



German American Klub

July 2011 Newsletter



"To promote the German and American culture, heritage, and tradition, to provide functions for the members and their families." [GAK By Laws]

German-American Klub of Indianapolis, Inc.

8602 South Meridian Street • Indianapolis, IN 46217 • 317/888-6940 • Vol. XXXI No. 7

Happy Birthday America

Ed and Mary Alice Vondrak
invite
members of the GAK
to attend an open house
celebration of their
50th Wedding Anniversary
on
Sunday, September 4, 2011
from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
in the Community Life and Worship
Center at
Friedens United Church of Christ
8300 S. Meridian St.
(State Road 135)
Indianapolis, IN 46217
(Church with pond, ¼ mile north of
German Park)

Come greet us and enjoy cake,
punch, heavy hors d'oeuvres,
and music by The Knappers

No gifts, please.

If you plan to attend, we would
appreciate it if you would
please let us know by

August 15, 2011,

via e-mail,

mavondrak888@comcast.net,

or phone, 317-888-1793.

Regular Scheduled Events

**Oktoberfest 2011
meeting on first &
fourth Tuesday
@ 7 pm.**



**Third Tuesday
GAK Auxiliary
Meeting @ 7 pm**



**Third Tuesday
GAK Membership
Meeting @ 8 pm**



**Tanzgruppe Practice
Wednesday 7 pm**



**Wed. night Buffet
5-9 pm**

Check out
www.indianapolisgak.com

Also

Edelweiss Restaurant
on FaceBook

EVENING IN THE BIERGARTEN

August 13, 2011

*Enjoy a Special German
Dinner in the Biergarten*

Dinner begins at 5pm

*Highlight of the
evening will be
the pie auction*



*This evening
under the stars is
presented by
GAK Ladies
Auxiliary*

For more information
& reservations
Call 888-6940

FROM THE PRESIDENT ...

Oktoberfest is fast approaching. At the time of this writing, there is just 78 days until the curtain is pulled back and the show starts. While this year has been far easier than last year so far, there is still a lot to be done. I do not have the time to contact every member personally, so if you are willing to give of your time, then please contact me with your contact information and what you would like to do. To aid you in your thinking over what you would choose to do, I am including a list of what is needed for the event.

First off is Setup. This may be the most crucial part of Oktoberfest, because the more we can get ready before the festival starts, the easier everything becomes. Setup begins on September 5th, and continues through mid afternoon on the 8th. Most of what setup entails is the heavy lifting of getting the right things to the right places. This includes moving electrical boxes, refrigeration and cooking units, decoration, and supplies. Most of these items are stored in our garage, and have to be taken to the floor of the park. This requires approximately 20 people, 3 pickup trucks, and one or two trailers. This is a perfect opportunity to drag along a teenager if you happen to have one lying around the house. I would also be thrilled to have a 3-4 person fabrication team to do minor carpentry projects.

Also starting before the festival is food prep. We prepare all of the product for the pastry tent in the 2 weeks leading up to the festival. As the festival gets closer, then the focus changes to slicing onions and other more perishable items for use in both kitchens. My wish is for 5 people to take to these tasks.

That covers the setup for the festival, so now we have gotten to showtime. I currently have two real areas of concern, the Pretzel Tent and Root Bier Tent. At the current time, both of these areas need

Chairpeople as well as crews. The Pretzel Tent is fairly straightforward. Heat pretzels, sell pretzels. We do have a couple of volunteers for this area, but still need about 8 more. In recent years, this has been the area where we frequently have had some of the longest lines, so doing things better here could mean a great deal for the Klub.

The Root Bier Tent is something that started last year, where we serve up keg root bier and floats, and possibly other goodies in a kid-friendly atmosphere. This area suffered last year from the lack of a chairperson, and I blame myself for that. My best guess is that we will need a chairperson and a dozen workers for this area.

Also needed are supply runners. Again, this is a great place to involve your teens if you have them. We generally need about 3 per night for the supply depot, and another 2-3 for trips from the Klubhouse to the various areas.

Another 3-4 people are needed for the Stein Hold Booth, and for the Membership Booth. Also, there is as always a need for people to work the Ticket Booths. There are 3 booths, and while they are headed up by the members of the Tanzgruppe, they also have to perform every night, and we have to cover the booths during their performance times.

When we get done with the festival, we have plenty of more work to do, getting everything rounded up and put back in the garage. This will be taking place on the 12th, 13th, and 14th. Tearing everything down is a much simpler process than putting it up, so a dozen people and a couple trucks and a trailer is all that is needed for this time.

Beyond this, some funding is needed. There are some things that we just have to pay for in advance, as well as having the starting bank for the gates and ticket booths. Any donations or loans for this are greatly appreciated not just by the Klub as a whole but by me

personally, as it makes my job a great deal easier.

Our Oktoberfest serves two purposes. First it is our big fundraiser for the year. The more cost-effective we are, then the better off we are as a Klub. Volunteers are our best path to that goal. More importantly than that, Oktoberfest is our most public face. Without this opportunity to introduce ourselves to the community and to cement those bonds, then the continued growth of the Klub is jeopardized. Beyond those two purposes however is the chance to get to know and form friendships with your fellow members. I don't believe that I would be as involved in the Klub today or have as many wonderful friends as I have today had I not worked in ticket booths for Fred Graf and Wally Vogt just a couple months after becoming a member.

And lest we forget, anyone working a shift of 4 hours or more is entitled to a meal ticket and free beverages, and you do not have to work every night of the festival. This is a volunteer situation, so you only have to work as much or as little as you want.

Thank you for your efforts, and let me know you want to work!

Chuck Kemp
ckemp091@aol.com
 (317) 435-1131

GAK BOARD MEMBERS

Pres. Chuck Kemp, 1st VP Mike Diehl, 2nd VP Mike Bauer, Sec'y Tim Blaker, Trea. Lorra Schroeder, Cliff Lipsius, Nate Harves, Denise Roberts, Bill Burrell

UPGRADE TO A LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

Now through July 31st, you can upgrade to a lifetime membership for just \$250! That is a 50% savings for you as well as the saving yourself the effort of annual renewals. Contact the Klub at 888-6940 for more information.

DIE FLEDERMÄUSCHEN TANZGRUPPE

By Lucille Mueller

On July 16th Die Fledermäuschen Tanzgruppe will be dancing at Oldenburg for the Freudenfest. We will do two performances, at 3 and 5:30 pm. We always enjoy going there because there is a large crowd and we have lots of fans!

Our next performance will be for the Rick Noble Family Reunion on Friday, August 5th. This is a large affair at Geist Christian Church with about 200 people.

2011 German Park Summer Fests

SATURDAY SPONSORED BY

July 16 Ipls. Saenger Chor
Die Freudemacher

Aug 6 Ipls Liederkranz
Jay Fox & Band

Aug 27 Federation/German
Soc.
The Knappers

Gates open at 5 pm
Admission \$3.00

NEWS FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY

Happy summer – hope you are enjoying the warm weather. The Ladies Auxiliary will be taking the month of July off. We had two events in June – the annual garage sale and the annual Summerfest in German Park featuring The Original Alpine Express. Our next event is the **Pie Auction on Saturday, August 13.**

The Edelweiss Restaurant will have several dinner specials that night and the Ladies Auxiliary will have lots and lots of wonderful desserts to bid on. If you would like to donate a des-



sert for the pie auction, please contact Lou Mueller at 317-786-6341.

Don't forget right around the corner from the Pie Auction is Oktoberfest 2011 – September 8, 9, 10 and 11. If you would like to volunteer to help at Oktoberfest, please contact the Klub or give Chuck Kemp a call at 435-1131. See you at the Klub.

See you at the Klub.

Patty Johns



RAINY DAY FUND

Quinton & Jean Heintzelman,
Joan Mills, Gerhard Weber, Ed & Sandy Roehling, Cliff & Yvonne Lipsius, Elise Marshall, Larry Borst, Martin Dannemiller, Walter & Elizabeth Dieckamp Gloria Webster, Eva Cummings, Charles Kemp, John & Darleen Himmelheber, Frank Scholl, Gerhard & Evelin Klemm, German-American Jaeger Club, Richard & Ruth Allseit, Lorra Schroeder, Joe Mankus,

FROM THE MANAGER ...

Well the spring wedding season is slowing down so our parking lot won't look so full on the weekends. The Biergarten is open and we have extra seating so bring your friends and hang out with us.

I want to thank my whole staff at the Edelweiss for working extra hard while I took my first Vacation since I have been back.

We spent six days at Tybee Island, GA. We ate fresh shrimp right off the boat, went fishing and crabbing, cooked up multiple seafood feasts, and watched the dolphins.

I caught a shark in the same waters we were swimming in, ask me about it, I have pictures.

Again thank you Ian, Wes, Lisa, Laura, Jake, Jill and Courtney. If some of these names are not familiar, you are not visiting us often enough and are now on the bad list.

Here at the Klub I want to thank Joel Melcher for keeping our grass cut and the Klub in working order

and the only thing Dave Cozad has done is get our Mug Klub going.

What? Did I say Mug Klub? Yes, for \$25 bucks a year YOU can be in the MUG Klub. This entitles you a buck off of each Tap beer you buy and drink out of your new pint mug that you keep at the end of the year, plus you are eligible for Mug Klub appetizer specials and the honor of being a member of the Elite GAK Mug Klub. Join up at the bar.

This month we have come up with a couple of new Vegetarian dishes that we are likely to add to the menu but I need your comments so come out and try our Portabella Mushroom Schnitzel or our Mushroom Artichoke Strudel with mixed greens and Champagne vinaigrette.

For daily updates of specials and happenings here at the Restaurant join Facebook Edelweiss Restaurant.

Chef Ron

COMING EVENTS

**Chuck's 3rd Annual
39th Birthday Pie Fight
July 16th**

**Annual Pie Auction
August 13th**

**Oktoberfest 2011
September 8-11**



Get Well Wishes to:

Jean Albers

Dan Schroeder

Hans Strobeck

Charley Baker

German-American Klub of Indianapolis, Inc.

8602 S. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46217



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God Bless the USA

In general, the art of government consists of taking as much money as possible from one party of the citizens to give to the other. –Voltaire (1764)

Sonn	Mon	Diens	Mitt	Donn	Frei	Sams	Sonn	Mon	Diens	Mitt	Donn	Frei	Sams
July 2011							31	1	2	3	4	5	6
					1	2			Okfst Mtg				
3		5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Okfst Mtg	Tanz-gruppe Buffet						Board Meeting	Tanz-gruppe Buffet			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Board Meeting	Tanz-gruppe Buffet						& Member Meeting	Buffet			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		& Member Meeting	Buffet						Okfst Mtg	Tanz-gruppe Buffet		August 2011	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
		Okfst Mtg	Tanz-gruppe Buffet							Tanz-gruppe Buffet			