

KINGSTON MAENNERCHOR AND DAMENCHOR, INC.

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NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello there!

Summer is on its last legs and we are beginning to rehearse again. Freude, schöner Götterfunken! We are all eagerly looking forward to our first concert in 24 months. What a long stretch. It feels good to know that we can redeem our name of "Chor" again and actually sing to an audience.

Knowing that we are that much closer to breaking free from Covid's hold on us, let us not fumble this one in the end. If you have not yet, go get your shots!

Lastly some more uplifting news:

The spread of Kiwi populations across New Zealand has increased by 50% over the last five years. Scientists using the Kiwi Call Count have recorded that the iconic bird's chirping has spread more and more since 2016. And not just on average, but no area that has enjoyed the Kiwi's call has recorded a downward trend. An interesting fun fact to make note of: because these animals are nocturnal the most reliable way of tracking the count has been found to actually listen for their distinct chirps. These calls can even be so unique in character that scientists can identify unique birds across different years.

Stay well, healthy, and optimistic!
Marian Elflein, President

OFFICERS AND STAFF 2021

President	Marian Elflein	Trustee (2021)	Michael Scheunemann
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Music	Hildegard Edling/Liz Gregory	Newsletter:	
Good & Welfare	Marion Hohn	Editor	Annemarie Harms
Stammtisch	Michael Scheunemann	Assistant	Hildegard Edling
Scholarship	Edith Borhardt	Editor	
Publicity	Paul Gregory		

HONORARY PRESIDENTS: Ernest Mann and Hildegard Edling

"Faith is the bird that sings while it is still dark."

~~~~~ Look what's coming up! ~~~~~

### AN IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the continual concerns about Covid-19 and its variants, all events are “tentative”. Our event teams strongly recommend that you make reservations by the deadlines to ensure your opportunity to participate. Protocols may require masks and social distancing. Thank you for your understanding, support and cooperation.

#### **SWEET DELIGHTS - Sunday, Sept 19 – 2 p.m. to 4 pm.**

Enjoy our homemade desserts with a nice cup of coffee. Eat in or take out. Stop by at our White Elephant Table, which will feature a variety of gifts for everyone. No reservations are necessary. For information, call Alina at (845) 339-5969. Terry requests that if you have new, like new, or homemade items, please donate by September 15. You can drop them off on Thursdays, 2 p.m. to about 5 p.m., at the monthly meeting on September 8, or call Terry at (845) 338-4094.

#### **OKTOBERFEST - Saturday, October 16, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

Music provided by Joe Unger. MENU: Homemade Pretzels with mustard dip, Potato Pancakes and Apple Cake; Half Chicken, Bratwurst, or both. Drinks purchase: Bier, Wein, Water and Soft Drinks. Chicken and Brat dinner @ \$20.00, OR Chicken OR Brat dinner @ \$15.00. **PLEASE NOTE: PRE-ORDERS ONLY, DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 7.** NO WALK-INS. Call Donna @ (845) 331-9372 or leave a clear message on hall phone, (845) 338-3763. Payment by cash or check. Masks required for pick-up and when leaving your table. Limited indoor/outdoor seating, weather permitting. All dinners will be packaged as take-out. Changes are possible per COVID restrictions.

#### **FALL CONCERT/DINNER/DANCE - Sunday, November 21, starts 12:00 noon**

Doors open at 12:00 Noon for Hors d'oeuvres. The concert begins 1:00 p.m. and a Kassler Ripchen Dinner with dessert will follow. Music for your listening and dancing pleasure will be by Gregory and the Brauhaus Band.

>>>>> **All attendees must show proof of vaccination upon entry.** <<<<<

>>>>> **A mask must be worn during the concert and when leaving your table.** <<<<<

Hors d'oeuvres/Concert/Dinner/Dance \$40.00/pp. Hors d'oeuvres/Concert \$20.00/pp. Dance/Dessert \$20.00/pp. **Reservations are strongly requested BY November 13** and may be made by calling Alina @ (845) 339-5969, Hildegard @ (845) 757-5135, or the hall at (845) 338-3763.

A limited number of take-out dinners will be available for \$25.00 **by reservation only**. Pick-up **must be** between 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Payment by check or cash will be taken at the door. **NO WALK-INS.**

Please be advised that there may be scheduling changes depending on the course of the COVID-19 virus, Delta variant and any other variant that may arise. We will adhere to all advisories.

#### **WELCOME NEW YEAR! - Sunday, January 2, 2022, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

Join us for coffee, cake and Gemütlichkeit. A celebratory DVD will be shown. Donation is only \$5.00 for a delightful afternoon. For this event reservations would be welcomed. Please call Alina @ (845) 339-5969.

“Ideas are funny little things – they won’t work unless you do.”      Anonymous

### MEETINGS, GATHERINGS AND PAST EVENTS

**REMINDER – MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS** are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month starting at 7 p.m. We have resumed in-person meetings and have been experimenting with Zoom hookup. All members are welcome to attend. If you have questions, contact any officer. If you have **PHOTOS**, we would love to use them for our website. Contact Marian or Fran, or leave a clear message on the Chor's phone. .

**REHEARSALS** - By now the Music Committee will have contacted the Chor's singers with information about rehearsals and the Fall Concert. If you like to sing or know someone who does, the Committee would be delighted to hear from prospective singers.

#### **STAMMTISCH – a Caution Call “back to the table”**

It has been a far too long time that our Stammtisch has not gathered! Covid-19 has changed so much and even destroyed a lot of established routines in our lives. However, the regular gathering with the purpose of speaking German only is one routine that has not been destroyed but has merely been “dormant”! Each one of the frequent members of the Stammtisch has agreed to pick up the routine of having a light conversation about various topics related to Germany, German tradition and culture, as well as German and Germany-related topics to the outside world. We will continue to use caution, respecting the current Covid guidelines.

So, it is truly my joy and pleasure to announce that we are continuing our bi-monthly Stammtisch gatherings. In fact, by the time you are reading this, we will have gathered already on Thursday, August 19. Due to several circumstances, it is not possible at this time to provide dates for future gatherings that are completely “set in stone”. Also, for those who are new or haven't been at Stammtisch for a long time, it is best to contact me in person, either by email or phone: [MichaelScheunemann@ymail.com](mailto:MichaelScheunemann@ymail.com), subject “Stammtisch”, or (845) 527-4925. For all regular participants, I will send out invitations, at least two to three days prior to the meeting, in German. Here are the envisioned but tentative dates until the end of 2021 (hence the personal contact and the invitation!): September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, October 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, November 11<sup>th</sup>, and December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. The meetings will take place as usual at the hall starting 5:30 p.m. (or at a different time, if announced in the invitation).

Mit herzlichen Gruessen,  
Euer Michael Scheunemann.

**LOOKING BACK** - Despite the times in which we are living, we had some pleasant events since spring. The first-time Bavarian Meatball take-out luncheon and the Raffle on March 20<sup>th</sup>, chaired by Terry Strini, was a great success. Attendance at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Kaffeeklatsch was one of the largest, which was good to see. Alina Nitzschner has been chairing these for many years and always does a lovely job. The Käsespätzle Mittagessen on June 5, prepared by Marian Elflein, was enjoyed by many. Another new event was the German Beer Tasting/Deutsche Bierprobe on July 17. What a delight! Marian provided so much interesting information about the history of beer and descriptions of the beers served that evening. Hopefully, he will do this again. The Summer Wurstfest on August 8, co-chaired by Marian Elflein and Annemarie Harms, attracted new guests. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day - good food, good company, and Joe Unger's music.

### MEMBERS' CORNER

Most recently, Edith Borchardt, Prof. Em. Of German, has been concentrating on her creative writing, publishing mainly short stories and essays. “Der dunkle Reiter” (“The Dark Horseman”) and “Begegnung in Montreal” (“Encounter in Montreal”) appeared in the 2020 fall issue of TRANS-LIT2. The 2021 spring issue of the same journal contains “Das Phantom des Nordens” (“The Phantom of the North”). By invitation from the editors of the electronic journal *Glossen*, she submitted an auto-biographical essay on the topic of

Doppelidentitäten (Double identities) which appeared as “Grenzegebiete” in the current issue (*Glossen* #47: May 2021). The same volume also contains her review of Irmgard Hunt’s *hüben drüben hin her. Gedichte und Kurzprosa*, a collection of poems and short prose.

“Der dunkle Reiter” deals with an apparition that may portend the outcome of an imminent trial for the female protagonist in the story. “Das Phantom des Nordens” is an invisible presence haunting a neighborhood in Berkeley, revealing the hidden dangers of living in a famous university town and exploring cultural adventures in the dark of night. “Begegnung in Montreal” reads like a parable about love and death in a brief philosophical encounter on the campus of McGill University in Montreal. “Grenzegebiete” interweaves public and private history in exploring the effects of war in Europe and of the borders drawn by treaties after both World Wars on family relationships and individual identity.

## GOOD AND WELFARE

### CONDOLENCES

**Karl-Heinz (Manni) Froehlich** was a former singing member who had been living in Germany for some years. He passed away on June 21 at age 82. He was probably best known as the chef/owner of The Student Prince in Stone Ridge, his amazing singing voice, and his friendly personality. Our sympathies go to his family in New York, Heidi Froehlich and Ruth Froehlich. **Martin (Marty) Sior**, a former member and WWII veteran, died July 15 at age 97 in Rochester, where he had relocated. He used to help as a bartender and was always a pleasure to chat with. **Grace Goeller**, wife of former member, the late Fred Goeller, died May 27 at age 86. She and Fred relocated to Rehobeth Beach, DE, years ago and absolutely loved it there. Our “old timers” may recall Fred’s rich voice and how he and Grace loved to dance and participate in costumed events. Yes, we used to dress up in all kinds of costumes.

### IN OUR THOUGHTS

Some of our Members and Friends of the Chor are going through difficult times due to health and/or “isolation”. A card or phone call would be a very kind and thoughtful gesture. Our thoughts are with you.

Special greetings and well wishes to our Members: Carl Bell, Ed Brown, Ernie Mann, Charlotte Folkl, Jack Furman, Vivian Longto, Inge Luettger, Robert Schneller who, last we knew, is still at Golden Hill, and Tony Stegner, now in Mountain Valley Manor. It is good to see that Hans Safer is back on his feet. However, we are sorry to report that, as of press time, Walter Vogt is receiving Hospice care.

Warmest wishes to our Friends: Ragnhild Johnsen, Inge Martin, Hans Reck, Vinnie Werling, and Paul Weresynski. Unfortunately, Director of Poughkeepsie Germania and friend, George Calabrese, is undergoing serious medical issues.

## INTRODUCING.....

**Cheryl Lang** has been attending events at the Maennerchor and Damenchor for six years already. She became aware of our organization through Karoline Flick. Her interest in German stems from her paternal grandfather, who was German and used to speak German with his grandchildren in an effort to teach them the language. Cheryl studied German in 6th grade, since it was a requirement at that time in her school. She especially enjoys German Oktoberfests and dancing at our social events.

Cheryl lives in the town of LaGrange, NY. She’s originally from Long Island and attended school there up to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Her parents moved up here from North Babylon in 1959. She graduated from Arlington Senior High School. After a career in computers, she retired in 2009 to take care of her mother, whose health was deteriorating. In her occupation, she started with main frames and worked her way up to programming. She was

employed at Schatz Federal Bearing in Poughkeepsie, Toy House of Hudson Valley, Home Funding (Mortgages: Robert Mark Real Estate), and for St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie.

Cheryl's interests include attending theater performances, photography (weddings, nature), and Zumba dancing. She enjoys volunteering at the Senior Friendship Center, Office for the Aging in Dutchess County, packing meals for 11 locations and the homebound.

When she comes home from her deliveries, Cheryl is met by a welcoming committee of one dog and three cats. Lizzie, who is 12, is part miniature pincher and part Jack Russell Terrier. Though she weighs only 25 pounds, she is very determined and takes her human out for walks. Her cats are Max, Precious, and Freckles. In human years, her pets are all seniors, older than Cheryl herself.

After attending events at the Chor for so many years, Cheryl is pleased to finally becoming a member.

**Ron Wolf** was born in Kingston and graduated from Kingston High School in 1979. Other members of his family have belonged to the Maennerchor for a long time, currently his brother Bruce and sister-in-law Donna Wolf. Ron occasionally attends Thirsty Thursdays for the camaraderie and a cold brew. He and his wife Gail were married in the Maennerchor Hall in 2015. Ron was recently accepted as a Social member, but is willing to help with work when he is free to do so.

Ron retired from 45 years working in the auto body business. He was trained on the job with various employers. For a few years, he owned Wolf's Auto Body in Mount Marion. He enjoys playing the piano and drums. When he was younger, he played in bands around town. He rides a motorcycle and goes for walks to take care of his health. He and Gail reside in Kingston.

**Ron Wolf, Jr.** was introduced to the Maennerchor and Damenchor by his Uncle Bruce, who has been delving into the German ancestry of his family for the last three or four years. Ron took some German in middle school and would like to expand his knowledge of the language a little more. His favorite day of the week is Thursdays, when he hangs out with his Uncle Bud and Uncle Bruce and everyone else at Thirsty Thursdays. He recently became a Social member, but would like to help as a worker as his time permits.

Ron, Jr. was born in Kingston and graduated from Kingston High School in 2007. He currently lives in Connelly. He has a large family in the surrounding area. He and his wife Yuridia were married on June 19, 2020 in an outdoor ceremony with about 20 guests in attendance. (Editor's note: This was in the middle of the pandemic with all sorts of restrictions.) He has a stepdaughter, Madison, who will be 20 years old this September.

Since the age of 16, he has been working at Scanlon's Dry Cleaners on Ulster Avenue, a business that has existed since 1956 and has been in the Scanlon family for three generations.


Ron Jr. likes different kinds of music, including classic rock, country music, music from the 50s and early 60s, as well as classical music like Mozart, depending on his mood. He's a METS and JETS fan, likes football, baseball, drag racing, and yard games. He is a cat lover too, and has four cats: Gretta, Remington, Francine (Frankie) and Petey. They are his little "fur babies".

Submitted by Edith Borchardt, Trustee

**"THANK YOU" TO ALL OF THE NEWSLETTER DONORS ~ greatly appreciated**

Members: Karoline Flick, Charlotte Folkl, Angela and Robert Hartrum, Christa Scheitz, and Fred Trodler.  
Friends: Bruce and Carol Hoehn, Rosemarie Kleuker, and Eric Lorenz.

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

I am sure most of you have seen the painting that hangs over the bathroom hallway in the barroom. However, you may not know the story behind the painting. It is a work listed by a German artist named OKRENO. He was known for painting scenes of Alpine villages throughout Oberbayern as well as scenes of the Alps. The piece was gifted to us by Joachim (Joe) Ingellis and family. He and his parents were visiting Germany in the early 1950s when they saw the painting in a store window and were interested in it. An arrangement was made to meet OKRENO. The asking price was 40 Mark, less than ten dollars but still fairly pricey for those times. There was a request to add a woman gathering water and also a few chickens. This cost about an additional three Mark and a deal was struck. I guess it was a STROKE  of luck that it ended up in our hands.

Bruce Wolf, Archivist

### TIME FOR ART AND MUSIC

**ArtPort Kingston**, under the direction of member Stefan Saffer and his wife Laurie DeChiara, holds many events, programs, and showings at the gallery and also outside along the Rondout Creek waterfront. The gallery is located in the historic Cornell Steamboat Building, 108 East Strand, Kingston. Please note that the main gallery is on the second floor and there is no elevator. Gallery hours are Fridays, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays 12:00 Noon to 5 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.artportkingston.com](http://www.artportkingston.com) or email [info@artportkingston.com](mailto:info@artportkingston.com).

**THE GERMAN HOUR** is hosted by Hans Safer every Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Hans plays a wonderful variety of German music and provides announcements of coming events. Tune your radio to 1490AM or 107.9FM or on a digital device to visit [www.RadioKingston.org](http://www.RadioKingston.org)

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