

# GERMANIA POST 150TH ANNIVERSARY SUPPLEMENT



Good evening dear members and honored guests!

The Germania Club is celebrating a big milestone, 150 years, the oldest club in “unser Neuen Heimat”, in our new Homeland. I believe, no I know that it was not always easy for the immigrants start a new life!! New language, new costumes, even the weather was different.

The only beacon was the Germania Club where German was spoken, mind you in many different dialects, so the Germania Club became our home away from our old home. But now Canada is our home and I am proud to say that old and new traditions mingle and flourish. An old tradition is that the president honors some special members by making them honorary members a title not often or easily given. Today I have the privilege to honor three members.

The first one is Edi Keller he joined the Germania Club 49 years ago and he was very active right from the start. He was the driving force to establish the campground in the Germania Park. But that is not all he did the whole story will be published in the Germania Post.

The second one is Hedda Wagenblast she joined the Germania Club 30 years ago and for the last 24 years she is the president of the Germania Choirs, but that is also not all, she is very active and jumps in where ever work needs to be done. Her story will also be told in the next Germania Post.





**EDDY KELLER AND HEDDA WAGENBLAST  
RECEIVING  
THEIR HONOURARY MEMBER CERTIFICATE**

### **Edi Keller – honorary member 2014**

Eduard – better known as Edi Keller became a member of the Germania Club 49 years ago. He displayed an early interest in group activities by becoming a member of the Fishers and Hunters. During the ensuing years he showed his commitment to the Club by encouraging both his wife and son to become actively involved in Club affairs. Being enthusiastic campers, Edi and his family followed the requests of successive Club executives began camping at the Germania Park. At a time when other would be campers waited for something to happen at the park, Eddie and Judy were the only ones who faithfully paid their camping fees.

In 1980 Edi took the proverbial bull by the horns, assembled a handful of potential campers and with their and the Club's encouragement developed a site plan for the camping locations. He personally laid out the campsites, installed markers, spearheaded the formulation of camping rules and arranged for their approval by the Club's Board of Directors. Thus the campers were born as a subgroup of the Germania Club – with Edi Keller as their first chair or "Obmann". In this capacity Edi faithfully represented his group at the monthly Club meetings. He showed a great talent for organizing regular banquets and parties for the campers and their guests. The profits of these events as well as the rev-

venues generated by the campers, were turned over to the Germania Club. When it came to membership, Edi was very stubborn. You wouldn't even consider pitching your tent or opening your Camper unless your membership fees had been paid for the entire year! In addition, Edi has always been very much interested in making improvements to the Germania Park. He served as one of the most active, loyal and resourceful members of various Germania Park committees. While always representing the camping group, he never failed to recognize and support the needs Germania Club as a whole. Edi's positive attitude toward both the Germania Club and the Park has encouraged a great many campers to work countless hours in beautifying the Park and motivated them to spend many of their own dollars to acquire tools, equipment and trees.

The fact that our Germania Park has become a vibrant and beautiful place is due in no small measure to the efforts of a small group of club members. Edi Keller was one of the early leaders of this group. For this Edi is deserving of our recognition and thanks.

### **Hedda Wagenblast**

Hedda Wagenblast joined the Germania Club and the Germania Choirs 30 years ago, she is the leading voice in the alto section, but that is not all. For the last 24 years she is the president of the Germania Choirs, and very active, and I mean very active. She organizes concerts in our club, and many choir clubs around our region. But not only is Hedda a very busy with the choirs, she also is very active in the Germania Club

Hedda took over as acting banquet manager, not once but three times and you can believe me that is not an easy job. She organized big and smaller functions and made sure that everything ran smoothly, in other words she is a very active member and for all this and her hard work she deserves our gratitude and the title of honorary member.



One almost forgotten tradition I'm happy to bring back to life is the "Member of the Year". And that is the hardest thing to decide because there are more than one outstanding members, but only one can get that title. He became the second Treasurer in 2011. According to the job description an easy job, but things change sometimes very fast, now he doesn't only look after our money and bills he became what we say in German "ein Mädchen für alles" or in English "Girl Friday". He does so many things the rest of our members don't know or see, and that makes in the member of the year! **Of course I'm speaking of Ulli Venohr.**



**ULLI VENOHR RECEIVING  
THE  
MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**“Congratulations to all of you.”**

I also like to thank all the members for their support but a heartfelt thank you has to go to the executive board for their work and many hours of volunteering. As a thank you a small garden was planted in the front of the Germania club, and this plaque will be installed as a big thank you.

Thank you all and have a nice evening.  
Rosi Kramolowsky,  
President