

AGSNE NEWS

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

From the President's Desk

German American Heritage Day - 2009

Sunday, September 27th began as an overcast, dreary day, but inside the ballroom of the Boylston Schulverein it was merry and bright with yellow chrysanthemums, German & American flags, sparkling lights, beautiful raffle items, and friends greeting friends; just some of the ingredients making for a memorable German American Heritage Day orchestrated by the AGSNE. Preceded by appetizers in the lounge area, the Cultural Entertainment portion of the Day began at 1:30 PM with the melodic, Old World sounds of the combined voices from Saengerchor Boston, R.I. GACC, Cape Cod GAC and the DKV, with the audience joining in the singing of the National Anthems. Next came the enthusiastic performance of the R.I. Alpenblumen Schuhplah Dancers joined by their Kinder Group. They were received with smiles, laughter and loud applause for their professional performance that brightened everyone's spirits for the rest of the day! Thank you to all of the above for adding "sparkle" to our celebration. Then, in recognition of his/her dedication and performance throughout the year, your President introduced each Society President or Representative of our 15 member organizations.

Two impressive and well written Proclamations from the Governor's Desks of Massachusetts and Rhode Island were read by Vice President Eva Maria Chase and Saengerchor's President, Werner Gertje; both very well done. Thanks go out to Herbert Jeschke and Michael Hager for acquiring these special documents. Also, in what has become a program tradition, Mrs. Julia Brinkhaus most competently read the well-known poem, "The Germans Were There, Too" in both languages.

With great pleasure, President Ann Shoesmith introduced the 2009 winner of the Rose-Mary Kemper German Educator of the Year Award as well as read the qualifications of Mrs. Colleen Mocer, teacher of German at Gloucester (MA) High School. Mrs. Kemper and President Shoesmith presented the award certificate and accompanying stipend to Mrs. Mocer. She, in turn, acknowledged both, with great sincerity and thanks, and related several aspects of her teaching program.

President Shoesmith invited all members to submit names of candidates as 2010 nominees.

Prior to the marvelous sauerbraten dinner, with all the trimmings prepared by the BSV Kitchen Committee, "grace" was offered by Mr. George Krim, representing our long time and devoted member, Holy Trinity German Catholic Church of Boston. Following the delicious dinner, topped off with Apfel Strudel and ice cream, prepared for serving by Lotte and Hans Schmidt, plus coffee, the dance floor was soon filled with guests enjoying the beats of the wonderful music of the Mountain Tops from Pennsylvania. At 5:00 PM, Ann introduced the new Miss German American, AGSNE 2009-2010, Hayley Sargent, a junior and student of German at Gloucester (MA) High School; also a student of Mrs. Mocer. Her crowning was assisted by 8 yr. old Kassandra Stone, who represented our Miss G.A. program at the Steuben Day Parade. Miss Stone was presented an "Appreciation Certificate" that "made her day" from all reports. She wore her Parade attire.

Late in the afternoon, Mr. Friedrich Loehr, from the German Consulate (Boston), whose prior commitment at the German Election Day Program delayed his arrival, came to congratulate us on our G.A. Heritage Day Celebration and then conveyed the German Election results and his impressions and outlook for Germany.

Closing out the day's formalities, a limited follow-up on the status of the March 20th, 2010 grand opening of the Hockemeyer Hall and German American Heritage Museum in Washington, D.C., was given by Honorary Director Albert Kemper and Trustee Siegfried Seifart. As the hour of "Auf Wiedersehen" approached, the drawings were held for the myriad of impressive raffle items. Tickets were sold throughout the afternoon by Molly Turgeon and Great Bohannan (and helpers). Many thanks to the Societies who created, and so kindly donated, the great variety, whose raffle sales helped finance much of the celebration! Likewise, to those who took personal, business, and patron ads in the Festbuch, another important event fundraiser, we are so grateful. Without you and a hard-working "team," including the Vorstand, AGSNE Delegates, and many of

the 15 Societies' volunteers, this important Day, with all its many facets of hard work, both behind the scenes and openly, such as Saturday and Sunday AM "set-up" times; this event would not happen. Two very important workers must be named; Renate Walter, (tickets, reservations) and flowers and set-up by Hildegard Dreist, along with Werner Gertje's time consuming job in compiling the Festbuch. A special "gratis" is in order. My sincere thanks to all your time and effort which guaranteed success. Lastly, "Danke Schoen" to BSV's President, Mr. Hans Toegel for his help and cooperation. Best wishes to all Societies with your upcoming holiday events. Thank you for attending G.A. Day!

Ann Shoesmith, President

ON THE AVENUE - 5TH AVENUE !

~ The Steuben Day Parade ~

The photographers did snap us, many times over! The AGSNE marchers at the 52nd Annual Steuben Day Parade in NYC on September 19th surely did themselves and our Clubs proud, as they carried banners and waved German & American flags to one of the largest crowds ever, from 70th to 86th St. The many, many steps leading up to the gigantic Metropolitan Museum of Art were packed! The weather was ideal. A little cool, but sunny with a slight breeze. Though smaller than usual in number, we did put on quite a show! "Yours truly" lead our section, with Lotti and Hans Schmidt following, carrying the AGSNE Banner, as Honorary Section Marshals. (They are members of the BSV and several of its groups.) We were followed by the DKV of Cape Cod, the Lowell Club, and Deutsches Altenheim representatives. Completing our Section, was a beautiful shiny new black Mercedes convertible, courtesy of the N.Y. Parade Committee, showcasing "Little Miss AGSNE - DKV", 8 year old, Miss Kassandra Stone, granddaughter of DKV member Lori Stone who accompanied her. Kassandra, in a long white dress, crown and banner, was waving with her "star" wand. She looked regal, as she had practiced for days at home. Her Mom, Olivia, also marched. Several of our own members cheered us on from the spectator grandstand. Bearing the same first name

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as this year's officially crowned Miss GA, Miss Cassandra Flynn-Rakos, the younger Cassandra portrayed Cassie's role beautifully. Cassie, I'm sure, would have been so pleased!

Thank you so much to all who attended, many overcoming odds to do so, including distance and personal situations. The result was one of the most fun filled trips to the Big Apple yet! From the time we left on Saturday, anticipation was great, and did not disappoint. With the Parade experience, we had a wonderful German dinner at Koenigs and stayed overnight at the very "comfort"able Comfort Inn on L.I. Sunday, at the huge Fest at Plattdeutsche Park in Hempstead there were fabulous bands, food tents, vendors, and oh-so many people. Kept us moving from 12 to 5. Seems its always too early to leave. Tired, but filled with super memories, we slept, laughed and joked, all the way home. Calls received during the next week attested to a fabulous trip. Many thanks must go to Catherine Kelly of K & L Tours, Boston, for planning, organizing, and following through
(continued in next column)

AGSNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the March 2010 edition of the AGSNE Newsletter is February 10, 2010.

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AGSNE NEWS

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Member Organizations:

Boylston Schul-Verein
Deutsche Internationale Schule, Boston
Deutsche Kulturverein of Bristol County
Deutsches Altenheim
German Aid Society
German-American Club of Berkshire County
German-American Club of Cape Cod
German-American Cultural Society, RI
German-American Heritage Harbor Association, RI
German-American Ladies Society
German-Cultural Club - Lowell
German Ladies Aid Society
Goethe Society of New England, Inc.
Holy Trinity German Church, Boston
Lustige Musikanten des Heimatlandes, NH
Sängerchor Boston

on this trip that meant so much to us. The "Day" exemplifies some of the best in music and club culture, while also reinforcing ties with the German speaking countries that so wonderfully were represented. Plan to join us in 2010. You'll be so glad that you did - ask this year's attendees!
Ann Shoemith

Deutsches Altenheim

Like everybody else in New England, we at Deutsches Altenheim patiently awaited the arrival of summer. Once it did arrive, we jumped right in. Residents from throughout the Altenheim community joined together for cookouts on the patio featuring music by El Caribe, a steel drum band, in July, the Hot Tamale Brass Band in August and accordionist John Rampino in September. In July, Deutsches Altenheim launched an outdoor concert series: Evening Melodies Under the Stars. The Mad Bavarian Brass Band treated residents and visitors to familiar German tunes in the series debut. Unfortunately, the weather was less cooperative for the second concert, so Tony Funches, former lead vocalist of The Platters, moved his show indoors to entertain the crowd.

So that our residents may make an informed decision this upcoming voting season, all four Boston mayoral candidates were invited to the Altenheim to discuss their position on issues and answer questions. Once word got out, four city council candidates stopped by as well. The residents, and members of the local community who attended, appreciated hearing directly from the candidates.

The 3rd annual yard sale was held on Saturday, September 12th. Despite torrential downpours, turnout was fabulous and we succeeded in raising \$2,010 for the Resident Activity Fund.

Coming Events:

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 7th as Deutsches Altenheim's annual Harvest Bazaar makes its return in time for the holiday season. The Bazaar, which runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., is a fantastic way to kick off your holiday shopping and enjoy some authentic German cooking. Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the Deutsches Altenheim Resident Activity Fund.

Attention Holiday Revelers! Deutsches Altenheim hosts its annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, December 4th. Join us as we welcome the holiday season with the Sangerchor Boston and Father Christmas. The revelry begins at 5:30 p.m.

Both events will be held on the Deutsches Altenheim campus at 2222 Centre Street in West Roxbury.
Jennifer Clark

German American Heritage Harbor Association

The German American Heritage Harbor Association, an arm of the Rhode Island Heritage Commission, participates in The Governor's Annual Christmas Festival Program, held month long at the Rhode Island State House, by erecting a German inspired Christmas Tree, along with a table of German Christmas Artifacts! If you have any German Christmas decorations or ideas that can add to the display, please contact Herb Jeschke, at 401-640-5389! Unquestionably our display should be the best!!! Our sincere thanks to Albert and Rosemary Kemper for their donations in the past.
Herbert Jeschke

German American Club of Cape Cod

We officially ended the social season in June with our Sommerfest, but in July a group of us participated in the Sandwich Fourth of July parade. Marching alongside our bright blue VW convertible (on loan from Tracy VW) members handed out Gummy Bears to the children along the parade route while other members carried our club flag.

We started our new season with a family picnic held at Camp Lyndon. In contrast to last year's rainy weather it was a perfectly sunny day that encouraged a few of the children to test the water. Games were held for both children and adults, and watermelon and beautiful cookies (by our own Konditor Rudy Schwarzer) finished off the afternoon and Club members Brimmers and Seifarts joined the New England bus trip to N.Y. and proudly marched in the Steuben Parade displaying our club banner. Fourteen of our members crossed the bridge to Walpole to join in the AGSNE celebration of German American Heritage Day. We had our Club's Oktoberfest on October 10, and the following day some of our members will be promoting our club at the Aqua Grille restaurant's Oktoberfest in Sandwich. Plans are also in progress for our November event which will be an International Pot Luck dinner. Invitations have gone out to the many Cape ethnic groups and each group has been asked to bring dishes representing their country's cuisine.
Raymond Russ

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Wreath-Laying Ceremony

An unexpectedly beautiful and warm Saturday morning, framed by trees of vibrant colored leaves, presented itself in time for the Oct. 17th Annual German-Italian POW Wreath Laying Ceremony at Fort Devens. The 11am program, coordinated by Mrs. Pamela Elbrader, Training Support Coordinator at Devens, consisted of a welcomes and invocations by military personnel as well as representatives from both communities; the Garrison Commander, Boston's German Consul General, Herr Friedrich Loehr, and Vice Consul of the Italian Consulate in Boston, Mr. Luigi Munno. A moment of silence followed. In addition, Ann Shoesmith, President of the AGSNE and Siegfried Seifart, past President of the Cape Cod Club, offered memorial comments about past Vice-President, Brunhilde Jberl, a former member of the Cape Cod Club. A moment of silence was also observed. Chaplain, William Harding, U.S. Army, offered the Benediction that ended the Service. The grave flowers were donated; courtesy of the Cape Cod Club. In attendance also, were servicemen who are in training at Fort Devens in anticipation of serving in Afghanistan. They had heard of our special event and came on their own volition to participate. We wish them all, God's blessings. After the Service all were invited to come together at the Bull Run restaurant in Shirley for lunch and fellowship.

Der Deutsche Katurverein of Bristol County

We "lucked out" and had one of the few sunny & warm summer days for our Sat. August Annual Club Summerfest! Arthur & Elfriede Blackburn once again offered their lovely home and grounds in Mattapoisett. Appetizers, grilled entrees, salad and, of course, beer provided the culinary fare. A beautifully decorated cake was the "surprise" dessert in celebration of Gisela and Bob Bouchard's 45th Wedding Anniversary. Their cake cutting and serving each other provided some hearty laughs for everyone. Thomas Bottoff of the Vagabonds provided the musical "German touch" with sing-along and other well-known German tunes. The beautiful pool was open and the gardens in bloom made perfect backdrops for much picture taking. As the gorgeous sun set behind the tall evergreens it signaled the closing of another memorable DKV gathering with family and guests.

Preparations are now underway for our 18th Annual "Old World Dinner" to be held this year at the Fall River Elks Lodge at exit 8 off route 24 on Sat. eve, Nov. 21st. A member prepared all German pork dinner will be served and the 3 piece Vagabonds will provide music for dancing and listening. Santa (St. Nick) will make a stop to take Christmas orders. Children invited, of course. \$17.00 adults; \$3.00 children. Reservations required! See any DKV member for tickets and info (or call the Shoesmiths at 508-672-8574.)

The Annual Christmas Dinner Dance for members and guests (AGSNE etc.) will be held at the sparkling "Century House" Main St. Acushnet, MA on Sat. eve, Dec. 5th in the elegant Crystal Room." Familiar German music will be provided by the Alpenblumen Musikanten along with our traditional German & English carol sing-a-long which brings nostalgic memories of Christmas' past. See the special AGSNE News articles about our members who attended the Steuben Parade and to AGSNE's Heritage Day celebration.

Lastly, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Molly and Henry Turgeon who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Oct. 17th. They were feted at a members' "surprise" gathering following the Oct. 18th General Meeting. Prosit! and many more!

Ann Shoesmith

German-American Ladies Society

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

On Sunday, November 22nd from Noon until 4 PM, the GALs will hold their annual Christmas Bazaar at the BSV. Please invite all your family and friends to get an early start for their holiday shopping. Admission is **FREE** and we will serve delicious German fare and sweets. The atmosphere is always very festive and you can purchase plenty of holiday arrangements and decorations. A big success is always our "White Elephant" table for lots of treasures.

We thank you in advance for your loyal support.

Linda Snow

Saengerchor – Boston

In June, we singers went off to summer vacations after attending the Saengerfest, where we competed in the Women's first division and the Mixed Chor, also first division, under the direction of our conductor, Mary Louise Schecter. After the summer, we put the finishing touches on our first concert/dinner dance which was held at the BSV Ballroom on November 1st. Cocktails began at 1:00, dinner at 1:30, and the concert at 4:00. Throughout the afternoon all enjoyed dancing to the music of the Austrian Boys. We hope you joined us.

Our next event will be our annual Christmas concert to be held on December 20 at the BSV. We will sing traditional German carols and have sweet refreshments for all to enjoy. Doors will open at 2:00. Another traditional concert, our Dreikönigstag/Three Kings Concert, will be held at Boston's Cathedral of the Holy Cross on Sunday, January 3, at 3:00 P.M. (Holy Cross Cathedral is at 1400 Washington Street. There is parking available on the street and in a lot at the corner of Harrison and Malden Streets.) This is a new venue for us. Please come and enjoy beautiful German carols to greet the Epiphany season.

We always welcome new singers, so if you like to sing, why not join us at rehearsals Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9:30, at the BSV? Follow the Lied!
Nancy Fischer

German Educator of the Year Award

The 2009 Rose-Mary Kemper German Educator of the Year Award and its stipend was awarded to Mrs. Colleen Mocerri, German language teacher at Gloucester High School, Massachusetts. She has taught at several other public schools in New England since 1993 and at Gloucester High School since 2004. She also served as Vice-President of the American Association of Teachers of German in the Massachusetts Chapter. Her credentials submitted for her nomination to the Kemper Award were many and formidable. A Certificate of Merit along with the stipend was presented to Mrs. Mocerri at the German-American Heritage Day Celebration on Sept. 27th at the BSV Club in Walpole by AGSNE's President, Ann Shoesmith and past President Rose-Mary Kemper. Research for this year's candidates was handled by former (now deceased) Vice-President Brunhilde Jberl with her usual professional expertise. Colleen is looking forward to traveling to Germany in April of next year. She will be accompanied by students from her German classes. Her enthusiasm for the German culture and language was most apparent and we congratulate her. If you wish to contact Mrs. Mocerri, she may be reached (with her expressed permission) by e-mail at fraumoceri@gmail.com. She may also be reached by contacting Ann Shoesmith at 508-672-8574.

Miss German-American – AGSNE – 2009/2010

One of the unexpected benefits of meeting the candidate for the Rose-Mary Kemper Teacher's Award, Mrs. Colleen Mocerri, was also finding a candidate for the next Miss German-American. Miss Hayley Sargent, a student of German and a junior in Mrs. Mocerri's class at Gloucester High School, was ultimately chosen to represent the AGSNE as Miss German-American 2009/2010. After receiving the award at the German Heritage Day Celebration on Sept. 27th, she, in her Sash and Crown addressed the audience and participated in the dance sections of the evening with her partner Sean. Hayley is a charming young lady who is very much "into" learning the German language and culture and as we get to know her better, by way of your invitations to our various organization events, we suggest that Clubs contact her quickly before her "card" is full. Reservations for her appearances may be made through President, Ann Shoesmith, at 508-672-8574 or any Vorstand Member. A two weeks notice, because of her part-time employment, would be appropriate.

AGSNE – CALENDAR

Day	Date	Organization	Function	Contact –	Phone #
Fri	11/6	GACS	Swing Dance	K. Hohlmaier	508-761-6702
Sat	11/7	GACS	Cajun Dance	A. Bradbury	401-246-2720
Sat	11/7	DA	Harvest Bazaar	Carol Kelly	617-325-1230
Sat	11/14	BSV	Stiftungsfest	Renate Walter	781-320-9940
Sun	11/15	Cape Cod	International Pot Luck	Pamela Brimmer	508-385-2735
Sat	11/21	DKV	Old World Dinner	A. Shoesmith	508-472-8771
Sat	11/21	GACS	German Dance	K. Hohlmaier	508-761-6702
Sun	11/22	GALS	Christkindle Markt	Renate Walter	781-320-9940
Wed	12/2	BSV	Weihnachts Show	Renate Walter	781-320-9940
Fri	12/4	DA	Tree Lighting Festivities	Jennifer Clark	617-325-1230
Sat	12/5	DKV	Christmas Dinner Dance	A. Shoesmith	508-672-8574
Sat	12/5	GACS	Cajun Dance	A. Bradbury	401-246-2720
Sun	12/6	GALS	Childrens Christmas Party	Renate Walter	781-320-9940
Sun	12/6	GACS	St Nick’s Dance	E. Danner	401-723-3549
Sat	12/12	Cape Cod	Christmas Dinner Dance	Pamela Brimmer	508-385-2735
Sat	12/12	BSV	Christmas Dinner Dance	Renate Walter	781-320-9940
Sun	12/13	GACS	Christmas Konzert	Richard Dieter	401-729-3927
Sun	12/20	SB	Singers Christmas Concert	Werner Gertje	508-962-4707
Thur	12/31	BSV	New Year’s Eve Ball	Renate Walter	781-320-9940
Sat	1/9	Cape Cod	Square Dance	Pamela Brimmer	508-385-2735
Sat	2/11	Cape Cod	Schneeball (Snowball Dance)	Pamela Brimmer	508-385-2735
Sun	2/28	SB	Karnival	Werner Gertje	508-962-4707

AGSNE	AGSNEAssociated German Societies of New England
BSV	Boylston Schul-Verein
Cape Cod	German-American Club of Cape Cod
DA	Deutsches Altenheim
DKV	Deutsche Kulturverein of Bristol County
GACS	German American Cultural Society of Rhode Island
GALS	German American Ladies Society
SB	Saengerchor Boston

THE ASSOCIATED GERMAN SOCIETIES OF NEW ENGLAND(AGSNE) is an association of sixteen organizations that promote charitable, cultural, educational, musical, and religious traditions founded on the German heritage of its members. It is the AGSNE’s objective to help foster a positive image of German-Americans by focusing on the beneficial impact of historical contributions from German culture, science and industry, to American society as a whole.

One final note. During the summer, Karl Knoblauch received a very lovely e-mail message from Catherine Reinhold who ably served as our Miss German-American in 2005-2006. Catherine has returned to the Frankenmuth, Michigan area. She is well and wishes to be remembered to all her AGSNE friends.