

The German American Societies of San Diego, Inc.

www.GermanClubSanDiego.org

www.OktoberfestElCajon.com

(619) 442-6637



"Die Zeit bis zum
Wiedersehen ist eine
Schnecke."

"Bleib gesund!"

Translations : 'The time until we see each other is a snail. Stay healthy!'

Directory

German American Societies of San Diego, Inc.

Clubhouse : (619)442-6637

Website : www.germanclubsandiego.org Email: office@germanclubsandiego.org

Editorial Staff

Editor :	Claudia Jensen	(619) 922-1135
Membership :	Monika Parme	(619) 443-3897
Damenkreis :	Dagmar Purves	(619) 540-1095
Oktoberfest :	Mike Anderson	(619) 390-9793
Germania Choir :	Frauke Kuo	(619) 498-3898
Karneval :	Laurence Parme	(858) 204-6902
Skat Players :	Eddie Schümann	(858) 279-0749
KinderTanzGruppe	Tanja Sawicki	(619) 254-5775
German Theater Group	Astrid Ronke	aronke12@gmail.com
Schützenverein	Nicole King-Horstman	(619) 302-0989

Clubhouse Rules

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

ABC restrictions : NO outside alcohol will be allowed to be brought into, served or consumed on our property anywhere. All alcohol must be consumed inside our building except for during outdoor events with an extended liquor license.

We are not responsible for any personal property.

Publication Policy

The publicity department of the G.A.S. is responsible for the bulletins contents and reserves the right to edit or refuse articles and advertisements submitted for publications.

Contact our editor to advertise in our newsletter.

We try to inform you of those that have passed. We can only do that if the family informs us. If you would like the membership to know of your passing, please let a family member know to inform us. Anyone that wants to write an article for the Newsletter is welcome to do so! I appreciate all the help I can get. Submit to : GermanClub@yahoo.com.

Claudia Jensen, Editor

2020/2021 Board of Directors



Wendel Jenkins
President



Joel Contreras
1st Vice President



Lisel Ferguson
2nd Vice President



Laurence Parme
Secretary



Debbie Sandwig
Treasurer



Claudia Jensen
Publicity

We ♥ Our Volunteers!

The Crew and other volunteers are the bomb!

Projects are being handled while the clubhouse is closed. Some small, such as working on the picnic tables with repair and paint, and some a little larger like the interior south wall of the club and looking in to some acoustic work for the interior.

People are working in small COVID compliant work parties along with the Tuesday Crew to accomplish these tasks. Some club members have stepped up and mowed, weeded and weed wacked the dirt lot, kids zone and front area all on their own (thank you Tom Helms & Betsy Filipponi!).

Then the walk in cooler was next on the list. There has been a moisture problem in there for years and years. The problem was condensation - it was repaired and re-insulated - that did the trick. The crew took it completely apart inside, it got bleached, sanded and then they resealed the entire interior.

The Tuesday Crew is busy keeping up on tasks on their own lists as well as working closely with others to set up a task list and work thru it. The club is so fortunate to have a dedicated bunch of guys that are always looking for what needs to get done and doing just that! These people, Bill and Ellen Bach, Scott Charlesworth, John Ferino, Les Ford, Gary Giardino, Ted Greiner, John Rollins (RJ), Marvin Stevens and Willie Williams, are there every Tuesday!

The club was in the middle of the street house remodel with much of the board overseeing the contracts when the first shut downs started. The paint work, electrical and finish work was all completed with a lot of volunteer hours and some professional work as well. It was rented right away and even rented while being repaired and painted outside. Drive by and check it out!



Mike Anderson
Director

Presidents Corner

Hello Friends!

Six month of COVID-19 and no end in sight. Like you, I am wondering 'When are we going to get a break?'. What I do know is that your board is ready to set some plans in motion for meetings and gatherings as soon as it is safe to do so.

Thanks to all that came out to the two work parties to repair and repaint the picnic tables. They were in pretty rough shape (the tables, not the volunteers) and now they (the table and the volunteers) look great once again!

We are continuing to take this time we've been given to repair, refurbish and upgrade the clubhouse and grounds with our finances in mind. Some have asked about the financial status of our club with having to cancel our one big fundraiser. Please be assured we will weather this storm. This is due in part to the efforts of all in the past Oktoberfest's, and our financial conservative nature, we will be fine.

Willie's crew is making great progress on their list of many repair projects that need to be taken care of. Please call he club number and leave your name and number if you would like to come volunteer your time and talents to help out. We are very mindful of the social distancing and wearing of masks as we work our way thru projects.

On a personal note, I would like to send our my condolences to those of you that have lost loved ones over the past several months and to those of you that have had a difficult time due to COVID-19 and it's restrictions.

Until we can meet and see each other again, please stay safe and healthy.

Graciously,

Wendel Jenkins, President



2020

Dear G.A.S. Members,

As I am sure you have heard, we, as a board, made the painful decision to cancel the Oktoberfest in El Cajon this year.

We can only be hopeful that this pandemic will run it's course and we will soon be able to resume many of the club's activities and events! We are looking forward to a fun filled 2021 with a grand Oktoberfest!

Mike Anderson Oktoberfest Chairman



Under group : German Theater Group



German cabaret rescheduled for April 2021

With a heavy heart, the German Theater Group San Diego has decided to postpone this year's cabaret until next spring. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the show "Lach Mal Wieder" (Let's Laugh Again!) is now planned for April 2021.

Our group had just started working on the production when the pandemic hit. We kept hoping things would go back to normal by fall, but the uncertainty of the current situation is forcing us to keep the curtains closed this year. **Each show requires months of planning, practicing, and preparing**, and at this point, we don't know when we can resume our activities. After all, the health and safety of our members and fans come first!

Any tickets you may have purchased for this year's performance will be honored in the future.

We are tentatively planning a **Virtual Theater via Zoom** for October. More information will be announced via e-mail, Facebook, and our other social media channels, as well as our website:

germantheatergroupsandiego.org.

Would you like to be a part of our theater group? We are currently looking for actors, stage workers, stage designers, costume designers, and more – or just fun people who want to try out something new!

Please contact our Director Astrid Ronke at aronke12@gmail.com.



Under Group : Karneval

Masks have historically been a part of the Karneval wherever Karneval is celebrated but more on that in a moment...

The long stretch to get from Ash Wednesday to the following 11/11 (November 11th) can be tough on Karnevalisten. Oh sure, we have our unofficial diversions in which we try to sneak in a bit of off-season merrymaking. At various times over the past years San Diego's Karnevalsgesellschaft has participated in the Lakeside Western Days Parade, held weekend campouts in the mountains, enjoyed parties hosted by our outgoing Prinzenpaaren, supported work parties at the club and even made trips more than half way across the country to attend Milwaukee's German Fest. All of these things, however, fun as they may be in their own right, just helping to tide us over until the next Karneval session.



But this year, with the novel coronavirus and social distancing throwing a wet rag over these normal escapes, and putting uncertainty on the upcoming season, well you will need to excuse any Karnevalisten showing signs of stress and anxiety. No doubt about it, we are suffering withdrawal and it's not always pretty.

As you may have already heard, the GAMGA Gala, normally held in January in Las Vegas and bringing together Karneval clubs from all over North America for a weekend long celebration, has been cancelled. Fortunately, there are some brighter bits of news to report.

The Karneval Steering Committee met during July and decided that one way or another, San Diego will do what we can to celebrate Karneval in the coming season even if it is done differently and bit lower key than is customary. The evolving plans involve extending our last Season. This provides a simple way to



still have a Season for Karneval members. While any plans are necessarily tentative and subject to change, if permitted, we will have a small Opening of some sort on 11/14. Masks have always been a big part of Karneval costuming but one can imagine that this year, they may take on a whole new meaning. Indeed, besides masks, irony and satire are also important parts of the German Karneval experience and one can imagine the Karneval Masken Ball taking on new meaning this year with an emphasis on the masks and less on the ball.



**Wenn man die
Atemschutzmasken
über Nacht in Alkohol
ziehen lässt, wird
der Tag
gleich viel
lustiger.**



To this end, the Karneval Steering Committee voted for reinstating last year's Dreigestirn for this season. Once more we will have Joel Contreras as the Prinz, Joe Marsh as the Bauer, and the Jungfrau Poppy. Our friends in other Karneval groups have similar, loose plans for some level of Karneval in the coming year and perspective dates have been set for joint activities should conditions permit.

Regardless of what develops, regardless of how often plans need to change and regardless of necessary restrictions to keep us all safe, one thing that is certain is that this group will find where there are things we can laugh at and ways we can enjoy our club's spirit of comradery. As is very much its character, San Diego's Karnevalsgesellschaft will make the most of what it is given and find a way to celebrate the 5th Season.

(Translation - "If you let your face mask soak in alcohol overnight, your next day will be much funnier" Contributed by Ute Corts in true Karneval spirit)

Membership Report

Dear valued members,

We are already in the month of August and unfortunately we could not offer you the usual events for your entertainment or any gatherings. Not surprisingly, this year has been more difficult than most on gaining renewals or even new members. Without the usual stream of club activities, it's easy to forget about renewing membership. We missed Easter, our German Theater performance, Maifest, Spring Choir concert, Anniversary Ball, Skat evenings and our Monday nights open bar. Also the various under-group meetings and so many casual get-together's which we all enjoy were dearly missed.

However, even without events and minimizing our expenses, there are expenses the club must cover. Fortunately, almost 300 of you have come to the aid of the club by renewing your memberships, making it possible to pay bills, maintain the facility and keep things ready for a return to normalcy next year. For this, the club thanks you. - A brief summary of our Membership status - August 1, 2020:

Memberships: 297 --- Members in good standing: 486 --- Memberships last year: 492

Unfortunately we recently heard about the passing of long-term members, who we will miss both:

Donald Duby - husband of Erna Duby, our German teacher & Ballroom Dance teacher at the club in Summer of 2006 - and Peter Swoboda - Karneval Prinz, Hofmarschall, best Potato pancake cook, and otherwise well known as Dr. Fix It.

Hopefully this news will reach you all in the best of health. We can't wait until we get the green light to see you all back in our clubhouse. *Stay safe – stay healthy!*



Liebe Mitglieder,

wir sind bereits im Monat August und leider konnten wir Ihnen nicht die üblichen Veranstaltungen für Ihre Unterhaltung oder irgendwelche Versammlungen anbieten. Es überrascht nicht, dass dieses Jahr schwieriger war, als die meisten, wenn es darum geht, Erneuerungen oder sogar neue Mitglieder zu gewinnen. Ohne den üblichen Ablauf von Clubaktivitäten ist es leicht, die Verlängerung der Mitgliedschaft zu vergessen. Wir haben Ostern, unsere deutsche Theateraufführung, Maifest, Frühlingschorkonzert, Jubiläumsball, Skatabende und unsere Montagabend-Open-Bar verpasst. Auch die verschiedenen Untergruppentreffen und so viele zwanglose Beisammensein, die wir alle genießen, wurden sehr vermisst.

Aber auch ohne Veranstaltungen und Minimierung unserer Ausgaben gibt es Ausgaben, die der Verein tragen muss.

Glücklicherweise sind fast 300 von ihnen dem Club zu Hilfe gekommen, indem sie ihre Mitgliedschaften erneuert haben, wodurch es möglich ist, Rechnungen zu bezahlen, die Anlage zu unterhalten und die Dinge für eine Rückkehr zur Normalität im nächsten Jahr bereit zu halten. Dafür bedankt sich der Verein. Eine kurze Zusammenfassung unseres Mitgliedsstatus - 1. August 2020:

Mitgliedschaften: 297 --- Mitglieder in gutem Ruf: 486 --- Mitgliedschaften im letzten Jahr: 492

Leider haben wir kürzlich von dem Tod langjähriger Mitglieder gehört, die wir beide vermissen werden:

Donald Duby - Ehemann von Erna Duby, unserer Deutschlehrerin und Tanzlehrer im Club im Sommer 2006

und Peter Swoboda - Karneval Prinz, Hofmarschall, bester Kartoffel-Pfannkuchen-Koch und sonst bekannt als Dr. Fix it.

Hoffentlich werden diese Nachrichten Sie alle in bester Gesundheit erreichen. Wir können es kaum erwarten, bis wir grünes Licht bekommen, um Sie alle wieder in unserem Clubhaus zu sehen.

Bleiben Sie sicher – Bleiben Sie gesund!

Gruß~Greetings! *Monika Parme*, Membership Chair



Under Group : Damenkreis / Ladies' Circle



Dear Damenkreiser and Friends of the G.A.S.

Almost five months has passed since we met in March at the clubhouse for a wonderful luncheon hosted by our February hostesses. Thanks goes to Hannelore Strickling and crew as they did a fabulous job. Plans for April were made and what happened? We were put on house arrest. This might have been a good thing. We all want to stay well and hope to enjoy many years to come. We are sending emails and making phone calls to help stay in touch with friends. With social distancing in mind, it

has also allowed us to gather for with those who were ready to visit - 6 feet apart and outdoors. We don't know what the future brings as there are so many things to think about.

We don't know when we will have our first meeting again. We had hoped to have a POOL PARTY at my house but was cancelled, as was the G.A.S. OKTOBERFEST for all our members and many guests.

We are all in this situation together so let us be friends and stay in touch with our members. You have our membership list, so call and make someone HAPPY.

Hope to see you all real soon.

Love, *Dagmar*

Liebe Damenkreiser, ich nehme an, dass es euch allen noch soweit gut geht, denn ich habe nichts anderes gehört. Normalerweise hat die Gruppe im August eine Sommer/Garten/Pool-Party und eine der Damen stellte ihren schönen Garten/Pool zur Verfügung. So hatten sich in der Vergangenheit u.a. ChristaZ, IreneG, AnniM, UllaC, DagmarP bereit erklärt, und der Potluck war ein spassiger/nasser Nachmittag. Nun dieses Jahr können wir uns leider nicht bei irgendeinem treffen. Vielleicht ein Treffen bei Anza Cove wäre irgendwann möglich, jedoch nur mit den vorgeschriebenen Regeln der Dinstanzierung. Wie heisst es so schön: Abstand halten! Kein Händedruck, keine Umarmung, nicht eng beieinander sitzen und alles was wir so gewohnt sind, sollten wir vermeiden. Mal sehen, was sich entwickelt. Wir wünschen allen einen schönen Sommer.

Monika – Dk Sekretärin



Der **August** (*Erntemonat, Ährenmonat, Sichelmonat, Ernting; lateinisch augustus*) ist der achte Monat des Jahres im gregorianischen Kalender. und hat 31 Tage. Sein Name stammt vom römischen Kaiser Augustus ab. Früher wurde er auch Erntemonat genannt. In den südlichen Bundesländern wird der ganze August von den Schulferien eingenommen. In den katholischen Gemeinden Bayerns sowie in Österreich und Teilen der Schweiz ist der 15. August, Mariä Himmelfahrt, ein Feiertag. In Augsburg wird zusätzlich am 8. Aug. das Augsburger Friedensfest gefeiert, welches an das Ende des dreissigjährigen Kriegs erinnert.

Zooming! KinderTanzGruppe & German Language Classes!

We were Zooming each other and working on a few new dances for a while. For now, we have taken a little break until we are able to get together one parking space at a time - as soon as that is wise. We hope to be able to dance for you again soon!



Beginning German is taught via Zoom for an hour from 5 to 6 every Monday on line. Then from 6 to 7 the advanced group meets up - with some conversational German thrown in toward the end as Monika



Parme joins them. The advanced class is a hybrid of two German language classes! From one side of the U.S. to the other - COVID-19 has united our little local class with this small class just outside of Boston, MA!



Peter Swoboda, better known as “Dr. Fix It” in Alpine and surrounding San Diego Areas, passed away on July 21, 2020 after a tragic accident.

In 1972 Peter arrived in San Diego. He soon established residency in El Cajon, then moving to Alpine, where he grounded himself with a house making it a beautiful home that looked like a paradise oasis bring out the best of his green thumb and mother natures beauty, otherwise known as Chateau Swobo, est. 1982, as it says on the large rock as you enter his home.

His property and home was enjoyed by many; with the annual “Summer Sizzle” parties. His presentation was welcoming and “proud as a peacock” of his home and hard work he was committed to in his yard. His eye for Art and Love of Gardening was a true gift, and reflection of in his garden and home.

Being so talented and handy as a Master Craftsman, Peter successfully established his business as “Dr. Fix It” which he really enjoyed, and the friendship he made along the way. He loved a challenge and creating masterpieces. (to perfection).

Peter was funny if you understood “dry sense of humor” He was a member of the German American Society in El Cajon, where he was the Holfmarshall (master of ceremonies), and told some great jokes! He was also the 2001-2002 Prinz, Elefrrat member and Best Potato Pancake maker ever.

Talk about a Good Man, Peter had a tender and accepting heart, welcoming smile, and strong values and morals. He will be missed by many friends, clients, and loved ones... mostly his garden... I know they were always one with each other and his care for mother earth was in his body, mind and soul.



Many of you, I am sure, recognize this wall hanging from our hall. But do you know it's history?

This painting hung in the Rath's Keller of the San Diego Turner Hall, located at 9th and G Street from 1914 to 1945, when a fire destroyed the building. The painting was restored and then presented to the German American Societies of San Diego by the San Diego Turners, Inc. on April 22nd 1972.

Below is some information found on line about the San Diego Turners and their history



The San Diego Turner movement began in 1873, when a group of German-Americans formed the first 'Turn-verein,' or gymnastics club. In the 19th century these fitness clubs were popular across the United States, and provided a place for Americans of German descent to gather to celebrate their heritage and participate in athletic events. The first San Diego Turner club, the 'Teutonia,' only lasted 2 years and was disbanded in 1875 for unknown reasons. In 1884, the Turnverein was re-established by J.A. Cohn. The new

club, called the 'Eintracht,' began with 80 members, but soon grew to 120 participants. The first Turner Hall was built on the corner of 8th and G Streets in downtown San Diego. Shortly after, the San Diego economic boom ended, the Turners fell on hard financial times, resulting in the loss of both their meeting hall and many of their members.

By 1889, a rival Turnverein, the 'Phoeniz,' was present in San Diego. In February 1890, the two struggling Turnvereins met and joined their organizations into a singular, united club. The new Concordia Turnverein had close to 200 members. A new Turner Hall was built on 9th and G Streets, close to the location of the original Hall. Construction was completed in February of 1907. The new Concordia Hall contained a gym, facilities for men and women, meeting rooms, a lodge, a bar, and an auditorium. The Concordia Turners flourished until World War I, a period which saw a sharp drop in membership and participation. The Turners recuperated shortly after the end of WWI until the onset of WWII, when the organization saw a repeat of the previous wartime struggles.

In February of 1945, Concordia Hall was destroyed by a large fire. The club saw a period of near dormancy as the members tried to regroup after both the loss of WWII and the loss of their hall. In 1947, the president of the National American Turners, Carl Weidman, visited San Diego and encouraged the Concordia members to persevere. The Concordia Turnverein changed their name to the San Diego Turners and dedicated a new Turner Hall on March 3, 1951. Though popular in the community, the Turners had a hard time competing with public funded athletic clubs like the YMCA and the YWCA. The club relied only on dues to maintain their finances. In March of 1969 the Turners were forced to sell Turner Hall to prevent themselves from failing financially. After the loss of their third Hall, the San Diego Turners attempted to maintain their activities and participation by meeting in the clubhouse of the Oneira Women's Club, but they were never able to recover. The San Diego Turners were officially disbanded in 1985, just over 100 years after the original San Diego Turner movement began.

Membership News

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

Membership Renewal Notice – Jan 2020

Dear Member,

Our new membership year (2020-2021) begins on April 1, 2020. Your membership renewal form is included on the lower portion of this page. You also will find it online on our website: www.GermanClubSanDiego.org

Please complete the form and return it with your dues for the coming year. We accept payment with cash, check, credit card or online.

Sending in your membership renewal before April 30 will ensure your eligibility to vote in the up-coming General Elections. It will also allow you to take advantage of member discounts at club functions.

Grüß~ Greetings!

Monika Parme, Membership Chair

Email: info@germanclubsandiego.org

**Future Events
at a Glance**

°° Tentative schedule of events °°

October - virtual on-line Theater Performance - check germantheatergroupsandiego.org

Nov. 14th - Karneval Opening
Nov. 21st - Dinner w/ Friends (?)

Dec. 12th - Membership Christmas Celebration
Dec. 20th - Choir Christmas Concert

Dec. 31st - New Year's Eve

Jan. 23rd - Karneval Dance
Jan. 24th - KinderKarneval

Feb. - Weinfest (?)

Mar. 13th - St. Pats Dance

April 17th & 18th - Theater Performances

May 1st - Maifest

May 16th - Choir Spring Concert

German American Societies • Membership • April 1, 2020 -- March 31, 2021

Student	\$25	Credit <input type="checkbox"/>	Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	Date:	_____
Single	\$40	Cash <input type="checkbox"/>	New <input type="checkbox"/>	Under-group:	_____
Family	\$60	Check <input type="checkbox"/>	# _____	Origin?	_____
Donation	\$ _____	Online <input type="checkbox"/>		Optional	City _____ Country _____

Total	\$ _____	Member # _____	Please print clearly		
		<small>filled by Membership</small>			

Name _____ Birth Date & Yr _____
First Last

Cell _____ E-mail _____

Name _____ Birth Date & Yr _____
First Last

Cell _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Signature: _____ Home Phone _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

German-American Societies of San Diego, Attn. Membership • 1017 South Mollison Ave, El Cajon CA 92020-7614

Email: info@germanclubsandiego.org -- www.germanclubsandiego.org -- 1-619-442-6637 – please leave message