

Bavarian Club Edelweiss



FEBRUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER

Congratulations to the new Board of Officers of the Club, especially to the new President, 2nd Vice President and Treasurer, Gloria Fernandez, Daniel Hepp and Herb Seeff. All the members wish the Board success in all their undertakings.

President's Message

Letter of Acceptance, Installation Meeting January 15, 2009

Guten Abend and thank you for coming out tonight on this cold and wintery evening.

Unfortunately Chris Rodrick is unable to be here tonight as he has taken a very long and deserving vacation and is, at present, somewhere in warm Africa! The three years that he served as President of Bavarian Club Edelweiss proved very rewarding for us all. Chris served with honor, dedication and enthusiasm in preserving our traditions, our culture, our tracht and gemuetlichkeit.

I am delighted to have been elected next President of Bavarian Club Edelweiss in this our seventy-sixth years of a schuhplattler and trachten verein which was founded on January 20, 1933 by Franz Stein who emigrated from Bavaria. How far we have come and Franz would have been so proud !

The 2009 Board brings many years of experience and commitment to Bavarian Club Edelweiss. With that, I would like to introduce the Executive Board: Trustees: Dieter Link, plattler and musician, member for 45 years of which 23 years as Vorplattler; Max Lorenz, plattler and committee chairman of various events, member for 19 years; Margaret Essig, member for 15 years. Vorplattler: Roland Lex, plattler, member for 26 years and has been Vorplattler for past 6 years. Recording Secretary: Monica Luedke, Volkstanzgruppe, member for 9 years, Recording Secretary for past 7 years. Corresponding Secretary: Linda Kraker, plattler, member for 10 years, Corresponding Secretary for past 5 years. Treasurer: Herb Seeff, member for 28 years, perpetual Journal Chairman, has held various executive positions at German American Social Club of Peekskill including President, is Vice Chairman of the Steuben Parade Committee overseeing the German-American Friendship Party. Second Vice President: Daniel Hepp, plattler, member for four years, is also a member of the Arion Singing Society, First Vice President: Margaret Mezic, plattler, member for 11 years, committee chairman for many of our events, 1st VP for past 5 years. President: As for myself, I have been a member of Bavarian Club Edelweiss for 48 years and have held all executive positions other than treasurer and chaired many events. I was also trachtenmuetter for six years, am active in the Volkstanzgruppe and will always continue to be a schuhplattler forever!

They say that change is good....and we need to bring new ideas and maybe resurrect other things that we did in the past to re-generate new enthusiasm and commitment to our Verein.

With that, I would like to outline the following ideas and thoughts:

Change Board meetings to first Tuesday of the month (now first Thursday) from 6:45 - 7:45 p.m. with a 15 minute overlap. This is a trial period for the ease of officers who must travel a great distance. With the

growth of our club and age challenges, it would be advantageous to have the Board Meeting to coincide with proben.

Going forward, we will utilize electronic mailings (e-mail) for Membership List, By-Laws and Newsletters. This will help us reduce mailing expenses. We will continue to have hard copies available for those members who do not have a computer.

In November, 2008, we reintroduced our Newsletter which will continue throughout 2009 and will be printed on a quarterly basis (Feb/May/Aug/November). Herb Seeff will continue to be Editor. In addition to other pertinent information, we will also include: birth and death announcements, weddings and birthday celebrations, calendar of events and the President's Message. We welcome each and every member to participate in the Newsletter. You can even add your favorite recipe! E-mail or send your article to Herb.

We will re-introduce the Franz Stein Scholarship Fund which was established in 1996 and offered the \$500 scholarship to qualifying students of the German language class at White Plains High School. We received nothing in return (membership, potential plattler, etc.) and therefore abandoned the scholarship. Today, children who are in our Kindergruppe who contribute so much to our verein as well as the children and grandchildren from our membership, should have the opportunity to receive a scholarship for higher education. We have teachers within our Verein who we will call on to put this program together. As for funding, I have asked Alicia (Hodge) Briggs to come up with some fundraising ideas!

With the many changes going on in websites today, the current site and links need much updating to stay current. I have asked Ingrid (Stoppacher) Rodgers and Carol Borselio to revamp the website of Bavarian Club Edelweiss. It is presently work in progress.

We will utilize the callingpost.com which is an efficient and sophisticated phone system that dials all members at once when we need to reach you on an urgent basis such as: a death, inclement weather, etc. So when you get a phone call from callingpost.com don't hang up - it may be an important call from Bavarian Club Edelweiss

We will pass a list around asking our membership what their talents are and what they might offer? For example: teach conversational German, teach knitting/crocheting, etc. Don't be bashful - this IS our heritage!

Advertising: Our event advertising is not up to par. We need a point person to do all of our advertising especially getting signage posted in appropriate locations on a regular and consistent basis, especially for our Summerfest and Oktoberfest. Candidate?? We will also utilize the Internet and various free advertising sites and will ask Ingrid and Carol to follow through.

How about a Heimat Abend every three months at the Legion Hall, with weather permitting, of course? An evening where we can all come together, listen to music and sing traditional old songs form the heimatland. We can have a pot-luck meal where we will all bring something. How about a Fasching party on Tuesday, February 24th - the day before Ash Wednesday?

We are renaming our Spring Dance to the 76th Stiftungsfest. Due to declining help from the membership and small profit, we will not have it at the local church auditorium. Instead, our 76th Stiftungsfest will be

held at Kruckers in Pomona, Rockland County on Sunday, April 26th from 1:00 - 5:00. The price fixe is \$48 for adult members, \$53 for visiting guests and \$25 for all children with advanced reservations. There will be no work on our part.

The annual Christmas Fair was not held in 2008 due to decreasing support from our members. Instead, we revamped the annual event to now host our first annual Christkindlmarkt which will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the German-American Social Club in Putnam Valley. The hours of the event will be from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. This is a huge undertaking and we need all the people we can get! There are already 17 members on the committee.

Gaufest 2009 in Toledo, Ohio will be held on August 13-16, 2009. We are looking into a coach bus and also airfares. Our platters will be competing, so please support them!

I appreciate the trust that you have shown in me and the Board and we hope that we will live up to the expectations that you expect of us. We will work side-by-side with each and every one of you in order to achieve our goals!

The members of your Board not only do their jobs thoroughly but they are also part of other committees including committee heads. But we just can't count on those few to always jump in we also need the support of the membership. We are 150 strong of which only a handful actually 'walk the walk and talk the talk.' We need your support whether you join a committee, chair an event, bake a cake, work a shift or just by going to other clubs functions. So when asked to help, please don't turn us down!

I urge you to take a copy of the by-laws and familiarize yourself with the rules of our verein. In Section 6, it states: All members are required to work at least two (2) club functions each year. The total time for the year must be at least four (4) hours.

For more than three-quarters of a century, Bavarian Club Edelweiss has promoted social and fraternal relationships and good will among its members and community and other German American organizations. We must continue to perpetuate these relationships and support other organizations and vereine. We are in our fourth generation and continue to uphold the traditions, culture and customs through our native folk dancing, our dress, foods, music and the German language.

We must be always true to our motto: "Sitt und Tracht der Alten, wollen wir erhalten." In translation: We will continue to uphold our old traditions and tracht with honor.

Now that this is all said, let's just get together and have a lot of fun and gemuetlichkeit!

Vielen Dank,

Gloria Mayer Fernandez, President

A copy of the 2009 Calendar the events, officers and trustees is shown below. Calendars are available at the monthly meetings.

Calendar for 2009

Jan. 15	Thurs	Installation Meeting
Mar. 21	Sat.	Bayern Verein Newark, 79. Stiftungsfest
Apr. 04	Sat.	Die Gemuetlichen Enzianer Bauern Ball
Apr. 26	Sun	76. Stiftungsfest, BCE
June 20	Sat.	Summerfest, Kolping on Hudson
Aug. 13-16		22. Gaufest, Toledo, Ohio
Sept. 19	Sat.	52. Steuben Day Parade, NYC
Oct. 11	Sun.	Annual Oktoberfest
Oct. 18	Sun. (tent.)	Magnanini Winery
Nov. 07	Sat.	Christkindlmarkt, GA Peekskill
Dec. 13	Sun.	Christmas Party, GA Peekskill

Membership Meeting:

Every third Thursday of the Month at the
American Legion Hall
52 Garrigan Avenue
Thornwood, New York 10594

Schuhplattler, Kindergruppe and Volkstanz Practice
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at
the Legion Hall in Thornwood

Fahnenmutter: Rosa Seidler
Club Historian: Doris Koch
Membership Chairman: Linda Kraker

Officers for 2009

Gloria Mayer Fernandez, President
(845) 896 - 2771 • Cell (845) 240-3227

Margaret Mazic, 1st Vice President
(914) 245-8631

Daniel Hepp, 2nd Vice President
(203) 746-5119

Herb Seeff, Treasurer
(845) 628-7638

Linda Kraker, Corresponding Secretary
(845) 628-7798

Monica Luedke, Recording Secretary
(845) 552-5252

Vorplattler: Roland Lex (845) 803-3774

2nd Vorplattler: Kenneth Lex
Vortraegerin: Veronica Archul

Trustees:

Dietmar Link, Marge Essig, Max Lorenz

Appointed Positions:

Trachtenmutter: Veronica Archul

Kindervertreterin

Ingrid Wittmann
(914) 736-8139

Jennifer Johanson
(914) 789-4391

Volkstanzgruppe

Alfred Hodge
(914) 769-7149

Helmut Kraft
(914) 941-2490

During the past week we lost one of our long time honorary members, Gus Kluger, who lived in Florida. Our deepest sympathy to his wife Jean and their families. Although not a member but a great supporter of our Club, on November 8th Mary (Maria) Haumeier passed away. May they rest in peace.

On January 9th, Heidi Lechner Carr gave birth to a daughter, Johanna in Qatar where they are living for the next two years. Congratulations to Heidi and Dave and the proud Grandparents, Hans and Doris Lechner. Hans, the proud Opa, not wanting to be left out, arrived in Qatar the day after the baby's birth to help out for three weeks. Below is a picture of Johanna and one of Hans, Heidi and Alexandra on a camel ride.



Everybody had a great time, especially the kids, at our Christmas Party at the Peekskill German American Club on December 14th. Many thanks to the Kraker Family for their hard work in putting this affair together. All the children received presents from Santa Claus. The fantastic music was provided by Fritz Blume, Dieter Link and Pat Rodrick. The Christmas Raffle was also a success. 1st Prize: \$500 Kathy & Herb Seeff, 2nd Prize:\$300 Karl Josef Kehrle, 3rd Prize: \$200 Erika Bobbinger, Jr., Basket of Cheer: Charlotte & Emil Nauerz and 5th Prize: Basket of German Wines & Beers to Kathleen Whalen.



Happy Birthday wishes to our January and February Geburtstag Mitglieder: Fritz Blume, Irme Blume, Lydia Stoppacher Manfred Gaa, Linda Kraker, Helen Larsen, Renate Doren, Kathy Seeff and Eddie Specht.

Last Monday, our own Peggy Dougall received an Urkunde for 15 years as Corresponding Secretary for the United Bavarians from Greater New York & New Jersey. Congratulations!

We would like to wish good health and speedy recovery to Adele Schwenk, Frank Romano, Gus Wittmann and Manfred Gaa. Please keep them in your prayers.

Up Coming Events – Edelweiss and Other Groups

Fasching Party – Friday, February, 27th – 7:00PM – Thornwood Legion Hall – This is a new event and is free. Bring the kids. It is a Pot Luck Dinner so everyone attending should bring a dish enough for eight (8) people. Also bring your own refreshments (beer, wine, soda, etc.) Music will be provided by our in house musicians. Please call Marge Essig (914-762-2218) to let her know that you are coming and what dish you will be bringing. Dress up in costume – Prizes will be given out. It we be lots of fun.

Gemeutlichen Enzianer Bauernball – Saturday, April 4th – 8:00PM – Polish American Hall, 5 Pulaski Place, Port Washington, NY – Music by the Kapelle Fellas. Tickets are \$30.00 which includes German and domestic beer, wine and soda as well as sandwich platters, snacks, coffee and cake. Ages 12 to 30 - \$20.00, 6 to 12 - \$14.00 Under 6 Free. Our schuhplattlers will be participating. If you plan to attend, please call Roland Lex 845-803-3374

Anniversary Dinner Dance (76th Stiftungsfest) – Sunday, April 26th – 1:00 to 5:00PM – Krucker's, 81 Call Hollow Road, Pomona, NY. Cost: Members: \$48.00 – Guests: \$53.00 and Children (under age 16) \$25.00. Band: Die Spitzbuam. Price includes: Entrée, salad, dessert, coffee or tea and wine, beer and soda (4 hours). Invitations will be sent out in early March.

16th Annual Kinderfest – Saturday, June 6th – West Haven, CT – Hosted by Harugari – HSV Bavaria. Our Kindergruppe will be attending. More information to follow in next newsletter.

22nd Gaufest - August 13th to August 16th – Toledo, Ohio – Hosted by Holzacker Buam Schuhplattler Gruppe. For additional information, go to the website; toledogaufest2009.com.

The Gaufest Ticket is \$140.00 for Adults \$50.00 for children. They include the following:

Admission to all scheduled events (unless otherwise noted) from Thursday, August 13th through Sunday, August 16th.

Saturday Night Banquet and Sunday Picnic.

Weiss Bier, Pils Bier and Non-Alcoholic Beer, White Wine, Red Wine, Soda and Water will be included for:

Thursday Night Dance

Friday Welcome Dance

Heimatabend

Saturday Banquet

Sunday Picnic

Farewell Dance

At all functions, mixed drinks will be available for purchase.

Please call Margaret Mezcic (914-245-8631) for your reservations and food selection (see below cut off) which should be returned to Margaret with your check as soon as possible but no later than June 1st.

From now on the Club Newsletter will be sent every three months. Our Newsletter needs a name. What shall we call it? Whoever comes up with the best name will win a prize. Please submit your entry to Gloria Fernandez, 28 Tamarack Dr., Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 or by e-mail to zumleben1231@yahoo.com.

Please note that the Membership Dues for 2009 are due. Please either send your check to Daniel Hepp, 25 Inglebrook Rd., New Fairfield, CT 06812 or give it to Dan at the next meeting.

Gaufest Banquet – Choice of Meal

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Meal Type</u>	<u>Type of Ticket</u>
_____	Chicken	Adult
_____	Schwein Haxen	Adult
_____	Hot Dog	Child (5 – 16)
_____	Chicken	*Child Upgrade (5 – 16)
_____	Schwein Haxen	*Child Upgrade (5 – 16)
_____	Hot Dog	Child Free (4 and under)

*Child Upgrade Dinner extra \$10.00 – Submit payment with choice.

Member or Guest Name(s): _____

We hope that you enjoy the new format of our Newsletter. We welcome any suggestions.

Mit Bayrischen Grüßen,

Herb Seeff
herbseeff@rcn.com

