



G.T.E.V. Edelweiss

Wegweiser

April 2019

Edelweiss Officers for 2019

At our February meeting, the Committee Members elected in January were sworn in. Many thanks to our outgoing officer, Trustee **Roger Kraft**, who served for nearly two decades; the committee depended on him for diligence, level head, and humor. Welcome to our three new members: **Mark Wajer** was elected to the office of Bar Obmann, a job that has been open for the last year. **Sonja Bresset** is our new Ticket Obmann, replacing **Sharon Walker** who had been fulfilling the role well on an interim basis. **Heather Wajer** was elected to the 3-year term of Trustee. Welcome to the three of you! The other officers remained the same. Fred Walker and Roger Kraft switched appointed roles of GACC Delegate and Alternate. Our Committee Members are:

- ◆ 1.Vorstand Erwin Rauschendorfer
- ◆ 2.Vorstand Fred Walker
- ◆ 3.Vorstand Rick Michel
- ◆ Secretary Rita Dzierks; 2.Secretary Mike Campbell
- ◆ Treasurer Colleen Michels; 2.Treasurer Sharon Walker
- ◆ Ticket Obmann Sonja Bresset; Bar Obmann Mark Wajer
- ◆ Trustees Heather Wajer (3 year); Alex Lamerand (2 year); Annette Edelhauser (1 year)
- ◆ Sachenverwalter Chrissy Walker
- ◆ Historian & Pressewart Karin Dean Kraft
- ◆ GACC Delegate Roger Kraft; Alternate Fred Walker



Our dance officers stayed the same with the exception of the secretary. Thank you, **Janet Seefried**, for filling that role so well the last couple of years! Welcome to **Megan Lepkowski** as our new secretary.

- ◆ 1.Vorplattler Eric Walker
- ◆ 2.Vorplattler Alex Lamerand
- ◆ 1.Vortänzerin Chrissy Walker
- ◆ 2.Vortänzerin Anni Porter
- ◆ Secretary Megan Lepkowski
- ◆ Sachenschlepper Annette Edelhauser



Thank you all for being willing to serve your Verein!

News about our Members

Mia Edelhauser will be graduating in May after studying for two years to become a Physician's Assistant. Quite an accomplishment! Congratulations, Mia, we're all proud of you!

Mia will be moving to the Ann Arbor area with her fiancé, Ben Becker, who will begin his neurology internship at University of Michigan Hospital after his May graduation from medical school. We hope that we'll be seeing more of them once they're back in Michigan!

Kurz Berichtet

Gute Besserung!

Several of our members have been sick during the last few months and are recuperating. **Hans Waidelich** came to the February meeting after a long absence. It was great to see **Hubert Turner** at the March meeting — he was hospitalized for over 3 months. **Alex Lamerand** broke his leg but is healing well. **Fred Walker** has had his share of issues with his ankle but things are looking very promising now. We wish all of you improving health, patience, and strength.

Congratulations to our Newest Member!

This year started out great — we welcomed a new member at the February meeting. **Tim Waidelich** is no stranger to the club— he's been coming to events for many years already. And, of course, we all know his parents, Maria and Hans. We're happy to have Tim as a member and look forward to seeing him and his two children even more in the future.



Herzlich Willkommen, Tim!

Our Condolences—Ruhe in Frieden

- ◆ Joe Toepfner, father of Karin Schwalbe, passed away in January. Joe and his family are long time, active Carpathia members. Condolences to our members Karin, husband Rob, son Paul, and the rest of the family.
- ◆ John Angellotti, father of Michelle Uebrueck, passed away in March. Condolences to Michelle, husband Chris, and the entire family on their loss.
- ◆ Mike Billo, son of Marianne Billo and brother of Christina Billo-Winquest, passed away in April, leaving many to grieve his loss. Condolences to the family as they mourn.

Who's Sorry This Time?

Franz Sinz wasn't at the meeting when his name was pulled for free membership. **Maria Edelhauser** was in town for a rare visit in January and came for dance practice. Had she stayed for just a *little* longer, she'd have gotten a free membership. Oops! Finally, **Rob Schwalbe** should have been at the meeting when his name was drawn, but....

What's Your News?

Send it along to include in future Wegweiser issues. If you don't come to club functions anymore, we'd still like to know how you're doing and what you're up to. Contact a fellow Edelweiss friend or the editor.

Wo ist was los? Where are things happening?



- ◆ May 3-5 – GTEV Chiemgau Windsor's Maifest (Edelweiss is going 5/4)
- ◆ May 5 – Dance Practice & Membership Meeting
- ◆ May 18 – Maifest with d'Lustigen Isartaler in Pittsburgh – Siasswasser is playing!
- ◆ May 29 – Committee Meeting (for June!)
- ◆ June 1 – Schuhplattler Tanz at BSC Holzhackerbuam Toledo – Siasswasser is playing!
- ◆ June 2 – Dance Practice & Membership Meeting
- ◆ June 23 – Dance Practice
- ◆ July 4-7 – Gaufest in Washington, D.C.
- ◆ July 19-21 – Carpathia is planning an event & we're invited!
- ◆ August 11 – GACC Deutscher Tag, Austrian Park
- ◆ August 18 – Edelweiss Members & Friends Picnic, Spindler Park
- ◆ August 24-26 – German American Festival in Toledo
- ◆ Sept. 8 – Dance Practice & Membership Meeting

Edelweiss Celebrates 87 Years

On a cold, snowy evening in January, many of our members gathered at *Polka!* Restaurant in Troy to celebrate our Verein's anniversary. Our group had a good turnout despite the blustery conditions!

Being this was a new venue for the celebration, we were skeptical; however, the service was top notch and the food, delicious!

Our own Siasswasser Tanzmusi provided some music for our listening and dancing pleasure, much to the delight of the *Polka!* staff.

Alex Lamerand was awarded an Urkunde for his years of membership in Edelweiss.

Golden Edelweiss Awards were given to two members for their many years of membership and their good work throughout those years: **Herb Gruber** and **Janet Seefried**. We're glad to have you among us!

Thanks to all who attended the celebration.

—Eric Walker



Rita Dziersk, Erwin Rauschendorfer, and Rick Michels with (from left) honorees Alex, Herb, and Janet. Congratulations!

Fasching at the Dakota Inn

A favorite outing every year is going to the Dakota Inn for Fasching. This February, **Sharon Walker** organized a group of about 25 to take part. The Dakota Inn has a great atmosphere, and the music is a lot of fun.

Thanks, Sharon, for keeping this annual tradition going! The "gang" certainly enjoys it!

RUHE IN FRIEDEN

Many of you already heard this news at our Christmas celebration or saw it on the website. **Rita Miltner** passed away on Thursday, November 29. She died just before her 84th birthday. Rita was still living in her family home, and her sons Kevin and Mark were helping her stay as independent as possible. Rita's husband, Art, died in January 2011. Rita was not at the club too much after that, but we did get cards from her on occasion. Rita and Art both joined Edelweiss in 1995 and were great friends of our club, participating, dancing, and working at events and behind the scenes. Mostly they'll be remembered for their kindness and pleasant natures. Son Kevin said that they loved being members.

There was a memorial service for Rita in January with a luncheon afterwards. Several of our members attended, and we're glad we did. It was a lovely tribute to a sweet lady.

Gaukapelle Practice this May

The Gaukapelle of Gauverband Nordamerika will again hold its practice at the Carpathia Hall. Gau-musikwart Rick Michels is organizing the event. In all, 14 musicians: 5 from the Pennsylvania/Delaware area, 3 from D.C., and the rest from here. The out-of-towners will be housed by our members. They'll be welcomed on Friday night, then go home with their hosts. All day Saturday they'll be practicing at the Carpathia Hall. The Kapelle will be playing at the Gaufest in Washington, D.C., this summer.

After a day of working hard, some fun is a must. The group will make their way south to Canada to GTEV Chiemgau Windsor's Maifest for the evening. Should be a great time!

We'll get to welcome many of them on Sunday at our dance practice and membership meeting.



News from the Ritterhaus Family

A lot of things have been happening in the Ritterhaus family. **Rosemary and Ernie** were over the moon at the Christmas party showing off pictures of their new grandchildren, twins (a boy & a girl) born in November to son Mike and his wife. * Younger son Garrett Ritterhaus graduated in December from Central Michigan University. Congratulations on all this great news!

Mittelwest Bezirksheimatfest 2019 in Chicago

One of our favorite events every year is attending the Mittelwest Bezirksheimatfest. The 29th annual Bezirksfest was hosted this year by HTV Edelweiss Chicago in Itasca, Illinois, just outside of the city. It was a great time being with our friends from Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Dallas, Windsor, Toledo, Washington DC, St. Paul, Denver, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. Yes, some of those cities aren't exactly in the Midwest, but word gets around when a Fest is fun!

Friday night is a casual get together with dancing, some meetings, and most of all saying hello to all our guests. On Saturday, the day starts at 9 am with Einzelplatteln and Einzelpreisplatteln by the Jugend of the Midwest. 29 performances! Some dancers danced more than once but altogether there were 43 young dancers! Every year the quality of the dancing just gets better. This year, **Roger Kraft** was one of the six judges. Roger says it was a really good experience and he enjoyed having the best seat in the house.

After the dancing was over, a general meeting took place. One of the exciting decisions was to admit our friends from Chiemgau Windsor as an official member of the Bezirk! The afternoon is taken up with a



Flohmarkt and workshops. The Flohmarkt was a busy place—people sell used Tracht, books, and decorative “Bavarian” items. Several crafty folks even sell handmade items like crocheted ties, hair pins, aprons, and cloth purses. Great selection!



Two workshops featured learning new dances. Another was geared towards the youth. Edelweiss Detroit hosted an “Advent Customs” workshop. Our musicians got to share the talent they usually only show at our own Christmas program. Just beautiful!



Rick Michels told about various Advent practices such as no feather in the hat, no dancing, and the role of Perchten and shepherds in the Christmas traditions. **Chrissy and Eric Walker** led us in singing



a beautiful song. There was also an informative handout that other clubs can use to start their own Christmas music programs. Well done!



Siasswasser Tanzlmusi was the band for Saturday night, so you know the music was terrific and the dance floor was full. The Midwest folks do love their



Fruehschoppen with BSC Holzhacker Buam Schuhplattler Gruppe, Toledo

Members of our Verein attended the fourth annual Fruehschoppen held at the Bavarian Hall, clubhouse of the BSC Holzhackers, on Sunday, February 24. It was a windy drive down, but the hospitality and Gemütlichkeit made the trip well worth it! Edelweiss members always enjoy our time with the Holzhackers, rekindling old friendships and making new ones!

After we eat and drink, the dance groups—which included members of GTEV Chiemgau Windsor and STV Bavaria Cleveland— get together on Toledo’s nice wood dance floor and take turns teaching new dances to one another.

This event is a real treat. Prost!

—Eric Walker



For those who don't know, a Fruehschoppen is a typical Bavarian brunch held before noon. The meal consists of two Weisswurst, sweet mustard, a Brezn (pretzel), and a Weissbier (or two).



Above left — the Edelweiss delegation in Toledo. Great turnout!

Chiemgau Windsor was there, too.

The dance floor was full all day. And dancing on a wooden floor is always a treat!

Bezirksheimatfest 2019 – cont'd from pg. 4

Volkstänze! The evening alternated between social dancing, Ehrentänze, and awarding of prizes and certificates to the young dancers. Our own dancers performed the “Finsterauer Landler” most excellently!

As you can see from the photos, we had a great time—I’m sure that doesn’t surprise anyone though!

—Karin Dean Kraft

—Photos thanks to Stephen Hargreaves from Alt-Washingtonia

Our Birthday Kids!

March

Anneliese Baker
Eleanor Gracin
Robert Helgert
Hermine Jensen
Herb Langedger
Ken Szachta
Anna Tatar
Karin Schwalbe
Mary Light

April

Henry Conrow
Herb Gruber
Maria Higgins
Art Kainz
Heather Wajer
Barb Mulligan
Megan Lepkowski
Mark Wajer

Robert Schwalbe
Alex Lamerand
Bonnie Brown

June

Michael Campbell
John Huthwaite
Lynn Huthwaite
Lauren Kraft
Walter Kron
Anneliese Porter
Hans Menzinger
Thomas Priemer
Erwin Rauschendorfer
Rosemary Ritterhaus
Richard Wagner
Katharina Helgert

Extra Special Birthday Wishes to

*Erwin Rauschendorfer
turning 60*



*Rainer Naus
turning 80*



May

Colleen Michels
Rainer Naus
Norm Raab
Steve Recker
Maria Waidelich
Christina
Winqest

Gauverband Nordamerika Gaufest to be held in Washington, D.C.

We have 19 Edelweiss members and friends going to Washington, D.C., over the July 4th weekend this year. Alt-Washingtonia Schuhplattler Verein is the host for the 27th Gaufest. The 4th Gaufest in 1973 was also held in D.C.; many of you probably remember it!

Edelweiss Detroit will be busy at this Gaufest, as we usually are. **Siasswasser Tanzmusi** will be playing. In addition, our musicians will be playing with the Gaukapelle. **Rick Michels** will lead the music at the church service on Saturday afternoon, and some of our members will play and sing.

Annette Edelhauser and **Renee Edelhauser** will each be participating in Einzelpreisplatteln with partners from other Vereine. **Karin Dean-Kraft** is giving a workshop about the differences in Tracht from region to region.

Tony Aringer will be carrying our flag a couple

different times during the weekend. Always an awesome part of the festivities.

The Volksmusik Stube will be open all weekend. We all enjoy the room—there are a lot of musicians within the Gauverband, and our players enjoy playing with them. And there's lots of dancing and Gemütlichkeit in this room, which is why you'll find us there after hours.

A highlight of the weekend is the fact that the Lechgau Gaukapelle will be playing! Many of the players are from Rottenbuch and have participated in our own events here in Detroit. Thomas Eiler is just one of the friends among the band members.

Quite a few other friends from Bayern will also be attending. And so many Gau-NA friends, too. It'll be a whirlwind four days of music, dance, and Kameradschaft. More about it when we're back!

Dues are Due!

If you haven't paid your 2019 dues yet, please send a check (\$25 made out to GTEV Edelweiss) to 2. Kassier Sharon Walker at 1821 Welling Drive, Troy, MI 48098.

...please!



Time Change for Dance Practice

The second dance practice of the month does not include a membership meeting. That practice will start at 11 am with the aim to be done at 1 pm so dancers can enjoy the rest of their Sunday.

Wegweiser Editor

Send your news to: Karin Dean-Kraft —
734.479.4025
gtevedelweiss@yahoo.com