

**To Rose, Mark and Sam  
23 July 2011**

### **The Hofferbert-Klingemann story**

**The Hofferbert – Klingemann story is a long one. It started in 1970 and it is not over yet. The real story can't be told in a couple of minutes. However, we can offer a short summary. This summary simply states that over a period of more than 40 years Rick and Rose have become our dearest friends.**

**While this says it all on the most general level, Ute, Julia and I want to share with you today three more specific episodes that are vivid in our minds. These episodes have fuzzy boundaries. They are defined by a combination of professional activities and the intellectual curiosities driving Rick and myself. All these episodes have contributed to an ever growing trust and genuine affection that has grown with time not only between the two of us but between Rose, Ute and our kids as well.**

## **Episode number one: From professional work to friendship**

**In 1970 I attended the ICPR Summer Course held at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. At that time this was the place to go for a young man to learn advanced social science methodology. It was on that occasion when I met Rick for the first time. He had just arrived from Cornell to serve as director of the ICPR, the most important social science data archive, world-wide. In that time I worked at the University of Cologne's Central Archive for Empirical Social Research. Thus, it was quite natural that Rick and I got together to discuss archival matters. In the end we came up with a joint project, the German Electoral Data Project, that links these two academic institutions even today. This project documented all German national election surveys in English language for the American academic market. It gave a boost to comparative electoral research and was widely considered a great success.**



Rick directing the ICPR



**In 1974 I returned to Ann Arbor as a visiting scholar this time accompanied by Ute and Julia. While the Institute for Social Research was my professional hub, the family discovered the Hofferbert farm at Dexter. It was in Dexter where Rose, Ute, Rick and I realized that that there was more to our relationship than just joint professional interest.**

**Rose was a horsewoman. She elegantly jumped the hurdles and showed us how the world looked from a horseback. While Ute and I had our second thoughts about riding horses, Julia, an aspiring young horsewoman, just loved it and adored her teacher.**





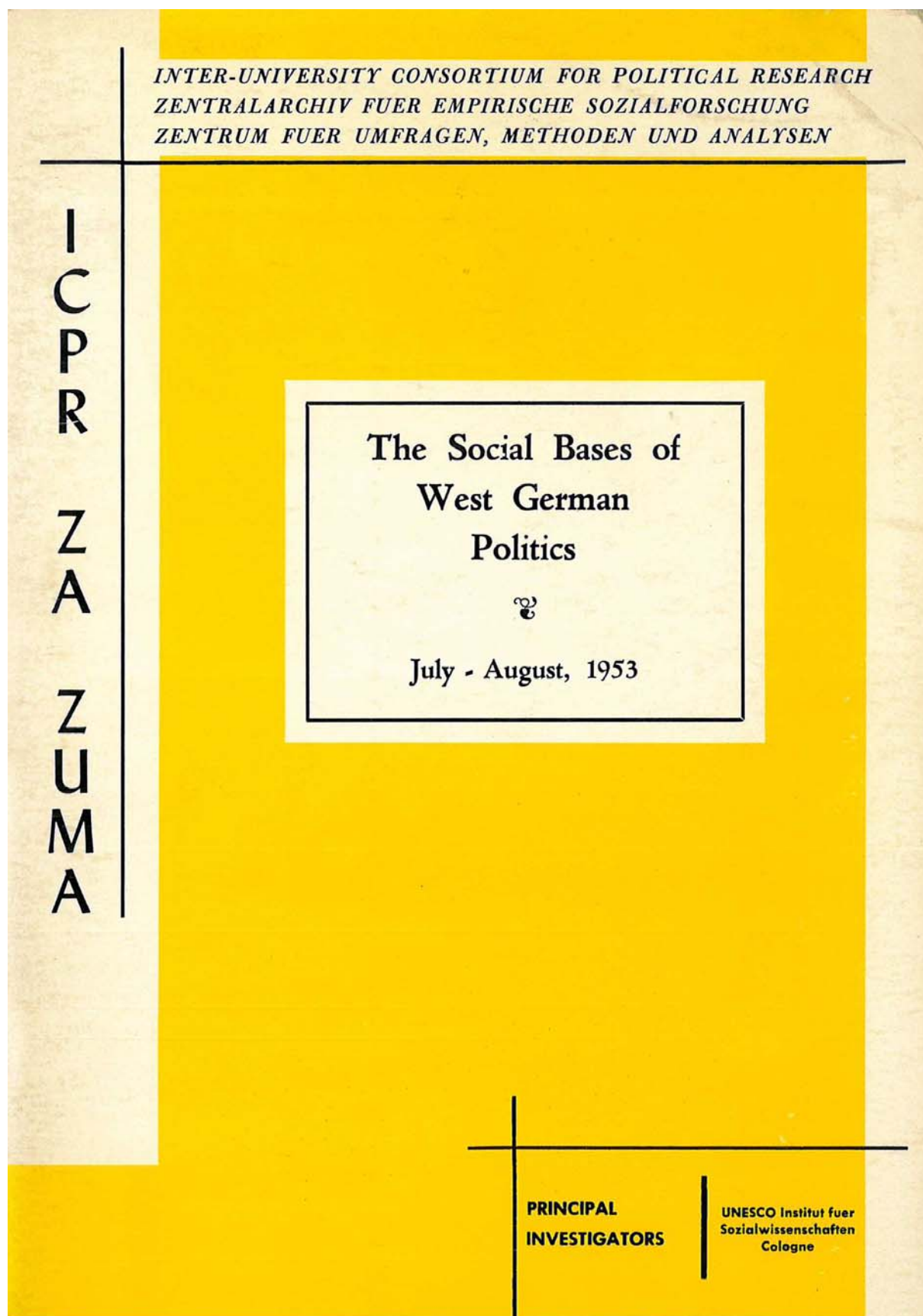
The men preferred other sports. The pool table for one:



**And arm wrestling – this time Rick taking on Max Kaase - for the other.**



The final product, distributed by our two archives, was yellow and you can see one of the famous German Election Study codebooks below.



## **Episode number two: From friendship to professional work**

**In 1975 Rick decided to leave the Midwest and move to the State University of New York at Binghamton. The ICPR was left behind. The public policy whizz kid was now supposed to continue in his original field and build a strong political science department at this respected upstate New York university.**

**Given their preferences (and their horses) the Hofferbert's could not do without another farm. They found one in Vestal. We will remember this wonderful place forever – the house, the pond, the woods and all the animals – the cats in particular. Most of all, however, we remember generous hospitality. We have given up to count how many times Ute and I have occupied the famous “blue room” or “the trailer” that served to cope with “guest-overflow”. We have been privileged to be allowed to plant two trees together. A birch tree first and later a red maple. The trees are now fully grown and stand tall and proud as a living testimony to our friendship. And no birch tree was ever planted by three lovelier ladies than these ones ...**





**When the work was done Julia admired the beautiful young tree.**



**Some years later we planted the red maple. And a I have said before both trees still stand. If you ever pass by #2, Tracy Creek Road, Vestal, New York, take a rest and see for yourself.**



**The Vestal environment was made for dreaming dreams – private and professional. And we did dream a lot while walking in the woods and sitting on the deck.**





In 1974 the Klingemann's left Cologne. I had joined Max Kaase to help set up the Center for Survey Research (ZUMA) in Mannheim. At that time Rick and I did not have a common research project. Our respective interests did not seem to allow close cooperation. However, this changed in the late seventies. I had joined Ian Budge in a new and original project that tried to chart the programmatic profiles of the political parties in the OECD world since 1945. I told Rick about this project at one of our visits on the farm. I still remember us sitting on the deck near the pond, sipping red wine and smoking our pipes. We speculated about what could be done with these data over and above testing spatial or coalition theories. It must have been the genius loci suggesting to look at the relation of programmatic profiles of political parties and the spending behavior of governments. This proved to be the hook. As a prominent scholar of public policy Rick could not resist to test that relationship. It started a jolly cooperation and after some years Rick, Ian and I were able to summarize our findings in a major book published in 1994. *Parties, Policies, and Democracy* was well received in the profession.



*Theoretical Lenses on Public Policy*

**Parties,  
Policies,  
and  
Democracy**

**Hans-Dieter Klingemann,  
Richard I. Hofferbert,  
and Ian Budge**

**Rick and Rose loved animals. We befriended most of them. Without much comment we present wonderful Bruno and a bunch of cats (including our friend Possum).**





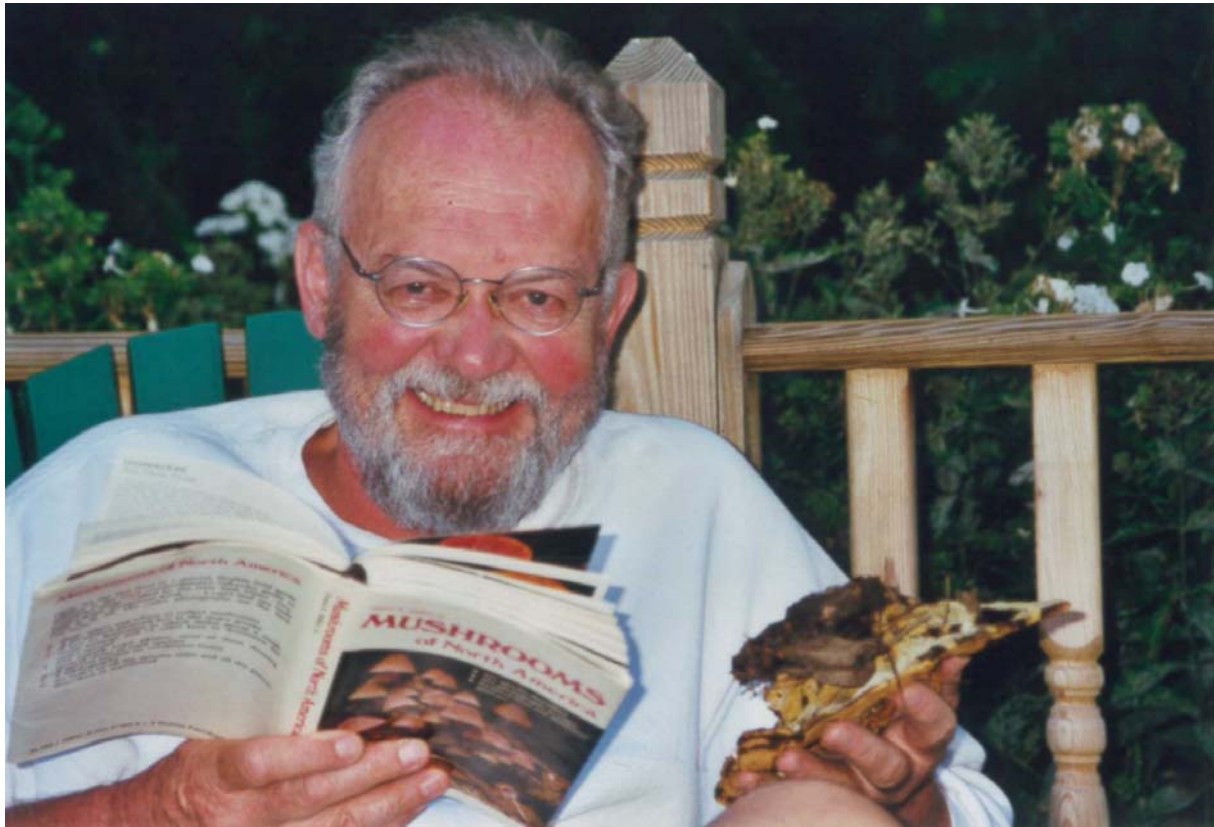


**Rick had a rather pragmatic attitude towards animals. Some he liked to eat such as the sheep from his Ithaca friend and the fish in his own pond:**





**Rick also loved to gather mushrooms in his woods. He knew we were suspicious and frightened that they might turn out to be poisonous. And this shows in his face if you take a look at the next picture. In the end we never refused to eat all his mushrooms and they always turned out to be delicious.**



Needless to say that we grew older by the year. Our beauty clearly improved as these two pictures demonstrate.



**We have visited the farm in Vestal more than ten times starting in 1975 until it was finally sold thirty years later. In all these years this had become a place we cherished and where we felt at home. When the farm was gone we cried.**



**A final departure.**

### **Episode number three. Friendship in the context of world history**

**In 1980 I had accepted a position at the Free University of Berlin. In 1989 I was called to also direct the Research Unit on Institutions and Social Change of the Social Science Research Center Berlin. This was a period of many happy encounters between our two families. During the 1990s Rick and Rose visited Berlin and the WZB at least six times for a couple of months. Rick had accepted a recurring visiting professorship at the Science Center. Our joint interest in the party manifestos project persisted. However, in 1989 Rick, Rose and the rest of us were lucky to see the fall of the Berlin Wall. This turn of world politics inspired us all. Rick was fascinated. I cite from his report to Lois DeFleur, President of SUNY-Binghamton: “I did not go to Berlin”, he wrote, “to watch revolutions. My arrangements were made before November 9, 1989., the fateful night when the Wall was opened. And I went with a set of research and writing obligations to which I maintained commitment. It would have been folly, however, even if it would have been possible, for a political scientist in Central Europe in 1990 not to take advantage of this magnificent window on our history, probably the most consequential turning point for Western democracy since at least 1945. And I did observe the revolutions as keenly as competing obligations would allow.” I cite this extensively because this event was so important to Rick. In the nineties he and I participated in major analyses of the transition processes in Central and Eastern Europe. His last book, *The Dynamics of Democratic Satisfaction*, co-edited with Christopher Anderson, and published in 2001 as an issue of the *International Political Science Review*, has been devoted to this topic.**

**After that time Rick had become a bit tired of “normal” Political Science. Instead, he had prepared himself to write for his sons the history of the Hofferbert-Bessemer family. Rick is a gifted writer and it shows brilliantly in the chapters he was able to complete. Read “And Then You’ll Cross That Big Wide Mountain” and you know what I mean.**

**In April of 1999 Rick and Rose paid Berlin their last visit. Rick suffered from serious allergic reactions and could not tolerate any smoke and anything affected by it. Thus, he decided to stay home in an environment he could control.**

**.**

**There are only a few pictures portraying Rick in Berlin. Two are shown below.**

**At rest at Hohenzollerndamm 90.**





**With Wolf sailing the Wannsee**



**After selling the farm Rick and Rose settled in peaceful Venice, Florida. They loved the nature preserves and the parks, the weather and the people and it was in Venice where we met Rick for the last time.**



**And as always we devoted enough time for wining and dining ...**



**After that visit we did not see each other any more. However, there was that deep reassurance that our lives had become inextricably intertwined. So much mutual understanding, so much mutual love had accumulated over the years. And our last over-the-phone “happy birthday” song was particularly well rehearsed to convey this deep love and affection.**

**If it comes to the day of final reckoning there is not much we can say in our favor. What we will be able to bring to the table, however, is our sincere, deep and lasting friendship with Rick, Rose and their family. We are sad and we mourn. We all lost a great man and a wonderful friend. From now on he will live in our hearts and minds forever.**

**Ute, Hans-Dieter & Julia**