

The German American Societies Of San Diego, Inc. Spring Newsletter 2015

www.germanclubsandiego.org ~ www.OktoberfestElCajon.com



Farewell to our Prinzenpaar

With the conclusion of the Karneval Season we say a last goodbye to our Prinzenpaar. Pictured here with members of the KinderKarneval, we have all admired and appreciated the regal manner in which Prinz Scott II and Prinzessin Kristin I have reigned over Karneval these past months. That this young and recently married couple so adeptly picked up on the rich traditions of a Rheinland Karneval should not come as a surprise. Prinz Scott is a third generation San Diego Karnevalist. His grandparents (Meeder) and parents (Jensen) were or are very active Karneval members. He was active member in the restoration of Kinderkarneval not too many years back and more recently, he has participated as an Elfer-rat member. Prinzessin Kristin, while perhaps not having the same deep family roots in Karneval, can nevertheless boast of being a second generation club member. She sang with our Germania Choir along with her mother and met her future husband (Scott) at our club. But perhaps most enduring was the grace, beauty and German language she brought to each of this year's Karneval events.

Prinz Scott and Prinzessin Kristin are among the youngest Prinzenpaar to have reigned over Karneval. With the talent and grace displayed, we are all hoping to see them in our club activities for many years to come.

And looking at the picture once more, one can't help but note the contagious enthusiasm of the remainder of the KinderKarneval youth. How else does one explain new members already seeking entry and the performers talking amongst themselves and with the group leaders of what they would like to try next season - this just weeks after the conclusion of the past season. We have a good season behind us and the promise of many more ahead.

LP

G.A.S. Spring Newsletter 2015: DIRECTORY

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Our long-time club member, **Irmgard (Irmchen) Blausner**, (left) can be found at all club functions like Galas, Club Dinner Dances, Karneval events, Choir Concerts, Oktoberfest and the Open House -Sommerfest. She takes photos of activities, members and guests. We thank Irmchen very much for her talent and dedication. If you want to order YOUR pictures, please call her at 619-466-0229

Monika Parme, G.A.S. Ambassador, (right)

assists Heidi Williams, Business Manager, with her assignments at the club, office and field service. If you have questions and need help, please email: Heidi Williams : Heidiwgermanclub@cox.net or Monika Parme : monarry@aol.com
Monika, I thank you for your support, HW



CLUB HOUSE RULES: *The following rules and regulations have been established to ensure that everyone using the club and property has the responsibility to preserve our beautiful facility now and for years to come.*

ABC restriction: *No alcohol will be allowed to be brought into the club at any event, hall rental or meetings. Also, alcohol served from our bar can only be consumed inside the club house . At no time (except Oktoberfest and Open House) can glasses with alcohol be carried outside into our beer garden (not parking lot area).*

Cigarettes must be extinguished outside in appropriate containers.

No gum chewing allowed in the building.

No shoe or foot powder allowed in the building (dance floor)

Club staff members are not responsible for any personal belongings left unattended and left behind in the facility.

PUBLICATION POLICY

The publicity department of the G.A.S. is responsible for the bulletin's contents and reserves the right to edit or refuse all articles and advertisements submitted for publication.

If you move, PLEASE inform us of your new address!

If you change your email address, PLEASE let us know!



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Business Card annually \$100.00
Quarter Page annually \$140.00

Half Page annually \$ 240.00
Full Page annually \$ 340.00



Marianna Roberts

President's notes, March 2015

I guess it's never too late to wish everyone a Happy New Year full of joy, health and happiness. Once again our year ended with a big bang at the club – from our Snowball, to the Christmas party for the children with a visit from Santa, to a beautiful performance by our choir, accompanied by members of the Hillcrest Wind Ensemble, to our always fabulous New Year's Party. It was an incredibly busy month that actually started out with a "Christmas Lights" Bus tour though San Diego hosted and organized by the Damenkreis. Additionally we also donated the rental of our hall to several of the German Schools and the Boy Scouts.

Karneval season was very short this year, but we enjoyed some great parties. In January Karneval took their yearly bus trip to Las Vegas for the GAMGA (German American Mardi Gras Association) Gala event, which was once again very successful. It included groups from the US, Canada and even folks from Germany. Our Lana is on the GAMGA Board of Directors, in charge of the volunteers and a delegate from our club. Wendel is on the GAMGA Elferrat. As the weekend drew to a close we finished with a good-bye blast at the hotel "Tuscany" that hosted GAMGA for the first time and where this large German festivity (1200 people) cannot wait to return next year ! Lumpenball, as always, ended the season. I would like to mention the newly formed Karneval Kindertanzgruppe here under the supervision of Tanja and Claudia. They are absolutely incredible and have entertained us numerous times at many club functions. Honorable mention is in order here to these two wonderful ladies – great job! Look at our calendar for the upcoming events, and please read the SPOTLIGHT in this issue, as it will tell you more about the workings of our club.

Warmly, Marianna Roberts



Heidi Williams
Editor

Editor's Message March 8th - Today is International Women's Day 2015 Theme: MAKE IT HAPPEN

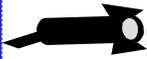
All around the world, International Women's Day represents an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of women while calling for greater equality. *Make It Happen* is the 2015 theme for our [internationalwomensday.com global hub](http://internationalwomensday.com), encouraging effective action for advancing and recognizing women. Each year International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8. The first International Women's Day was held in 1911. Thousands of events occur to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women. Organizations, governments, charities, educational institutions, women's groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day. The UN has been declaring an annual equality theme for many years. The world wouldn't be the same without women. When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other. Thinking about that I want to share a story with you:

A young wife sat on a sofa visiting with her mother. As they talked about life, about marriage, about the responsibilities of life and the obligations of adulthood, the mother turned a clear, sober glance upon her daughter. 'Don't forget your sisters,' she advised, swirling the tea leaves to the bottom of her glass. 'They'll be more important as you get older. No matter how much you love your husband, no matter how much you love the children you may have, you are still going to need sisters. Remember to go places with them now and then; do things with them.' Remember that 'sisters' means ALL the women...your girlfriends, your daughters, and all your other women relatives too. 'You'll need other women. Women always do.'

What a funny piece of advice, the young woman thought. Haven't I just gotten married? Haven't I just joined the couple-world? I'm now a married woman, for goodness sake! A grown-up! Surely my husband and the family we may start will be all I need to make my life worthwhile!' As the years tumbled by, one after another, she gradually came to understand that her mother really knew what she was talking about. As time and nature work their changes and their mysteries upon a woman, sisters are the mainstays of her life.

After "some" years of living in this world, here is what I've learned: **THIS SAYS IT ALL:**
Time passes.....Life happens.....Distance separates.....Children grow up.....Jobs come and go.....Love waxes and wanes.....Hearts break.....Parents die.....Colleagues forget favors, Careers end... BUT.....Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girlfriend is never farther away than needing her can reach. Girlfriends, daughters, granddaughters, daughters-in-law, sisters, sisters-in law, mothers, grandmothers, aunties, nieces, cousins, and extended family: all bless our life!For myself, at the club, I can add my helping and supporting angels to this special list. Without them, I wouldn't and couldn't complete, over the years, all that is on my program list. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, my dear friends, my angels, my sisters. A handful of male angels is also always there to help. Grateful hugs to everyone !

HW



Marianna
Roberts

Membership Meeting - Notes from the President – IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

Each year at our membership meeting I talk about where our club stands. Since we usually have a limited number of members present, I would like to make sure that we are all aware of what is going on regarding business and especially where we stand financially. Last year, some members felt that we should give some of the money that we currently have in our account to the under groups. Let me share with you why I feel that this is not fiscally advisable at this time.

In the 1980's when the club was in need of money, (at that time we still had a much larger number of members than now), we sold "building blocks" in order to survive. When we were again in big trouble financially in the 1990's, several members loaned money in \$5,000 and \$10,000 increments to the club, while Stan Stanfield took over to be club manager without receiving a pay check for the first years, in order to survive. I joined the board as treasurer in the year 2000 and, for the first four years, paid off those loans with interest from the proceeds of our growing Oktoberfest. Had we not been so successful with the Oktoberfest, we would not have been able to survive.

The expenses for our club – taxes, insurance, plumbing, utilities (electric/gas/water), payroll, and the normal upkeep of our building, runs an average of \$150,000 per year. Our income from the membership drive is approx. \$14,000 per year. Our events do not bring any extra money to speak of these days. The bands we hire run around \$1,000 to \$1,200 per event and we charge a \$10.- entrance fee. Figure this out yourself. Sometimes we have to use Food or Bar money to cover that expense. The bar averages \$700 to \$800 per event night of which 1/3 is the cost for supplies etc., plus the pay for the bartender and waitresses, and there is not much left over. While we still have some wonderful and dedicated volunteers, their number is getting smaller. We can't expect them to do heavy work so at times we do have to hire help. Our building is getting old and every year requires repair/replacement of numerous items that cannot be ignored and have to be addressed. We all know that we definitely have to have the money available to take care of these expenses.

Our main income is derived from our fabulously successful Oktoberfest. Just suppose we have a rained-out weekend or some other tragedy happens that cuts the attendance down or off. The bills will still have to be paid. When I became treasurer, I took a look at our finances and realized that we need savings to be set aside in order to survive for one year in case of a calamity! That means, to remain fiscally responsible, we will need a minimum of \$250,000. That is the operating cost for one year and the start-up cost of the next Oktoberfest. The good news; after 15 years, we are about to reach our goal! ! But until we have that full prudent reserve we simply cannot afford to outlay any additional funds for the undergroups.

Heidi is well aware of this situation and has always been incredible in saving large amounts of money on our expenses. For instance, the Music Federation wanted \$3,000+ to give us permission for our hired bands to play music and also on our sound system. She negotiated with them and the result of her efforts came to an agreement of \$800 instead! In all the years we have worked together I have always been in awe of how she handles all these responsibilities.

Two years ago, the North County German Club closed after 44 years. The board members had been in office for six years and, since no one came forward to take over, they decided to shut down. Heidi, Wendel and I have been on the board for 15+ years. In all those years, no one has ever come forward to run for a board position. When a position needed to be filled, we went around and begged people to take the job. The result is that Heidi is presently handling at least 8 jobs:

- (1) Heidi and Willie manage the club and the club's surrounding property and buildings.
- (2) Heidi organizes more than 10 annual club events which include: scheduling bands, entertainment programs, kitchen personnel and food supplies, hall set-up, decorating and housekeeping. Also, many weekends during the year she oversees heavy scheduling of hall rentals involving schools and boy scout programs. (In December, she purchased enough treats to fill over 120 Christmas bags for the children and organized the attendance of German schools invited to participate at our Christmas party and during the year.)
- (3) Heidi also handles Membership including address changes/phone numbers and up-to-date e-mail addresses and business contacts. (We have never had such a great roster). Willie can be found at the club most of the week, all day handling general needs/repairs and refurbishment inside and out assisted by his volunteer group. In the Fall they are additionally busy in building the venue for the Oktoberfest.

Continuation next page



- (4) Heidi also runs the office since all the incoming projects and problems have to be supervised by her. (Processing payments, daily incoming email and regular mail from insurance companies, taxes, suppliers, city offices and members).
- (5) She produces this fabulous 24-page club newsletter for quite a few years now (which began in her own
- (6) handwriting...evolving to advanced graphic computer skills, self-taught!)
- (6) She runs most of the Damenkreis since 1995 and club bus trips (with the help of monthly-assigned Damenkreis hostesses, etc.) and creates the monthly *Damenkreis*, German-written, 8-page newsletter.
- (7) No, not done yet! For the Oktoberfest she oversees the kitchen, handles the ordering of the meat, cake, runs the cake booth and makes provisions for the shuttle bus system,
- (8) and taking care of all our 35 Oktoberfest vendors! FINALLY done; that's "all" folks!

Honestly, I do not know how she does it. To replace her would require at least 8 people (and who would bring the heart she has in it??) There are at least three of us on the board who only stay to support Heidi out of love and admiration for her endurance and commitment.

She and I are on the phone/internet daily to talk about the current happenings and problems. When people come and complain, it really takes the wind out of her sails – and don't kid yourselves, we do need those sails. So the next time you see her, give her a hug and thank her.

As you can see, if you read this lengthy report, we are in very good shape and we would like to keep it that way. Once we have another successful Oktoberfest, and our finances allow us to survive a full year, we can talk again.

Respectfully, Marianna Roberts

Announcement

America on Main Street Provides an opportunity to enhance civic pride, attract regional participation and contribute to the economic growth of the downtown district.

The event brands El Cajon as a place of rich ethnic diversity, shared traditions and community engagement through education, entertainment, arts and food. This year's theme will be "Family Picnic" while honoring our active duty and veterans of the

Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2015 From 10 A.M. — 8 P.M.

Who would like to participate and staff our display booth for the German American Societies at America on Main Street?

Please leave a telephone message for Heidi Williams on 619 442 6637 OR 619 445 2549



German American Societies is preparing for their next Oktoberfest! Oct. 2-3-4 and Oct. 9-10-11 2015

By Popular Demand...Pottery Oktoberfest Mugs made by the Westerwald family in Pennsylvania are for sale to club members with your name on them (up to 13 letters).

If you are interested, the cost would be at the most \$17.00 each.

Please email Sherry Kealy at Sherca05@gmail.com by June 1st with your information (Name, email and phone #) and include the name you would like on the mug.

This order must be placed by June 1st to ensure delivery BEFORE the Oktoberfest.



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

We would like to provide members of the G.A.S. with warm and sincere wishes at times of illness and grief by sending a greeting card. This can only function if club members and friends notify us. Please don't hesitate to leave a message at the club office (619)442-6637 or get in touch with our Sunshine Lady.

Tillie O'Haver

(619) 303-5076



We would like to welcome more Sunshine Ladies to assist Tillie, visiting needy members, putting happy moments into their lives and seeing that smile! A knock on the door announcing a visit, just a little flower bouquet, a trip to the store, an outing to the park, holding hands or just a few words over a cup of coffeeall that can mean the world to someone lonely!

For this "out-in-the-field-service" we can give you addresses and directions, also reimburse you for expenses. If you are interested, please call the club office and leave a message.

I will contact you, Heidi Williams



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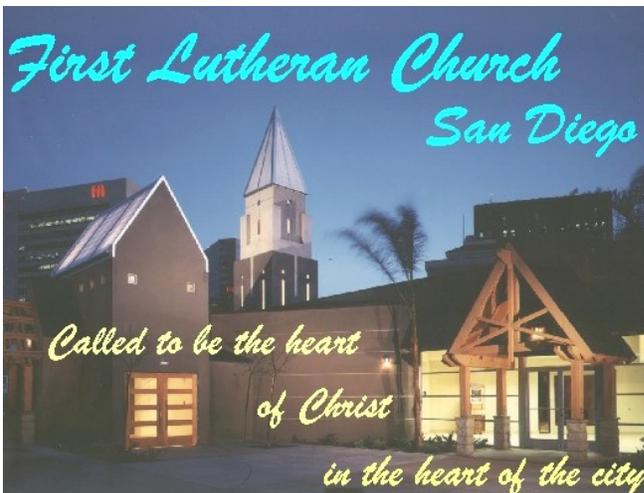
Editors addition : Diana is the daughter of Rosa who lives in the little house on the club property and helps us to keep the club house clean. Diana is thankful that her mother is in good hands with us. To say 'thank you' she is decorating our clubhouse hall with flowers for all Anniversary Balls for free! We enjoy her gift and are very appreciative !

Please consider her business when you have an order

DEUTSCHER GOTTESDIENST First Lutheran Church San Diego

Third & Ash Street

15:00 Uhr, letzter Sonntag im Monat
Für Nähere Informationen 858-452-9797



Nach jedem Gottesdienst bleiben wir noch etwas zusammen für unsere gewohnte Kaffeestunde. Bitte bringen Sie dafür etwas Gebäck mit! Für Kaffee und Tee sorgen Elsbeth und Brigitte



"The team":
Von links
nach rechts

Brigitte,
Elsbeth,
Gabi,
Pastor Karin

www.deutschekirchesandiego.com/topics/newsletter

Please notify Pastor Karin (760) 798-7130 when:

- You, or someone you know, is in the hospital
- You, or someone you know, want to plan a (bi-lingual) baptism, wedding, or celebration
- A club or church member, family member, or someone you know dies
- You, or someone you know, is ill or grieving

If possible, we want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and announce information to the congregation, when appropriate.



Karin Boye,
Pastorin

GAMGA Helau! On the 16th (Friday) and 17th (Saturday) of January the GAMGA (German American Mardi Gras Association) Gala was held in Las Vegas. Karneval groups of Canada and the United States met to celebrate this great festival. Even a few guests from Berlin were there. However, before the celebrations began, the various delegates of the German-American and the German-Canadian Karneval clubs met with the GAMGA Board. It was discussed how the big weekend would run. After the big meeting had ended, the big party began shortly thereafter.

On Friday night it was Kostuemball. The tasty candies of Goetze from Colorado were abundant on all of the tables. The drink special was the delicious and spicy blonde beer Bitburger "Abends Bit Morgens Fit." The first major event of the evening was the arrival of the GAMGA royalty of the last 30 years. So many Karneval princes and princesses are not seen as often on the dance floor. At the end of the procession were crowned GAMGA Prince and Princess 2015 - His highness Richard II and her loveliness Virginia I. All the guests wore their best costumes and the Bluebirds band played on, so that the dance floor was always fully loaded. As the band took a break, the Karneval clubs took over the show: Maennerballet, humorous skits and much more was on the program. Our Musikmeister was in great shape. He played the music for the entertaining Karneval skits and provided also the atmosphere that had many guests on the dance floor. The Bluebirds show band played again and the rest of the evening went so on with Karneval performances and music entertainment until the clock struck midnight. However, the big costume contest was not forgotten. Of all the wonderful costumes that took part in the competition, the most beautiful pirate princess, casino playing cards, and a mariachi band were appointed as the costume contest winners. After the Kostuemball came to an end, the party continued until the early hours of the morning in the hotel rooms.

On Saturday, the festivities continued. The GAMGA Board, the GAMGA Elferrat, and various princes and princesses met in the afternoon for the big exchange of Karnval medals. They laughed and talked, and everyone looked forward to the coming evening. The Karneval Ball was opened with the arrival of the Karneval clubs in full regalia proudly marching into the hall. After an introductory speech, the Bluebirds show band invited everyone to step up onto the dance floor. The dance music continued until the performances of the Prinzengarde groups took place. All who were in the hall, excitedly watched how the Karneval clubs from North America showed skills and abilities on the dance floor. After these first appearances, our Musikmeister and the band entertained until the next performance block. Again, all could only watch and applaud during our Prinzengarde groups' impressive performances. With music and dancing, the evening continued until the clock struck midnight. We then celebrated with good friends until every guest headed to bed and was certainly already looking forward to the next GAMGA Gala.

I hope that you will participate next year at our GAMGA Gala, and if they have never been there before, then sincerely welcome you to participate in next year's event. Next year, we hope to have the superb sauerkraut and pickles from Kruegermann on the menu. Thoughts and suggestions are indeed welcome. Please email Walter Luebke at GAMGAUSA@gmail.com or call him at 714-525-0691. Since our guests all had so much fun, perhaps next year's GAMGA should be a three day event - the 14, 15 and 16 January 2016. The Tuscany Hotel is ideal for that!

**GAMGA Helau!
Kurt Hauptmann
GAMGA Secretary**

Tuscany Suites & Casino
255 East Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89107



**G
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M
G
A**



JAN 16 G.A.M.G.A. GALA-Celebrating 30 Years of German American Karneval

1965 First GAMGA Princess I. Blausler



With Ash Wednesday now behind us and a semblance of sanity returning to our Karneval members – well, most of them, anyhow – it’s time to look back at the Karneval season behind us before the memories begin losing focus and we’re busy getting ready to do it all over again. For some of you, these recollections will be seen as a report to the broader club membership. But for others now suffering the symptoms of “Karneval withdrawal,” perhaps it may prove to be therapeutic and help you maintain a smile through the next months until we return once more to our 5th Season.

You may recall from your Fall-Winter newsletter that Karneval opened in November celebrating its 50th year here in San Diego’s German-American Societies. Reigning over this very special anniversary opening were the recently crowned Prinz Scott II and Kristin I. A brief description of this recently married couple is contained elsewhere in this newsletter. Of course, a Karneval season extends well beyond a single opening event.

The GAMGA Gala in Las Vegas is a perennial favorite of Karneval members, not just from our club but for German Karneval clubs throughout North America. This year was no exception. As reported here before, the event is a weekend long gala of Karneval pageantry and festivity; partying into the wee hours; and making or renewing acquaintances with like-minded folk. It is also a time for a more serious side of Karneval; the planning and coordination that make events like these possible. With so many different groups in one place, the GAMGA weekend provides an unmatched opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences with other groups and coordinate future visits to other clubs. This year provides a perfect example of that coordination and planning wherein preliminary discussions took place about a possible visit to Southern California by a delegation from Edmonton, Canada and a return visit to Canada by a group, including performers, from Southern California (San Diego and Anaheim). For those that have met this lively group from Edmonton, you know this is a very exciting prospect.

Adding to the excitement of this year’s GAMGA event was the new location. This year, the German-American Mardi Gras Association, changed the location from the Texas Station to the Tuscany Suites and Casino. While the Texas Station served us well for several years, the change in location was almost universally applauded. With spacious, well equipped suites, and a comfortable feel throughout, the Tuscany accommodations were a notable upgrade from what we have had in previous years. Furthermore, the location was decidedly more convenient to the airport, Las Vegas businesses and Las Vegas Blvd. The distance from the Texas Station to the downtown Las Vegas area had been a concern for many over the past few years.



The Tuscany Suites & Casino

Friday and Saturday evening’s activity were centered in the main ball room and consisted of formal club introductions, Karneval performances and dancing to the music of the *Bluebirds*. Evenings were capped by hosted parties put on by several of the participating clubs. Not surprisingly, “pacing” one’s self is essential to getting through the weekend. This year, as in years past, the San Diego Prinzenpaar hosted party on Saturday night was among the most popular after hours spots. And once again, your faithful correspondent found the frolicking stretching too far into the wee hours for him to be able to report with any certainty on when things finally broke up. Suffice it to say, the bus ride home on Sunday provided many with much needed hours of missed sleep.



Two weeks after returning from Las Vegas, it was San Diego's turn to host a weekend of Karneval. Saturday evening featured a *Karneval on the Islands* theme with the German cuisine our club's kitchen is known for and dancing to the music of the *Express Band*. In addition to our own membership, the evening was enjoyed by guests from GAMGA, the Anaheim KG (Phoenix Club), and the Limburgse in attendance. Of course, no Karneval evening would be complete without performances and skits by the various clubs, a costume contest and a lively atmosphere all assuring a memorable evening for us and our visitors.

The lively atmosphere of Saturday night could certainly have sustained the party well into the morning had not many of the participants faced a full day of Kinderkarneval beginning the next morning. Once again, the event was preceded by a special Rasselbande Pre-school teacher-student party. This was followed by full performances by the San Diego and Anaheim groups. Once more, the Kinder exceeded all expectations. Between the skillful grace of the older girls and cuteness of 3 and 4 year olds actually performing these routines – it is difficult to say what was most thrilling. Audience turnout and enthusiasm reflected this. This year the turnout was large enough to threaten our ability to seat all our visitors. In the end, however, everyone was seated and the enjoyment by all was never in doubt. Following the performances, the children were treated to lunch, games, hula dancers and the candy cannon finale.

Two weeks later, Karneval members were enjoying another "road trip" trip, this time to Anaheim for our last full performances of the year. Anaheim's theme for Saturday evening was Reeperbahn and as is inevitably the case with this theme, there were any number of eye opening costumes. A Kinderkarneval event the following day with a more age appropriate theme of Karneval in Wonderland rounded out the weekend. Sadly, Karneval, like so many good things, has its time and its season. And so, on Ash Wednesday our 2014–2015 season was brought to a close with Elferrat Präsident Mark Jensen surrendering his ceremonial bell and chain to club vice-president Wendel Jenkins and Prinz Scott returning his scepter.



Karneval's Annual Yard Sale Is Coming We need your donations

Monday Evenings
Tuesdays and Thursdays Midday
German-American Societies' Clubhouse
1017 S Mollison Ave
El Cajon, CA 92020
...or...

We can pick up items – even big items!!

For More Info or for pick up :
Claudia or Mark Jensen
(619) 443-7001 / gsrkool@cox.net



**Sale to be held
20 - 21 June**



To the G.A.S. membership: Who wants to join our Damenkreis Undergroup? We meet ten times a year every first Wednesday of the month in the afternoon at the clubhouse, to keep our German language and heritage alive. As a contribution to all club members the Damenkreis offers 2-3 fun bus trips during the year. The next one scheduled will be in May to visit the Ramona-Play at the outside theater in Hemet. *Details will be announced later, please reserve early!* HW



Everyone at the club knows **CONNIE MC GRATH**, our Senior Damenkreis member since the beginning, about 35 years ago. She organized bus trips for many years. Also, she was in the starter team as membership secretary when the German American Societies was founded, 50 years ago. She always was, and still tries to be, very active!



The two black-white pictures are from the years she spent in Germany before coming to the U.S. The photo you see on the left, a group photograph, is a Handball team from the Sports Club "Vorwärts" in Frankfurt am Main. She is in the second row, on the left. They were "Deutsche Meister" during the war, something, all players were extremely proud of! Beneath that picture is a photograph of some of those same girls in the Prinzengarde from that club. Connie is the second from the front. That picture was taken in 1942 when only private clubs were allowed to celebrate Fasching (Karneval) in Germany. Later, it would be forbidden throughout the entire country.

Next to that picture, to the right, you see the first Prinzengarde from our German American Society, dancing in the El Cortez Hotel in 1965, 50 years ago! Connie is in the last row, third from the right. She always loved celebrating Fasching!



Germania Choir



Our statement: We are a group of singers who are dedicated to our German heritage and tradition through our love of music and singing. Except in the summer we meet every Tuesday at 7:30pm to practice and "socialize."



Choir Chairperson :

Frauke Kuo



Choir Director:

Dr. Stephen Sturk



Choir Pianist:

David Castel de Oro

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE GERMANIA CHOIR?

The Germania Choir had its start in 1971 with a group of members from the German American Societies that met weekly for singing and music making. It didn't take long before the choir was created. Today the choir consists of 20 to 30 German-speaking singers performing German classical, modern, and Volkslieder music for the enjoyment of all. The members of the Germania Choir often wear traditional German folk costumes and perform to the enjoyment of everyone several concerts each year.

Come and enjoy our up-coming

G.A.S. GERMANIA CHOIR SPRING CONCERT

On Sunday, April 26 2015 - 2:00 P.M.

At the German American Societies (enclosed flyer has more information)



Chairperson: Frauke Kuo (fraukecsr@gmail.com)
Secretary: Susanne Barabasch (horstsue@cox.net)
Treasurer: Yvonne Simon (yvonesmn@yahoo.com)



Skat in San Diego



Every 2nd and 4th Thursday during the month we are playing Skat at the German-American Societies Clubhouse at 1017 S. Mollison Ave. in El Cajon at 7:00PM. We are still 15 members who meet to play this traditional German card game. We have a "gemütliche" group that thoroughly enjoys the friendship and fun which brings us together already for over 50 years.

During the summer months, when the club is closed, we play at different venues, sometimes at Rainer's, Horst, Iris or Linda's gardens. Perhaps we can find some new places this year, we are always hopeful. Next to the Choir, Damenkreis and the Karneval group, we are the last Mohicans at our club.

During the year we take part at different "Turnieren" here in California and are proud to have done very well.

March – Phoenix Club: Place 1-Horst Rennings, 3.Helmut Moeller, 6.Linda Moeller

July - Santa Monica: Place 1-Helmut Moeller, 6.Sigrid Anton

August - at the Bitburger Skat meeting we did not have a winner

September – San Francisco: Place 2-Linda Moeller

November – El Cajon: Place 2-Richard Tazelaar 6.Sigrid Anton

January 2015 – Las Vegas: We had 110 people from Canada, Australia and Germany attending and our Linda Moeller won 2nd place, "Skat Heil" to Linda!

I want to especially mention our Christmas get together at Moellers. It was arranged with much warmth and great organization.

This year the Clubmeister was our friend Mohammed before David Bark and Sigrid Anton. President and Treasurer is Eddy Scheumann who is in charge of the organization and makes sure that everything runs well.

Thank you to everyone and "Skat Heil" and "Gut Blatt" to our old friend "Eddy".

Horst Rennings

EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

Disaster can strike at any minute—Are you prepared in the event of an emergency? Having an emergency kit prepared ahead of time will provide a sense of relief and allow you to focus on the safety of your family during times of crisis. Consider keeping a large kit at home and smaller portable kits in your car and at your workplace.

WATER

- Water — one gallon per family member per day (A week's supply of water per person is preferable; count pets as family members. Change out the water in your kit every 6 months.)
- Water-purifying supplies, such as chlorine or iodine tablets or unscented, ordinary bleach Cheesecloth (to strain water if nec.)

FOOD PREPARATION

- Non-perishable food (A week's supply per person is preferable. Consider high energy foods such as peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars, trail mix; foods that will not increase thirst.)
- Extra pet food (a week's supply)
- Sugar, salt, pepper
- Vitamins
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil
- Plastic forks, knives and spoons
- Paper plates and cups
- Paper towels
- Sealable plastic bags
- Can opener (non-electric) / Camping stove for outdoor cooking (Caution: before using fire to cook, make sure there are no gas leaks; never use charcoal indoors)



MEDICAL

- First aid kit, freshly stocked
- First aid book
- List of family physicians and the style and serial number of medical devices, such as pacemakers
- Essential medications (Ask your doctor about storing prescription medications such as heart and high blood pressure medication, insulin and other prescription drugs.)
- Extra pair of eyeglasses / contacts
- Sunscreen / Insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin

CLOTHING

- 3 days' worth of clothes
- Long-sleeved and long-legged clothing for protection from mosquitoes which may gather in pooled water
- Sturdy shoes or work boots to protect against broken glass, nails and debris
- Sunglasses
- Rain gear (rubber boots, sturdy shoes, and waterproof gloves) Heavy gloves for clearing debris

AUTOMOTIVE

- Car jack and spare tire
- Jumper cables
- Spare tire or sealant/inflator
- Tire pressure gauge
- Quart of oil and coolant (specific to your vehicle) Reflective sun shade

SHELTER

- Tent
- Blankets or sleeping bags / Plastic sheeting

SANITATION

- Toiletries, such as bar soap, liquid detergent, shampoo, feminine hygiene supplies, toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes / Disinfectant

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- Small tool kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Portable radio, flashlight and spare batteries
- Candles and matches (in a waterproof container)
- Light sticks
- Small mirror for signaling
- Knife or razor blades
- Coils of rope and wire
- Duct tape
- Small shovel
- Umbrella
- Rope for towing or rescue
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Fire extinguisher—A-B-C type
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Large plastic trash bags for waste, tarps and rain ponchos
- Large trash cans
- Garden hose for siphoning and firefighting
- Warning devices (flares or reflective triangles) Towels

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• MISCELLANEOUS

- A leash and/or carrier for your pet
- Any special food and supplies for the disabled or the elderly
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Extra set of house and car keys
- Cash (small bills) and change
- Baby supplies: formula, bottle, pacifier, soap and baby powder, clothing, blankets, baby wipes, disposable diapers, canned food and juices
- Books, games, puzzles or activities for children
- Communication kit: paper, pens, stamps
- AAA Membership Card (in your wallet)
- Disposable camera for photos of damage
- Extra charging cables for electronic devices
- Cell Phone (charged and in vehicle)
- Local maps and a compass If you live in a climate where snow is a factor, consider adding these additional items to your disaster kit:
 - Abrasive material (sand or kitty litter)
 - Gloves or mittens
 - Ice scraper/snow brush
 - Jacket and hat
 - Snow chains for vehicle tires

If you are a AAA policy holder and need to speak with a claims agent, please call [1-800-67-CLAIM](tel:1-800-67-CLAIM), or [1-800-672-5246](tel:1-800-672-5246).



Deutsch, Konrad B. 02/23/1922 ~ 01/14/2015 LA MESA --

Konrad Bernhard Deutsch, 92, passed away peacefully in La Mesa, CA on January 14, 2015. He was born in Konigsberg, Germany. Konrad immigrated to America in 1956, first to Minneapolis, MN where he married his wife Gertrud on August 31, 1957, and then to San Diego in 1969. He retired from NASSCO in 1984 and lived a long and independent life. He and his wife were long-time members of the German American Societies in El Cajon, where they enjoyed many events. Up to just a few years ago he liked to drive to the German club to be surrounded by friends and German "Gemütlichkeit". We all will miss his positive attitude and his friendly smile ! Konrad is survived by daughter Heidi Taylor and his family in Minneapolis.

A little over one year ago, Fred Ferino, our long-time member and friend, left us but we all, at the German American Societies, we still miss him very much!



Ferdinand "Fred" Ferino of San Diego, California, passed away on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 after a seven-year battle with colon cancer. Ferdinand was born April 22, 1930 in Zemun, Yugoslavia. Growing up during WWII, Ferdinand made his way through life with his mind and hands. He followed his dream and became an American. Fred's career as a musical instrument technician was balanced with his lifelong devotion to inventing. He had produced an amazing variety of working ideas such as the Cafly, which earned him awards. Fred is survived by his wife of 59 years, Miriana; son, John; daughter, Margarita; grandsons, Jonathon and Brandon; and granddaughter, Andrea. Rest in peace Fred Ferino. You were an amazing man. It is an honor to have known you. Thank you for everything you did and for being our friend! Your ideas will live on, as will your impression on us and may God bless your family! His "other" home and family was the German American club in El Cajon where he and his wife Mariana didn't miss any event They also were members and enjoyed many years in the Karneval undergroup of the German American Societies where Mariana and their son John are still active and welcomed by all. Yes, the Ferino family is in everyone's heart!



Fred Beecher was born at home in New Eagle, PA on December 13 1936. The family moved to Van Port, a small town in Pennsylvania. He was the middle child of seven children.

In 1955, he was stationed on his first ship, the U.S.S. YORKTOWN. From there he went to Alameda, California where he was assigned to the photo lab. His other aircraft carrier assignments were to the U.S.S. BON HOMME RICHARD and the U.S.S. ENTERPRISE. Fred retired from the U.S. Navy on December 13, 1974, after 21 years of honorable service. Beginning his studies in 1975, Fred graduated from City college in June of 1977, and in 1981, earned his Masters degree in Anthropology at San Diego State University. Fred and Raellyn were married in July of 1976 and raised their four children in the Mira Mesa and Scripps Ranch areas. After the children moved away to start their own lives, the Beecher household became the temporary home to almost 100 students from other countries. The Beecher's enjoyed eleven weeks of travel throughout Europe, visiting some of the students that had stayed with them. Fred died at home surrounded by his loving family.

Fred and Raellyn joined the German American Society in 1995. Fred wanted to study the German language. Soon after they became involved in the Karneval Group enjoying many events. As most of our Karneval family know, some of Fred's happiest memories were of the many skits which he eagerly participated in. Fred was quiet a man with many stories to tell.

Daniel "Dan" A. Heald III 3/28/1928 TO 2/27/2015 Born in Orange, New Jersey, grew up in Morristown,



New Jersey. As a teenager, designed and built many excellent flying model airplanes. Many designs landed on water. Model airplane companies bought some of the plans. Graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and Yale University. While in the U.S. Army preformed rocket-engineering work for the Werner von Braun team in Huntsville, Alabama. Married Anneliese Winter of Würzburg, Germany, in November 1954. Three successful sons: Rudi, Danny and Jimmy. Wife predeceased him in September 2003.

Enjoyed 38 years at General Dynamics designing cryogenic propellant systems for Atlas and Centaur missiles (now being used for carrying the Space Shuttle and satellites into space). Also managed advanced launch vehicle concepts studies.

Enjoyed hiking (particularly in Yosemite), swimming in the ocean, gardening and classic music. Member of La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club, volunteered at the San Diego Aerospace Museum for 10 years. Admired German culture and served 2 years on the Board of Directors as Vice President of the German American Society of San Diego and also was a long-time member of the club's Germania Choir.

Since 2005 living in Alpine and married Gretchen Calabrese. He served as a deacon for Alpine Community Church.

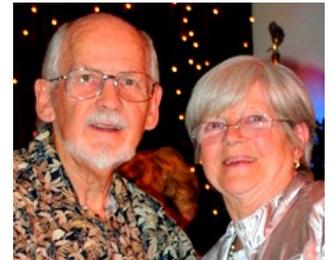
A service celebrating his life will be held on 3/28/2015, 11 a.m., at Alpine Community Church, 2225 W. Victoria Dr., Alpine, (619) 445-2110.

Please visit danheald.financialg.com and add comments and your memories.



After a very long flight, which means several different airplanes, hours of waiting between flights, we finally made it home. We had been on a trip to India and Nepal. What a trip!

We saw the highest mountains, miles of beautiful farmland, more temples, mosques, holy tombs, and monuments to gods, kings, presidents, and soldiers. We saw hundreds of dogs, holy cows, goats, pigs, three cats, thousands of monkeys and all roaming the streets and sidewalks or sleeping peacefully in the middle of the road. We walked through tiny streets, sharing the way with cars, bikes, motorbikes, rickshaws, vendors, animals, beggars, overwhelmed by the noise of the honking horns, the smell of the food stands, the music, and the constant calls of the vendors. But the moment we entered a temple, it was peaceful and quiet. In one temple in Nepal we saw a beautiful girl sitting in a window, just for a few moments. She was chosen at the age of four to be a holy goddess and live with a teacher till the age of twelve, when she returns to her family and a new girl gets chosen to be holy. People pray in her temple and feel lucky if they can catch a glimpse of her.



Dieter & Karin Bethke

We saw more trash than you can imagine, beautiful parks, beautiful children in rags or fancy cloth, always smiling. I remember a little beggar with the biggest, black eyes. After I gave him some money, he smiled, pulled out his cell phone to call someone.

We took a ride on an elephant, rickshaws, horse carriage, trains and our private guided busses where our tour guide filled us with detailed information and spoiled us with water bottles, clean wipes and cookies. I can only say that the drivers, no matter what vehicle, manage the crazy traffic with ease and a certain calm. In India, we went twice to a tiger reserve safari. It was a beautiful countryside, lakes and trees, where we saw hundreds of monkeys, spotted deers, antelopes, hundreds of peacocks, flying, playing and showing of their beautiful tails. We saw everything, but tigers!! Our group was split up in six jeeps, and one lucky group saw a tiger mom with a pup. This reserve houses sixty tigers.

We visited Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Kolkata where we stayed in beautiful five star hotels. A very moving visit was to the Gandhi museum and Mother Teresa's house. The last seven days we travelled by river boat on the holy Ganges, passing miles and miles of fertile farmland, visited quaint villages, more temples and watched people washing cloth, bathing, brushing teeth, filling jugs with drinking water, while others did "other business" and then cleaning themselves, bathed their cows and fished all in the "Holy Ganges River"

Where ever we went, who ever we encountered, we were greeted with "Namaste" (which means something like "I see the good in you") hands holding like in prayer. Indians seem very productive, hard working, kind and polite and we left India with the best impressions and the happiest memories.

Namaste,
Dieter and Karin Bethke



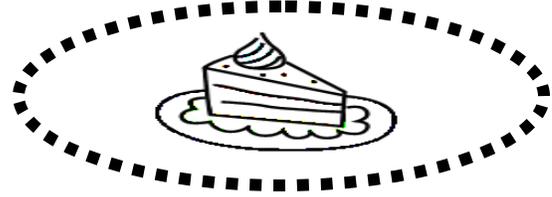


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Some of our club members have known Dr. Ruiz and his wife Susie, who is also a dentist, for more than 20 years.

They both speak English .

Dr. Ruiz is a professor at the University in Tijuana and has a small, private practice for selected patients. He will give you an honest estimate, at low cost and a possible financial pay plan.

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We, at the German American Societies, are thanking David Sporleder for his many volunteer-hours beautifying the inside and outside of our club. His dedication and expertise is greatly appreciated. The Board

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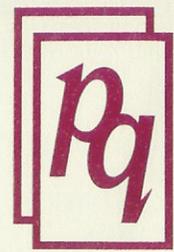
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Further information: <http://germanamericansandiego.org>

German life in San Diego / Information about German resources in San Diego

<http://www.german-sandiego.info> Armina Kranz, *Project Coordinator*

Office of the Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany Dr. Stephan F Hollmann

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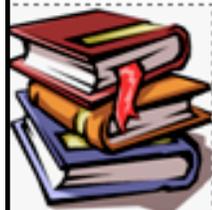
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German School at the club The German American Societies

Come and learn German with us here at the German-American Societies Club House at 1017 South Mollison Ave. in El Cajon. I am Erna DUBY and I am teaching the class. I have been a German instructor for a long time.

Many years ago, I even used to substitute in Charlotte Evans' German class here at the club whenever she traveled to Germany. Currently, I am still teaching German at Grossmont College. Many of you already know my face, because I have been coming to the club since it opened its doors. I have danced in the "Prinzen Garde" during Kameval for fifteen years.

So come and join us every Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. and have fun learning German. I am looking forward to seeing you at the club.

You can call me directly at 619-447-0302



Erna DUBY, German Teacher

The German American Societies Club Ph. 619-442-6637 for messages



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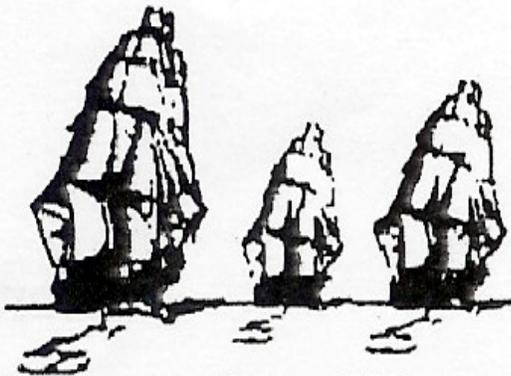
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 - ◆ **Albert Einstein Academies**, www.aeacs.org, bschafer@aeacs.org Tel 619-795 1190
 - ◆ **Preschool' Rasselbande'** www.dierasselbande.com, Tel 619-465-4420
 - ◆ **German Pacific School San Diego**, 619-354-9991 or 858-461-9118, <http://www.gpssd.org>
 - ◆ **Grossmont College**, Prof. Johannes Bruestle, Johannes.bruestle@gcccd.edu
 - ◆ **Adult German Classes**, German American Societies, Ms. Erna Duby Tel 619-447-0302
 - ◆ **AATG S. D. Chapter**, www.aatgsandiego.org [aatgsandiegopresident@gmail.com]
- House of Germany**, Balboa Park , 'Kinder Workshop, Ms. Gisela Mueller Tel 619-234-1530



The German Consulate in Los Angeles

Please visit the website for further information regarding questions concerning:
visa, passport renewals, finding a translator, a German school or pre school.

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AATG The American Association of Teachers of German www.aatgsandiego.org

supports the teaching of the German language and German speaking cultures in elementary, secondary and post secondary education in the United States. The AATG promotes the study of the German speaking world in all its linguistic, cultural and ethnic diversity and endeavors to prepare students as transnational, trans cultural learners and active, multilingual participants in a globalized world.

With 4,000 members, the AATG serves teachers of German at all levels of instruction and all those interested in the teaching of German. AATG is an allied organization of the Modern Language Association, a constituent member of the Joint National Committee for Languages/National Council for Languages and International Studies, the National Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations, and an organizational member of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the National Network for Early Language Learning, and the Internationaler Deutschlehrerverband.

THE HOUSE OF GERMANY AT BALBOA PARK

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Announcement from the House of Germany

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Liane Mende-Mueller President 858-536-7063 Liane.Germany.2012@gmail.com



THE HOUSE OF AUSTRIA

Check out our web site: www.geocities.com/houseofaustria

President: MargitTesar

Note: Our members can meet monthly what is called "The Stammtisch"



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***** FUTURE EVENTS 2015 *****

- April 18 Sa International Spring Dance (Heimatabend), Express Band - Multi Ethnic Entertainment
- April 25 Sa Albert Einstein Academy Disco Party, call for info.....
- April 26 Su Germania Choir Spring Concert, 2 P.M. Choir Performance - Rouladen Dinner - Raffle
- May 20 We General Membership Meeting, Election - 7:30 P.M. - Dinner by Karneval / Fund Raiser
- Jun 06 Sa G.A.S. 50th Anniversary Ball, Sit-Down Dinner, Entertainment, Express Band - Don't miss it !
- Aug 22 Sa Sommerfest - Open House, Outside Beer Garden - Food - Entertainment - Express Band - So much fun!
- Oct Oktoberfest / two weekends, 2.3.4. Oct. & 9.10.11. Oct. Entertainment, Band from Germany, come & enjoy !
- Nov 21 Sa Karneval Opening, Karneval Entertainment, Dinner, Bluebirds Band, bring friends & neighbors !
- Dec 05 Sa Christmas - Snowdance, beautiful decorated hall, Dinner, Christmas Entertainment, Express Band
- Dec Tu Germania Choir Weihnachts - Konzert, German Rouladen Dinner, Raffle & Gemütlichkeit, date open
- Dec 12 Sa Member Christmas Party, Children Entertainment: Kinder Chor, Kinder Tanzgruppe & enjoy Santa's visit!
- Dec 31 Th New Years Gala, Dinner, Entertainment, elegant decorated hall...bring your guests, Bluebirds Band!!!!



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 To all Mothers, Grandmothers and Great Grandmothers "Happy Mothers Day"
 To all Fathers, Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers "Happy Fathers Day"



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2015 – 2016

Fiscal year of the German American Societies is
From April 1. 2015 to March 31. 2016



Student Membership	\$	25.00	()	(Student membership valid under the age of 25 years)
Single Membership	\$	40.00	()	
Family Membership	\$	60.00	()	

Pay your annual membership by May 15 and receive as preferred member EXPRESS LANE & FREE entrance at our Oktoberfest !

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ BIRTH DATE & YR. _____

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ BIRTH DATE & yr _____ -

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

HOME PH. # (____) ____ - _____ BUS. PH.#(____)_____- _____

CELL PH.# (____)_____- _____ e-mail: _____

DATE: _____

www.germanclubsandiego.org Office 619-442-6637 (for message)

German American Societies of San Diego, Inc. 1017 South Mollison Ave., El Cajon, Ca 92020

50
GOLDEN YEARS

*50th Anniversary Celebration
Of The
German American Societies
Everyone Welcome!*

*West Coast
Cabaret Show*

- Where:* **German American Societies**
1017 South Mollison Ave El Cajon Ca 92020
www.germanclubsandiego.org ~ heidwgermanclub@cox.net
Messages 619.442.6637 or 619.445.2549
- When:* **June 6, 2015 ~ Cocktail Hour 6 PM ~ Sit-Down-Dinner 7 PM**
- Cover Charge:* **Members \$ 45.00 Per Person / Non-Members \$ 50.00 Per Person**
- Early Birds:* **\$5.00 Discount if Reservation is sent with Check by June 1st**
- Includes:* **Delicious German Roast Beef Dinner
Champagne Toast ~ Anniversary Cake
West Coast Cabaret ~ Fascinating Entertainment
Festive Atmosphere ~ Elegant Decorations
Dance to the Popular 'Express Band'
Formal or Semi Formal Attire**

Congratulations!