

●●● VERANSTALTUNGEN ● SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ●●●

January 2	20:00	1st Saturday of the month dance
January 10	14:00	Filmnachmittag - Da wo wir zu Hause Sind
January 23	12:00	Kappensitzung
January 24	13:00	Kindermaskenball
January 26	19:00	Annual Budget Meeting

VORSCHAU - PREVIEW

February 6	20:00	1st Saturday of the month dance
February 7	10:00	Fisher and Hunters Elections
February 14	14:00	Valentines Dinner
February 17	19:00	Herring Essen
February 20	18:00	Kale Dinner
February 21	14:00	Filmnachmittag - film to be announced
February 27	17:00	All Choirs Night

*Germania Choirs rehearsal Thursday at 7:30pm
Skat Saturday in the Rathskeller starting at 12:30 p.m.*

Next monthly membership meeting ...January 26, at 7:30 p.m.
Nächste monatliche Versammlung ... Am 26. Januar um 19:30 Uhr
Any members meeting or function cancellation will be on the club's voice mail.



GERMANIA POST

GERMANIA CLUB OF HAMILTON, 863 King St. E. Hamilton, Ont. L8M 1B5

BÜROZEITEN/OFFICE HOURS

Editor & layout: David S & Christina A

DEADLINE
for submissions
of each
10th month

Germania Club of Hamilton
863 King Street East
Hamilton, ON
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www.germaniaclub.ca

Office Hours
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
6:00pm-8:00pm

CLUB TELEPHONE NUMBER
905-549-0513
Club E-mail:
info@germaniaclub.ca

HEFT NR: 589- JANUAR 2010 - JAHRGANG 48

Germania Post



10 Januar um 14:00 Uhr
"Da wo wir zu Hause sind"
mit Hansi Hinterseer



Vorschau 30 min.

"Wir lassen uns das Singen nicht verbieten"

Details on Page 9

Admission
\$5.00 includes all the
coffee you can drink.
Food will be available

Next Movie
Day is
Scheduled for
February 21st, 2010

Gisela "Gissi" Rudolf

March 25, 1915 - November 24, 2009

We are sad to announce the passing of Gisela Rudolf. Gisela had been a life long club member since 1971. Gisela was also a member of the Ladies Auxiliary. Our sympathies go out to her family and loved ones.

Josefa "Josie" Kayer

March 9, 1919 - November 28, 2009

We are sad to announce the passing of Josefa Kayer. Josefa had been a club member since 1997. We extend our condolences to Josefa's family and loved ones.

Eva "Emmi" Ney

May 9, 1922 - December 7, 2009

We are sad to announce the passing of Eva Ney. Eva had been a club member since 2007. Our deepest sympathies go out to her family and loved ones.

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THE CLUB THANKS YOU FOR ALL DONATIONS

Donations to the Club

Arthur Wagenblast, Karl Uschold
and Ingrid Oppermann \$90

Donations to the Carpet Fund

Werner and Karla Grauf \$100

Donations to Park and Memorial

Horst and Irmgard Rewald \$240
for tree in the Park

Priscilla Wilson \$260
for tree in the Park in memory
of her husband Desmond

The Germania Club
welcomes new members

Christian and Lydia Erwig-
Straughan

The BUG SHOP



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Wir gratulieren.

Peter Werheid
zum 70.

Helmut Hentschel
Christel Strassgürtl
zum 75.

Hildegard Mastalka
zum 80.

Tiesel Graeser
Ed Hadenberg
zum 85.

Geburtstag



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Mardi Gras Society "NARRHALLA 58"

Hello Fellow Karnivalisten!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. This month we have our Kappensitzung on January 23, 2010, so put on your Mardi Gras hats, bring your jokes and join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter. The next day is our Kindermaskenball starting at 1:00 PM so bring your children and grandchildren have them put on their favourite costumes and join us for an afternoon of fun.

A few of our members are heading to Las Vegas to join in the festivities with GAMGA, I wish you all a safe trip.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our functions.

*Until then
Lori Kramolowsky
Secretary*

Membership Fees

\$12 for student
\$65 for regular
\$110 for family
\$45 for seniors

THE OVER SIXTY GROUP



We all hope that everyone had a great Christmas holiday and started the New Year off right.

For our Liesel Graeser a very Happy 85th Birthday to you on January 10, 2010. May you celebrate well.

*Yours truly
Linda Wanner*

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The President's Corner



At the end of the year and on the cusp of a new year and new decade, it is a great time to daydream a bit and to think of the past.

What an amazing amount of courage it must take to think of moving to a new country. Notice I didn't say move away from your home, because I don't think you can totally leave where you come from. To make the initial decision to move must have been a heart breaker. In many cases leaving family in Germany, who even with best intentions, many not be seen again for a while, and would not be seen often. Letters back and forth across the ocean would have to do, with maybe a phone call at Christmas. In those days who could afford to phone more often? Remember those calls? You would call the operator who would connect to the overseas operate to place the call. Then you would hang up, and the waiting began, at Christmastime a long wait. Then the operator would call you back when the call was connected. Finally your loved one was on the phone, and you had to speak quickly because it was so expensive. Thank goodness some things in the modern times are a real improvement.

Those Christmas calls were special; everyone was excited and wanted to hear the news from both sides. The tears would flow and the hearts were tugged. Families split across the ocean is not an easy thing, you really can't hug over the telephone, or wipe each other's tears away.

Was that move to Canada the best thing you could have done? Canada wasn't the land where the streets flowed with milk and honey. But if you worked hard, the country and the people appreciated you. You were free. And that freedom counts for a lot in my book. Of course you were free in Germany as well, but the meaning is somehow different.

Thank goodness for the Germania Club, where the German language could be spoken or sung. A place where you enjoyed a little bit of the fatherland. Thanks also to the German-Canadian business people, who made sure we had German sausage, meats, breads, cake, newspapers, magazines, cars, and clothes. Nowadays we take all the items for granted in the "Global Economy" but back in the fifties, these entrepreneurs struggled to survive.

I hope you have a chance over the holidays, to reminisce about the good old days, a chance to call a loved one or friend and enjoy the
(cont'd on page 4)

(President Report cont'd)

best of the season. Have someone over just to chat, and remember to hug, it goes a long way.

See you in 2010

David Simon

Have a special announcement you would like to make? Let us know. If there is room we will put it in the Germania Post for **free**. You can call the club at 905-549-0513 or email the editor at christina.a_@hotmail.com or call her at 905-546-7758.

Carl and Richard



Thank you!

The Germania Club working crew again did a marvelous job and installed four ceiling fans in the large hall.

A big thanks to Hans Renz, Erich Butz and Eckhard Kries

The scaffold was supplied by Karl Heidt and Richard Lutz at no charge, thank you!

Hans, Arthur and Erich



Choral Notes

Quickly now, what do the four candles on the Advent Wreath represent? Surprisingly, many people don't know, and even the churches do not celebrate the Advent Sundays consistently.

At the Christmas Concert the Germania Choirs sang 'Zündet die Lichter der Freude an', and that song identifies three of the lights as representing Freude/joy, Hoffnung/hope, and Liebe/love. The more common sequence is hope, love, joy, and that third candle is often a pink one, symbolizing the rose, which in turn represents Mary! The fourth light is missing in that song, and it stands for peace. The Choirs gave tribute to peace in the song 'An den Frieden'. Now you know what the candles on the wreath represent, and, more important, what Advent is all about!

Our concert went very well. As singers we could feel that we were together and that the songs had an emotional impact. Singing can be an art, but if it does not make an emotional impact, it misses the point. Thanks to our conductors Linus and Gertrud Press, and thanks to our accompanists Sylvia Holinaty on the piano and Chris Hunt on the organ. Also thanks to Christine Eastwood, Gertrud Press,

Brigitte Muesner, and Hedda Wagenblast for their special contributions in solos, duets, and quartets; and a special thanks to the four Angels Erika, Monika, Julianna, and Jessica and their Archangel Ingrid Oppermann.

We will sing Christmas songs again at Macassa Lodge on December 10th and at the Sonnenhof in Brantford on December 18th. Singing is fun, and when it is followed by little treats or even meals, so much the better! We enjoyed the cookies and coffee after the concert. Thanks for the treats, ladies! We also enjoyed the food and companionship after the concert at the Club. Our last treat of the year will be our Christmas party at the Club on December 19th. I am looking forward to that event!

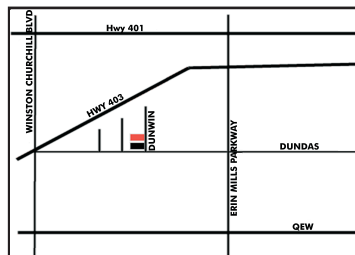
Looking into the calendar for the month of January, I find eight birthday celebrants: Ingrid Oppermann, Willy Schaefer, Susan Butz, Arnold Schaefer, David Simon, Christel Strassguertl, Karl Leitner, and myself! Yeh! Happy Birthday to us all!

May the new year find you in good health and bring you new energy for the challenges ahead! Happy New Year!!!

George Fischer

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für deutsche Möbel



Aus unserem Frauenverein

The last meeting for the year was very short. The reason: our Christmas Party and Santa promised to visit the Ladies. But first we held a minute of silence for Gisela (Gissi) Rudolf. She was a member for 55 years. She was a wonderful person. After honoring Gissi, Rosi Kramolosky thanked all the Ladies who made our Bazaar possible by baking, donating and helping out. Linda Wanner deserves a special thank you for the wonderful job, also her husband Eberhard.

We congratulated our Birthday Ladies for Dec. 2009 - Jan. 2010

Rose Strinich	Jan. 8	80 years
Liesel Graser	Jan. 10	85 years
Ina Reile	Jan. 17	
Trudel Muller	Jan. 29	

Again; good luck and health to all.

Now Santa was on his way. We sang a few Christmas songs until Santa arrived.

We all had to sit on his lap and whisper in his ear what we want for Christmas. I am not telling you what I wished for but it is a tall order. Presents were given to all the Ladies and Hilde Platz gave everybody her present which she made herself. Thank you Hilde.

Rosi had a present for all the Ladies. Thank you very much. She also made the decorations for

the tables. Everything looked great. Thanks to Rosi and Carol. After Santa left we enjoyed the wonderful refreshments and socialized. I can't forget to thank Santa "aka" Gary Albrecht. He did a great job.

Another year came and went. January and February 2010 we will have no meetings. We all need a well deserved rest.

See you all back in March 2010.
That's all for now.
Stay healthy and keep smiling.
Yours Helga Laqua

Here is a little reminder for 2010;

Alone we can do so little
Together we can do so much
Helen Keller

Very tricky math!



Note: This must be done in your head only. Do NOT use paper and pencil or a calculator.

Try it.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now add 30 add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000. Now add 10.

What is the total? Did you get 5000?

The correct answer is actually 4100.

Don't believe it? Check your calculator.



A Loyal Member of the Germania Club
For 50 Years
Hans Bastel

Hans Bastel was born in 1938 in Hockenheim, Germany to Adolf and Katharina Bastel. His sister Beate was born three years later in Kassel. Because of Adolf's work during and after World War 2, the family moved around Germany quite often; Hockenheim, Magdeburg, Kassel, Hockenheim, Hennef (near Bonn) and then back to Hockenheim.

Hans started school in Kassel and subsequently attended school in Hockenheim, Schwetzingen and Bonn. This moving about did not result in great marks and so his father thought it might be better if Hans learned a trade. In 1953, he started his apprenticeship as an Industrial Mechanic (Maschinenschlosser) in Hennef and completed it in 1956. He then returned to Hockenheim to start his working career as a journeyman with "Vögele A.G." in Mannheim.

In 1955 Hans' parents and sister decided to immigrate to Canada, leaving Hans in Germany to finish his apprenticeship. In September

1956 Hans, very reluctantly, followed his family to Canada; reluctantly because he liked life in Germany. Along with his education, he was very active in various sporting pursuits; track and field, swimming, gymnastics and his most favourite activity, team handball.

Once in Canada Hans found employment in his trade at various Hamilton companies (Westinghouse, Bowser, Dominion Glass and Harvester). He went to night school to learn English and to continue his high school education, joined the St. Boniface Church and their Cäcilia Choir and of course – once he was old enough – the Germania Club. During this time he met his future wife Erika Parzen. By 1960 Hans decided that shift work didn't really suit him, so he returned to school on a full-time basis in order to become a teacher. He was one of the first "mature" students in Hamilton to enter Grade 13. He had to convince the principal that a 22 year old student would not be a bad influence on the younger ones. Instead of attending teachers college following high school, Hans continued his education at McMaster University, obtaining his undergraduate degree in Mathematics and then added a Master of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science. His family thinks the Master's was just a way of delaying marriage, but in July of 1965 he and Erika tied the knot after 7 years of dating!

In 1967, after lecturing for one year at McMaster, he joined the staff of
(cont'd on page 6)

the newly created Mohawk College as a Professor of Mathematics and thus entered the new world of computers and technology. He became the founding Chairman of the Computer Science and Information Technology Department. Over the years, Hans advanced his career to become the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Technology. In this capacity he was responsible for all the College's apprenticeship, technician, technology, postgraduate and contract training programs in applied science and technology with an enrollment of over 7000 students. His job provided him with the opportunity to travel throughout Canada, as well as other countries such as Hungary, Ireland, Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Japan. After 33 years of service, Hans retired from Mohawk, but was asked back to help out with various projects. He is currently the Chair of the Mohawk College Retirees Association.

Since his retirement, Hans' main focus has been to support his family, sing in choirs and volunteer his services to a number of organizations. He lost both his parents within the past 5 years; Adolf in 2004 and Katharina just this past May, as well as his mother-in-law Margarete Parzen in 2005. He and Erika have spent time traveling; they enjoy going to Cuba every February and have just returned from a four week trip to Germany.

Hans and Erika have 3 children; Christine (a System Analyst at McMaster), Paul (the Marketing and Communications Manager at

Phoenix Contact) and Andre (a Project Manager with Manulife in Waterloo), who are married, respectively to Alex, Angela and Lara. He is the very enthusiastic Opa to Ryan, Sofie, Daniel and Lauren. He likes playing handball with them, playing the "Zieharmonika" (button accordion) for them and happily helps Ryan and Sofie with their German and math homework. Daniel and Lauren are still a bit too young, but they soon will get their turn at Opa helping with homework, if they like it or not!

It was through team handball that Hans first learned of the Germania Club. On the ship to Canada he met a young lady whose brother played handball in Hamilton. The Germania Club had just formed a handball team which he then joined immediately.

Hans became a voting member of the Germania Club in 1956 at the then "legal" age of 21. He served as assistant treasurer for a number of years. This involved selling tickets for the Friday and Saturday night dances where he was paid \$5.00 per night. Fortunately he didn't have to work too many hours as in those days the dances sold out very early in the evening.

Over the years Hans has served the Club in many capacities; President for 2 years, Vice-President for 2 years, Secretary for 3 years, Chairman of Internal Auditors for 4 years, Player/Manager of the Handball Team for 9 years, Editor of the Germania Post for 3 years and of
(cont'd on page 7)



Fischer & Jäger

Welcome everyone to a brand new year. We on the Vorstand hope everyone had a good Christmas and a safe and happy entrance into the New Year. Our Christmas Party was an outstanding event. The food was right up there with the best we have ever had once again, a very successful evening.

With the New Year comes the yearly challenge, how can we get you to come out to our meetings and how can we see more participation. The Fisher and Hunters are a very strong group, however, we need everyone's help to continue. With that being said our elections are coming up. So come on folks let's see and hear from you. Our year end meeting and elections are being held on February 7, 2010 at the Germania Club so come on out.

We as a group are hosting a Schlachtfest to be held at the Germania Club you best order your tickets now or call and reserve a

spot, please contact Gary at 905-525-5614, Rosi at 905-662-7602 or Rob at 905-516-9046.

Although that it is still winter we can still think about fishing and outdoor activities, be it ice fishing, skiing etc., get outside and enjoy, it will keep you young.

That is about it for now until we meet again

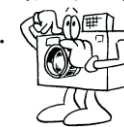
Petri Heil
Richard Kramolowsky

Thought for the month, this one is for the Hunters:
If you are stuck in the bush who do you outrun, the bear or your buddy.

Please take pictures at all of your events! And send them to my e-mail to go into the Germania Post.

Christina.a_@hotmail.com

Thanks.



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The Campers' Report



As you are reading this, Christmas will be over and so will be the headache from drinking too much champagne on New Year's Eve. (If you received this Germania Post before December 31st, ignore the last part.)

Our camping is on hold and many campers have gone south for the winter; (Lucky snowbirds!)

This is the time, for most of us, to reflect on the old year and make resolutions and promises for the new. For me, it is also a time to recount some of the more pleasant experiences in the park.

One day, last summer, Joan and I were sitting on our deck, enjoying an afternoon cocktail (or three) with friends. The music we played was, what you might call, adult classic. From right across the road, we heard a different sound, sweetly and quietly. The Wilson's had company who entertained themselves with an accordion and a two string, Oriental instrument. At first, I thought, how unusual to hear these foreign, strange and haunting melodies. But then again, maybe not. In the campground, I have listened to, besides our usual Canadian fare, Irish and Scottish music, Dutch and Italian, German music, including folk songs and music from the 60's German hit parade echoing through the park. I'm sure, if I listen hard enough, I will also hear Gypsy and songs from Eastern Europe.

My point? We are all represented

and happy to be here. Even though our backgrounds are diverse, our interests are much alike: harmony above all, friendship and respect. In another vein:

As we have some new campers in our group, perhaps I should point out some of the things that are not directly covered by our rules.

-The conservation area, around our campground, is basically off limits to us.

-Driving down to our fishing hole is a no-no. (You may consult with our park manager about this one, if you have equipment to haul down there).

- Try parking your car, so it doesn't obstruct your neighbour's view.

-The washrooms are for everyone. We all have different standards of cleanliness. For the last two years, I have volunteered to clean them when I'm at the

campground and Doris and Owen have taken on the washrooms at the Fisher and Hunter's building. Many times, I have found them very clean and I had little work. But at other times, I wonder why some folks have to be so messy (understatement).

Joan, my wife, was asked by a new camper if it was **our job** to clean those toilets. We are **not** getting paid for this; we are strictly volunteering. (Not like the olden days).

- Volunteering is what keeps things running and our cost down.

Common sense should prevail.

For Karl Heidt (Chairman) and Ute Perl (somewhere down south)
Egon Roesslein (Camper).

course a member for 50 years. He has been a member of many committees and task forces; Finance, Germania Park, By-Laws, Restaurant, Entertainment and the Altestenrat.

What is he most proud of? 1) That he was part of the group of members who in 1979 managed to convince the rest of the membership to allow women to become voting members. Since then women have played a major role in running the Club, which is the most likely reason it still exists today; 2) during the four years that he and Albert Perl shared the President/Vice-Presidency and with the expert advice of Eddie Keller and rank Bernt, the Campers Group was founded and the plans for the future development of our Germania Park, as we see it today were finalized; 3) during the same time period, the Club Restaurant, Rathskeller and the Small Hall were renovated and the Club helped to create the Hamilton Folk Arts Council.

During his many years as a member he loved to socialize and discuss politics in the Rathskeller, organize events, chair numerous meetings, give overly long speeches about the history of the Club, represent the Germania Club at all other kind of organizations and he also learned how to successfully run the business-side of the Club.

One of his favourite activities has been to research the history of the Germania Club and its pre-war members, although sadly many of them have now passed on. For

many years he was the one responsible for writing the biographies of the 50-year members for the past Stiftungsfests. Now it is his turn to be remembered as an extremely loyal and dedicated member of the Germania Club.

Hans, we wish you and your family a very happy retirement and all the best for the future. And we hope that you stay as an active member for a long time

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This will be an afternoon of fun. The entertainment will come in the form of music from the Variation Band, and from recorded music. There will be entertainment including jokes, skits and singing directly from Germany. Of course part of the entertainment will be the audience. Bring your funniest jokes, your best small skit, or barrel speech. (the barrel will be set up).

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"Da wo wir zu Hause sind"

10 Januar um 14:00 uhr

Kathi Sandgruber sieht auf einem Klassentreffen ihre Jugendliebe wieder und zieht nach einigen schwierigen Gesprächen mit der Familie zu ihm nach München. Auch auf Christl warten Veränderungen in Form eines Karrieresprungs. Sie geht ebenfalls nach München. Zuhause wird es deswegen keineswegs ruhiger. Der Milchhof wird zwar vor dem Konkurs gerettet, aber die weißen Ritter verfolgen ihre eigenen Ziele. Zudem ist die neue Chefin des Milchhofes die alte Rivalin von Hansi, Viktoria Perterer. Sie lässt nichts unversucht, die Ideen ihrer Chefs durchzusetzen und auch um näher an den Hansi heranzukommen. Dies führt die kleinen Milchbauern an den Rande des Ruins.

Doch der gesunde Menschenverstand regiert weiter in Schönbichl und findet Lösungen, das drohende Unheil abzuwenden.

Die Geschichten werden angenehm und humorvoll erzählt. Überraschende Wendungen und pfiffige Lösungen sorgen für Aufmerksamkeit. Eindrucksvolle Landschaftsbilder generieren Fernweh. Regie und Schauspieler leisten gute Arbeit.



Thank you!

Richard Iutz for donating a brand new vacuum cleaner and a large supply of vacuum bags.

Dear Diary—
You'll never guess what I FINALLY caught today...



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