Der Zeit-Reporter

Verein der Donauschwaben Cincinnati. Ohio



Ich wünsche Ihnen frohe Weihnachten und einen guten Rutsch ins neue Jahr!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

The end of the year is quickly approaching and with it comes Silvesterabend - a time to say farewell to 2023 and welcome to 2024. A year with endless possibilities for all of us.

As a Verein we have much to look forward to in the first few months of the New Year from the ever-popular Dinner Dance and Beer and Wine Tasting in February to our elegant and formal Strauss Ball in March. And we won't forget the club Easter Party on March 24th.

2024 is also the 70th Anniversary of the founding of our Verein! How far we've come in these last 70 years!! I believe that our Founding Members would be proud of what they started and where successive generations efforts have brought us. Let's see where the next 70 years brings us!! My thanks to all of you —you've helped make this happen! You'll receive information regarding our celebration of this event in an upcoming Newsletter.

Our January general meeting will also be the swearing-in of the incoming Board as well as that of all group leaders and committee chairs.

My term as your President will come to an end with this meeting. I want to thank all of you for your support—We've had some challenges as well as successes. I know we'll all support our incoming President—Joe Seidl. Congratulations Joe!

This coming year let's ALL resolve to give a few hours every month to volunteer for our club!

On behalf of the Board and myself I wish all of you a Blessed and Merry Christmas and Health and Happiness In 2024!!!

Marty Kunkle
President

AUDITORS NEEDED

We are currently looking for several people who are willing to do an audit of Donauschwaben's books. Contact Elizabeth Tullius at cincydonautreasurer@gmail.com if you are interested or want more information.

DIRECTORY PICTURES

It is not too late to submit a picture for the photo directory. Send a picture by e-mail (with Donau picture in the subject line) to <u>Ladyike76@yahoo.</u>
com no later than March 31st.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Silvestertanz

December 31st 8:30 pm – 12:30 am

Membership Fees Due
January 1st

Dinner Dance

February 10th 5:30 pm Dinner

Beer and Wine Tasting
February 24th – 7:00 pm

Johann Strauss Ball

March 9th

6:00 – 10:00 pm

Easter Party
March 24th
2:00 pm

<u>Fifth Friday Froth Fest</u> March 31st 5:00 door open 6:00 food service

Photo Directory
Photo Due
March 31st

Club Meeting

4th Friday every month Ladies Meeting 7:00 General Meeting 7:30

OUR LEADERS

Congratulations to the members elected onto the Board at our October meeting. Cece Abt and Mike Kurzhals, were re-elected for 3 year terms and Dan Schaiper was newly elected to a 3 year term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave Brabender for your many years of service on the Board.

The 2024 Board Members are as follows:

President: Joe Seidl
VP/Band/Group Liasion: Marty Kunkle
Secretary: Cathy Weissmann
Treasurer: Elizabeth Tullius

Communications/Alcohol Buyer/

House: Al Huber

House and Grounds: Dan Schaiper

Media/Marketing and

Reservations Cece Abt

Media/Marketing and

Reservations Ali Hoevel
Membership: Eileen Waldeck
Rental Coordinator: Mike Kurzhals

Contacts:

Joe Seidl jsnocap@aol.com Marty Kunkle martykunkle@hotmail.com Cathy Weissmann jweissmann@aol.com Elizabeth Tullius elizabethtullius@gmail.com Al Huber hubal@fuse.net Dan Schaiper dansch@cinci.rr.com Cece Abt abtcecelia@gmail.com Ali Hoevel aliciahoevel@gmail.com Eileen Waldeck ladyike76@yahoo.com Mike Kurzhals mkurzhals@fuse.net

2024 Ladies Auxiliary Board Members:

President: Helen Hary
Vice President: Marty Kunkle
Secretary: Barb Waldeck
Treasurer: Rose Abt
Historian: Eileen Waldeck



Congratulations to Mike and Amy Waldeck, the winning couple of our beautiful Strauss at Kirchweih. May you have a blessed, prosperous and healthy year ahead!

Herrlich Willkommen

Listed below are our new members. We offer you a hearty welcome and hope to see you around the club often.

Jim and Elvira Delp Scott Hunt Evan Sweeney

SCHWABENFEST SIGNS

I know Schwabenfest seems a long time away but we need time to get signs printed and distributed. If you would like to have a sign to put in your yard, please contact Pete Lahni at pete.lahni@gmail.com by March 30th.

BY-LAWS CHANGES

If you attended the monthly meetings, you are aware that we have had three readings to have the by-laws changed. We have changed the numbering system, some verbiage and added documentation we feel is important in the best interest of the club. You should receive a copy of the bi-laws electronically at a later date. I have listed below the changes – please note the changes are in bold.

ARTICLE II Members

- Section 11b Only a regular member may be a candidate for the Board of Trustees. In order to serve on the Board of Trustees, dues must be current and remain so for the duration of their position on the Board. If they are not current, they must vacate their position on the Board.
- Section 11j All classes of members may be suspended or expelled for cause. Any member can present an argument for cause at a general meeting or directly to the Board of Trustees at a Board Meeting or in writing. All arguments for cause that could lead to suspension or expulsion will be reviewed by a panel of five members of the Board of the Trustees.

This panel will consist of the four officers of the Board of Trustees (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer). These officers will appoint the fifth member of the panel from the remaining members of the Board of Trustees.

If the Board of Trustees believes they find that there is sufficient evidence for a member to be suspended or expelled, they will make a recommendation to that effect that will be presented to the general membership to the entire Board. A member can then be suspended or expelled by a majority vote of the regular members present at a regular monthly meeting Board of Trustees.

Cause includes, but is not limited to, actions that run counter to our purpose and goals and bring disgrace to the Cincinnati Donauschwaben Society of Cincinnati. or that run counter to the Society's purpose and goals.

If the member who has been voted for suspension or expulsion wants to appeal the Board of Trustees decision – they may appeal the decision directly to the Board of Trustees. The appeal must happen within 30 days of suspension or expulsion notification.

If they want a further appeal, they may appeal directory to the members at a general meeting. The appeal must happen within 30 days of suspension or expulsion notification.

BY-LAWS CHANGES (continued)

Section 11j This second appeal must be made within 30 days of the notice of suspension or expulsion of the 1st appeal. The majority vote of the members at that general meeting will be the final decision with no further appeal available.

If the case involves an officer of the Board of Trustees, the panel will consist of the remaining three officers and they will appoint the two additional panel members from the members of the Board of Trustees.

If the case involves the family member of an officer, that officer will not be part of the Panel and the remaining three officers will appoint the two additional panel members from the Board of Trustees.

If the case involves an officer/board member or a family member of either, they must recuse themselves from the vote.

ARTICLE III Dues

Section 3 Fixed the numbering

Section 4 Fixed the numbering.

Membership dues are due January 1 of each year. There will be a grace period until March 1st of each year.

Section 5 Those members in a nursing home or an assisted living facility are exempt from paying dues, providing they have been a regular member in good standing as defined in Article II.

ARTICLE IV Meetings and Elections

Section 1 Fixed the numbering.

The annual **planning** meeting shall be held **during the month of October of once** each year at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Trustees.

Section 4 Notice of annual, regular and special meetings shall be given to all members in **writing electronic or written form**, of the time and place of the meeting, at least ten days prior to such a meeting.

BY-LAWS CHANGES (continued)

ARTICLE IV Meetings and Elections

Section 5 Fixed the numbering

Each regular member, individual in the case of a single member and husband and wife in the case of a family membership, shall be entitled to one vote each at any annual, regular or special meeting, and may so vote only in person. Only an individual with a regular full or meritorious membership are entitled to vote in the election of Officers to the Board of Trustees, properties, or matters vital to the existence of the Society.

- a. In the case of an Individual Membership, the individual members must be in good standing and a full member. The individual will be permitted to cast one vote.
- b. In the case of a Family Membership; The Family Membership must be in good standing and at full membership status. Each spouse will be permitted to cast one vote and must be present.
- c. Individuals under 21 within a Family Membership in good standing and full membership are <u>not</u> permitted to cast a vote.
- d. If a member is suspended or expelled, their voting rights are relinquished.

ARTICLE VI Officers

Section 5 The Treasurer shall keep and maintain all financial records of the Society and be responsible for the funds of the Society; shall make such reports as the Trustees may require; and, in general, shall discharge all duties incident to the office. The Treasurer will facilitate an annual audit of the financial books by March 31st of the following year.

Section 6 Fix the numbering

ARTICLE VIII Amendments

This code of Regulations may be amended, supplemented or repealed by a two-thirds vote of regular members present at a special meeting called for that purpose or at any annual or regular meeting of the members, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been submitted to the members in writing or electronically, at least ten days prior to the meeting. The proposed change(s) shall be read and discussed in 3 consecutive general monthly meetings. On the 3rd meeting, the amendment will be voted on either by a show of hand or a secret ballot, as determined by the President.

** Note NEW Due Date ** MEMBERSHIP DUES

As you read on the earlier in the newsletter, membership fees for 2024 are now due by January1st (\$35 per family which includes children up to 21 years of age). GOOD NEWS...you can now pay your dues online. Go to www.cincydonau.com and under the Membership Dues, you will see a tab that says pay online. There will be a small service fee on all dues. You must note each family that you are paying dues for.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a sheet indicating what you owe for dues. Please make your checks payable to Verein der Donauschwaben and send it to Eileen Waldeck, 7413 Bridge Point Pass, Cincinnati, Ohio 4548, or you can pay at our monthly meeting. If you would like to have a membership card, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your check. Don't forget to fill out the bottom of the form to show how you would like to volunteer.

If we have not received dues for two years in a row, you will be taken off our membership list and will not receive newsletters.

Upcoming Events

DINNER DANCE

Save the date! Saturday, February 10, 2024, is the annual Dinner Dance. Celebrate Valentine's Day with your sweetheart or enjoy a great dinner in the company of friends. Dinner is served from 5 – 6 and includes a traditional schnitzel dinner with all the fixings. During the dinner hour, enjoy a wine bar that is included with dinner. The dance will follow dinner. Please join us for dinner and dance at \$25/person, or just join us for the dance 6-10 at \$10/person. For reservations go to reservations@cincydonau.com and put Dinner Dance in the subject line.

Upcoming Events

BEER AND WINE TASTING

Come join us Saturday, February 24th at 7:00 and enjoy tasting a selection of specially selected beers and delicious wines. Entrance is \$30 per person or \$230 for a table of 8. Your entrance includes 10 tastings (beer, wine, or a combination), complimentary hors d'oeuvres, music, and a silent auction. You must be 21 years old to attend this event. Reservations can be made by contacting Evan Tullius at EvanTullius@gmail.com or calling him at 513-328-1913. An additional dinner will also be available for prepurchase. The proceeds of this event benefit the Jugendgruppe Travel Fund.

JOHANN STRAUSS BALL

On Saturday, March 9th, 2024 we will celebrate our Johann Strauss Ball from 6 - 10 p.m. It will be a grand night so come ready to dance the night away. Music will be provided by Rick Ipach and Friends who will entertain us for the evening. The Johann Strauss Ball will highlight the Strauss Ball dancers performing several traditional dances. Entrance will be \$20.00 per person (all 13 and under 1/2 price) and includes buffet following light performance. Reservations are necessary and can be made by going to cincydonau.com or calling 513-385-2098. Hope to see you then. For information, please call Kathi at 513-467-6120

FIFTH FRIDAY FROTH FEST

We would love to have you join us for our first Fifth Friday Froth Fest of the year on Friday, March 31st. Doors will open at 5:30 and dinner service starts at 6:00. We hope to see you there.

DANCE GROUPS

Are you interested in joining our dance groups? This is a great time to join so you learn the new dances.

<u>Kleine Kindergruppe</u> Meets on Monday nights at 7:00 (4 - 7 years old) – Erin Sucher (513-324-4825) and Patty Butterfield (513-863-1243) are the leaders.

<u>Mittlegruppe</u> Meets Monday night at 7:00 (8 to 12 years old) – Heidi Kurzhals (513-680-5303) and Rose Abt (513-444-0451) are the leaders.

<u>Jugendgruppe</u> Meets Tues. night at 7:15 - 8:30 (ages 13 - 25) – Katy Abt (513-255-4359), Megan Spraul (513-365-7339) and Evan Tullius (513-476-5314) are the leaders.

<u>Schuhplattler Gruppe</u> Meets Monday 7:15 to 8:30 (ages 18 - 50) – Lori Decher (513-245-9450) is the leader.

<u>Trachtengruppe</u> The Trachtengruppe has practice on the 2nd & 4th Wed. of the month at 7:30 P.M. If interested in joining, please call Cathy Weissmann at 467-6120.

Thank you

Hansi & Jill Weissmann, Mike & Amy Waldeck and Brett and Lindsey Hambrick for being the Committee Chairs for the Oktoberfest this year. It was our most successful Oktoberfest and everyone had fun!!! We appreciate all your hard work to make this such a successful event. Thank you to everyone who helped plan, work, cook, clean up, etc. for this event. You all did a great job!

Megan Spraul and her Committee who worked so hard on Shop with Friends. It was another sellout and the vendors had awesome merchandise. Thank you to all who came to shop...we couldn't do it without you!

John and Petra Kurzhals and their Committee for all your hard work on the Kirchweih Mass and dance. You always do an awesome job planning the Mass and the dance. We all love your wonderful raffle prizes, the delicious food, great music, great friends... A great time was had by all!

Pam and Ben Clinkenbeard, Annette and Greg Suer, Eileen and Joe Waldeck and their Committee for organizing the Weinlesefest. We had a pretty good crowd, the food was tasty and everyone loved the audience participation dances. The kindergruppes did a great job guarding the arbors and catching anyone trying to steal the fruit. Thanks for bringing this enjoyable dance back.

To the Ladies Group for hosting the Christmas party! It was great to see everyone and we hope you all had a good time!

Dave Brabender, Al Huber and the entire crew that keeps our club house and the grounds looking great. We can't thank you enough for all your efforts clearing the trees and doing the prep work for widening the driveway and getting ready for the paving. Fantastic job!

Oktoberfest

















Kirchweih





















Weinlesefest













