



Gebirgstrachten Erhaltung Verein "Edelweiß", Detroit

Wegweiser

October 2015

A typically busy holiday season coming up!

Greetings!

Here we are once again knocking on the door to the holiday season. We have a number of things coming up to keep you busy and entertained.

If you have any club owned tracht that you are not wearing or using, Chrissy Walker is asking that you have the items dry cleaned and returned to her so that other members in need can use them.

Please keep the family of Walter Zwar in your thoughts and prayers. We recently learned of Walter's passing last May.

Just a quick reminder that we are hosting the 2016 Bezirksheimatfest here. The dates are April 1 through April 3, 2016. The planning committee has been working very hard on this and wanted to give everyone advanced notice so that you can mark your calendars. More details will be available in the next newsletter.

As always, if you have anything you would like to have me print in the newsletter or if you have questions you need answered, you can contact me. You may either email me at gtevedelweiss@yahoo.com or call me at (586) 677-0432.

Wishing you a blessed holiday season,

Michelle Uebrueck
Editor



News
For And About The Membership

.....If you haven't paid your 2015 membership dues yet, they are now due. You may send them **(\$20)** to Sharon Walker, 1821 Welling Dr., Troy, MI 48098 - or you may give them to her at a meeting.

.....Sick members - Tom Priemer, Rolf Fruehauf, and Helen Gassel

Happy 90th birthday greetings go out to members Frank Sinz and Hubert Turner!



HOEDOWN

with GTEV "Edelweiss"

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th at

8:00pm

Bring your own drinks and a dish to share

\$20 a person

Contact Chrissy Walker for reservations 248. 765. 4042

LAZYJ RANCH

625 South Hickory Ridge
Road
Milford, MI 48380-1501
248-887-1551

Gedächtnismesse



Sunday, November 8 at 2 PM (luncheon following)

St. Clement of Rome, 343 South Main Street, Romeo, MI

(on Van Dyke, between 31 and 32 Mile Roads)

RSVP required - please call 248-840-3674 by November 1

Cost is \$10 per person (\$5 for age 12 and under)

Please bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share.



Christmas Program

Sunday, December 13

2 PM at Carpathia Club

To order a meal and RSVP, please call Renee at 248-840-3674 by December 7.

Dinner is \$20 (\$10 for age 12 and under)

Dinner will be schnitzel, beans, mashed potatoes, mostaccioli, and cheesecake.

Cash bar is available.

Don't forget to bring a dessert to share along with a raffle prize!



Have you heard the news?

We've got a new website.....check it out!

www.edelweiss-detroit.org



**Follow us
on
Facebook**

**[www.facebook.com/
groups/37712570232/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/37712570232/)**

GTEV Edelweiss Detroit Traveled to Milwaukee

We dance in 3/4 time, but we have fun all the time! Members of GTEV Edelweiss of Detroit love to dance the traditional Schuhplattler and folk dances of Bavaria. And there's no better place to do that than with over 1,500 like-minded dancers from all of the U.S., Canada, and Bavaria. A contingent of over 30 members did just that from July 30-August 2 at the 25th Gaufest of Gauverband Nordamerika. Over 70 clubs in North America belong to this umbrella organization, including the host club, SVEV D'Oberlandler of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, site of the Gaufest.

Every two years a different Gauverband club hosts the Gaufest in their home city. Part of the four-day weekend consists of competitive dancing for couples and groups to see who dances the Schuhplattler the best. Almost no one in our group of four couples was even born the last time Edelweiss competed almost a quarter century ago! Out of twenty groups, ours came in a respectable ninth place, terrific for a first-time competitor. Kudos to our dance group leaders Eric and Chrissy Walker, our other three couples, and our musician, Rick Michels.

The competition for individual couples is broken into age groups, and some of our dancers have entered this competition before. The 16-34 year old group had 68 couples in it, so Kevin Walker and Heather Hacker in 6th place; Paul Schwalbe and Renee Edelhauser in 14th place; and Alex Lamerand and Chrissy Walker in 41st place can be quite pleased that their hard work paid off. In the 50-59 and 60+ age groups, Roger Kraft and Annette Edelhauser and Andy and Janet Seefried made us proud. We are proud of all of our dancers who spent many extra practice hours to improve and perfect their dancing.



Of course, dancing is not our only talent. After Friday's 90-minute Heimatabend during which various clubs perform songs, music, and dances, Siasswasser Tanzmusik, our 10-member dance band, played for the rest of the evening's social dancing. Under the direction of Richard Michels, the band played, and the dance floor filled with people doing the much loved Bavarian folk dances. The evening rivaled the Heimatabend events held by our fellow Trachtler in Bavaria.

Rick Michels is also director or "Gaumusikwart" of the Gauverband. Singers and musicians from throughout the Gauverband and Edelweiss combined forces under Rick's direction to provide the beautiful musical backdrop for the mass on Saturday. The 50-person chorus and 20-person instrumental music performed the "Deutsche Bauernmesse." It was as inspiring as the words spoken by the priest who recognized that our love of Bavarian Tracht and Heimat is a precious connection that Trachtler have. The Gauverband also has a Blaskapelle made up of several of our Edelweiss members as well as musicians from around the Gauverband. Rick organized this Kapelle and director Andy Hacker of the Wendlstoana of Milwaukee have nurtured the talented band so well that it played for Sunday afternoon's events.

Another highlight is performing an Ehrentanz or honorary dance in front of our fellow Trachtler. This year we chose the "Sternpolka," with nine couples dancing in two separate circles. One does the Schuhplattler, the other does the folk dance version. Another proud moment.

The weekend is not all dance and music, however. There are workshops, too. On dance and music! One was to learn Wirtshauslieder, songs sung in the taverns throughout Bavaria, which led to much laughter over the slightly bawdy lyrics. Another workshop taught Paschen or clapping in time to music. Not as easy as it sounds with four different rhythms going on, but it's another old musical tradition. And, of course, a workshop on Volkstanzen was a must so that everyone could go home with something new.

Two different workshops on the ethnic costume or Tracht worn by Bavarians were also well attended. And a room is set aside for musicians to get together to take turns playing and learning from one another. It's not unusual for dancing or singing to break out in that room at any time of the day, night, or wee hours.

At every Gaufest the guests include a few dozen fellow Trachtler from Bavaria. It's a huge compliment from them when they tell us that we in North America do a good job of upholding the same traditions they are upholding. Two days after the Gaufest, eight of them stopped in Detroit and a dozen Edelweiss members spent the evening getting to know our new friends better.



The best part of the weekend is seeing friends from all over, making new friends, and talking about all the things we enjoy. People have known each other for so many years, some even longer than the 50-year-old Gauverband has existed. The weekend is like attending a family reunion with all ages uniting in a common bond.

A different band every night, lots of socializing, good company. It made for a terrific weekend that we'll remember for years to come. Our host club's motto for this Gaufest was "Dance-Eat-Sleep-Repeat," and the phrase really does sum up the weekend.

Karin Dean-Kraft, Pressewart

Pictures by Barb Rauschendorfer

Club Calendar

2015

November

- 4 Committee Meeting
8 Gedächtnismesse, St. Clement of Rome in Romeo

December

- 13 Weihnachtsprogramm/Christmas Program 2 p.m.

2016

(tentative dates)

January

- 6 Committee Meeting
10 Dance Practice & Election Meeting
24 Dance Practice

February

- 10 Committee Meeting
14 Dance Practice & Meeting (Tracht)
28 Dance Practice

March

- 9 Committee Meeting
13 Dance Practice and Meeting
27 Easter

April

- 1-3 Bezirksfest, Detroit
6 Committee Meeting
10 Dance Practice & Meeting
24 Bairischer Nachmittag, UAW Hall

All dance practices and monthly meetings are held in the **GACC room** at the
Carpathia Club
38000 Utica Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312
(586) 978-2292
Monthly meetings start at 3:00 PM

Upcoming Birthdays

October

Dieter Achilles
Albert Beuchel
Hedwig Eder
Anita Knoll
Christian Mulligan
Mike Mulligan
Manfred Nitsche
Leo Novak
Ryan Porter
Anna Marie
Rauschendorfer
Franz Sinz
Hubert Turner



December

Vibeke Achilles
Karin Dean-Kraft
Pamela Gassel
Robert Gracin
Elizabeth Kraemer
Stanley Lichota
Rita Miltner
Janice Naus
Jutta Nitsche
Anton Patzelt
Ludwig Putz
Donald Schultz
Andreas Seefried
Toni Donhauser-Tuttle
Paula Uebrueck
Fred Walker
Elisabeth Zeller

November

Phil Carpentier
Renee Edelhauser
Rolf Fruehauf
Susan Hoshield
Barb Rauschendorfer
Richarda Ritterhaus
Paul Schwalbe
Anna Stano
Lauren Uebrueck
Christina Walker
Rachel Winquest
Maria Winquest

January

Therese Carpentier
Joe DeBons
Maria Edelhauser
Dorothy Kainz
Hilda Langegger
Rick Michels
Erica Priemer
Horst Uebrueck

Don't forget!!

* Bring a side dish or dessert for the
* Gedächtnismesse AND bring a raffle
prize and a homemade dessert for our
* Christmas Program!