



Deutscher Club of Clark Inc.

787 FEATHERBED LANE • CLARK, NEW JERSEY 07066

732-574-8600 • FAX: 732-382-4177 • EMAIL: correspondence@deutscherclub.us

WEB: deutscherclub.us



VEREINSNACHRICHTEN / CLUB NEWS – DEZEMBER / DECEMBER 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members, I hope this message finds you and your families staying healthy and safe during this holiday season. The Christmas season is now in full swing. The Ladies Division held a very successful Christkindlmarkt which was attended by a record crowd. Thank you to all involved in the planning of this wonderful afternoon. Unlike last year, we are planning a full calendar of Christmas events beginning with our annual tree lighting which will be held on Friday December 3rd. Bring the entire family as we enjoy a fun evening and maybe even an early visit by Santa himself! The return of Carols by Candlelight will highlight the talent of our Hausverein the Schwäbischer Sängerbund. Come on out and join us for dinner followed by the sounds of Christmas on Friday December 10th. Our annual Christmas Gala will be held on Saturday December 11th, with music by The Adlers. The Children's Christmas party makes its return this year on Sunday, December 19th. Look for the signup in the foyer. Join us for our annual Weihnachtsfrühschoppen which takes place on Christmas morning and bring a dish to share with your fellow members. Finally, our New Year's Eve gala will be held on, you guessed it, December 31st with music by The Adlers. Reservations for both Galas are being accepted now and details for all events can be found in this bulletin. So, as you can see, we have a full calendar of Holiday events and I hope you will be able to join us as we celebrate this festive season at the club. I am so thankful for you, our members. You have contributed in so many ways in keeping this club alive and well during these unprecedented times. It certainly has not gone unnoticed by the Executive Board. On behalf of the Officers and Trustees, I wish you and you families a very happy, blessed Christmas season.

Sehr geehrte Mitglieder, ich hoffe dass meine Nachricht Sie und ihre Familien bei guter Gesundheit vorfindet. Die Weihnachtszeit ist jetzt in vollem Gange. Die Damenabteilung veranstaltete einen sehr erfolgreichen Christkindlmarkt mit Rekordbesucherzahlen. Vielen Dank an alle die an der Planung dieses wunderbaren Nachmittags beteiligt waren. Im Gegensatz zum letzten Jahr planen wir einen vollen Kalender mit Weihnachtsveranstaltungen. Als erstes wird die Weihnachtsbaum-Beleuchtung am Freitag, den 3. Dezember stattfinden. Bringen Sie die ganze Familie mit, denn während wir einen frohen Abend zusammen genießen, überrascht uns vielleicht ein frühzeitiger Besuch vom Weihnachtsmann! Die Rückkehr von "Carols by Candlelight" am Freitag, den 10. Dezember wird unser Hausverein, der Schwäbische Sängerbund, sein Talent zeigen. Zuvor können wir uns zum Abendessen treffen und danach wird der Chor uns mit Klängen zur Weihnachtszeit unterhalten. Das alljährliche Weihnachtsgala findet am Samstag, den 11. Dezember statt, mit Musikunterhaltung von den Adlers. Die Kinderweihnachtsfeier kehrt dieses Jahr wieder am Sonntag, den 19. Dezember zurück. Die Anmeldung dafür finden Sie in der Eingangshalle. Am 25. Dezember treffen wir uns zum alljährlichen Weihnachtsfrühschoppen. Kommen Sie und bringen Sie Ihr Lieblingsgericht zum Teilen mit. Zum Schluss, am 31. Dezember findet unser Silvestergala statt, die Adlers werden uns mit ihrer Musik unterhalten. Reservierungen für beide Galas können ab sofort angenommen werden, Details für alle Veranstaltungen finden Sie in diesem Monatsblatt. Wie Sie sehen können, haben wir einen vollen Kalender mit Feiertagsveranstaltungen und ich hoffe, Sie können diese festliche Jahreszeit mit uns im Club feiern. Der Vorstand und ich sind Ihnen, unseren Mitgliedern, sehr dankbar. Sie haben auf vielfältige Art und Weise dazu beigetragen den Club in diesen außergewöhnlichen Zeiten am Leben zu erhalten. Im Namen der Vorstandsmitglieder und der Treuhänder wünsche ich Ihnen und Ihren Familien eine frohe und gesegnete Weihnachtszeit.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen, Eric Zabel
E-Mail: president@deutscherclub.us

The Deutscher Club provides the following e-mails for your convenience:

president@deutscherclub.us • Messages to President, Eric Zabel

events@deutscherclub.us • Inquiries: Open events/bands/Club events,
Keith Rhyner/Brian Daly, (1st & 2nd VP)

manager@deutscherclub.us • Booking parties or meetings •
Ewald Hollinger, Manager

correspondence@deutscherclub.us • General Correspondence

membership@deutscherclub.us • Inquiries: Membership, Dues •
Buzz Sawyer, Membership Secretary,

scholarship@deutscherclub.us • Inquiries: Scholarship - Sigrid Pagano,
Chairperson

trustees@deutscherclub.us • Contact Trustees

webmaster@deutscherclub.us • Website Concerns

PROGRAMM FÜR DEZEMBER / DECEMBER PROGRAM 2021

Subject to Change. Please Check our Website and Emails for Updates

Wed 01	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 02	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Thu 02	Entertainment Committee Meeting	6:30 PM
Fri 03	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Fri 03	DC Christmas Tree Lighting • Appearance by Santa & Mrs. Claus	7:30 PM
Sat 04	Dining & Dancing • Music by Bud & Linda • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sun 05	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sun 05	Personal Security & Awareness Training • Details on Page 5	2:00 PM
Sun 05	Schwäbischer Sängerbund Christmas Concert • Details on Page 5	4:00 PM
Wed 08	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Wed 08	Monthly Membership Meeting • See How we Operate!	7:00 PM
Thu 09	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 10	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 7:30 PM
Fri 10	Schwäbischer Sängerbund • Christmas Carols by Candlelight • Details on Page 5	8:00 PM
Sat 11	DC Christmas Gala • Music by The Adlers • Details on Page 6	6:00 – 10:00 PM
Sun 12	Die Wandergruppe / The Hikers • Spring Lake Park • Details on Page 6	10:00 AM
Sun 12	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Wed 15	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Wed 15	Ladies' Division Christmas Party • Music by Willy (Billy) Aust • Details on Page 6	5:30 PM
Thu 16	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Thu 16	Railroaders Dinner & Video • All Members are Welcome! • Meeting in the Ratskeller	5:30 PM
Fri 17	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Fri 17	Deutscher Stammtisch • Come practice your German	7:30 PM
Sat 18	Ugly Sweater Party • Dining • Dancing • Music by Nick Conte • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sun 19	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sun 19	Children's Christmas Party • Magic & Santa • Details on Page 6	1:00 – 3:00 PM
Sun 19	Ladies' Division Meeting • No Meeting this Month	
Wed 22	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 23	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 24	CHRISTMAS EVE • MERRY CHRISTMAS! • Club will be Closed	
Sat 25	Christmas Frühschoppen • Potluck • Bring your favorite dish to share!	10:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Sun 26	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Wed 29	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 30	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 31	Silvester Abend • New Year's Eve • Music by The Adlers	7:00 PM

Vorschau Januar / Preview January 2022

SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE & EMAILS FOR UPDATES

Sat 01	New Year's Day • HAPPY NEW YEAR! • Club will be Closed	Park in Cranford
Sun 05	Frühschoppen	Sun 16 Frühschoppen
Thu 06	Entertainment Committee Meeting	Sun 16 Ladies Division Meeting
Sun 09	General Membership Meeting & Elections • Remember to Vote!	Thu 20 Railroaders Dinner & Video • All Members are Welcome!
Sun 09	Frühschoppen	Sat 22 Trivia Night • Test your knowledge & win prizes!
Wed 12	No Membership Meeting • (Meeting & Elections – January 9th)	Sun 23 Frühschoppen
Fri 14	Deutscher Stammtisch	Sun 23 Pinkelwurst Dinner
Sun 16	Die Wandergruppe/The Hikers • Lenape	Sat 29 Dining & Dancing • Music by Maria & John
		Sun 30 Breakfast Buffet



Looking for a Gift for that Special Occasion?

Think DC Gift Card - Dinner for Two

Cards are available for purchase at the Bar.



KLUBNACHRICHTEN • CLUB NEWS

Our thoughts and prayers for strength and recuperation go out to our members, Roswitha Burkert, Paul Koehler, Gisela Lewis, Emmi Rank, Fran Steinmetz, and Christa Wimmer.

We mourn the passing of our member, Trudy D'Errico and extend our heartfelt sympathy to her family.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Bruno Hollinger, brother to Ewald Hollinger (Manager).

In case of illness or death of a member, please email correspondence@deutscherclub.us or Call Christa Wimmer at Tel: 908-391-3178

IN THE NEWS

DIE WANDERGRUPPE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2021



*Dear Club Members,
you are the best. My eternal
gratitude goes to the members
who have seen my name on
the sick list and called me to
offer their assistance. They all
had to travel quite a distance,*

therefore their being here for me was truly a blessing.

*I also received a beautiful flower basket from the Vorstand, which
brightened my day! I always considered the Club my home away
from home and the members to be my family. May you be blessed
with good health. Christa Wimmer*

Welcome Future DC Members!

► Congratulations to Member Megan Bulthaupt who gave birth on October 24, 2021, to her daughter **Aubree Rose Bulthaupt** 7.8 lbs. Members Buzz and Colleen Sawyer and Joan and Greg Bulthaupt are proud grandparents....and who is her favorite Uncle? Member Ryan Sawyer is!



◀ Members William "Bill" and Barbara Adams are the proud new grandparents to **Skyler William Adams**, born in the beginning of November 2021.



JANUARY 9th, 2022

Interested in making a difference in the Club? Want to make your voice heard? Take part in the 2022 Elections at our General Meeting on **Sunday, January 9th, 2022, at 2:00 PM!**

The Nominating Committee will present the slate of candidates at the December Monthly Membership Meeting, **Wednesday, December 8th**. No additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at that time.

Committee members will be available on that date to answer your questions.

Nominating Committee members:

Karla G. Schwedt, Chairperson:
908-377-9126
Chrissy Daly: 908-327-0376
Cheryl Grimes: 732-754-0587
Barry Kizmann: 908-451-9365
Martha Nieves: 908-625-7086

Currently, all officers on the Board have confirmed that they will be running for re-election except for Keith Rhyner, 1st Vice President, who intends to run for a Trustee position. Any officer position is a one-year term. The three (3) Trustee positions open for re-election

WINNERS OF TEXAS HOLD'EM NIGHT

Congratulations to the winners of the Texas Hold'em on Saturday, November 13th.
1st Place - **John Lescher**; 2nd Place - **Lou Koehler**; 3rd Place - **Elizabeth Tedeschiniversary**



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are: one currently held by Bruce Shaffer (3-yr term); one currently held by Ken Vogt (3-yr term) and the position currently held by Glenn Miklencic (serving an interim term – 2 years remaining). A board with photos of the candidates and their perspective offices is on display in the lobby of the Clubhouse.

Voting Options -

- In-person Voting: Sunday January 9, 2022, from 2:00-5:00 PM (be sure to have your current/valid membership card)
- Mail-in Voting Must be received by end of business on Saturday, January 8, 2022.
- Drop-off Voting: Must be received by 5:00 PM Sunday, January 9, 2022.

For Mail-in or Drop-off Voting – you will use two (2) envelopes.

- the inner envelope will contain your completed Ballot ONLY.
- the outer will contain your Ballot envelope and Current/Valid Membership card.
- Please ensure you're your name and membership number are listed on the outer envelope.
- Should you wish to have your membership card mailed back to you, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope in the outer envelope.

PLEASE REMEMBER –

When in the Club ...



A temporary, designated smoking area for members and guests has been arranged away from the front door and lobby of the

Club and can be found at the front left corner of the building across from the pavilion (look for the cigarette bin). Please use the bin and avoid smoking around the entrances to the Club. This will be a temporary location until we can find an area suitable for a proper designated smoking area.

MAY WE TAKE YOUR ORDER?

Deutscher Club now has Take-out!

Open to the Public!

Call in your order:

(732) 574-8600

Thursday, Friday,

Saturday

Call in orders as of 3:00 PM (Saturdays as of 2:30 PM) Pick-up orders 4:00 – 7:00 PM • Check the Website at www.deutscherclub.us for the Menu



FOR SALE

**DC 85TH ANNIVERSARY
PINS • \$5**



DC COFFEE MUGS • \$5

See any Vorstand member if you are interested in purchasing.

DC BIG RAFFLE 2021

Hello members! Tickets for the Big Raffle are available for purchase. The drawing will take place on the night of our **Christmas Gala, Saturday, December 11th, at 9 PM** – you do not have to be present to win. Please support this fundraiser which benefits the Club's efforts in promoting German culture and maintaining the condition of the clubhouse and grounds - especially now, with the damage done by Hurricane Ida. Tickets will be sold in the same manner as in 2019, **cost \$10 each** and are available for purchase from any Vorstand (Executive Board) Member. Should you prefer tickets mailed to you, please submit your payment with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Club "Attn: 2021 Big Raffle" and we will be more than happy to send them out. There are 2000 tickets for sale, with the potential for 2 grand prizes of



\$5000 each – if all the tickets are sold. Your support of this key fund raiser for your club is greatly appreciated. *Ken Vogt, Trustee*

MEMBERSHIP

I am now accepting 2022 Dues.



Upon receipt of payment of dues, I will mail your 2022 membership card to the address on file.

You may pay by, check, cash or credit card on the Deutscher Club website.

<https://deutscherclub.us/membership>

Please be advised of new dues rates for 2022.

As of January 1, 2022, Membership Dues will be:

1. \$100 for Regular members.
2. \$75 for Senior Member - must have attained the age of 72 and been a member for 25 consecutive years.
3. \$180 for couples.
4. Existing Lifetime members are encouraged to pay \$20 voluntary dues.
5. The initiation fee for new members will be \$100 per person.

The following late fees will be assessed monthly to your membership as of April 1st:

\$10-April; \$20-May; \$30- June; \$40-July

August 1st - Membership is revoked if dues are not paid.

The Vorstand introduced the new dues at the February 2021 Monthly Membership Meeting and the dues increase was posted in the March 2021 Bulletin.

If you have any questions, please email me at: Membership@deutscherclub.us.

Please consider sponsoring a family member or close friend for membership when you see them at Holiday gatherings this holiday season!

Applications for membership may be found here: <https://deutscherclub.us/membership>

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Buzz Sawyer, Membership Secretary

NOW HIRING: Waiters & Waitresses •

Become a member of the DC Service Team! Interested in applying? *Please call Deutscher Club Manager, Ewald Hollinger at (732) 574-8600.*

SKAT GAME

SKAT is a three-handed, trick-taking card game of the Ace-Ten family, devised in 1810 in Altenburg, and it is the national card game of Germany! What – don't know how to play the game? You are invited to join Peter Richter with the rest of the SKAT players who meet **every Wednesday at 8:00 PM** and learn the game.



KNITTING CLUB at the Deutscher Club!

Join a circle of fellow crafters **every Thursday at 3PM** and teach, share your tips and tricks, and socialize. No experience is necessary.



HIKING NEWS

We have planned the hikes for the next few months so that you can get them on your calendar. **We meet at 9:50** in the parking lot (details to be provided to the group - contact me to get added to the email list), and the **hike begins promptly at 10:00am**. If you are running late, please call me so that we can make accommodations for you. On **December 12th** we are planning a leisurely stroll around Spring Lake Park in South Plainfield, a 1.6-mile loop on paved paths, maybe do 2x around the park. For January 2022, we will be planning something close by, Lenape Park in Cranford on **Sunday January 16, 2022**. This is an all-paved walkway, and nice stroll. Please let me know if you plan on attending by emailing me at brian.mecca@gmail.com, include your phone # so that we can create a texting group for last minute notifications. We will be planning future hikes for 2022, so please pass on any suggestions.. Following the hike, we return to the Club for Frühschoppen.



SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

DC member Amy Herberg, a representative of Damselfs in Defense will offer a Self Defense Training Class, open to all DC members and their guests on **Sunday, December 5th, at 2:00 PM**, following Frühschoppen. Additional details will be provided in next month's bulletin. The number of participants will be limited to 50 - please sign-up at the bar. Questions regarding this class can be sent to correspondence@deutscherclub.us.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT



Mark your calendar • **Friday, December 10th, 8 PM** • The Schwäbischer Sängerbund will perform Christmas Carols by Candlelight at the Deutscher Club • Dinner service will be available before the concert.

SCHWÄBISCHER SÄNGERBUND

Mixed Chorus
presents

WEIHNACHTSKONZERT

33rd Annual Christmas Concert

German and American Christmas Classics
With Soloists and Orchestra
Professor Gregory Scimé
Director

Sunday, December 5, 2021

4pm

The Presbyterian Church
140 Mountain Ave.
Westfield, New Jersey

Donation \$20

Tickets available from all members of
Schwäbischer Sängerbund
also at The Deutscher Club
Clark, NJ 732-574-8600
or contact: Julie at 908-756-1313
jschlott13@yahoo.com

The great meals you enjoy at the Club are now available for catering your home party. Please stop by and see Ewald, our Manager, for a full list of options. Catering is available for pick-up on Thursdays through Sundays



Christmas Gala

Saturday, December 11th •

6 – 10:00 PM

Music by The Adlers

The night begins with a Cocktail Hour featuring a Buffet of Appetizers and an Open Bar.

MENU: SOUP • Crème of Mushroom ~ SALAD • Mixed Greens w/Strawberries, Cranberries, Blue Cheese and Raspberry Vinaigrette ~ ENTRÉE • PRIME RIB w/ Baked Potato and Vegetable ~ APPLE STUFFED LOIN OF PORK w/Spätzle and Vegetables ~ CRAB STUFFED FLOUNDER w/Rice and Vegetables ~ VEGETABLE CRÊPES w/Gorgonzola Sauce and Rice ~ DESSERT • Vanilla Cake with Strawberry Mousse and Whipped Cream

Tickets will be available for purchase at the Bar and are \$65 for members/\$70 for non-members.

CATERING SERVICE • Let us cater you private events. An extensive catering menu is available on our website or from our own Chef Ewald.

LEARN A LANGUAGE – TAKE GERMAN

**THE GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL
OF UNION COUNTY • WINFIELD, NJ**

*Offers Quality Interactive German Instruction for
Pre-K thru 12th Grade
and Adults*

**Saturday Mornings
September thru May**



Email: info@thegermanschool.org
Website: www.thegermanschool.org

Ladies' Division Christmas Party

On **Wednesday,
December 15, 5:30
to 8:30 PM**, the DC
Damenabteilung/
Ladies' Division will
hold their annual
Christmas Dinner.

Cocktails are at
5:30 PM
and Dinner is at 6:00 PM.

*Music will be provided by Willi (Billy)
Aust*



Children's Christmas Party

Sunday, December 19th • 1 – 3 PM

The party is open to children and grandchildren of our members (up to 8yrs of age).

- Each parent is requested to bring a wrapped Christmas gift with their child's name on it, not to exceed \$20 in value • Your child will receive the gift you bring.
- There will be games, prizes, and entertainment, refreshments • and possibly even a visit from Santa Claus, too!

**Frohe Weihnachten • Merry
Christmas!**

P.S. Look for the box in the Lobby to register the children.



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Friday, December 31st

7:00 PM Cocktail Hour • Open Bar w/a
Selection of Light Fare available all Evening

MUSIC BY THE ADLERS

Tickets: Members \$95/Non-members
\$100 • Gratuity included

Purchase your Tickets at the Bar

COMING SOON.....

THE BOOK CLUB

Our esteemed Member and Author, James Hockenberry, leads our Book Club. ► **For January**

2022: Love of Finished Years by Gregory Erich Phillips. This award-winning book is the story of a young German girl who immigrated to NYC in the early 20th Century. It is a wonderful read.



The book will be discussed: Friday evening **January 21st, 2022 at 7:30 PM** in person (venue to be determined), then again on **Thursday evening, January 27th, 2022 at 7:30 PM** via Zoom (link will be provided at a later date).

Here is Amazon's description of the book:

N IMMIGRANT'S POWERFUL JOURNEY OF ASPIRATION AND LOVE IN EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY NEW YORK. THIS MOVING DEBUT NOVEL BY GREGORY ERICH PHILLIPS WON THE GRAND PRIZE FOR BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR IN THE CHANTICLEER REVIEWS INTERNATIONAL BOOK AWARDS. Pre WWI, Elsa came to America with her eyes wide open, realizing it was up to her to make a life for herself. Surviving a sweatshop in lower Manhattan, a chance job with a Long Island elite family opens up her world. Invited in, up to a point, she unwittingly, albeit precariously, crosses the social divide with her now open heart which puts all she worked for in jeopardy. What a truly wonderful story! I've read it three times, and with each reading I find myself caring about the fabulous characters and their lives even more." — P. J. Alderman, New York Times Bestselling Author "From the riveting opening . . . until its gripping conclusion, this enthralling novel vividly portrays the desperate times of German immigrants landing at Ellis Island in 1905. A timely read . . . it illuminates the issues that we are experiencing a century later. . . Phillips reminds us that love, light, and perseverance can help us find a way to overcome almost any obstacle." — Chanticleer Reviews Grand Prize Chaucer Historical Fiction Book Awards.

All members are welcomed to join in the Book Club discussions, whether you've had a chance to read the books or not

Deutsche Ecke

Wintersonnenwende

In diesem Monat kommt der Tag der Wintersonnenwende. Dann haben wir den kürzesten Tag und die längste Nacht des ganzen Jahres. Schon die alten Germanen empfanden diese dunkelste Zeit als besonders geheimnisvoll und auch als gefährlich, denn sie glaubten, die Geister und Dämonen des Totenreiches würden in die Welt der Lebenden eindringen. Damal begann man Haus und Ställe mit duftenden

Harzen und Kräutern auszuräuchern, den Menschen erschien es völlig klar - böse Geister fliehen vor gutem Duft! Die Christen übernahmen dann diese Geflogenheit und in ländlichen, eher katholisch geprägten Gegenden wird in den Raunächten auch heute noch kräftig geräuchert. Die Rauhnächte sind die Nächte um Weihnachten bis zu Dreikönigen am 6. Januar. Sie sind nicht nur die längsten Nächte des Jahres während der dunklen Jahreszeit. In den Köpfen der Menschen vor einigen Jahrhunderten streiften Monster und Hexen in diesen Nächten und würden jeden ergreifen, der nach Einbruch der Dunkelheit noch draußen herumläuft. Die vier Hauptnächte zum Räuchern sind der Thomastag, die Weihnacht, Silvester und Dreikönig. Bevor Weihrauch und Myrrhe aus dem Orient zu uns gelangten, wurde Harz von Tannen, Lärchen sowie Fichten gesammelt. Vor allem aber dienten die Wacholderbeeren und Wacholderzweige zum Räuchern. Schon bei den alten Kelten und Germanen stand der urige Nadelbaum in hohem Ansehen. Eine alte Volksweisheit besagt: "Vor dem Holunder zieht der Bauer den Hut, vor dem Wacholder aber kniet er nieder". Zu Pestzeiten versuchte man sich sogar mit Wachholderrauch vor Ansteckung

zu schützen. Bis heute ist es im Alpenraum Brauch, Kranke- und Sterbezimmer mit Wacholder auszuräuchern.

Winter solstice

This month brings the day of the winter solstice. It is the shortest day and the longest night of the whole year. Even the ancient Germans found this darkest time to be particularly mysterious and dangerous, because they believed that the spirits and demons of the realm of the dead would penetrate the world of the living. At that time people began to smoke out houses and stables with fragrant resins and herbs, it seemed perfectly clear to people - evil spirits flee



from a good smell! The Christians then took over this habit and in rural, more Catholic areas, there is still a lot of smoking in the Raunächte. The Rauhnächte are the nights around Christmas up to Epiphany on January 6th. They're not just the longest nights of the year during the dark season. Centuries ago, monsters and witches roamed in people's minds on those nights and would grab anyone who walks outside after dark. The four main smoking nights are St. Thomas's Day, Christmas, New Year's Eve and Epiphany. Before frankincense and myrrh came to us from the Orient, resin was collected from fir, larch and spruce trees. Above all, however, the juniper berries and juniper branches were used for smoking. The rustic conifer was already held in high regard by the ancient Celts and Teutons. An old folk saying goes: "The farmer takes off his hat to the elder but kneels down to the juniper". In times of the plague, people tried to protect themselves from infection with juniper smoke. It is still a custom in the Alpine region to smoke out the sick and dying rooms with juniper.

Inge Helling

 ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL	WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE 8:00am Service with Communion 9:15am For All Ages 10:30am Service With Communion
559 Raritan Rd, Clark, NJ 07066 • (732) 382-7320 www.zionlutheranclark.org • PASTOR NATHAN GREWE	
We eagerly invite you to come experience the new life we have been given through Jesus Christ, and we welcome the opportunity to share our faith and our Christian community with you. We are a ministry of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS) serving Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.	
 Traditional Worship	
 Sunday School	
 MODERN LITURGY	

	Volkswagen New Inventory and Preowned Vehicles 2155 Route 22 Union, NJ 07083 "fahrvergnügen"	
Emily Sassé Email: esasse@unionvw.com Phone: 908-349-1070 ext. 1007		
For all Deutscher Club members, family and friends mention Promo Code: Prost!		

COMING SOON... Continued

PINKELWURST ESSEN

The annual Pinkelwurst Dinner will take place on **Sunday, January 23rd, 2022, 1:00 – 4:00 PM.**



A traditional winter comfort food in the northern German states, the dish includes kale, pinkelwurst, a selection of meats and boiled potatoes. • The cost is **\$22** per adult / **\$11** per child. Sign-up sheet is at the bar. Reservations must be made in advance. **No ticket sales at the door.**

DC goes Abroad

Join the Deutscher Club in Germany next November to December on a trip throughout the Christkindlmarkts of historic Germany. **From November 25, 2022 to December 6, 2022** go from Berlin to Munich exploring historic Germany and frequenting the Christmas markets along the way. Add an extra 3 day extension to the trip and go to Vienna for more Christmas markets and European history! With a maximum of 38 spots, be sure to sign up quickly as we are expecting a full trip for the 1st annual DC trip Abroad!

MONTHLY TRIP PAYMENT PLANS

For tour details call: 800-438-7672 and reference **tour number #70265352** • OR go to: www.grouptoursite.com/tours/christmas-markets-with-annette-glorius

Wernher von Braun – Rocket Engineer

Wernher von Braun was born in 1912 in Wirsitz, Germany (now Wyrzysk, Poland). Braun's family was aristocratic and prosperous. Encouraged by his mother, his curiosity in astronomy and space was piqued by the gift of a telescope upon his confirmation from the Lutheran Church. In 1920, the family moved to Berlin where von Braun struggled in school, particularly in physics and mathematics. He turned his studies around when he became inspired by a book by rocket pioneer Hermann Oberth called *The Rocket into Interplanetary Space*. Braun continued his studies in mechanical engineering and physics graduating with a doctorate from the University of Berlin in 1934. Also in 1934, Braun led a German society that successfully launched two liquid-fueled rockets more than 1.5 miles. The society came to the attention of the German government under the dictatorship of Adolf Hitler, which forbid rocket tests unless they were through the military. Braun then worked with the military in a large development facility in Peenemunde on the Baltic Sea as the technical advisor for liquid-fueled aircraft and jet-assisted takeoffs. Braun's group successfully demonstrated the long-range V-2 ballistic missile and anti-aircraft missile technology. By 1944, the level of rocket and missile technology at Peenemunde was many years ahead of similar technology in any other country. With the end of the war, Braun and his team surrendered to the United States. Within months, he and his group were working in White Sands, New Mexico. Von Braun's team worked on Redstone, Jupiter, Juno, and Saturn launch vehicles. In 1960, President Eisenhower established NASA where Braun became director of the Marshall Space Flight Center which was instrumental in sending the first man to the moon in 1969. Wernher von Braun became a U.S. citizen in 1955. In 1975, he was honored with the National Medal of Honor. – *Barbara Streit*



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