



UNSERE ZEITEN

NEWSLETTER OF BAVARIAN CLUB EDELWEISS, WESTCHESTER, NY



God Bless America



BAVARIAN CLUB EDELWEISS

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President's Message

Hello All,

It's May and the planting season is being pushed back due to the low near freezing temperatures at night. So guessing we need a little longer to do our veggie planting! But we do welcome our snow birds back home, nice and tan, well rested, partied out!

Lot's going on since the last newsletter. Our Jugendgruppe participated in the Jugend Einzel Plattling held at UGH in March; we attended our Paten Verein Bayern Verein Newark's 88th Aniversary in March; we attended our Paten Kind Die Gemuetlichen Enzianer's Bauernball in April; we celebrated our own 84. Stiftungsfest in May at the Stone Manor and are now looking forward to attending the Kinderfest in June as well as the 26. Gaufest in Buffalo.

As always, I thank Sonya Kall for her continued dedication to making our newsletter informative, culturally interesting and highlighting the many activities of our membership. Continued thanks to our photographers, Charlie Ruppman and Harry Phillips and our reporters, Veronica Archul, Peggy Dougall, Alexander Kall.

Gloria Mayer McSweeney
President

EVENTS CALENDAR 2017

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

BIERFEST ON THE HUDSON, Saturday, June 10, at Kolping on Hudson, 11am-6pm

GAUFEST, June 29-July 2, Buffalo, NY

VB FAMILY PICNIC, July 29, Kolping-on-Hudson, 12-6pm

69th STEUBEN PARADE, September 16, NYC

OKTOBERFEST October 8, at Holy Rosary Church, Hawthorne

MAGNANINI WINERY, October 15

CHRISTKINDLMARKT, Saturday, November 11, at Holy Name of Jesus Auditorium, Valhalla, 10am-4pm **NEW**

LOCATION!

CHRISTMAS PARTY, December 3



Germania Park, New Jersey

contact Carol Gagliano

carolgagliano75@yahoo.com



MEMBER INFORMATION

TRACHT: As always, any questions about Tracht and how to wear it please call Veronica at 914-584-4408. 'Sitt und Tracht der Alten, wollen wir erhalten.'

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO OUR MEMBERS:

MAY...Doris Lechner, Amanda Lechner, Jennifer Johanson, Monika Wolf, Helmut Eckhof, Melanie Briggs, Maria Ottinger, Sonya Kall, Gregory Dougall, Alexander Kall, Margaret Essig, John McSweeney
JUNE...Hildegard Kren, Waldemar Stoppacher, Christine Blume, Annamaria Kanakaraj, Margaret Mezic, David Dougall, Phyllis Froebrich, John Mezic, Lynn Henke, Helmut Kraft, Thomas Dangel
JULY...Oskar Ohland, Andrea Archul, Linda Ohland, Ernie Wieting, Christa Schmitz, Carol Salat, Roswitha Eckhoff, Peggy Greges
AUGUST...Peggy Dougall, William Hildreth, Monica Luedke, Maria Karnbaum, Karl Kehrle, Felicia Gagliano, Marlene Brownell, Harrison Phillips, Elicia Briggs, Kenneth Lex

GET WELL WISHES: Charles Ruppman

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Michael Sharkey-Schneider

CONGRATULATIONS: to Chloe Lex who recently made her First Communion (daughter of Elizabeth and Kenny Lex)

LET'S CATCH UP!

..... with Hans & Kathy Metternich

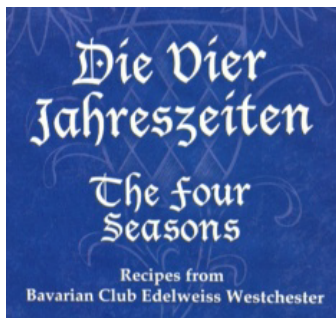
- courtesy P. Dougall

Dave and I just returned from Arizona (February). We took time out to visit with long time former Tarrytown residents & BCE members Hans and Kathy Metternich. It's been 15 years since they left us..Hans is now 93 years and doesn't look his age at all. He played for us on his accordion. Kathy is still as wonderful as ever.. It must be the Arizona sunshine and having their own orange and lemon trees. Their son, Alexander, was a former kinderplattler and schuhplattler..

When I had asked Kathy if there was anything to bring them from back east she replied a Snowman. Well we found a balloon, Olaf from the movie Frozen. Imagine their surprise!

We filled them in as much as we could and they send their best wishes....Peggy





**Our recipe this time
comes courtesy of
Peggy Dougall!**

White Asparagus (Weisser Spargel)

— A symbolic ceremony digging out of the first white asparagus plants at the beginning of April officially opens asparagus season in Bavaria. The tasty and healthy vegetable, considered a delicatessen in North America, is on sale everywhere in the Land until the end of June!

1 bunch of white asparagus white sauce (using the cooking
pan of lightly salted boiling water water—optional)
buttered bread crumbs

White asparagus requires peeling whether the stalks are thick or thin. The cut ends should be light colored and moist. The stalks ought to be firm with no bruises. Wash and peel and cut about 1 inch from the base ends. Don't damage the tips. Place them horizontally in a skillet or pan filled with lightly salted water and bring to a boil. Simmer for 12–14 minutes. Carefully remove the spears and drain. It is best to top with buttered bread crumbs, or make a white sauce by using the liquid they were cooked in. If you are not cooking the asparagus right away, wrap them in a clean damp paper towel and place in a plastic bag and refrigerate in the vegetable compartment.

NOTE: Germany is famous for its white asparagus. In our supermarkets, it is available in the springtime and in the fall because it is also grown in Peru which has spring during our fall.

Retired Pope Benedict Celebrates 90th Birthday in German Style

By CAROL GLATZ



BIRTHDAY TOAST—Retired Pope Benedict XVI and Archbishop Georg Ganswein, prefect of the papal household, left, toast men in traditional clothing with a beer during the German pontiff's 90th birthday celebration April 17 at the Vatican. The pope's birthday was the previous day.

A bit of Bavaria, including German beer and pretzels, came to the Vatican to help celebrate retired Pope Benedict XVI's 90th birthday.

"Thank you for bringing Bavaria here," he told his guests, commenting on the beauty of gathering together under a blue Roman sky with white clouds—colors that "recall the white and blue flag of Bavaria" and how "it's always the same sky" no matter where one finds oneself in the world.

The Bavarian-born pope's birthday fell on Easter Sunday, April 16, so a small informal party was held April 17 outside his residence, the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican gardens.

Pope Francis visited his predecessor April 12, before the start of the Easter Triduum, to offer him birthday greetings.

Special guests at the Bavarian party included: Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, the retired pope's 93-year-old brother; Archbishop Georg Ganswein, the retired pope's personal secretary; Birgit Wansing, a longtime administrative assistant; and the consecrated laywomen from Memores Domini, who assist him.

A German delegation was present, led by the minister president of Bavaria, Horst Seehofer, and including a group of men dressed in the traditional uniforms of the "Schutzen" with their dark green wool hats decorated with feathers, pins and springs of greenery.

Pope Benedict said his heart was filled with gratitude "for the 90 years the good Lord has given me. There have been trying and difficult times, but he always guided me and pulled me through."

He thanked God for his beautiful homeland "that you now bring to me," and which is "open to the world, lively and happy" because it is rooted so deeply in the Christian faith.

– courtesy "Catholic New York"



CULTURE CORNER

What's a "Gaufest"?



As we look forward to the upcoming 4 day Gaufest hosted by our friends at SGTV Edelweiss Buffalo, some of you may be asking what exactly is a "Gaufest" and where did the tradition start? Here's a little info on what it is and how it came to be.

The word "Gau" itself is an old germanic word that basically means "territory", "neighborhood" or "land". The division of Germany during the middle ages into "Gaus" under the then living counts was when we first encounter this word in history. The more commonly known version is its use during World War II under the Nazi party when Germany was again divided up into "Gaus" and each area was represented by a "Gauleiter". Today the term "Gau" is found in town names (Schongau, Oberammergau), regional names (Pongau, Pinzgau, Allgäu), and in regional club groups like German Boy Scouts, Schützenverbände or Trachtenverbände like our own "Gauverband Nordamerika".

The beginning of the 19th century saw an increased interest in local "Tracht" or clothing in Bavaria and the first forerunner of our present day "Trachtenverein" was founded in 1859. The "Gesellschaft Gemütlichkeit von 1859" in Miesbach was the club that led to the formation of the "Trachtenvereins Miesbach" in 1884. (The black and white photo depicted here, dating back to 1862, is the oldest historical photo of any Trachtengroup.) In 1890, the "Gauverband I" was formed as an umbrella organization to the then existing Trachtengroups. As years went by and more groups were formed, more "Gauverbände" were founded as umbrella organizations. To date there are 24 Gaus and over 980 Trachtenvereins worldwide.



The "Gautrachtenfest" or "Gaufest" is the highpoint of every Plattler and his Verein. It is celebrated yearly in Bavaria in every Gauverband. As a rule, a huge beer tent is erected for the fest. The "Gaufest" of the Gauverband I is the largest yearly fest with over 8000 Schuhplattlers taking part (color photo above). Most of the Gaufests last 2 days or more. They normally begin with a mass followed by an "Umzug" or parade of the different clubs. Then there are various activities most notably dancing for prizes as well as normal dances for spectator enjoyment all within the confines of the beer tent. Our Gaufest takes place every 2 years because of how spread out around America and Canada we are. All the more reason to have double the fun there!

RECENT EVENTS

Kaffee Klatsch -- February 16, 2017 -- Legion Hall, Thornwood

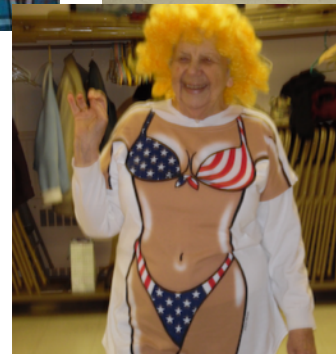
- courtesy D. & P. Dougall

The snowy and wet roads did not hinder us. The hall was decorated with hearts and snowflakes hanging from the ceiling. Peggy G. decorated everything else in Red.

Edith and Vikki donated Valentine theme paper goods and coffee. Many thanks to bakers for the cookies, heart shaped cookies, cheese platter, wurst platter, fruit and cheesecake. Vikki brought in Grand Marinier so we could sing "Schnaps das war sein letztes Wort" but we were encouraged to sing a few more: DaTa Humba, Wer soll das Bezahlen, Heute Blau, Morgen Blau, etc.

4 Naerrin were very brave in dressing up and the rest wore something Red. Oskar kept us laughing over and over. Later on, the Volkstanz group and were lucky to nibble on the leftovers.

Wir kommen in den Himmel for sure.



Original Enzian Heimatabend -- March 4, 2017 -- Polish Hall, Port Washington

It was an ice cold night when a group of BCE members went out to Port Washington to take part in Original Enzian's Heimatabend. But things heated up once the event started. The food offerings were served buffet style and the music was provided by the Spitzbuam - with our own Veronica Morscher's brother Herb, and Fritz and Irma Blume's son Peter bandmembers. Though our own Volkstanzgruppe was set to debut their dancing prowess for the public, there was a minor glitch with the music and regrettably the audience were denied a real treat! But it seemed there was no stopping our President Gloria from getting out there and showcasing her moves as she joined Edelweiss Passaic "Bua" Erik Hominek in the Gauplattler — proving she's still got it as a "Plattler"! A special tribute award was also given to Lenny Coyne that evening for the work he has done for the Bavarians and Germans over the many years. Gloria represented our club along with our presidents of other guest clubs in wishing him hearty congratulations!



Mid-Atlantic Jugend Einzel Platteln — March 11, 2017 — Oakford, PA

This year's Jugend Einzel Platen event was hosted by the United German Hungarians down in Pennsylvania. Allison Bogovic, Felicia Borsellio and Sebastian Phillips represented our club in the lineup. It was a great experience for them and all in all everyone had a great time! Rounding out the rest of the participants in the day's events were Kristen Bogovic and her parents Dennis and Christine, as well as Harrison and Analiese Phillips with parents Harry and Monika. Carol Gagliano and Dan Hepp, the two Jugendleiters who trained the kids, did a great job and were there as well lending further moral support. Our kids rocked it! As Gloria McSweeney said "A big Vergelts Gott to Carol and Dan who worked with our Jugendgruppe Allison Bogovic, Felicia Borsellio and Sebastian Phillips in a great showing at the Jugend Einzln."



Gemuethlichen Enzianer Bauernball — April 1, 2017 — Franklin Square, NY

Gemuethlichen Enzianen celebrated their annual Bauernball at the Plattdeutsche Park Restaurant. A group of BCE members showed their support for our “Patenkind” and drove out to Long Island to be part of this enjoyable evening.



Kaffee Klatsch -- March 21, 2017 -- Legion Hall, Thornwood

- courtesy D. & P. Dougall

Today was the first full day of Spring and was it wonderful. Peggy Dougall baked 2 cakes, Eierliquer cake and a Marmor(marble) kuchen. Peter and Peggy had set up the coffee station and we were good to go. Linda Ohland donated a can of coffee ..Danke. Lydia brought some wafer cookies ..Danke.

This month we were all asked to bring in a poem (Gedicht) or verse to read aloud. Here is one:

Ja, jetzt ist bald Frühling
 Natur ist erwacht
 Frisch auf drum, ihr Menschen,
 Geniesst diese pracht.
 Trinkt Freude am strahlenden Frühlingstag
 So viel euer Auge nur schöpfen mag!
 von Hans Wunderlich

Everyone went home with a Strauss(bunch) of Forsythia.
 The next Kaffee Klatsch is April 11 at 3pm. Lydia Stoppacher will bake 2 cakes next month.
 Members will bring in a photo of themselves from long ago and talk about it.

May 9th will be the last one before summer break. Then it will resume again in the Fall. Planning to show a German Film and do a Potluck Supper....stay tuned.

Kaffee Klatsch -- April 11, 2017 -- Legion Hall, Thornwood

- courtesy D. & P. Dougall

The usual gang arrived at 3 pm and enjoyed a Kaese Kuchen (cheese cake) and Marmor Kuchen (Marble cake). Thank you Lydia for being this month's baker. However the big highlight was everyone was to bring in a picture of yourself from childhood. What a blast that was!. Black and white photos showed Lydia, Hilde, Peggy G., Edith, Linda O., who were all blonds (I think.) and to see them with their siblings too. Peter G. looked about 4 years and was playing an accordion. Watch out Fritz and Dieter..there may be some competition coming up the ranks. Osker O. still looks as handsome even though decades have passed him. Renate Heinz had a photo of her and her twin sister. I wonder if they fooled any boyfriends who may have gone out on a date with the other sister???

Peggy and Peter had everything decked out for Easter. Thanks again for preparing the tables, decorations and the kaffee.

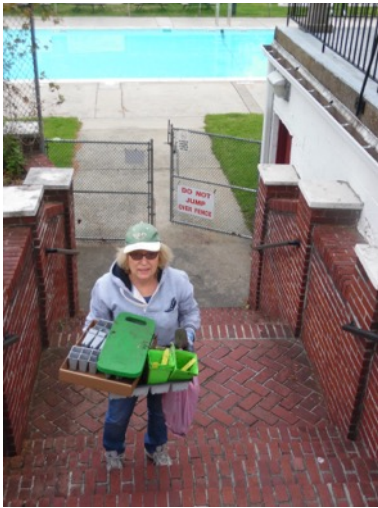
Next month May 9 a film will be shown "GoodBye Lenin" at 1pm at the American Legion Hall. We will begin with some sandwiches, salad and other snacks while watching. All are welcome. There will a break for the summer and will resume the klatsch again in the Fall.



Gardening at Kolping -- Kolping on Hudson

- courtesy D. & P. Dougall

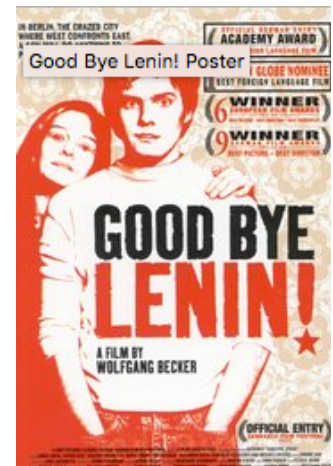
Well it's Springtime and once again we were doing God's work at Kolping. Gloria Mc Sweeney and Peggy Dougall completed some serious weeding around the circular wall in the pool area and along the roadway to the parking lot. It's been too chilly to plant annuals. The perennials (deer resistant) are doing fine. We just have to wait for June and the months to come to see their blooms. Thanks Richie for taking the pictures. Also glad to see the ladies have taken on some of the planting as well.



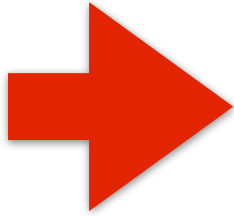
“Goodbye Lenin” -- May 9, 2107 —Legion Hall

- courtesy D. & P. Dougall

Vielen, vielen Dank for all who came and contributed the Popcorn, Sandwiches, Wine, cookies, Lemonade, and Ice Tea. The film *Goodbye Lenin* was an Official entry for Best Foreign Language Film for the Academy Awards, a Golden Globe Nominee as the Best Foreign Film, Winner of 6 European Film Awards, Winner of 9 German Film Awards. Need I say more? If you missed it try and see if a local library has it..... See you in Fall when we resume the Kaffee Klatsch.

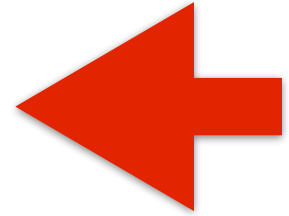


HOLD THE DATE!



BAVARIAN CLUB EDELWEISS 85TH STIFTUNGSFEST

**SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018
OCEOLA MANOR, JEFFERSON VALLEY
MUSIC BY "DIE SPITZBUAM"**



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www.facebook.com/groups/BavarianClubEdelweiss/**

MEMBER POSTS

Got something to buy, sell or swap? Need to get the word out about something? Let us know and it can be posted here!



Mit Bayrischen Grüßen - Sonya Kall, Editor Peggy Dougall, Alexander Kall & Gloria Mayer McSweeney, Contributing Editors
Harold Phillips - Photographer