

# The German American Societies

Of San Diego, Inc.

## Summer-Fall Newsletter 2015

[www.germanclubsandiego.org](http://www.germanclubsandiego.org) ~ [www.OktoberfestElCajon.com](http://www.OktoberfestElCajon.com)



### Summer-Fall Schedule at a Glance

**August 22 2015**

**Sommerfest-**

**Open House**

More info page 24

**2015 Traditional**

**Oktoberfest**

**in El Cajon**

At the German American Societies

First and Second Weekend

in October

Friday-Saturday & Sunday

More info page 8 & 9

**Nov 21 Sat.**

Karneval Opening, Karneval

Entertainment, Dinner, Bluebirds Band,  
bring friends & neighbors

**Dec 05 Sat.**

Christmas - Snowdance, beautiful

Christmas decorated hall, Dinner,

Entertainment, Express Band

**Dec 12 Sat.**

Member Christmas Party, Children

Entertainment: Kinder Chor, Kinder

Tanzgruppe & enjoy Santa's visit!

### Oktoberfest History

It began with the Royal Wedding on 12 October 1810 of King Ludwig I and Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen. The original "Oktoberfest" occurred in Munich, on October 12, 1810: For the commemoration of their marriage, Crown Prince Ludwig (later King Ludwig I) and Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen (namesake of the Theresienwiese festival grounds) organized a great horse race (the marriage took place on October 12; the horse race on October 17 — therefore, there are different dates named as being the first Oktoberfest).

The Oktoberfest is a sixteen-day festival held each year in Munich, Bavaria, Germany during late September (and running to early October). It is one of the most famous events in the city and the world's largest fair, with some six million people attending every year, and is an enjoyable event with an important part of Bavarian culture. Many other cities across the world also hold Oktoberfest celebrations, modeled after the Munich event.

**German American Societies of San Diego, Inc.**

**1017 S. Mollison Ave., El Cajon, Ca. 92020-7614 619-442-6637**

Website: [www.germanclubsandiego.org](http://www.germanclubsandiego.org) email: [heidwgermanclub@cox.net](mailto:heidwgermanclub@cox.net)

**CONTACT : General Manager / Business Manager Heidi Williams**

**Club Office (leave a message) 619-442-6637 fax 619-442-6611 home office 619-445-2549 cell 619-208-1148**

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**EDITORIAL STAFF**

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Damenkreis	Heidi Williams	619.445.2549	Oktoberfest Chairperson	Mike Anderson	619.390.9793
Germania Choir	Frauke Kuo	619.498.3898	Skat Players	Eddie Scheumann	858.279.0729
Karneval Commissioner	Lana Fauskin	619.440.4767	All Year Volunteer Crew	Willie Williams	619.208.1682

**2015/16 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**Marianna Roberts**  
President



**Wendel Jenkins**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



**Karl Becker**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



**Marianne Kendall**  
Secretary



**Norma Paul**  
Treasurer



**Heidi Williams**  
General Manager  
Membership Chair



**Olga Tietz**  
Publ. Director



**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, General 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](mailto:Heidiwgermanclub@cox.net) or Monika Parme : [monarry@aol.com](mailto: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!**



**Want to advertise in our Newsletter? Please call Editor Heidi Williams 619-445-2549  
Advertisement : Nominal Type Setting and Artwork by Request**



President  
Marianna Roberts

President's notes, August 2015

**German-American Club**

While the preparations for our wonderful Sommerfest and our fabulous Oktoberfest are in full swing Bill and I have been in Scotland – white knuckle driving on the left on very small roads - then cruising in cold temperatures (average 10/12C, they call it summer here!) through the stunning Norwegian Fjords. We are ending our trip with the Guggenbach Buam near Heidelberg and will return just in time for the “Sommerfest”.

I hope we have a lot of volunteers signing up already for both of our big events. After the great article about our Oktoberfest in the San Diego Union last year “Are we still in America?” it promises once again to be a sold out venue. The band is set to stay with us in Poway for the 12<sup>th</sup> year (it's their 13<sup>th</sup> year entertaining us at the Ofest) as they have become family. I still don't understand one word when they talk in their dialect but we have a lot of fun together and it's always a joy to have them around.

So, if you have not signed up as a volunteer yet, get on board before all the slots are filled.

See you there, Marianna



Editor  
Heidi Williams

Editor's Message

Dear Members and Friends .

50 years ago, eleven daring citizens agreed to improve the social life of San Diego by founding a society with the goals of offering German Gemütlichkeit, companionship and friendship. After numerous meetings at each other's homes, the day had come: The ship was launched at this first board meeting at Turner Hall on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1965 (our present club). Every year, and especially at this time, we would like to recap the dreams, goals and achievements of the German American Societies of San Diego as we celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! One of our primary concerns has always been to protect, and continue in practice, our “German cultural heritage” in language, music and special performances to foster international understanding amongst the diversity of all the people in the world, and in simply savoring the good times surrounded by friends.

We were literally showered with e-mail and phone calls complimenting our 50th Anniversary Ball! This event hosted almost 200 members and visitors whom we want to thank for attending. (pictures page 12 & 13) We like to thank , Founders, Under-Groups , Members and our Business-Advertisers for their generous presents, flowers and cards.

After the welcoming and the honoring of the Founders of the German American Societies, the Board of Directors congratulated our newly-elected 2nd Vice President Karl Becker. Also, the under- group leaders were recognized and presented with lovely flower bouquets. The highlight of the evening was the folks-dance performance of the adorable G.A.S. Kindertanzgruppe, the melodic and heartwarming pieces of our Germania Choir and Kylena Parks, whose glorious voice thrilled us with her selection of some of the most loved and well-known German operetta pieces. As always, the wonderful EXPRESS Band did what they do best to round out the evening, playing the type of music that makes you want to get up and dance!



The German Sauerbraten Dinner was delectable ; complete with Black Forest cake for dessert, all table-served by our friendly staff . Special mention should go to our loyal and talented volunteers who turned the hall into a “gold” venue fit for a king! Unser Klub: ♪ ♪ Hoch soll er leben...hoch soll er leben...drei mal hoch! ♪ ♪ .....

Greetings to All, Heidi





USA Becomes First Country to Win Three FIFA Women's World Cup Titles!

World Champions:  
USA Wins 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup!



New Study: German still among the most learned languages of the world



Around 15.4 million people globally are currently learning German.

As the recent survey "German as a foreign language world wide" shows, interest in German is growing especially strong in China, India and Brazil. In Europe, numbers have remained constant in the last few years. The study is conducted every half decade by the German Foreign Ministry, Goethe-Institut, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and Central Agency for Schools Abroad (ZfA). In South America, the Near and Middle East and, especially, Asia, German is increasingly in demand: in Brazil, 134,000 people are learning German, in China 117,000 and in India 154,000. In China, the numbers have doubled since 2010. In Europe, too, there is still a large interest in German as a foreign language – there, 9.4 million people learn German, creating the center of gravity for German learners worldwide. Poland is in the lead, with around 2.28 million individuals. Globally, 87 percent of German-language learners are elementary and secondary school students (13.4 million). In higher education, 1.3 million university students are currently learning German (8.8 percent). There are around 600,000 people in adult education (4.2 percent). The Goethe-Institut counted 228,528 students in its foreign country-based language courses worldwide. Experts for international culture export point to persistent low numbers in important countries like France, Great Britain, Russia, the Netherlands and the U.S.A. to indicate that the Goethe-Institut is far from exhausting all opportunities in its language work. Large increases in certain regions are not, according to expert analyses, due to efforts by the Goethe-Institut.

Source: International Medienhilfe – [www.imh-deutschland.de](http://www.imh-deutschland.de)

"German world author" : Günter Grass dies



Danzig-born author Günter Grass died at the age of 87 in a Lübeck clinic April 13. He achieved fame with his 1959 novel "The Tin Drum," part of the Danzig Trilogy. In 1999, he won the Nobel Prize in Literature. Also considered "the voice of the post-war period" by the media, Grass has always been a frequent topic of all leading Feuilletons. The German news show "Tagesschau" honored Grass' "baroque, magnificent, rich, possibly oversaturated use of language," with which he stamped his roughly 20 narratives, from "Cat and Mouse" to "Too Far Afield," from "The Flounder" to "Crabwalk." In the "Neuen Osnabrücker Zeitung," the literary scholar Volker Neuhaus called Grass a "German world author," at the same level of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Thomas Mann. Neuhaus stressed a certain point: "Grass had a love-infused relationship with the German language. He loved to play with words, to distinguish their indirect meanings."

German Car Company Introduces Self-Driving Trucks on American Roads

The Daimler Inspiration Truck



is the first autonomous truck to be driven on US roads.

Most car enthusiasts today will tell you that self-driving technology is the future. Nearly every major car manufacturer is currently scrambling to put together prototypes that impress consumers and car experts. A German car company, Daimler, made history last week by becoming the first manufacturer to get the green light to test its self-driving trucks on public roadways. Two autonomous trucks will soon be found driving along US Highway 15 in Nevada.

The big benefit for potential self-driving vehicles is safety. According to Daimler executives, the Inspiration Trucks can help keep drivers focused, though they are responsible for less. "We measured brain activity with or without autonomous function, and it clearly shows that driver drowsiness decreases by about 25 percent when the truck is operating in autonomous mode," Dr. Wolfgang Bernhard, Head of Daimler's Truck division, told the Verve. Implementing this and other forms of self-driving technology could therefore benefit the entire industry.

Daimler may be the first company to test its truck system on US roads, but other German companies have already made a splash in the self-driving market – for passenger cars. A self-driving Audi prototype drove journalists from San Francisco to Las Vegas earlier last year. Meanwhile, BMW, Opel, and Volkswagen have hinted at new technology for upcoming auto shows.





June 11, 2015

1094 Southwoods Dr.

Fredericksburg, TX 78624

50 YEARS!

**Congratulations, German American Societies!**

German American Societies of San Diego, Inc.

ATTN: G.A.S. Board of Directors

Dear Board of Directors and Friends of G.A.S. :

Congratulations on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the German American Club of San Diego, Inc.! We are sorry that we were unable to attend the recent Anniversary Ball to mark such an auspicious occasion, but we felt that we must at least acknowledge this important anniversary by extending our congratulations and best wishes.

As former G.A.S. Board members and Karneval leaders, it is with great honor that we are able to see our wonderful club reach this date in its history. It makes all of its previous struggles to stay afloat and move forward very worthwhile. We are saddened that many former members who were instrumental in its beginnings, and the founding of some of the activity groups, such as our beloved Hannes Schuster, Marianne Lechler, Bertha Rudat, Gisela Howard, and others, are no longer here to see the achievement. Others, such as Vils Majeovski, Lil Suda, Annegret Wilder, Gary Fauskin, Hilde Bennett, Rose Asprien, Birgit Meeder, Fred Ferino, and many others, while not crucial to the club's beginnings, have each left their own mark in its hallowed walls. (And in Gary's case, even floors—we remember being down on our hands and knees with him scrubbing off years and years of layers of lacquer on the floors before they were refinished!)

But while those people aren't there to continue the goals of the club, many others such as Willie & Heidi Williams, Marianne Roberts, Mike Anderson, Lana Fauskin, Wendell Jenkins, Mark & Claudia Jensen, Gitta Kalker, Suse Woolever, Virginia Tunnell, and many, many others, are members who are working hard to see that the mission of the German American Societies continues. Hopefully, their service will be picked up by the next generation. We thank all of the founders for giving us a place to continue, and/or learn about our German heritage. Without their efforts, the club would not be here.

G.A.S. has not only given the German-born members a place to call "home", and to visit and share the heritage of their fatherland with others, but it has also become a vital participant in the El Cajon community, and in greater San Diego with its marvelous Oktoberfests, participation in Friendship Festivals, German school, etc. It has also given members, and former members like us, a place to delve into the roots of our German heritage, learning its culture and traditions, and encouraging us to visit Germany and explore its beautiful towns and countrysides. In recent years, through the work put forth by many members, it has brought back the younger generation to the club, that had been absent for a few years. They will not only revive the club, but also bring new life to the older generation.

Although we are no longer active members of the club, due to living in Texas, we have continued to watch the club's evolvment from a distance, and are very pleased to see the changes that have occurred, and also many things that have remained the same. We know that, having served in that capacity, it is in no small measure, due to the efforts of you, the Board of Directors, along with your hard-working volunteer members. We commend your efforts, and encourage any members who are not currently volunteering, to step forward and lend a hand in any capacity in which you can. The club can only survive and keep growing if everyone does his/her part. Personally, the club not only educated us on our German heritage, but also allowed us to make wonderful friends, whom we will carry with us in our hearts forever. Although Germans settled the town where we live in Texas, and there is a German flair to many aspects of life here, it will never take the place of our beloved G.A.S.

Once again, congratulations on this very happy occasion of the club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We wish you much success in the future and send our best wishes for G.A.S. to continue to thrive, as it becomes even more successful with every passing year.

Thank you for all of the wonderful memories!

Ein Prosit!

Kirk & Fay Kinley

Dear Fay and Dirk.  
Your congratulations and wonderful words are greatly appreciated. We also want to thank YOU for all your help and troumendest effort you have contribute to the club! We miss you and send best wishes

The Board HW



### 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 coffee ....all 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.

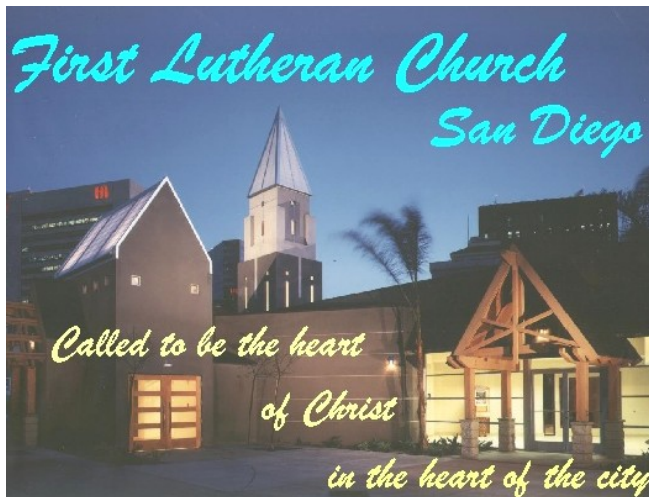
I will contact you, Heidi Williams

### 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](http://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



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**KARNEVAL-SEASON**

Our wonderful Prinzenpaar said their final good bye to the last Karneval season in March 2015

And what an exciting season it was!  
The group had so much fun visiting other clubs like in Los Angeles, Las Vegas or celebrating right here at home in El Cajon.

**Interested to join?**

please call Lana Fauskin at 619- 440-4767

The group meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm and weekly during the Karneval season. We celebrate the Fasching in the German tradition. Called Karneval in Rio, and Mardi Gras in the United States, all you need is a love for life and willingness for fun and frolic in the spirit of Karneval. We also have a very cute children's Karneval group, the Kindertanzgruppe. For more information, please call Claudia Jensen at 619-922-1135



**Schedule for the next Karneval Season 2015 -16**

- 11 Nov. 2015 Prinzenpaar Crowning
  - 21 Nov. 2015 Karneval Opening, Dinner, Entertainment
  - 15-17 Jan. 2016 'GAMGA Gala' Las Vegas
  - 30 Jan. 2016 Maskenball, Dinner, Entertainment, Express Band, Guest: Phoenix Club
  - 31. Jan. 2016 Kinder Karneval, Entertainment, Guest: Phoenix Club
- Additional events to be announced



**Review: Annual Karneval Yard Sale!!**

Thank you first to all who donated time, trucks, trailers, muscles and most of all stuff to the yard sale!! As always, a good deal of work was put in to the sale and the outcome was well worth every dusty, back breaking moment!! We couldn't do it without Mark Jensen and all those that helped gather all the goodies and get them all there! Thank you to Marcia Malone for the use of her front yard & pool for the after party! We sure feel bad at the



end when we give her back her trampled grass & broken sprinkler!

The neighborhood was all there – we have a true following at this sale! We have our repeat offenders (shoppers) as well as items we KNOW we have sold more than one time . . . The atmosphere is like no other yard sale you have ever been to! We play Karneval music constantly, wear strange articles of clothing and are truly sorting thru boxes most of the day – making pretty little displays!

We raised enough money to be able to replace some old uniforms as well as a few other pieces that have outlived their usefulness! Thank you again to all members that called for pick ups or dropped stuff off at the club!!

Thanks! We appreciate it!





## PRESS RELEASE

### OKTOBERFEST IN EL CAJON

**Where:**

German American Societies of San Diego, Inc.  
1017 S. Mollison Avenue, El Cajon, CA 92020

**When:**

October 2-4 and 9-11, 2015  
Fridays 4:00 to 10:00 PM; Saturdays noon to 10:00 PM; Sundays  
noon to 9:00 PM (gates open ½ hour in advance).

**Cost:**

Open to the public with an entry donation of \$5 for adults; those under 21 and all active military are admitted for free. Parking is also free. Please consider taking the trolley and using our FREE shuttle service to Oktoberfest in El Cajon from the El Cajon Transit Center! Ride the trolley!

Oktoberfest in El Cajon is a family-friendly festival promoting traditional German culture, including entertainment provided by our popular band Guggenbach-Buam, who join us from Baden-Württemberg, Germany. Enjoy folk dances, games, and contests, check out vendor and craft stands, let your youngsters go crazy in the Kids' Fun Zone! On Saturday nights, the clubhouse is also open for dancing (8 pm to midnight), also with live German music.

On Saturday, October 3, at 4:00, join us for our opening parade and ceremonial "Tapping the Wooden Keg." On Sunday, October 4, we hold our wacky Chicken Hat Day, with a chicken hat contest in the afternoon, for laughs and prizes!

Taste authentic German food such as bratwurst, ox-on-the-spit, potato salad, potato pancakes, sauerkraut and red cabbage, plus a tasty variety of German pastries and pretzels. Soft drinks and adult beverages are sold, featuring a fantastic selection of German beers on draft, plus wines and a full bar. Take a chance on our raffle giveaway, with frequent door prize drawings, plus a grand prize of a round-trip flight for two to Germany! Bring your family and invite your friends to join you at the real German Oktoberfest in El Cajon! For more information please phone (619) 442-6637 or visit [www.OktoberfestElCajon.com](http://www.OktoberfestElCajon.com). Follow us on Facebook for updated information and crowd conditions (Friday and Saturday nights).

Until then... Prost!

#### ***The Story of the Pretzel***

*The pretzel symbol is a rune from the ancient Germanic times - long before there was an alphabet established - and was the sign for life, as it begins thinly, intertwines, gets thicker and flares out (just like life) into a circle and comes back to a thin end.*

*The spelling with a "P" is English. In Germany it is spelled with a "B", and so also the word starts softly, becomes strong with the "tz" in the middle and rolls out into the "l". Bread has often been considered the "staff of life", and this symbol became the sign for the bakers' guilds. Just as the horseshoe was the sign of the blacksmith, the pretzel was the sign of the bakery.*



**Gitta Kalker**  
Oktoberfest Bürgermeister





**Oktoberfest 2015 is just around the corner,** and I want to thank everyone, many in advance, for everything they do to make this a fun, traditional, family-oriented festival that also provides our club with much of the funds and Gemütlichkeit that enable our club to thrive and grow!



**What's the same?**

Guggenbach-Buam is our band. Gitta Kalker is our Bürgermeister. Same Oktoberfest Committee at your service. Shuttle service from the El Cajon Transit Center, so take the trolley! Big crowds, especially on Friday and Saturday nights, so get there early, or come on Sunday. Pre-sale packages which will include the VIP/Employee entrance access. Kids Zone, with plenty for the Kinder to do at a reasonable price. Our opening ceremony and parade on Saturday, October 3 at 4:00. Great German food at the Ox pit and in the Village. Delicious pastries available. A Saturday night dance inside. A full bar outside on Friday and Saturday, inside the clubhouse throughout the fest. And last but not least, a great selection of German beers on draft!

**And what's new?**

Credit cards. On a trial basis, we're going to accommodate those who prefer to pay with credit cards; we'll provide the service at a couple of ticket booths, plus our official Oktoberfest Souvenir booth. We expect it to be a big hit! *What else?* Sherry in our Souvenir Booth has some new glassware, including a G.A.S. coffee mug - very nice! - and some shirts; check it out! The bad news? Due to rising costs in some of our supplies, we will be raising the prices on some food items. We hope you'll find the prices still very reasonable and fair; in the food lines, we're going to make the plates and meat with roll options have a common price, so that should help make the lines go quicker (and if you decide you'd rather have the Ox once you get to the front of the line, instead of Bratwurst, there's no problem!).

We appreciate all the volunteers that contribute to our success, and remind you that you get in free when you check in for your shift and get your name badge. There's a volunteer sign-up sheet elsewhere in this newsletter, please take the time to look it over and see if there's something you can help with. If you've renewed your membership prior to May 15<sup>th</sup>, your membership card will have a red dot on it, meaning you are not asked to pay the entrance fee, but this doesn't apply to friends or family who are not members. Those under age 21 are not asked to pay the entrance fee, nor are active-duty service members.

Again, guests and volunteers are encouraged to take the trolley, a taxi, Uber or similar service, or carpool, especially if you are going to enjoy one or more of our German beers! We also provide a large area for Disabled Parking, but that usually fills up; you can always pull into the driveway and drop someone off, just check with the parking attendant and don't block traffic, then the driver can leave to find parking. Anyone, disabled or not, is encouraged to ask at the various stands for help, or seek the assistance of an Oktoberfest Committee member; we're here to make sure EVERYONE is able to enjoy themselves at Oktoberfest!

See you at Oktoberfest, October 2-4 and October 9-11! Check us out on Facebook for updates, and post your own fun Fest Photos!

Mike Anderson  
Oktoberfest Chairman





## 50 YEARS AGO: WHEN IT ALL STARTED

Memory lane for Senior Members and Information for New Members.

### **The San Diego Union**

San Diego, Californien, March 17, 1965

#### **GERMAN COMMUNITY ON THE MOVE**

Reliable reports indicate that leading proponents for a more amiable and congenial social life for all German and German-leaning citizens of the county of San Diego are determined to change the status-quo by forming a society under the slogan of "Friendship, Comradeship, Gemütlichkeit"

Their long-range plans are reported to include acquisition of a clubhouse, creation of groups offering an expression of German culture and heritage and the fostering of better understanding between our cultures.

I am ready to start writing ....but 50 years? On one page?

A book would have been more appropriate but who has the time? It was on my mind and than the days just slipped away.....

Oh yes, 50 years ago it was on several persons mind to start a German club, a home away from home. The logistical obstacles must have appeared overwhelming, but the opportunities were promising. For over a hundred years there had been a German presence in San Diego , such as through the German club of the San Diego Turners, who published a German-language weekly as early as the late 1800s. Since then, thousand of German-born had joined the early settlers following the great waves of immigration during the decades before the second world war, and had found a

new home in Southern California. Many thousands more followed and made a name for themselves as scientists, business men and craftsmen. In addition , there were the many retired military men who had come to know and appreciate German traditions and often returned from their tour of duty in Germany with an entire family.

More specifically, it was St. Patricks Day, still observed each year by the club, March 17th 1965, when it all started. For month the first planners (daredevils) had held their discussions here and there, and now the day has had come. The ship was launched at this first board meeting in the Turner Hall. The first dues of \$ 10.00 per head was collected and the board elected with Heinz Gietz as President, after many meetings in each others homes. Right from the start, planning was done on a grand scale— the convention hall of the Stardust Hotel in Mission Valley was just right to celebrate the first "Spring Dance on May 8th 1965.

Now events moved swiftly, the first club news was also issued in May of 1965, the first club emblem appeared and the overall planning proceeded to create a unique character which it has maintained to this day. Meanwhile Bill Evans had worked out the first set of by-laws, often to be amended to stay up-to-date. The first Oktoberfest was planned and held at the Little Bavaria on October 24th 1965. Many felt completely transposed to the old Bavarian homeland, with Lederhosen, Dirndl, white sausage and beer. The next event—well identified with German traditions—was already on the drawing boards—a complete Karneval season with all the trimmings. Mainly due to the efforts of our own untiring Cologneian , Hans Schuster. On the traditional 11th of the 11th month, at 11:11 PM the Fool's Reign began for San Diego. On Dec. 19th Saint Nick came with musical assistance by Mrs. Lotte Thoermer, Charlotte Evens and Roland Klotz. Again the Stardust Hotel was the scene, as it was for the first New Years eve party.

The start of year 1966 saw the formation of the first under-groups. There were many but not all survived over the years. These early German Americans were also no less tradition—minded than those of today, the first Anniversary Ball was celebrated on May 14th 1966 in the Caribbean Room of the El Cortez Hotel.

In 1967 were plans for "our own clubhouse" and in 1968 was once again time to receive many dignitaries from Germany (Film stars, singers, sport and political prominence , like Boxing Star Max Schmeling and 30 children from Berlin) The German school under Mr. Theilemann was making great progress in these years too.

The year 1969 began with a big challenge- to coordinate the trade show "Spotlight on Germany" and was very successful! Now it became ever more pressing to find our own facilities. After a lengthy search the day arrived in June of 1971! The bulletin of July 1971 declared with pride: "1017 So. Mollison Ave, will make club history!"

What will the future hold ? It is obvious that the founding years build a solid foundation .

Since the founding days of the United States the ethnic groups - by maintaining their inherited tradition - have enriched this civilization by providing color and adding to its life style!





Frauke Kuo  
Choir Chairperson

### 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."



### 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



Chairperson: Frauke Kuo (frauкеcsr@gmail.com )  
Secretary: Susanne Barabasch (horstsue@cox.net)  
Treasurer: Yvonne Simon (yvonesmn@yahoo.com)  
Choir Director: Dr. Stephen Sturk  
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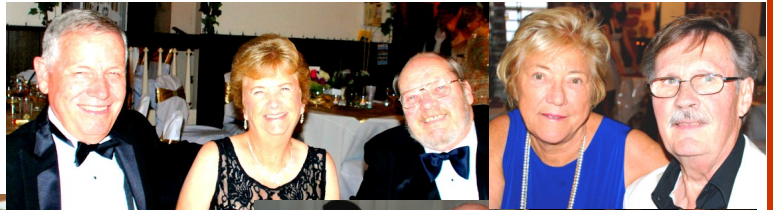
In honor of the club's 50th Anniversary this year, the choir has decided to have a local jeweler make a beautiful pendant for us. The German Eagle is a symbol of pride in our heritage and memories of our lives back home. We are offering the pendants as a fundraiser for the choir. They were made specifically for us in 14k gold, and 925 silver. You can order anytime by phone or email. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

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German American Societies  
DAMENKREIS (LADIES CIRCLE)



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 and to socialize, of course!. As a contribution to all club members the Damenkreis offers at least two fun bus trips during the year. The next one scheduled will be in November to visit Alpine Village to do "Christmas Shopping!" *please reserve early! Call the Damenkreis Bus-Coordinator at 858 452 9797 (Elsbeth Erler)*

**FUN BUS TRIPS ORGANIZED BY THE LADIES CIRCLE: "COME WITH US NEXT TIME!"**  
**Please read the following "lively" story !**

Here is a little report for all of you who missed the trip to see "Ramona" at the beautiful Hemet Amphitheater. As many will know 'Ramona' was written by Helen Hunt in the late eighties, eighteen eighties that is, and in her own words was hoping that through her novel Americans would be shaken up to their core by the injustices done to the Indians after the American/Mexican war, much like what 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' did for the plight of the slaves.

Ramona has been made into several movies and most amazingly, it has been a continuous play in Hemet since 1923, the largest and longest running outdoor play in the United States. In about 150 years, the book has never been out of print.

Our bus left the clubhouse in El Cajon at 11:00 and was to pick us up at 11:30 in Clairemont. At 11.32 some people started to nervously look at their watches, after all it said 11:thirty! But here it came, a beautiful white gleaming bus. I heard a lady remark on how CLEAN the tires were. I ask you, who but a German would notice clean tires on a tour bus? The bus was gorgeous with foot rests, TV screens, reclining seats and what impressed me the most were the wood floors. Well, at least it looked like wood. Fancy! We soon learned that we were the very first passengers ever on this bus and how unique that the maiden voyage of this bus was with nearly all senior citizens.

Of course no maiden voyage is without glitches. The very first restroom trip was from one of our male guests that took on a little dramatic turn when Elsbeth charged up the isles wanting to know 'Are you OK? are you OK? who is in the bathroom? What's the problem? The gentleman emerging seemed to be a little flustered having all eyes on him coming out of the bathroom. Apparently the light did not work so he pressed the only LIT button he could see which turned out to be the panic button, or as we were quickly corrected..... the 'call' button.

After a leisurely lunch we were whisked away by our white chariot and arrived in perfect timing to the most gorgeous outdoor theater I have ever seen. A natural meadow between two mountain ranges was the stage, complete with a beautiful Spanish hacienda. The acting was superb and the acoustic surprisingly good, the cast was huge, I counted over 100 Indian actors at one time. Everyone who had seen this show multiple times over the years remarked that this new and improved show had been the best rendition yet.

So, guns a 'blazing, horses a 'charging, dancers a 'twirling and Indians a 'stomping is how we saw the tragic story of Ramona unfold. I like to think that Helen Hunt would be pleased to know that after all these years her story still touches us. Honorary mention ought to go to the two little three or four year olds who were dancing the traditional Indian dances with their elders. What dedication and concentration in their little faces as they tried to keep up and not trip while mostly dancing on one foot. All the dancers were amazing but the little ones were the ones who stole the show.

Our exit was with thousands of others trying to squeeze through this tunnel. As we emerged.....there was our white chariot. Right next to the exit. If that is VIP treatment, I could get used to that. Once on the bus nice helpers passed out delicious sandwiches and without incident we were soon back in San Diego. On the way back several of our ladies started singing ....and most everyone joined in.....what a fun day we all had! Thank you, Heidi and Elsbeth, for another special day to remember. Everything was so flawlessly arraigned, one might think you had done this before..... well, perfect, except perhaps the panic button. ....

Karin Summerford



## Germans in U.S.A.

1. U.S. citizens of German origins = ca. 50 million people
2. U.S. citizens of Irish origins = ca. 35 million people
3. U.S. citizens of Mexican origins = ca. 31 million people
4. U.S. citizens of British origins = ca. 27 million people

**Germans make up the United States' biggest ethnic group: around 50 million people indicated German ancestry in the country's last census – 6 million more than in the last study.**

The increase has not resulted, however, from increased immigration. Long established German-Americans have simply made their descendants or themselves more aware of family history. A ranking of ethnic groups in America shows the importance of Germans in the population's ethnic makeup:

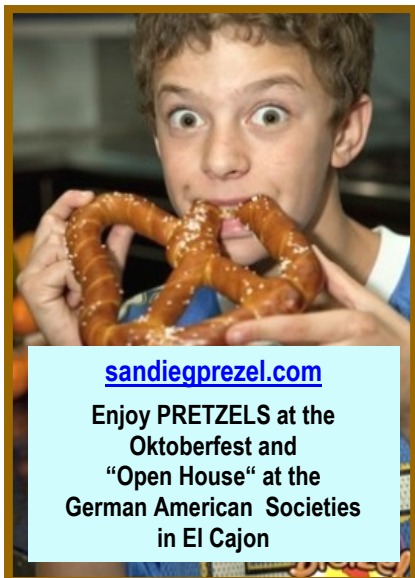
Approximately 10 per cent of those with German origins still speak or understand German – including celebrities like Sandra Bullock, Henry Kissinger and Leonardo DiCaprio. In the U.S., these roughly five million people are targeted by a strong German-language media presence composed of over 100 newspapers, magazines, community newsletters and bulletins, as well as around 100 local radio stations and roughly 20 local television programs.

It's also worth noting that, worldwide, the U.S. was the first country to produce weekly German-language newspapers, beginning with the "New Yorker Staats-Zeitung," which began publication in 1834. At first, this newspaper was one of the biggest in the U.S. Toward the late 1960s, no less a person than German TV host, comedian and journalist Herbert Feuerstein served as your editor-in-chief.

Almost as old as the New York paper is Michigan's 1854-founded "Nordamerikanische Wochen-Post." "The Saxon News – Volksblatt," founded by Cleveland's Allianz der Siebenbürger Sachsen, and "Eintracht," the weekly paper out of greater Chicago, were founded not long ago: they were lifted out of the baptismal font in 1902 and 1922, respectively. The tradition-rich "Eintracht" primarily targets the many German-Americans living in the northwestern U.S. Its importance has attracted interviews with numerous outstanding people, including Konrad Adenauer, Willy Brandt, rocket pioneer von Braun, national soccer coach Sepp Herberger and four U.S. presidents.

Among the newspaper scene's true newbies are the East Coast-based "Amerika-Woche" and California's "Neue Presse," both founded in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. "Amerika-Woche" is one of the biggest publications – especially since its merger with the "Freien Zeitung" (founded 1858) and the "Washington Journal" (1859) in the late 1990s. Noteworthy magazines include "German World" (founded 2002), targeted toward young German speakers and language learners, the colorful women's magazine "Das Fenster" out of Georgia (1904) and the widely circulated tourism magazine "Florida Sun" (1999). These contemporary designed publications highlight how lively and promising the American German-language media market can be.

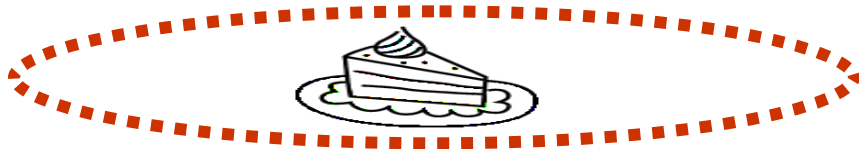
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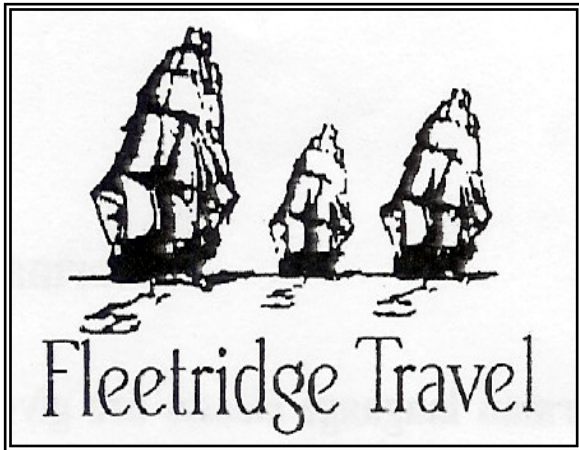
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## Beat the Heat! How to Stay Cool in the Summer

These clever, low-cost tricks will help you keep your cool when the weather's hot.

### Beat the heat: Peppermint tea mist

Brew a pot of peppermint tea, then stick it in the fridge. Once it's nice and cold, [Wonderhowto.com](http://Wonderhowto.com) suggests pouring some into a spray bottle and misting yourself with it. Better than water, the menthol in the tea will give your skin a tingly, cool feeling

### Beat the heat: Chrysanthemum tea

Whether it's hot or cold, chrysanthemum tea is served to lower body temperature, according to [China Daily](http://China Daily). It's also been said to soothe heat rash, experts told [Natural Health](http://Natural Health).

### Beat the heat: Chill your mattress

Put soft gel ice packs on top of the mattress and underneath the sheets; try under your legs, neck, or lower back for maximum comfort. [Real Simple](http://Real Simple) also suggests freezing a cotton sock filled with rice, then slipping it between the sheets. The rice will hold a chill longer.

### Beat the heat: DIY air-conditioning

Freeze a couple of water bottles and place them in front of a floor or desk fan, and you'll enjoy a much cooler breeze with your makeshift air-conditioner. [Wikihow.com](http://Wikihow.com) advises adding salt to the water first to beat the heat longer; [Apartment Therapy](http://Apartment Therapy) skips the bottles altogether in favor of a bowl of ice water.

### Beat the heat: Aloe vera

You know aloe vera soothes sunburn, and its cooling properties also work to help you beat the heat. [Blogger Crunchy Betty](http://Blogger Crunchy Betty) offers different recipes to make spray of it, combining witch hazel and peppermint oil.

### Beat the heat: Pressure points

[Lifehacker.com](http://Lifehacker.com)'s solution to lower body temperature is to apply a bottle with ice-cold water on points like your ankles, wrists, or behind the knees.

### Beat the heat: Take a cool shower

When all else fails, take frequent cool showers to keep your body temperature down *and* rinse off the sweat.

## Watermelon-Tequila Punch

Refresh party guests with this simple alcoholic punch, served in an actual watermelon!

"After scooping out the watermelon, turn the empty shell into a punch bowl,"  
"Be sure to make this in summer when watermelon is in season and its sweetest."

**Ingredients:** chile salt rim on the glasses, as it balances the drink perfectly."

- 1 large ripe seedless watermelon
- 3/4 cup silver tequila made from 100% agave
- 1/2 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3 lime slices, seeds removed, plus 6 to 8 lime wedges, 6 to 8 Chile Salt-Rimmed Glasses (see below)

### Directions:

1. Cut off the top third of the long side of the watermelon. Cut a small slice off the rind of the opposite side so it can stand upright. Scoop out the flesh into a large bowl; refrigerate the watermelon "bowl" until ready to serve.
2. Working in batches, puree the watermelon in a blender. Strain the pureed watermelon through a sieve set over a large bowl. Mix 5 cups of the watermelon juice with the tequila, lime juice, and sugar in a large pitcher. Refrigerate until cold.
3. Pour the punch into the watermelon bowl. Float lime slices on top. Fill rimmed glasses with ice. Ladle punch over the ice, and garnish with lime wedges.

CHILE SALT-RIMMED GLASSES: Mix 1 tablespoon kosher salt and 3/4 teaspoon ground ancho or New Mexico chile on a plate. Run a lime wedge around the rim of each glass. Dip the glasses in the chile salt .Serves 6 to 8





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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*

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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

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Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell Passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom.

I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up" and tell them I like them.

And it works just like Facebook! I already have four people following me: two police officers, a privat investigator, and a psychiatrist.

Do you want to be my friend?



**Rest Your Mind**

I know you have been laying awake at night wondering why baby diapers have brand names such as "Luvs", "Huggies," and "Pampers", while undergarments for old people are called "Depends".

Well here is the low down on the whole thing.

When babies crap in their pants, people are still gonna Luv'em, Hug'em and Pamper' em. When old people crap in their pants, it "Depends" on who's in the will!

Glad I got that straightened out so you can rest your mind.



Congratulations German American Society on 50 years!

Thanks for letting us be a part of them!



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- ◆ **Grossmont College**, Prof. Johannes Bruestle, [Johannes.bruestle@gcccd.edu](mailto:Johannes.bruestle@gcccd.edu)
- ◆ **Adult German Classes**, German American Societies, Ms. Erna Duby Tel 619-447-0302
- ◆ **AATG S. D. Chapter**, [www.aatgsandiego.org](http://www.aatgsandiego.org) [aatgsandiegopresident@gmail.com]  
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#### **The German Consulate in Los Angeles**

Please visit the website for further information regarding questions concerning:  
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### **AATG** The American Association of Teachers of German [www.aatgsandiego.org](http://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**

**Check out our web site: [www.houseofgermany.com](http://www.houseofgermany.com)**

Announcement from the House of Germany

**Come see us on Sundays to have coffee and cake in the Park**



Liane Mende-Mueller President 858-536-7063 [Liane.Germany.2012@gmail.com](mailto:Liane.Germany.2012@gmail.com)



### **THE HOUSE OF AUSTRIA**

**Check out our web site: [www.geocities.com/houseofaustria](http://www.geocities.com/houseofaustria)**

President: MargitTesar

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



### **San Diego County Swiss Club Inc.**

2001 Main St. Chula Vista, CA. 91911-3923 (619-423-1036)

[www.sdswissclub.com](http://www.sdswissclub.com)



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

- 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!!!!



Entrance Members: \$10.00 Guests \$ 12.00  
 Buffet Style Dinners are served at each event—only \$12  
 Doors open 6:00 p.m. ♦Buffet Dinner 6:30 p.m. Dances 7:30 p.m.—11:30

**Ordering dinner in advance by phone or email  
 will provide you with reserved seating for the entire evening**

Entrance Members: \$10.00 Guests \$ 12.00  
 Buffet Style Dinners are served at each event—only \$12  
 Doors open 6:00 p.m. ♦Buffet Dinner 6:30 p.m. Dances 7:30 p.m.—11:30 p.m.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE "ALL YEAR ROUND VOLUNTEER CREW"**



We are not the youngest anymore and due to illness our skeleton crew is reaching out to you for help.  
*Please offer your assistants by joining us for a few hours  
 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM to early afternoon.*  
 Please leave a message at 619-442-6637 OR call Willie's cell # at 619 208 1682 Thank you!

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2015 – 2016**

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



Student membership valid under the age of 25 years )

Student Membership	\$	25.00	(
Single Membership	\$	40.00	( )
Family Membership	\$	60.00	( )

Always pay your club dues on time!  
 After May 15th your membership is delinquent  
 and subject to a renewal initiation fee.

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: .....& Signature.....

[www.germanclubsandiego.org](http://www.germanclubsandiego.org) Office 619-442-6637 (for message)

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

# SOMMERFEST OPEN HOUSE

## German American Societies

1017 S Mollison Ave., El Cajon Ca. 92020

Phone info 619-442-6637 or 619-442-6638

[www.germanclubsandiego.org](http://www.germanclubsandiego.org) ~ [heidwiggermanclub@cox.net](mailto:heidwiggermanclub@cox.net)

Join us for a Fun-Filled Evening in the open air of our cozy Biergarten  
Open to the Public ! Everyone Welcome !



**August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

2015

Saturday 4pm to 10pm

**"BIERGARTEN"  
SOMMERFEST**

*Membership Drive:* Learn about our club's variety of activities and enjoy  
The performance of the entertaining "Alpine Folk Dancers"  
Special Treat: our own G.A.S. "Kindertanzgruppe"  
Dance to the famous "Express" Live Dance Band

For everyone's taste our outdoor bar has cool refreshments available  
Enjoy Bavarian Bratwurst, Potato Salad, Sauerkraut or Red Cabbage & Roll ! Plate only \$ 7.00

For our guests with a sweet tooth try our delicious German Pastries with Coffee \$ 4.00

Entrance: \$2.00 Donation!