



UNSERE ZEITEN

NEWSLETTER OF BAVARIAN CLUB EDELWEISS, WESTCHESTER, NY



God Bless America



BAVARIAN CLUB EDELWEISS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017

AUSSCHUSS/EXECUTIVE BOARD:

PRESIDENT	GLORIA MAYER MCSWEENEY
1ST VP	MARGARET MEZIC
2ND VP:	ERNIE WIETING
TREASURER	PHYLLIS FROEBRICH
RECORDING SECRETARY	SUSAN ACKERLY
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	MONIKA LINK-PHILLIPS
TRUSTEES	DIETER LINK
	HANS LECHNER
	GREGORY WAGNER
VORPLATTLER	ROLAND LEX

APPOINTED DIRECTORS:

2.VORPLATTLER	KENNY LEX
VORTAENZERIN	INGRID WITTMANN
TRACHTEN MUTTER (SHARED)	VERONICA ARCHUL
	KRISTINE BOGOVIC
JUGENDGRUPPE	CAROL GAGLIANO
VOLKSTANZGRUPPE	MONICA LUEDKE
	HELMUT KRAFT
	HILDE SACHSE(SPOKESPERSON)

OTHER APPOINTED POSITIONS:

FAHNENTRAEGER	KEVIN LEITNER
2ND FAHNENTRAGER	CHRIS RODRICK
FAHNENMUTTER	ROSA SEIDLER
VEREINIGTE BAYERN DELEGATE	ERNIE WIETING
WESTCHESTER SOCIETIES	
DELEGATE	WALDEMAR STOPPACHER
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	ROSEMARIE LINK, CHAIR
BY-LAWS COMMITTEE	LISA CAICO, CHAIR
	WALDEMAR STOPPACHER
	GEORGE WOLF
GOOD AND WELFARE	
SICK & SYMPATHY CARDS	LYDIA STOPPACHER
BIRTHDAYS	PEGGY GREGES
BIER FUCHS	JAMES SACHSE
EVENTS CHAIR	ROSEMARIE LINK
WEBMASTER	CAROL GAGLIANO
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	MONICA LUEDKE
UNSERE ZEITEN NEWSLETTER	SONYA KALL, EDITOR
VA HUDSON VALLEY	JOHN MCSWEENEY
CLUB HISTORIAN	IRMA BLUME
GAUZEITUNG	DORIS LECHNER

President's Message

Hard to believe that Christmas is around the corner, gee less than one month away! Everyone I'm sure is busy, busy baking, shopping and decorating. But we all need a break from the everyday work schedule so if you get a chance, take a deep breath, have a seat, enjoy your favorite beverage and read this wonderful newsletter packed with many events and happenings. I want to thank everyone who helped make our Christkindlmarkt a tremendous success; to all who supported our raffle which put us over the top; and to the many workers, young and old including our Jugend who assisted our "younger customers" at the Arts & Craft table. Vergelts Gott!

Fröhliche Weihnachten und ein Glueckliches Neues Jahr!

Gloria Mayer McSweeney

President

EVENTS CALENDAR 2017-2018

KAFFEE KLATSCH Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Legion Hall from 3-4:pm. Coffee and milk will be provided by Peter and Peggy Greges and members are asked to bring baked goods to share on a rotating basis. Bring your own cup so it tastes more like you're at Oma's and not Starbucks!

PLATTLER PRACTICE meets first and third Tuesdays of the month at the American Legion Hall in Thornwood. 7.00pm Jugendgruppe and 7.30pm Adult group

VOLKSTANZGRUPPE meets first, second and third Tuesday of the month from 4:30-6pm at the Legion Hall.

MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING third Thursday of the month at the American Legion Hall in Thornwood

APRES SKI JUGEND DANCE, January 26, Legion Hall

85th ANNIVERSARY MASS, January 28, St. Mary Mother of the Church, Fishkill

MEMBER INFORMATION

TRACHT: Please contact Kristine Bogovic or Veronica Archul with any questions or orders.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO OUR MEMBERS:

NOVEMBER...Sebastian Phillips, Dan Hepp, Karl Kehrlé, Helga Bruger, Rosa Seidler, Lucy Lex, Renate Heinz, Elfriede Frankenberry, Peter Greges

DECEMBER...Aneliese Phillips, Armin Heinz, Angela Leschke, Georg Wolf, Zita Kraft, Heidi Lechner

JANUARY...Fritz Blume, Irma Blume, Lydia Stoppacher, Dori Ann Rodrick

FEBRUARY...Charles Ruppman, Edith Hodge, Veronica Archul, Russ Ackerly, Marianne Kepfer, Kathy Seef, Susan Ackerly, Billy Ottinger, Renate Doren, Ingeborg Kuhlka

GET WELL WISHES: Marg Essig, Frances Lex

MEMBER DEATHS: We remember and pray for all our past members

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Welcome Claudia Melo!

CONGRATULATIONS: Carol Gagliano and Daniel Hepp on their recent marriage!



-this recipe is courtesy of
Margaret (Peggy) Dougall

Winter's almost here...

As the days of summer are now a thing of the past, here's something to warm you up on those long cold evenings. Add these to your favorite beef soup or according to Peggy's suggestion!

Liver Dumplings (Leberknoedel)

14oz or 400g stale white bread
or rolls

1 pt boiling milk
9 oz or 250g calf's liver
1 medium onion
1 tsp parsley, chopped

2eggs

1 tsp baking powder
salt & pepper to taste
marjoram to taste
lemon zest to taste
pot of boiling, salted water

Slice bread or rolls very thinly; pour the milk over it and let it soak for 1 hour. Skin the liver and put it through the mincer or food processor with the onion. Stir in the parsley, eggs, baking powder, marjoram and lemon zest. Shape into round balls with wet hands. Drop the balls into boiling water and simmer gently for 20 minutes.

Note: These are delightful with beef gravy and sauerkraut.

2 Schneeflocken in der Luft:
"Wo willst du denn hin?"
"Nach Grönland, da kann ich
lange liegen bleiben. Und Du?"
"Nach Deutschland!"
"Was willst du da?"
"Panik machen!"



January 26, 2018

Doors open at 7pm

American Legion Hall
52 Garrigan Way
Thornwood, NY

All Kinder and Jugendgruppe members from our friend
Vereine are welcome!

BCE 85th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, January 28th St. Mary Mother of the Church
Fishkill 3:30 Mass offered by Fr. Joseph Blenkle

Stay tuned for more information about our
Heimatabend tentatively scheduled for March!



CULTURE CORNER

Christkindl, Nikolaus oder Weihnachtsmann????

Most Bavarians and Austrians celebrate with gifts from the “Christkindl” on December 24 of each year, though there are those who celebrate otherwise. Here’s a short summary of who’s who, who’s where and why!

Most people know the tale of St. Nicholas. He was born in the third century in a village called Patara – that time part of Greece but now belonging to Turkey. St Nicholas was a Christian who helped the poor by giving them money and food. Some stories say he threw the money/food through a window which landed in the shoes of a poor family – hence why the tradition is to fill children’s shoe with presents. There is very little solid historical evidence for this man who later became the Bishop of Myra and the patron saint of children, sailors, students, teachers, and merchants. St Nicholas died on December 6, making St Nicholas’s Day a remembrance for him and because of the timing, connecting him to Christmas and gift-giving.

However, St. Nicholas “only” brought particular gifts...most often foods...which probably harkens back to the original man who fed the poor. These foods usually only included nuts, mandarins, apples, lebkuchen und spekulatius cookies and chocolate, but nowadays include real toys and gifts at times.

“St. Nikolas” is usually accompanied by “Knecht Ruprecht” or “Krampus” in many of the alpine regions of Germany and Austria (and even Romania). He’s the “bad guy” that usually brings switches to hit bad children or carry them away in his sack. Krampus is a horned, half demon-half goat figure, also known as a “Percht”. (I will discuss Perchts more in detail in the next newsletter, so let’s just say he’s the nasty side-kick meant to scare kids into being good.)

The St. Nikolas holiday was celebrated throughout much of Germany until Martin Luther and his Reformation changed things. St. Nikolas originated as a Catholic figure. With his break from the Catholic church, Martin Luther wanted to de-emphasise the previous Catholic celebration of Saint Nicholas on December 6th. So he invented a new celebration for the Protestants. He did not want a Catholic saint bringing Protestant children their gifts. He also considered it blasphemous to idolise saints rather than Jesus himself. So the idea of “der Heilige Christ” or Christchild was born – and it brought gifts on December 24th, the last day of Advent. So the “Christkindl” was actually created by Protestants.

With the secularization of Europe, the figures began to “cross-over”. The likeness of the Christchild over the years morphed into more of the blonde female angel most people acquaint with the famous Nuernberger Christkindlmarkt. The Catholic south embraced the figure, holding onto the more traditional version associated with the Christchild who delivered gifts on the eve of the 24th, and they continue to try to resist the commercialization of the figure and the holiday. St. Nikolas on the other hand, succumbed to it, and turned into the present day “Weihnachtsmann” for many who receive his presents on the 24th.

RECENT EVENTS

Carol & Dan's Oktoberfest Hochzeit-- September 2, 2017 -- Arion Singing Society, New Milford, CT

What a lovely day for a wedding! Saturday, September 2, the weather gods smiled down on our own Plattlers Carol Gagliano and Dan Hepp as they were married up in Connecticut at the Arion Singing Society's Annual Oktoberfest. With their deep commitment to all things Bavarian/Tirolean, the wedding was celebrated in a style few on this side of the pond had probably ever encountered. In the fashion of the original Oktoberfest, held in Munich to commemorate the 1810 wedding of Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen, Carol and Dan went all out to replicate as much "Oktoberfest" as can be had here in the US without physically marrying in Munich! From their wedding attire to the tent and it's decorations, the food, beer, music, table deco and wedding favors — Carol and Dan nailed every detail of the wedding in trying to simulate an Oktoberfest or "Bauernhochzeit". Members of our club along with those of other Schuhplattlervereins, The Arion Singing Society, as well as other personal friends and family celebrated together with the happy couple. Traditions like sawing a log after the ceremony, tapping a beer keg to get everyone their first beer "toast", Schuhplattler dances and even being ridiculed (and ultimately wished well) by a "Hochzeitlederer" — all were part of this very special and eventful day. We continue to wish Carol and Dan many more wonderful days like this for years to come and congratulate them again on this blessed event



60th Annual Steuben Parade — September 16, 2017 — New York City

On Saturday, September 16, approximately 40 members of BCE took part in this year's 60th annual Steuben Parade. The majority of the group had boarded a bus in Westchester and were chauffeured down to New York City. A few others met up with the group there. The weather was beautiful and almost too warm. Our group proudly marched up the parade route displaying our various Tracht with our flags waving in the forefront. Following the parade, the group boarded the bus again for an entertaining meal down at Reichenbach Hall. The festive atmosphere was enjoyed there by everyone before the group once again boarded the bus back to Westchester.



60th Annual Steuben Parade — September 16, 2017 — New York City

- courtesy of P. Dougall

The Steuben parade was a hot and humid one for sure. I always march with the Vereinigte Bayern since being on the Vorstand for over 20 years. There were 4 of us ladies carrying the banner - from 4 different clubs - Schlierachtaler Stamm (Diana Sinner), Club Bavaria (Joan), Original Enzian (Alice) BCE (Peggy). Afterwards, we went to the Kolping House on 88th street and enjoyed the cold beers, good food and music by Schau Musi. While there Diana's brother John from the Brooklyn Schutzen Verein let me try on his jacket full of medals. Also there was Karin Gottier and her daughter. Karin is well into her 80's and for over 20 years was the inspiration of sending out the North American Newsletter of German Volksdancers. Karin is the recipient of the distinguished award from the German Gov't. Through the years I and the Volksdancers have learned so much about our ancestors traditions. Perhaps I shall have to share them in future articles....



Kaffeeklatsch -- September 19, 2017 -- Legion Hall

- courtesy of P. Dougall

On Tuesday September 19 we had 17 attendees. Many thanks to bakers Edith Hodge- Zwetschgen Kuchen and Linda Ohland- Brown Sugar Pound/ Bundt cake. Additionally Marie Karnbaum wanted to try out a Danish coffee cake made with apples and walnuts from the newly published cook book. ..Then another surprise Roswitha Eckhoff brought in a Mohn cake and lastly Zita Kraft tried out her new oven and brought us Chocolate Chip cookies. Koestlich .. Our club is truly blessed with so many fine bakers. Manfred Janowski was there as well. He is very much involved in the NY NJ Wandering Club. Perhaps in the future he will led us on a hike to keep the pounds off a bit from our waists from eating cake ! He gave us a wonderful website <http://www.dw.com/de/das-eis-brechen/l-19536464>. Deutsche Spracherin schau es mal an. Going around the table we each talked about how we came to America or how we met our spouses. Edith brought something for Lisa Linder to read in Bayerisch. What was so special this time was that Marie and Herman Karnbaum celebrated their 35th Wedding Anniversary. With a bit of sparkling grape juice we toasted and sang Hoch Soll Sie Leben! The next Kaffee Klatsch will be held on the second Tuesday -October 10 at 3pm. Then November 14.



BCE Oktoberfest -- October 8, 2017 -- Holy Rosary Church, Hawthorne, NY

BCE celebrated its annual Oktoberfest on October 15 at Holy Rosary Church again in Hawthorne. The Plattlers did a magnificent job resurrecting and modifying a dance that had not been performed in years - the Steckentanz — which they performed that day much to everyone's delight. Bernie's Orchestra supplied music for the event and our Volkstanzgruppe danced as well. As usual, the food and cakes were fantastic. This year's Oktoberfest did, however, have poorer attendance than those of year's past. Rejuvenating this event is a topic that will be toyed with over the next few months. It would be a shame to discontinue an event that people have enjoyed over many years and which has always given us an opportunity to showcase the many traditional dances we are so proud to perform!



Magnanini Winery -- October 15, 2017 -- Walkill, NY

One of the nicest events we get to attend every year is the dinner at Magnanini Winery in Walkill. This year's dinner was a standout. The event was attended by several different German clubs, like the Enzian Schi Club, and even had some clubs arriving by bus. BCE has the special place of being the entertainment for the affair, as Magnanini hosts a type of "Oktoberfest" for this dinner. About 40 members of BCE arrived to find themselves seated up front and center flanking the dance floor and with great views of the dancers and the musicians. The well-renowned accordion player Mario Tacca joined our host on the drums much to the delight of the audience with their rousing German and Italian song repertoire. A surprise highlight of the event was when our own Michael Sharkey-Schneider joined them on the stage with his awesome singing and jodeling capabilities lent to the "Kufstein-Lied"! Our own Plattlers put on a great performance of 6 various dances, Felicia Borselio danced at her first dance job (and did great!) and adding to the event was the celebration of Hans and Doris Lechner's 50th anniversary! BCE closed down the event as usual being the last to leave. When the restaurant needed to be cleared, the remaining group gathered for more informal fun out on the porch until dusk. The lovely event no doubt will be one of our most memorable this year!



Volksdancers Get Together —November 6th, 2017 —Westchester Diner, Peekskill

- courtesy P. Dougall

Louise Brescia organized this get together as she knew of this Diner's Senior Plate special all for \$7.40! Menu included a soup or salad, choice of 8 main entrees, Coffee or Tea and Dessert. All 16 of us had a lot of catching up to do since we haven't been together since the Oktoberfest. We missed Monica Luedke, Gloria & John McSweeney and Sue Ackerly.



BCE Christkindlmarkt -- November 11, 2017 -- Holy Name of Jesus Church, Valhalla, NY

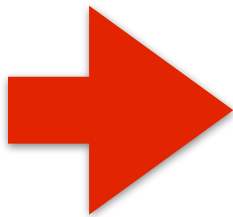
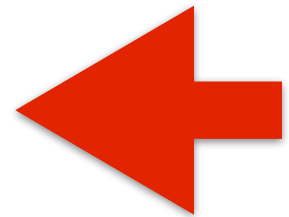
We could not have asked for a better day for our annual Christkindlmarkt this year held at our new location at the Holy Name of Jesus Church in Valhalla! We had blue skies and chilly temps which only complimented the Christmas ambiance we had created inside the venue. This is the club's biggest fundraiser and indeed this year's event was a real winner. With over 35 vendors in addition to our own BCE tables, those attending could get a real headstart on their holiday shopping. And indeed they did! The hall was packed with people most of the day. Enjoying the German holiday music sounds of zither player Reinhold Wiedermann, attendees shuffled around the floor purchasing many of the German inspired holiday items for sale before heading over to enjoy German culinary treats from the kitchen and the cafe. The leberkaese and pancakes were the top runners again this year - both selling out rather early in the day — despite a late start with the pancakes due to a hiccup with the grill which that team solved in record time. Cake and coffee was also to be had and enjoyed in our festive cafe area. Even St. Nikolas was seen strolling the area and talking with the children and grownups alike. This event is one which requires the help of many of our members to make it a success — and indeed this year it was! Our heartfelt thanks to all those that contributed in any way to this monumental event! (...and to those that didn't, here's hoping Krampus won't be coming after you!)



Kaffeeklatsch -- September 19, 2017 -- Legion Hall

- courtesy of P. Dougall

Yikes there were 24 of us! The 2 tables were crammed and some of us stood. Das wetter war wunderschön. Peggy Dougall read a German article about the Tee drinkers of northern Germany... specifically from East Frisia. When coffee took over Germany and other parts of Europe around the 19th century the East Frisians kept to their robust tea culture. Statistics state that the East Frisians drink 5.5 lbs per year per person.... More than England, Turkey . Tea came there via Netherlands around 1610. Though it was and still is imported it was still less expensive than locally produced beer. The ceremony is simple.... pretty red Peony designed Porcelain cups and teapots are rinsed with boiling water. Loose tea leaves are put in and let it steep 3-5 minutes.. Must have Kluntjes which looks like Rock Candy and fresh milk/cream...

HOLD THE DATE!**BAVARIAN CLUB EDELWEISS 85TH STIFTUNGSFEST****SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018****OCEOLA MANOR, JEFFERSON VALLEY****MUSIC BY "DIE SPITZBUAM"**

WANT TO SEE MORE PHOTOS????VISIT US ONLINE AT:
www.facebook.com/groups/BavarianClubEdelweiss/



Mit Bayrischen Grüßen - Sonya Kall, Editor

Gloria Mayer McSweeney, Contributing Editor
Ruppmann- Photographers

Monica Phillips, Charles