

January / February 2018

President's Message

Frohes neues Jahr! As we begin a new year it is essential to remember that we are a voluntary, member led and served organization and no one is paid for their services or work. If we paid the full value of their services, it would burst our budget. As we transition from one Board, and one President, to another, it is important that we recognize their achievements and contributions, and express our gratitude, perhaps not as we should, but as we are best able. Under the leadership of our outgoing President, Albert Zimmermann, we leased our restaurant to responsible, creative, and entrepreneurial tenants whose presence not only provides our club with recurring revenue, but also a source of critically praised, authentic German foods, enhancing many of our Verein events. Our Aiello properties have been well maintained, upgraded, and leased. We retook possession of our future by purchasing our outstanding mortgage at an amount benefiting both the Germania Verein and the City of San Jose. We all know Albert, and to list all that he does, and continues to do, would fill this newsletter and more. But we also know that Albert would tell us that no one succeeds alone and would be the first to give the credit for any success to both the Board of Directors and our membership. To Albert and the outgoing Board Members, you have earned our appreciation and our gratitude; thank you for a job well done!

We begin 2018 with a new Board of Directors and a new President. Some things will change, because change is inevitable for the health and vitality of any organization. But what will not change is our commitment to provide a welcoming environment, a retreat for comfort and renewal, and a friendly place to appreciate and share the Arts, Culture, Gesamtkunstwerk, Language, Sports and Recreation of the German speaking peoples. We must ensure that our members enjoy the peace, collegiality, camaraderie, fellowship, freundschaft, mutual support and tolerance they deserve and expect. We will continue to seek ways to engage all members, from the youngest with new ideas to the long time members for whom this is a second home. That is what our founders intended and that is what I hope we continue to provide.

As you are aware from our general membership meetings, membership dues constitute a very small amount of our revenues, less than 5%. Most of our income, 94%, is derived from the rental of our restaurant and

Aiello properties. So far, that has been adequate to support our operations. But there is another message here, perhaps a more important one. That is we seek new members and retain long term members primarily because they share our goals, values, and behavior expectations; we do not seek members for their dues. We would like all members to demonstrate a commitment to collegiality, mutual support, and service. We have been blessed by so many awesome members; on occasion, we have been disappointed. Hearing the voice of our members, and consistent with our by-laws, our Board is developing policies and procedures to enhance and improve our membership approval, induction, and retention processes.

From my perspective as a new President, I have always seen leadership as service, not position, a very German concept. There is much happening at our Verein with which I am unfamiliar. Thus, I will begin my learning tour. I will endeavor to listen and observe, and better understand what makes each part of Germania work. I can assure you that I make no pretense of knowing all the answers; I hope you can assist me in asking the right questions.

I am honored to be your President. I hope to earn your confidence and support. I look forward to working with you in making our Germania Verein the center of German Arts and Culture in Silicon Valley, and beyond. We'll have much to celebrate on our 100th anniversary of owning and occupying Germania Hall in 2023.

Wishing you, and your loved ones, the very best in the New Year.

Carl Schmidt, President

Upcoming Events

Carnival-Faschingsball

DATE: Saturday, January 27, 2018

TIME: Doors open at 1 P.M. Coffee & cake will be served

ADMISSION: \$15 per person

TICKETS: For information and reservation call Burgie Vorrath 650.592.9665, Hedi Loens 408.446.4140, or Klara Kahlen 408.374.2373.

2018 Calendar

JANUARY

7 Membership Meeting

30 Faschingsball

FEBRUARY

4 Membership Meeting

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CLUB'S EVENTS IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER.

Department News

Choir

The year 2017 has come to an end. The Christmas Concert on December 10 was a festive event with many guests attending. The crowd enjoyed our program of German Christmas music and we enjoyed entertainment by Bill Blyth.

We were also invited to sing parts of our Christmas program in front of a full house at the Christkindel Market at Ludwig's Restaurant.

We are excited to announce that several members of the choir have founded a ukulele orchestra. They will become a subset of our choir and eventually accompany the choir in future concerts.

The Germania Choir wishes everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. For more information about the choir please call Edith Meyer 408.379.6540 or me 408.255.2118.

Prosit Neujahr, Manfred Trogisch

Music Ensemble

We are looking forward to perfecting a couple of songs to perform at the end of the Spring concert. We have revised our practice time to **EVERY OTHER SATURDAY AT 12:30PM** upstairs, beginning January 20.

Happy New Year! Sam

"Where would the world be without music?"

Dance Group

The Tanzgruppe had a wonderful Christmas party on December 15 featuring the Joe Smiell fest band, who played and led us through several festive songs.

During rehearsal intermission, the dancer of the year award was given to third generation club member, Stephanie Tuma, by V.P. and dance director, James Zimmerman (see photo).



Our next three rehearsals are: **JANUARY 26, FEBRUARY 23, AND MARCH 30.**

For more information visit our Facebook page: German Club Dance Group and like us.

Auf gehts! Stephen Goth

Schützen

On **JANUARY 28** we are having the traditional **KALE DINNER**. The shooting award for 2017 will also be announced on the same day.

The regular meetings and target shooting are usually on the last Sunday of each month. Board meeting at 10AM, target shooting at 10:30AM, lunch at 12:30PM (bring some to share), and the membership meeting at 1:30PM.

Gut Schuß, Werner Springer

Historical Society of Germania

What has taken place these last two months regarding the book? More pages have been completed and more pictures have been added.

The best news has been, that a lady from the German Consulate contacted me and together we filled out a ten page application and applied to the German Government for a grant for the publication of the book. I have great hope that we will get financial help from Germany. Keep your fingers crossed.

I would like to share with you a short part of a story about the Christkindelmarket at the Turner Hall on Third Street an Dec.15 through 17, 1899.

We know about the two day event because the San Jose Daily Mercury wrote in detail about it. It states: "Men women and children dressed in native costumes from eight different regions of Germany enlivened the scenery in the 'make believe market square.' Every hour on the hour the night-watch-man appeared to sing out the hour of the night. Everyone participated, the traveling German Jew as well as the Tyrolean street band."

You can read the rest of the story in the Book: "Germania San Jose; The Early German Heritage In Silicon Valley" which is in the production state.

Thank you, Maria Brand

Skat

We are still looking for players who want to play this fun German card game. Anyone, experienced or not, is welcome to join. We are meeting on the **THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:30PM** upstairs and hope to see you there.

Gut Blatt, Klaus Glimski

Birthdays

January

Margaret Bubert
Samuel Dougherty
Rozsa Harding
Walter Harding
Hertha Hoche
Anna Hoegel
Erwin Hoffmann
Helga Hoffmann
Kurt Janszen
Jutta Kiel
Achim Moesta
Hans Muskat
Jamie M. Seif
Joyce L. Williams
Albert Zimmermann



February

Brigitte Andermatt
Michael Brookman
Frank Busch
Stacey Cler
Monica Dournaee
Rick Ehler
Barbara Figone
Carina Frazer
Margrit Gipner
Wilhelm Grotheer
Don Haderle
Hans M. Halberstadt
Brigitte Heinze
Helga, E. Hoffmann
Thomas Gerhard Holford
Anatoli Keller
Ingrid Lang
Helmut Lippert
Hedi Loens
Ludwig Meyer
Henry Muth
Vera Parr
Ursula Scheelke
Josef Schwarzl
Elizabeth Stamp
Brooke Sylvester
Barbara Tuma
Burgie Vorrath
Anne Wipfler
Blanca Zimmermann

Club Contacts

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Newsletter

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German Pioneers

Learn about our German ancestors who have contributed to this area since 1841. Visit www.germanamericanpioneers.org or contact Maria Brand at 408.270.4888.

Germania
The German-American
Club of San Jose **Verein**

Department News

Language

The Sprachabteilung will meet the **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** upstairs in the meeting room. Our next meeting is **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, AT 7:30PM.**

Our goal is to have fun while practicing and learning the German language. We will have some German conversation and we will use conversation, grammar, short stories, movies and crossword puzzles to our benefit ... in German of course! We welcome all ability levels. We will also plan for our March "Raclette Evening" meeting.

Please email Albert at least 48 hours prior if you will attend so that we have the room set up properly and have sufficient materials for each of you.

Beer and soft drinks available for purchase with German Club drink tickets. Please consider \$1.00 per meeting donation (no alcohol from restaurant allowed). I will bring some snacks to share or bring your own. You can purchase food from the restaurant.

Non-members are welcome to "check us out" up to 3 times before applying for membership. We sponsor new members and help you qualify for membership if you have an interest in upholding German language, culture and traditions. Please RSVP that you will be attending and for more information contact Albert Zimmermann by email albertzimmer@yahoo.com or text 408.210.9491.

Happy New Year!

Albert Zimmermann

Carnival

Hello to all our carnival friends. Once again carnival is just around the corner. The festivities started on November 11 and will go until Ash Wednesday 2018.

We will once again sponsor the **CARNIVAL DANCE** at Germania Hall on **JANUARY 27, 2018**. Bill Bly and his partner will provide us with his great music for our entertainment. The cost is \$15 per person and we will serve coffee and cake in the afternoon. **DOORS OPEN AT 1PM.** We hope for a good attendance by our club members.

Tickets are available by calling Burgie Vorrath at 650.592.9665, Hedi Loehms at 408.446.4140. and Klara Kahlen at 408.374.2373. Let's all support the Karneval Club.

Alaaf and Helau, Klaus Vorrath

Kaffeeklatsch

Happy New Year to all of you and good health and prosperity. The time has come for changes in our department. We have established a new parking agreement with the Santa Clara Law Library at 360 N. 1st Street (parking lot in on the corner of Basset Street and North 2nd Street). We are able to park during the following hours:

- ▶ Mon-Thurs, 7PM to midnight
- ▶ Friday after 5PM
- ▶ Saturday and Sunday anytime.

Please remember we must adhere to these hours and a Germania parking permit must be displayed. For us, there is no other way than the weekend.

We hope to see you on the **SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**. For the first time we will meet on **JANUARY 9**. See you then.

Edith Meyer

Committee News

Sunshine

The old year is coming to an end; it was a very difficult year for numerous members of our Germania Family and we hope that the new year will bring more Sunshine. A great big Dankeschön to all the generous members who have helped so that we can enjoy ourselves and relax in the friendly atmosphere of our beautiful Hall.

I would love to bring Sunshine to our members, however, I need you to let me know whom I can call to warm their hearts.

Sunshine to our Germania Family for the New Year and always.

Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave and impossible to forget.

Jutta Kiel

Department Meetings

Carnival

Every 2nd Monday of the month at 10A.M.

Choir

Every Tuesday at 7:30P.M.

Dance Group

Last Friday of the month at 8P.M.

Hiking

No hikes scheduled presently.

Historical Society

Details coming soon.

Kaffeeklatsch

Every 2nd Saturday of the month at 12P.M.

Language Group

First Wednesday of month at 7:30P.M.

Skat

Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30P.M.

Schützen

Meetings are on the same day as the target shooting which is the last Sunday of the month at 10A.M.

Germania

The German-American Club of San Jose Verein

Germania Verein, Inc.
261 North 2nd Street
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www.germaniaverein.org



Smile Away

What is a smile, I ask myself -
Is it just an expression or something else?
A smile can make someone's day,
A smile can help ease troubles away.
When you have one smile, another will usually follow;
It is an effect, that chases all problems and all sorrows;
So why not smile and show your happiness,
For when you smile, you truly are at your best.

Thomas Casalenuovo, Jr.

Volkstrauertag

Ich hatt' einen Kameraden...

1. Ich, hatt' ei-nen Ka-me-ra-den, ei-nen bes-tern findst du
2. Ei-ne Ku-gel kam ge-flo-gen, gilt sie mir o-der gilt sie
3. Will mir die Hand noch rei-chen der- weil ich e-ben

mit. Die Trommelschlugzum Strei-te, er ging an meiner Sei-te in
dir? Ihn hat es weg-ge-ris-sen, er liegt vormeinen Fü-ßen, als
lad. "Kann dir die Hand nicht ge-ben,bleib Du im ew-gen Le-ben mein

glei-chem Schritt und Tritt, in glei-chem Schritt und Tritt.
wir's ein Stück von mir, als wär's ein Stück von mir.
gu-ter Ka-me-rad, mein gu-ter Ka-me-rad."



Germania Choir at the Market



Christkindlmarkt at Ludwig's



Christmas at Germania



Kaffeeklatsch Christmas

