

Germania Post



HEFT NR 660 - Aug. 2015 - JAHRGANG 54

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Hamilton Steel City

Oktoberfest

at the Germania Club



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"Munch in Hamilton"

Saturday, September 19, 2015

3pm-12am



Admission \$5.00

FOR INFORMATION AND TICKET SALES CALL
THE GERMANIA CLUB at 905-549-0513

www.germaniaclub.ca email: info@germaniaclub.ca



LOCATION: Germania Club, 863 King Street East, Hamilton, ON

OBITUARY

Karl-Heinz Falk

June 29, 1921 – July 1, 2015

Karl was a 60 member of the Germania Club.
We wish to extend our sincere condolences
to his wife Johanna, his sons Norman,
Kevin, Dean, David and their families.



The President's Corner



Dear Members,
I hope that you are enjoying your summer. The heat is on, and with the temperatures, the activity level at the Germania Club also rises. By the time you read this article, "It's Your Festival", at Gage Park will have come and gone. We couldn't have asked for better weather. It brought out Hamiltonians and Pan Am visitors in droves. We had enough volunteers to staff all of the required stations, and made a handy profit, even though not all of the figures have been tallied as yet. Thanks to everyone who had a hand in helping to make the event a success. Plans are well underway for the Germania Club Picnic on the 9th of August. We have also started to think about Oktoberfest on Sept.19th, and the October 4th Stiftungsfest. We are looking forward to welcoming you at all those events. Today we also give recognition to two long-time members of the Germania Club,

Arnold and Jeanet Schaefer. Recently, Arnold and Jeanet have generously donated a new refrigerator for the Germania Club kitchen. For the past few years they have also prepared and donated about 200 lbs. of potato salad each year for the Gage Park festival. Jeanet continues to be very active in many Club activities. Arnold has been a member of the Germania Club since 1958. Throughout those years he has contributed, and remains a valued member of the Germania Club.

A thank you to Karrla Fletcher as well, for building the Schnitzelhaus, a clever cover for our cash register. It quickly became a conversation piece. For years cashiers had complained, that they could not see the electronic number display on the cash register. Since it is no longer exposed to daylight, the problem has now been permanently resolved.

All too frequently, when we look at the value of something, we see it in monetary terms. We should never forget to look at the intangibles, at those things that we do not always take into consid-



eration when we measure the value of an organization. I am talking about the organization's human capital, namely our volunteers. They have skills, experience, know-how, and above all demonstrate through their tireless, continuous efforts, their love and loyalty to the values and ideals, that are part of our German cultural heritage. Those of us involved in the daily operation of the Club are very much aware of how important it is that we know how to harness all those talents for the betterment of our Club.

You may trust that your new Board is working hard, towards achieving this goal. We also have to thank David Simon, for his part, in bringing the discharge of the mortgage to a successful conclusion. This means that the restriction placed on our line of credit has now been lifted. It was also brought to my attention, at the beginning of our mandate, that since 2003 we had neglected an obligation imposed by the Ontario government, to report all changes to the Board of Directors annually. David has been working tirelessly, updating the record. That process has now been completed as well. The Board of Directors is very much committed to bring other unfinished business to a positive conclusion.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer, and we hope to see all of you soon at your Germania Club.

Until next time
Ulli Venohr,
President



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GERMANIA CLUB OF HAMILTON
863 KING STREET EAST
HAMILTON, ON
905-549-0513
www.germaniaclub.ca



PICNIC 2015



The Camper's & Park Report



Being stuck at home for at least six weeks, waiting for my new knee to become functional, does not give me a lot of insight into the goings on at our park and campground. Even though Kevin, Frank and Karrla communicate the latest, frankly, I am missing the tone and action by not being there. However, we do have something newsworthy to report.

---New Campers, David Blosser, Janet and their son, Maxwell (about two years old), joined us this spring. The campers bid you a warm welcome and hope you enjoy our park as much as we do.

---More good news: It took two years of negotiations (on and off), between our Park Manager and the Conservation Authorities to achieve this; We now have permission to install a second floating dock on Lake Niapenco. It will be built down on the lake from the original dock, behind site C.8, which is a temporary tent site. Maybe now, we can keep

anglers, dogs and swimmers a bit more separate. In case, you were wondering why our old dock took so long to go into the water: First, we had really low water levels in the spring. Secondly, there was a drowning at the Binbrook Conservation Area Park. Consequently, Search and Rescue did not allow anyone to use the lake for any reason until their job was completed and hence the delay.

---Yes, we did have a small Canada Day celebration out at the Park House. Kevin generously advanced the funds for the fireworks and his lady friend Tracy, donated fifty pounds of chicken wings for the crowd. Not only members but also our neighbours living close to the Germania Park were invited. Most brought more food and chipped in (partly reimbursed Kevin) towards the cost of the fireworks. It was a good show all around and also great P.R. for the Park and the Club.

---The theme for this year's Camper Picnic will be, "A German Christmas in the Summertime." Theresa, our entertainment chairperson, promises a few surprises. I

hope it isn't snow. The date is Saturday, August 15th, 5pm. at the Pavilion of course.

---By now, we all should have a new set of keys for the front gate. It was decided (voted on with a show of hands), at the last spring, camper meeting, to fund this new lock and keys out of the camper's social fund, as well as, a much needed professional, gas, string trimmer. Needless to say, this seriously depletes our fund so any other big ticket items, such as roof repair at the Pavilion, will have to be carried by the Club.

---The Gage Park Festival is, as I am writing this, in full swing. I know that some campers are volunteering and I will get back to this in my next article. But beside that, it is one of ours that created the Schnitzelhaus cover for the cashbox. Way too pretty and intricate! Our thanks goes out to Karrla and the Fletcher family.

---Finally, I'd like to thank all of you that sent me cards, called me, texted or e-mailed me wishing me well on my road to recovery. Your thoughts brightened my days.

Your Happy Camper.
Egon Roesslein.

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It's Your Festival, Gage Park, July 9th - 12th , 2015.

A warm and steady rain greeted the first visitors to Gage Park late Thursday morning. By late afternoon, the clouds had dissipated. From here on in, until Sunday night, a sultry heat-wave enveloped all of us. The dog days of summer had arrived, with a bang.

The motley crowd was out in full force, many wearing colourful ethnic costumes. Three stages were continuously offering a variety of performances, covering all musical genres, and featuring lively dance shows from various cultural groups. The thrilling rides of the midway were enjoyed by families late into each night, even when most vendors were already closing shop.

Arts, crafts, and food from many countries were available. If your nose followed that faint whiff of Sauerkraut floating on the warm breeze, you would eventually have ended up at the Germania

Club food kiosk. Three shifts of 8-10 volunteers, dressed more or less in traditional costumes were there, to serve up the ever popular Schnitzel, German sausages, Sauerkraut and potato salad.

The kiosk was decorated with flags, a photo display of stunning landscapes dotted with castles, and other German paraphernalia. Karlla Fletcher, with help from her children, had constructed a camouflage for the cash register, a finely crafted wooden Schnitzelhaus, featuring a bright red roof. Thank you Karlla and kids.

The volunteers seemed to be



having entirely too much fun, even though the temperatures and humidity increased

with each passing day. There was of course the odd complaint: advice on how to do things better; and what not to do. Somehow we expect that from each other. I like to think it keeps us grounded, and on the straight and narrow.

At the end of the day, all felt that the festival was a



success. It involved a lot of planning, physical work, and many willing hands, that gave of their talent, time and energy. The co-ordinators of the event Ulli Venohr and Rosi Kramolowsky practically spent all the festival hours at the Park. Special mention has to go out to the set-up crew as well. They get to do all of the hard labour of setting up and then dismantling and moving the food stand and its inventory a second time. Kevin Pyett, our Parks

Manager was not only part of the set up crew, he provided night security throughout the 4-day event. He also made sure the kiosk was clean for the volunteer complement that arrived the next morning for their first shift. Kevin, you deserve a medal for your efforts. Thanks again to all of you.

What is it all about: to reach out to the Hamilton community; to share a little of our German heritage with others; to show how we are culturally different, and yet the same; how we are, at the same time, all part of being proudly Canadian. See you next year at, "It's Your Festival".

Waltraud Schork,
Secretary,
Germania Club,
Board of Directors.



SKAT REPORT

Greetings from our Skat Club. As I write this article, we look forward to our next event which is the Skat Picnic on July 18 on Bertl's Farm. Pictures of this fun Skat Event will be posted next month. Big news is that August is around the corner, and we host our two day Skat Tournament August 4 and 5, 5 rounds over two days. The new price for the tournament is \$60, which is all paid out, this decision to raise the price was made last year at our Annual General ISPA meeting in Montreal. Thee Great Lakes Skat Week, which this year starts in Ohio on August 1 and 2, followed by a day of travel to Hamilton for our two day tournament which will take place on August 4 and 5. The Kitchener Club will host a tournament on August 6 and 7, and we end our week of Skat this year in Mississauga at the

Hansa Club on August 8 and 9. This week of Skat is very popular and draws players from all over Canada and the US. Our tournament in the park is a highlight, so all are welcome, come on out and join us. We had a wonderful weekend in June in Lake Kapikog, our Hamilton players were very successful. Willi won his first ever tournament, Joe Parzen came in second, and Horst Kreitzer placed third.

Special notice, during the time of the week of tournament play, there will be no Skat at the Club, as we encourage our members to support other clubs hosting the tournament.

Until next time
Gut Blatt



Hard at work,
Heidi Frank &
Wolfgang Mielitz



Yes, Ladies play
too



Happy Trophy
winners



Aus unserem Frauenverein

Our July Meeting scheduled for July 1, was on Tuesday, June 30, because July 1 was a Holiday. We tried to call as many of the usual attendees as possible, but this being a holiday week, many had previous commitments. Our President Annemarie was working late on Thursday, so that was out; Rosi Kramolowsky had an eye appointment scheduled for Tuesday. In addition there was the women's soccer game on TV in the great hall. Sometimes you cannot win, but somehow we muddled through, and tried to organize the upcoming events: Gage Park from July 9th on, then the Club Picnic in August. Also Lake Dalrymple weekend July 24. Dorothea is still working on a river cruise. Our Ladies still contribute what and when they can, and looking through our list, some have been members for more than 50 years. They sure have contributed and have earned a bit of recognition in return.

Kevin Pyett already put nice pictures of the Gage Park

Tent onto Face book. Friday evening a group of us will be 'on duty', but probably more on behalf of the Fisher and Hunter. Response from 'the Ladies' was not very enthusiastic and I can understand that. Most of us are in their Seventies, do not drive anymore, cannot stand or work for, say, 3 hours. Some are also now hard of hearing and feel embarrassed if they cannot understand an order. I hope they'll be out to eat and for the company!!

A lot more signed up for the Club Picnic. We can do cakes and look after the coffee station. So far the signup for Lake Dalrymple is a bit thin... Again, it is about a 3 hr drive, some people are not comfortable anymore to be way from home for a few days. They are used to their routine and their food, not everyone likes to sleep in bunk beds (forget the top bunk in any case if you have to crawl out a few times during the night 'if nature calls..') Even the bottom beds are difficult if you have arthritis.

Sorry, if I seem to be griping, we had 'the guys' over to knobel on Wednesday - it was Erich's turn to get Pizza and

Wings. With diverticulosis I should have abstained, but it smelled soo good - Now I am suffering..

There is no meeting in August, except for our special outing, whatever that will be.

Birthdays in August:

Annie Schaible

August 21 81

Has that been a year already? She was 80 last year, had their 60 wedding anniversary and went for a memorable trip on the Danube!! (Hubby Kurt

said it was her 'Fiass' that enticed him 60 years ago. I am not giving any secrets away. He said that right out loud at the Benevolent Society!! Now, im Schwaebischen 'Fiass' go from the toes at least to the knees and whatever else Kurt was allowed to see 60 years ago... Sorry Kurt, you started that!!

Until next month - stay cool!!

Sieglinde Seiler,
Secretary (905) 543-0810,
e-mail seilesi@sympatico.ca



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

July Birthdays



Hildegard Bittner	Theo Nermerich
Eva Fori	Paul Petroski
Barbara Haybarger	Anna Schaible
Hans Herres	Barbara Schuster
Ilse Kastrau	Shawn Simpson
Horst Kaufeld	Glenn Ward
Michael Keller	
Werner Liste	
Bob Mulhall	

NEW MEMBERS

Garry & Linda Bulmer
Shaun Moyers
Ricardo Pereira and Janet Bachorski

DONATIONS

Germania Club

Arnold & Jeanet Schaefer - \$100 in memory of Inge Michaelis



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• • • VERANSTALTUNGEN • SOCIAL ACTIVITIES • • •

Aug 4-5		Great Lakes SKAT Tournament – Germania Park Pavilion
Aug 9	11:00am	Germania Club PICNIC
Aug 14	8:00pm	Friday Night Dance
Aug 15	5:00pm	Camper's Picnic “A German Christmas in Summer”
Aug 19	8:00pm	Fisher & Hunter members meeting
Aug 22-23		Fisher & Hunter Family weekend – Lake Dalrymple
Aug 25	7:30pm	Members meeting
Aug 28	8:00pm	Friday Night Dance VORSCHAU
Sep 11	8:00pm	Friday Night Dance
Sep 16	8:00pm	Fisher & Hunter meeting
Sep 19	3pm	Steel City Oktoberfest
Sep 22	7:30pm	Members meeting
Sep 23	7:00pm	Apfelmania
Sep 25	8:00pm	Friday Night Dance
Sep 26	8:00am	Choir Garage Sale



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GERMANIA CLUB OF HAMILTON
863 King St East
Hamilton, ON L8M 1B5
905.549.0513
email: info@germanioclub.ca
www.germaniaclub.ca

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