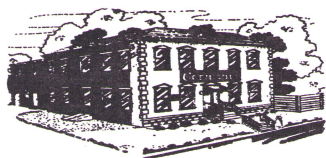


Germania Nachrichten



Germania Singing and Sport Society

543 S. Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Since 1866, Preserving German Culture for 154 Years

Home of the Original Oktoberfest in Columbus



December, 2020

Botschaft des Präsidenten

Liebe Germania Mitglieder,

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and that darn COVID bug is still here! I know we were all hoping it would be gone by now. There is some good news that I heard recently, a vaccine may be available after the first of the year. So, there is some light at the end of the tunnel and it is not a train coming at us this time.

This past Sunday, we voted on adopting our new set of Bylaws. Thank you once again to all those who have worked diligently on this year long project. We'll be sending out more information on the changes on how we operate moving forward. It's an exciting future for us!

I received a letter from a member the other day that you all need to hear. (*See Letter to the Editor, next page*) The member stated that during a political discussion, they were told that their views didn't matter (because they didn't match the other person's view). First, our By-laws state that we are not to be discussing politics or religious subjects at the club. I know that under the existing political tensions, it is difficult not to talk about things. But we really must refrain from it. It only causes tense relations with others. Second, we live in a democracy and everyone's view matters. We may not agree with them, but they still matter to the person that utters them. I know that we all would want our own view matter. If someone starts to talk about politics, please politely ask them not too.

Even though Covid is still out there, we are still open on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 10:30 p.m. Our Anniversary Dinner has been postponed because of the rise of cases right now. On December 6, the Ladies Aux. will be hosting their annual Christmas Dinner at 1:00 p.m. On December 18th, the Candlelight Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. And of course, because of Covid, there will be limited seating. Reservations will be made through Sign-up Genius, watch for the announcements.

The year is almost over and we most certainly are looking forward to a new year without Covid. I know that we all want 2021 to be better than 2020. Let's all be positive and supportive of one another as we move forward. The Germania has survived 2020, it shows our strength and determination. Let's make 2021 a year of rebirth!

I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and as we move into December; Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Prost!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Mark W. Pinnick

GERMANIA OFFICERS 2021

President:

Mark Pinnick

Vice President:

Eric Chivington

Treasurer:

Deb Korting

Secretary:

Carolyn Martin

Director, Activities:

Dhuey Cronk

Director, Music Groups:

Lara Furukawa

Directors at Large:

Bob Traphagan, Chm

Dhuey Cronk

Ryan Cupp

William Taylor

E-mail: President@GermaniaColumbus.org

Website: www.germaniacolumbus.org

Dining Room/Reservations: 614/228-9055

Office/Society Information: 614/461-8095

Facility available for Private Parties not in conflict with Germania Events. Support your Society by attending as many functions as possible. Please send us your e-mail address for timely notification of schedule changes and event cancellations.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor's Note:

Many of you know Juwan Newman, who joined the Germania less than two years ago. He sent a longer and more specific version of the following letter to President Mark and to me a few days ago. I would have read it as an item of correspondence at the November General Membership meeting, but I knew there were other items already on the agenda for which time had to be saved. So, President Mark and I decided to share the gist of Juwan's letter with all members in this newsletter. Perhaps you will see in it how one member looks at the Germania as a place where he experiences a kind of happiness that he finds nowhere else. And some may see an opportunity to offer friendship where true and simple friendship can mean so much.

Dear Members,

I do not know really how to approach the subject matter in this letter, as it is a bit on the personal side.

For many people, this year has been an exhausting endeavor, that somehow manages to increase in mental and emotional strain. I myself have been through a lot this year; health, financially, as well as familial trials I have endured. I find myself seeking solace, and this club has become a refuge for me to escape from the maddening world we all live in, but also Germania has become a place I enjoy being. I enjoy the company and camaraderie I share here; Air Gun Club, Beer Club, Singing, etc. I find myself happy when I am here. Yet, over the last several months, my happiness has tanked some, due to the state of the world around us, and unfortunately over the last several weeks, I have been feeling down when I am here.

Recently, during a very personal heartfelt conversation, some people replied to me in a very thoughtless manner. It was obvious that they did not listen to what I was saying, because their response didn't at all take into consideration how I would feel from their comments. I want the Germania to be a place where we can all speak our minds freely. After all, we do have freedom of speech in this country. But we also need to be kind to each other and realize what we say can hurt.

Misunderstand not, as being here and being a part of this group, has lead to some of the most fun times I've had in a long time. An abundance of happy memories have come from being here; The singing events, Me winning a stein glass a couple weeks ago from a shooting competition, and my most cherished memory of all; Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance with my (almost) girlfriend. That made me so happy, as I got to enjoy a peaceful and happy moment here at the club, with a person whose mere name alone elicits such deep joy.

To any new members, please forgive me. Mark and Eric, I ask that of forgiveness if I said anything wrong. To everyone else, sorry for taking up time with me feeling out of place. Important things probably should have been discussed in place of this letter, and for that I apologize for wasting your time. My apologies for this being a bit on the rambling side, as I within the last previous 2 hours of me writing this, got home from work. I may not come around for the next several weeks, as I feel I need to step back and just rethink things, and I also feel that after this letter, people may not want to be around me.

Thank you for your time, and I apologize for killing the mood,

Juwan

LADIES AUXILIARY

Good news the Christmas Dinner is still scheduled for December 6, see details below. If anyone would like to help set-up and decorate please call me at (614-898-9022) to let me know you are coming. Please be at the club at 9:30 AM on December 5. In other news: At our December 13, meeting we will be electing a Vice-President and Treasurer, please plan to attend at 2PM.

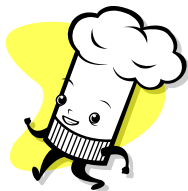
We of the Ladies Auxiliary are still discussing ways we can continue to serve the Germania in the coming years.

Dolores Kneller, President, Germania Ladies Auxiliary

BEA'S MAC AND CHEESE

From Eric Chivington's grandmother, Beatrice Chivington

Whether attending an event at Germania or hosting Thanksgiving, no family gathering is complete without great food. My grandmother Bea's is one of my personal favorites and a great side dish for any party.

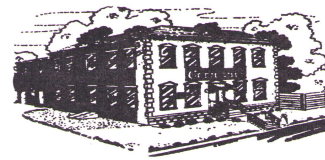


1 1/2 cups cottage cheese
2 cups Elbow Macaroni, cooked, drained
2 cups Mostaccioli Rigati, cooked, drained
15 ounces of Ricotta Cheese (whole milk version preferred)
1 cup sour cream
2 eggs
24 ounces Wisconsin Cheddar Cheese, coarsely shredded
 (one 12 ounce bag each of mild and sharp cheddar cheese)
 Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Transfer to a 13-by-9-inch pan. Bake until golden and crust, about 40 minutes.

GERMANIA'S GRATITUDE LIST

By Lara Furukawa



If Germania herself (itself?) kept a gratitude list, here's what I think would go on it!

I'm grateful to my members for:

Visiting me when you can

The fresh beer coming in, and the empty kegs going out

My fresh flowers and green grass

The little fixes, like plumbing and wiring that make me feel good as new

My polished floors and shiny bathrooms

The smell of food cooking in my kitchen

My organized storage areas

My new outside bar and soda and keg systems

My taxes and utilities getting paid

That I still look good after all these years!

You are all on my own gratitude list this year for your work to keep our historic club going strong.

May your Thanksgiving be joyful, if a little quieter this year.

GREETINGS FROM THE BIER KAMERADEN:

Since our last correspondence the Bier Kameraden has hosted two successful events in September and helped with Frank und Steins Halloween Masked Ball in October. The OktoberFass and Hochzeitsempfang were both well attended by members and guests.

Since festivals are verboten currently in Ohio, Oktoberfest was split between two different weekends and attendance was limited to members and their invited guests. OktoberFass on September 18th was a ticketed event that included an unlimited served buffet for 2 hours and music was provided by the Route 161 Happy Wanderers until 10pm. The weather was unseasonably cold, but the great Oktoberfest beers by Paulaner Brauerei München and Royal Dock which provided the ceremonial keg again this year helped to warm those that attended. Melinda Green was named OktoberFass queen and Lucy Chivington was the Münchnerkindl.



The September 26th was the celebration of the 210th Anniversary of the wedding reception that started it all. The wedding of Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. Members Dennis Karel and his wife Symone Niesz-Ent served as the stand-ins for the royal couple.

This event was more of an open house as the event started at 1pm and ran until 10pm. This allowed for greater attendance and social distancing. The menu consisted of two hearty chilis, chicken schnitzel sliders sandwiches and a bratwurst on a warm pretzel bun. Sides available were hot German potato salad and three bean salad with sauerkraut for the bratwursts. There were two musical groups with member Brett Bohl's son Brady providing acoustic guitar and dance music from Hot Tonic who are also neighbors to our House Committee chairperson Billy Taylor.

On October 10 a group of Germania members went to the Wooly Pig Farm Brewery to celebrate that brewery's tapping of their Oktoberfest beer. Those that attended can attest to how outstanding this beer is. According to Dhuey Cronk it's the best Mäzen outside of Munich, Germany.



Kameraden continued on next page...

Kameraden continued

The Kameraden also hosted Frank und Steins Halloween Masked Ball which featured beers from British rock group Iron Maiden with their beers Trooper and Fear of the Dark. These are limited release beers for the Halloween season and are both available while they last. As always, there were great costumes and good spirits at this event. Since the weather was warmer than normal the DJ played music outside in the Biergarten while members sat around the firepit. Best costume by far was Billy Taylor's. Can you guess who he went as?

If you haven't been to a Bier Kameraden event yet this year we have two more planned. For the November 28th event we invite you to watch the Ohio State Buckeyes take on the Fighting Illini (game time hasn't been determined at publication time) and December 12th is the chili cookoff during the Michigan game. If you would like to compete in the chili cookoff please email Eric Chivington at echivington@gmail.com. Please come down and enjoy the fall weather and camaraderie in the Oldest Biergarten in Columbus. Prost!

Your Official Unofficial Leaders of the Germania Bier Kameraden,
Dhucy Cronk, Melinda Green, Eric Chivington and Billy Taylor



The Bier Kameraden is part of the NovemBEARD Fundraiser for the Butterfly Guild of Nationwide Children's Hospital which started Nov. 1st! This year members of Germania's Bier Kameraden are raising funds for the Hospice and Palliative Care Program!! Our goal is \$1000, but if we reach \$10,000 our Vice President Eric Chivington will shave off his beard and head of hair. Who wants to see that? If so donate, plus if every member of the club were to give just \$25 Eric's head of hair will be no more. Prost!

Go to our Registration Page to register now at:

https://give.nationwidechildrens.org/site/TR/Events/General?team_id=4301&pg=team&fr_id=1550



GET TO KNOW: GERMANIA COLUMBUS

From the Schalke Newsletter that went out Worldwide to all the FC Schalke 04 fans. Here is the featured article about Germania and the Germania 1866 Schalke 04 supporter group.

Article contributed by: Eric Chivington, Vice President

Back in the United States, there is a long and proud history of German expats organizing their own clubs and societies to help preserve their heritage – even thousands of miles away from home. One such club also prides itself as being one of Schalke 04's largest supporter groups – Germania Singing and Sport society in Columbus, Ohio. We caught up with the club's Vice President, Eric Chivington, to dive into the club's history and their passion for *Die Knappen*.

Who is the Germania Columbus Singing and Sport Society?

We were founded in 1866 by a consortium of blue-collar Germans that immigrated to the United States. A lot of our original members had fought for the Union in the Civil War and came together to preserve their German culture. A couple of different groups in the region originally were integrated into the club – one of them being Columbus Kickers, who were founded in 1900 as a soccer-oriented club and joined in 1926. That season, the Kickers won a regional tournament that would eventually become part of the wider U.S. Open Cup – playing against other ethnic clubs across the Midwest.

It's a truly special place – and clubs like ours don't exist much. But, we're still hanging around and proud of it. Today, we have close to 450 members from a variety of age groups and backgrounds that all enjoy German culture, music, camaraderie, and the community that comes with it.

How did you first get involved as a Supporters group?

Some members went to a Schalke event in Pittsburgh and wanted to try something in Columbus. When someone asks me a question, I find the answer – and here we are! We had had

various viewing parties for the World Cup and Euros over the years, but nothing consistent. Big tournaments come every few years, and it's difficult to build upon. I got some contact information with Schalke, reached out and said “hey, we have some interested people that are very much Schalke fans, can we do something?”. We now proudly get 20-30 members at viewing parties every week.

What aspects of being Schalker resonate most with you and your group?

The Bundesliga is truly the best kept secret in American soccer. Most of the time, fans only see clubs when they come play exhibition games here. We really became fans, though, when we looked into the back story of the club. The miners of the region who would work in coal mines Monday to Friday and play soccer on the weekends – a very blue collar, hardworking ethos. They're known for their toughness and their grit, too – physicality that sometimes is lost in the sport these days. That blue collar nature ethos is what Germania was founded on, and Schalke mirrors that. It's a good fit.

Additionally, Schalke is one of those few remaining organizations like that, who have a fencing club, shooting club, volleyball team, etc. We almost see ourselves in them. A lot of our older members are past their playing days, but we have always had a shooting club, a soccer team, fencing group, music groups – and now we proudly have a Schalke fan group at the club.

Get to Know continued on next page.

Get to Know continued

What does a typical match day look like at the club?

The camaraderie and community that comes out of watching things together as a group really shines through on matchday. It's a great environment. Germania always prides itself on the food it brings – for early matches, we do Veltins with locally made donuts together. We also offer a hearty German breakfast of meat, cheese, and eggs sometimes. On normal afternoon matches, we've got German potato salad. Good, hearty food that's designed to be enjoyed with friends and comrades and fans alike. Watching the spirited and unique brand of soccer that the Bundesliga offers with authentic German food is a great pairing. We have older members that come as well – some played against Schalke's youth teams in their days as soccer players back in Germany. It's always fun to hear from them about their days playing against the tough, gritty, cohesive Schalke teams of the club's heyday. Additionally, it's great for them to connect to their roots and watch some of the teams they played for – and against – on a weekly basis with their family.

Where do you watch games and gather as a club?

Our clubhouse is in the Schlee Brewery District – named after Nicholas Schlee, head Brewer of the Brewing Alliance in Columbus OH from the 1870s to the early 1900s. Our club is his mansion – the oldest house in the Brewery District. We purchased it from his estate in 1926, and this will be our 95th year at this location. We're the last remaining German organization in Columbus that is still in their building. It's really special – we've been good Germans, good stewards with our money, and have found a way to make things work among a group of people. People say we're a family more than a club. That doesn't mean we get along all the time, but we're always respectful. We share common roots in German culture, song, and spirit that ties us together. That's the glue. Plus, it's hard to argue over something with someone after you've enjoyed a beer together.

AUS DER KÜCHE


By Michael Queck

In an effort to add the Thursday Night Gemütlichkeit members of Germania have been volunteering in the kitchen to provide dinner.

All the prep time and food costs has been donated to help defer cost to the Society. Those in the kitchen are looking for recipes for simple German food or comfort food that members can enjoy. If you would like to share a recipe for the kitchen or volunteer to help please reach out to Kaylee Steiff or Melinda Green at kayleesteiff@gmail.com or melinda-green@gmail.com.

The meals have included Bratwurst Baskets with sides and homemade soups and chili.

The Thursday after the election the kitchen featured a German three cheese grilled sandwich with Bacon and Cream of Tomato Soup to help with the post-election hangover. We thought everyone could all use a warm hug right about now, but since we can't do that because of Covid we had the next best thing! It was comfort food like Oma used to make and we would have even cut the crust off for you too. Ja!

Gemütlichkeit starts at 6pm.  Dinner starts at 7pm and goes until 8:30pm. Look for the Tuesday email for the featured weekly entrée. Thursday November 12th featured entrée was Frikadelle and German Potato Salad w/ Chicken Noodle Soup.

Upcoming Thursday Soup schedule:

- 11/19 - Cream of Potato and Bacon Soup
- 12/03 - Chicken and Dumplings Soup
- 12/10 - Butternut Squash & Apple Soup
- 12/17 - Creamy Tomato Basil Bisque

Each month we feature recipe from the Germania kitchen that has been served in the club house on Thursday evenings for those that can't make to the club currently. Please feel free to share or make the recipe at home and so you can be part of the Gemütlichkeit that makes Germania Singing & Sport Society such a special place.

SCHEDULE OF GERMANIA EVENTS

Bar Open

Thursday, November 19, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Bier Kameraden Event

Friday, November 20, 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Bier Kameraden Event

Friday, November 27, 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Bar Open

Thursday, December 3, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Annual Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 6, 1:00 pm

Bar Open

Thursday, December 10, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Bar Open

Thursday, December 17, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Candlelight Dinner

Friday, December 18, 6:00 pm

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary



Sunday, December 6

Doors open at 12:30 pm

All are asked to be seated by 1:00 pm.

Menu: Roast Pork or Amish Chicken;
Spaetzele, Salad, Green Beans, Red Cabbage,
Rolls and Butter.

Stolen for dessert, included in the price.

Members \$18, Guests \$21

Reservations are required.

Look for an email invitation.

Place
Stamp
Here

Germania
Singing and Sport Society
543 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215