACCESSION  
NUMBER: 2015.0012m0004; 2015.0193

NOTES: This interview is part of the Indiana Community Builders Oral  
History Project of the Indiana Historical Society.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Gerhard Klemm was born in Wüstenrot, Germany, in 1940. As a youth in post-World War II Germany, he learned the butchering trade. Then, in the late 1950s, he immigrated to the United States, where he worked for an uncle, Karl W. Klemm, who had already established a meat market known as Klemm's Meats in Indianapolis, Indiana. Upon Karl W. Klemm's death in 1967, Otto Straub, nephew of Karl's wife, Mina, inherited Klemm's Meats and operated the business until Gerhard Klemm bought this same business in 1969 and renamed it Klemm's German Sausage and Meats. Gerhard Klemm produced Old World-style sausages, which he sold at Indianapolis's City Market and then at a shop on the city's Near South Side until 2003, when he sold the business to Claus Muth and retired. In 1969, he married Evelin Stark. They have three children. Throughout his years in Indianapolis, he has been active in various organizations, several of which are associated with the city's German community.

Sources: Information in collection

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This manuscript was transcribed from a digitally recorded interview conducted on January 3, 2012, at the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Kendra E. Clauser, Indiana Historical Society's (IHS) oral history archivist for the project from 2011 to 2013. Kendra E. Clauser transcribed the interview in March 2013, and Wendy L. Adams, IHS's director of oral history (as of April 2014), lightly edited the transcript in June 2014. The interview, which includes the audio recording and the transcript, is housed at the William H. Smith Memorial Library, Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The interview consists of a transcript, a master and a user copy of the interview, a photograph of Mr. Klemm, and disk of photographs from Mr. Klemm.

The following is an index that lists the topics discussed in the interview and their location in the transcript:

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