

HEFT NR700 - Jan 2020 - JAHRGANG 58

# Germania Post



## Sunday Lunch

**January 26, 2020 12-2pm**

Start with Smoked Squash Soup followed by  
Pork Hocks with Sauerkraut, Seasoned  
mini White Potatoes, Buttered Cauliflower  
Bienenstich for dessert

**\$18.95** plus tax per person.  
Children ages 5- 12 years 1/2 price

## FILMNACHMITTAG

Hauptfilm - *Der eiserne Gustav*  
Spielfilm von 1958 mit Heinz Rühmann

Vorfilm - *Wildes Deutschland - Wildes Berlin*

>> *Film starts at 2:30pm* <<

*Free Admission - Coffee and Cake available*



# Obituaries



Ewald Zielke

June 14, 1933 – November 16, 2019

Ewald was a member of the Germania Choir.

We extend our sincere condolences to his children Justin, Melissa and their families and his friends.



## Germania Club Christmas Party

This was my first time at the Germania Club Christmas Party, which is focused on the children and grandchildren, even great-grandchildren of our members. It was a happy occasion with gifts, a movie, an entertainer, crafts, sweets, chocolates and hot dogs for the children. Many thanks to the Board members and friends of the Club who helped to make this a joyful celebration. As has been the case for a number of years, Susan Butz was the main organizer who looked after gifts for the children that were registered, as well as crafts to keep them busy until the official start of the Party. She was also Santa's biggest helper, as he talked to each child and handed out presents. In addition to the

gifts chosen for Santa by Susan, Rosi Kramolowsky made a beautiful knitted Santa or Elf filled with lots of chocolates, for each child to take home.



As the children were arriving, they could immediately indulge in a lovely lunch of hot dogs, juice, and cookies, provided by Richard Lutz. Heidi Frank made a delicious Gulaschsuppe for the adults, which they could purchase along with a drink from the bar. Coffee and plates of Christmas cookies for the adults were on the house.

Klaus Luedecke and Lori Kramolowsky looked after the movie; Lori chose a Shrek movie which even the adults found entertaining.

Following the movie, we had a special performance by Richard Rossini, a magician who brought along a dove, which the children were al-



lowed to pet, following the performance. It was amazing how the bird allowed all of us (including yours truly) to stroke it.

who contributed goodies and gifts for the occasion. It was a good party, indeed!!!

Gudrun Boehm-Johnson



We then had a brief interlude with the “Leierkastenmann”, straight from Bavaria, judging by his authentic outfit, before Santa arrived. Of course, Santa himself was the star of the afternoon, and several children were able to recite poems or songs, or even a lively tune on a recorder, for the old Saint.



Many thanks to all those who gave their time, talent, and







## Choral Notes

As I am sitting by the window and writing this article, in the early days of December, the bright sunshine draws my eyes to the drooping cedars in our backyard. The refracted sunlight is dancing along the branches, sparkling in all the colours of the rainbow, as the sun is melting the last remaining icicles from the most recent storm. At a moment as precious as this, when we become aware of the beauty of nature that surrounds us, we are also reminded how ephemeral most things in life are. We suddenly become aware of how important it is to relish every second. We become aware of how important it is to live in the moment.

Ewald Zielke, was such a person who lived in the moment. Sadly we lost Ewald, a long-time choir member to a lengthy illness on November 16, 2019. Ewald was a valued choir and Germania Club member, who loved socializing. He played skat with his friends, participated in the Culture Circle and enjoyed attending all kinds of Club functions. Ewald was a generous man and ensured that every year at the choir picnic all of us could enjoy the best in barbecued meats, prepared by him, of course. This year at our Stiftungsfest, he provided all of the wine for our banquet, and despite struggling with his health he let us know how much we meant to him. He loved his family and

adored his grandson, relishing every second that he had with him and sharing some of their precious moments together with us. We will remember you Ewald, may you rest in peace.

On Dec. 1, we were scheduled to perform our annual Christmas concert at First Pilgrim United Church in the afternoon. If you tried to leave the house that morning, you were greeted by a sheet of ice. Unfortunately we were forced to cancel the performance that day. However, we rescheduled for the following Sunday, on Dec. 8. Thanks to the dedication of some choir members who undertook a promotion blitz, the event was fairly well attended and enjoyed by everyone who came, despite the short notice.

It was a bitter sweet performance for us since after 27 years this year marked the last performance of our choir at First Pilgrim United Church. However, we will still continue the tradition of an annual Christmas concert at the Club, and we hope that all of you will be joining us there as well.

We have many birthday wishes to extend for January 2020. Our best wishes go out to Ingrid Oppermann (Jan. 4), Willy Schaefer (Jan.6), Susy Butz (Jan.12), David Simon (Jan. 18), Christel Strassguertl (Jan.21), Monika Heitland (Jan. 27), and George Fischer (Jan. 29).

Until next time, I remain musically yours and hope that all of you can enjoy a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Waltraud Schork





## Fischer & Jäger

Moin Fisher & Hunter Members and Friends, As I'm writing this report Winter has definitely set in. Snow, Ice, Rain, you name it, we got it! Very unsettled and fluctuating. Here's hoping everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with loving Family and Friends. May the New Year bring you good Health and Peace in your Hearts.

Once again Heartfelt THANK YOU goes to our Board and our many Volunteers for making 2019 another successful Year. Our Turkey Shoot was well attended. Even though the Weather was a bit too nasty for some, we did have some lucky People that took home their Christmas Bird. Jack Felgner, Dine Grohbauer, Fred Klauser, George and Samantha Kiss were the lucky recipients of a Turkey. Congratulations to you all and enjoy.

We have some January Birthdays such as: Brigitte Parzen, George Kiss, Peter Werheid, Stefan Kun, Helmut Hentschel, and Maggie(that's me). Here's wishing everyone Good Health, Good Friends, Good Family and Good everything else.

Our Annual General Meeting is on Feb. 02, 2020 at 11am.

Again Happy New Year to Everyone, Young and not so young, big or small.

Ich Wuensche allen ein Glueckliches und Gesundes Neues Jahr.

Tschuess Maggie  
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**Jan 24, 2019**

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Germania Club of Hamilton

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Over a few issues the Germania post is pleased to print a brief history of the Germania club as presented by Hans Bastel. Here is part 1;

## **THE GERMANIA CLUB OF HAMILTON**

### **A Brief History**

**By Hans Bastel**

**October 19, 2019**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to have been asked to give a short retrospective on 155 years of Germania Club activities. I realize that lectures about history are not everyone's cup of tea on a sunny Saturday afternoon. So, I'll try to keep it relatively short and, hopefully, a bit interesting!

The Germania Club was founded in 1864 as a result of the joint efforts of two groups of German-speakers. The first group consisted mainly of Pennsylvania Germans, also referred to as Pennsylvania Dutch, who had arrived in the Hamilton area between 1790 and 1820. They were mostly Mennonites who spoke "Plattdeutsch", which is a northern German dialect. These Mennonites had left the USA during and after the American War of Independence (1775 to 1783). The Americans didn't like the Mennonites very much because, as pacifists, they refused to take up arms against the British.

[By the way, just as a historical footnote: Their unwillingness to fight in wars was partly responsible for Berlin to be renamed Kitchener during World War 1. A large segment of that city's German-speakers at the time were also Mennonites who refused to join the Canadian armed forces because of their pacifism. (You can read it all in the Kitchener History Museum)].

But back to the Hamilton Mennonites: You may not be aware of this, but quite a few streets, schools and churches in the Hamilton area are named after these early German-speakers. For example: Hess, Springer, Burkholder, Betzner, Herkimer and Horning. The same is true for other areas in southern Ontario. Few people know that the city of Markham used to be called Mannheim. Here is another example - in the Archives of Ontario you can still read the following:

The upper region of Ontario is divided, out of consideration for the large German speaking element in the United Empire Loyalists population, into





Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Hesse and Nassau.

Hamilton was located in the Nassau region. This, of course, changed when Ontario was restructured into counties and Hamilton became part of Wentworth County.

The Mennonites were the first group of German-speakers to arrive here. The second group came from German-speaking areas in Europe between the years 1840 and 1870. There were about a 1,000 of them. Many of them came here because they found themselves on the losing side of Europe's revolutionary wars which ended around 1848. At the time people in Europe tried to get rid of monarchies. They succeeded in France but not in many other places.

Then, in 1855, two catastrophes hit Hamilton hard. Firstly, there was a major cholera epidemic, which affected everyone but especially the immigrant population. Secondly, in the same year, the city of Hamilton went bankrupt and could no longer provide even a minimum of health and social services. Within a two-year period, Hamilton's population shrunk by close to 9000 people from 28,000 to 19,000!

Times were tough. To survive, people had to help each other. That is why the "old" German-speakers from Pennsylvania got together with the new arrivals from Europe to assist each other by establishing a Benevolent Committee. But we know what the Germans like to do when they want to get together for whatever reason: They establish a "Verein", a club. Preferably one where they can drink a beer and, in the old days anyway, sing folk songs. Even better yet, a club where there were not too many ladies around.

So, they established a male choir, a "Männergesangverein". For a number of years choir practices and other get-togethers were held in a hotel at the corner of Hughson and Rebecca street. This didn't get unnoticed in the local press. Listen to what the Hamilton Herald wrote at the time:

Oh, what is the use of blinking and hesitating? Here it is: the choir members like their lager (beer). Having a nice room to sing in, of course they get thirsty. It was awfully annoying to the conductor to miss, now and then, one or more singers who had stepped out for a sip!

Part 2 next time



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## Aus unserem Frauenverein

First of all, the Frauenverein wishes everyone a very Happy New Year, good health, happiness and many hours enjoying friendships within your Germania club.

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas season spending special hours with your loved ones and great friends.

Now, to backtrack a little.....

Our annual bazaar exceeded all our expectations! Our new members and yet-to-be members worked tirelessly alongside our few old members in preparing, setting-up, selling and cleaning up. Also our cookie bakers outdid themselves; it was actually a fun day in the club kitchen, as we almost burned a batch or two, while we chatted away.

We want to thank everyone for whatever help they provided; it was not only greatly appreciated, but fun at the same time. Many beautiful prizes were given away at our tombola; congratulations to our lucky winners! Thank you to our donors of all the lovely prizes.

The club's kitchen also provided a hot lunch and sold out of everything. They also had success financially. A special thank you goes to Heidi Frank, who, at the last minute, volunteered to cook for us. You did an amazing job, Heidi!

We hope that all our vendors had reasonable success as well, since they provided a super Christmas atmosphere for the event with the many special seasonal items they present.

Our next event our annual Christmas party, took place at the Powerhouse Restaurant in Stoney Creek. What a great gathering it was! We had eight new ladies join us and we'll be looking forward to a great year with a few more exciting events. Our first meeting in 2020, will be on Wednesday, March 4th and we'll be looking forward to seeing all our new friends there; and perhaps, even a few more.

Until then, I remain, your  
Frauenverein Connection,

Brigitte Parson



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Please remember if you are buying or selling a house or condo please give Mark Woehrle of Remax Escarpment Realty a call. He has pledged to give a donation to the club for each member's transaction he completes.

*Big or small...Mark sells them all.*

Mark's number is 905-573-1188



# January Birthdays



Peter Aquilizian  
 Susan Butz  
 Scott Castellani  
 Andrew Chamberlain  
 Ricardo Costa  
 Ernst Dammann  
 Ingrid Geerts  
 Carola Hallman  
 Monika Heitland  
 Helmut Hentschel  
 Catherine Johnston  
 George Kiss

Stefan Kun  
 Ingrid Oppermann  
 Brigitte Parzen  
 Evelyn Samarco  
 Willy Schaefer  
 David Simon  
 Karley Stewart  
 Christel Strassguertl  
 Margitta Untch  
 Peter Werheid  
 Mark Woehrl

## Donations

### Germania Club

Sophia Lochner - \$50

Ulrich & Ingrid Venohr - \$24 for 2 Restaurant Cushions

### Memorial Donations

\$105.30 received at the Memorial

## MEMBERSHIP FEES 2020

Student - \$32

Adult (under 65) - \$85

Seniors - \$65

Family (children 18 and under) - \$140

Honourary Member – Fees Waived

Life Long Member – Fees Waived

## CAMPERS FEES 2020

Camp Site - \$962

Air Conditioning, 2nd Fridge, Golf Cart - \$100 each

Camp Fund - \$50

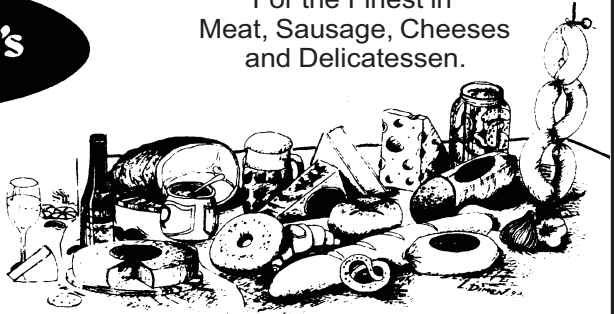
Membership and Camper Fees to be paid by February 29th, 2020.



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## Mark Woehrle

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**2020**

|        |        |                    |
|--------|--------|--------------------|
| Jan 10 | 5-7pm  | Fish & Chip Friday |
| Jan 17 | 5-7pm  | Fish & Chip Friday |
| Jan 24 | 5-7pm  | Fish & Chip Friday |
| Jan 26 | 12-2pm | Sunday Lunch       |
| Jan 26 | 2:30pm | Filmnachmittag     |
| Jan 28 | 7:30pm | Member's Meeting   |
| Jan 31 | 5-7pm  | Fish & Chip Friday |

**VORSCHAU/PREVIEW**

|        |         |                            |
|--------|---------|----------------------------|
| Feb 2  | 11:00am | Fisher & Hunter AGM        |
| Feb 7  | 5-7pm   | Fish & Chip Friday         |
| Feb 14 | 5-7pm   | Fish & Chip Friday         |
| Feb 15 |         | Roaring 20's Costume Dance |
| Feb 16 | 1-4pm   | Children's Mardi Gras      |
| Feb 21 | 5-7pm   | Fish & Chip Friday         |
| Feb 23 | 12-2pm  | Sunday Lunch               |
| Feb 23 | 2:30pm  | Filmnachmittag             |
| Feb 25 |         | Members Meeting            |
| Feb 28 | 5-7pm   | Fish & Chip Friday         |



**GERMANIA POST**

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