

## German Restaurants...of Old!

There are lots of collectors who collect restaurants. After all, numerically, it's the largest category in the hobby, and the easiest to collect. And I don't know of any Restaurant collectors who don't subdivide this huge category into ethnic subdivisions—Chinese, Mexican, French....German!...Easier to keep track of, after all.

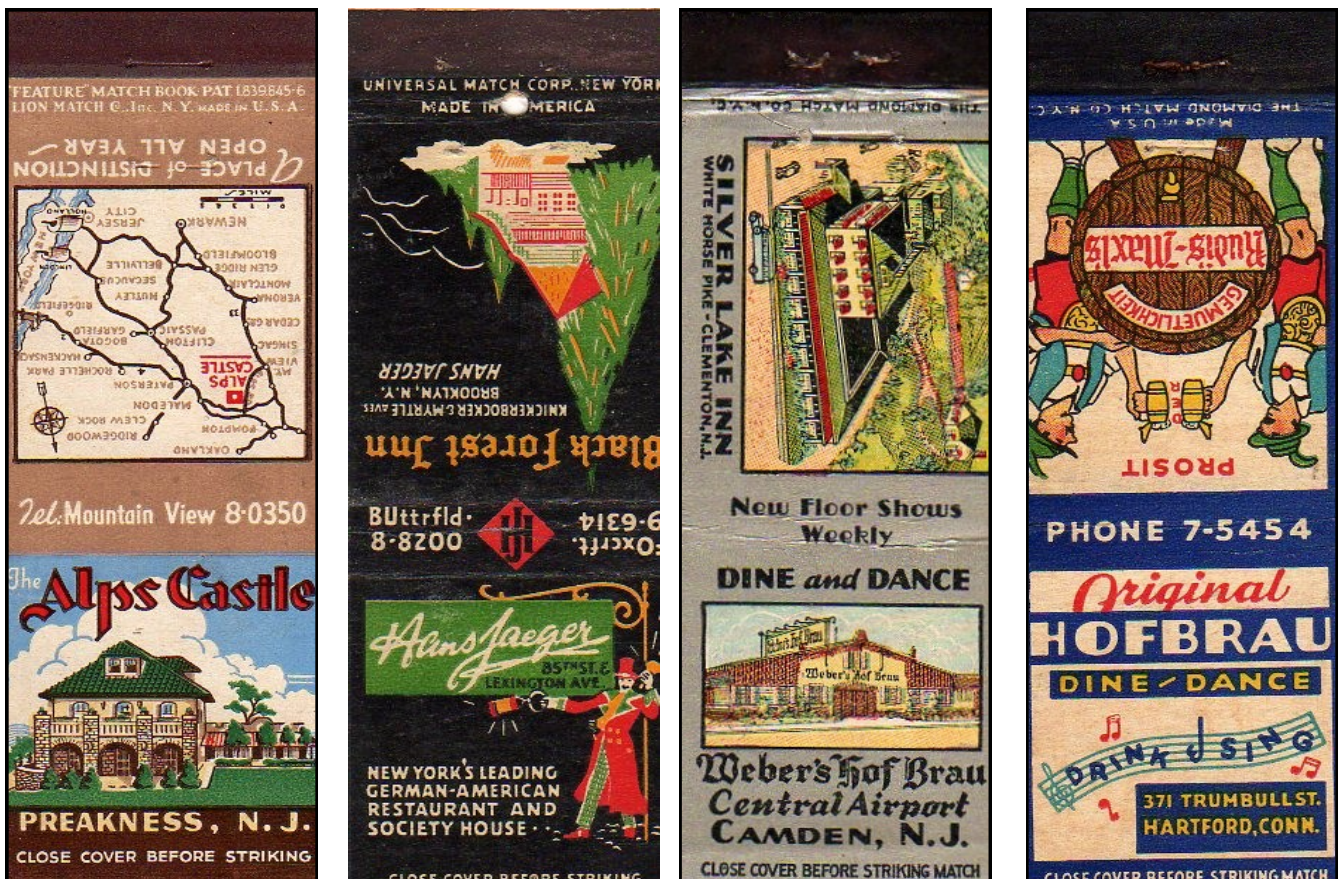
Some interesting German eatery facts...The oldest German restaurant in the United States is the Jacob Wirth Restaurant, in Boston, MA. It opened in 1868, and it's still going today. That's 148 years! Not being an Restaurant collector, myself, I don't know if there were any covers issued, but I would assume so. If you're a Restaurant collector, see if you can come up with one.

The concept of the Automat was introduced from Germany, and the first such was opened in New York City in 1902. The concept of the automat survived until at least the 1990s, but they were eventually doomed by the advent of the fast food outlets. At one time, there were 40 Horn & Hardart automats in New York City. The last one closed in 1991. Most of them are now Burger Kings.

Probably the famous German restaurant in the United States was Luchow's, in New York City. It operated from 1882-1986. I know there's a string of covers from this restaurant. Several are nice oldies!

German restaurants in the United States understandably fell out of popularity during World War II and afterwards. They slowly made a comeback, but one restaurant critic noted an upshot after Germany won the 2006 Soccer World Cup.

Helga Bachochin, OK, had 1,141 as of July 2014.





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