



Deutscher Club of Clark Inc.

787 FEATHERBED LANE • CLARK, NEW JERSEY 07066

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WEB: deutscherclub.us



VEREINSNACHRICHTEN / CLUB NEWS – FEBRUAR / FEBRUARY 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members, Congratulations to our returning Executive Board members as they were re-elected for another term at January's General Meeting. As we welcome Mike Alexy to the Board, as our new Second Vice President, we also bid farewell to Bruce Schafer as he retires after a three-year term as Trustee. Bruce, your dedication to the Club is greatly appreciated by the members of the Club and this Board. I think I speak on behalf of the Board when I say we appreciated your continued support during the past year and look forward to serving you in 2022. Thank you also to Karla Schwedt and the Nominating Committee for a job well done! 2021 was reviewed by the Executive Board in January and despite the concern regarding the continued pandemic the Club remains strong financially and continues to be a leader of German culture and heritage in the area. February brings a full slate of events here at the DC. I invite you to come out and celebrate Fasching with us on Saturday the 26th, featuring Bernie's Orchestra. The more the merrier so invite your friends and don't forget to wear a costume. I am excited to announce that on the following day we will hold our first ever children's Fasching Party. Bring the children out to celebrate this fun time of year. Entertainment, games and music will all be part of the afternoon. Make sure the children dress up in costume and if you like, you as well! Check our website calendar for the dates and times of other February events that include Texas Hold'em Night, the Big Game and the Valentine's Day Dinner among other happenings for the month. I hope everyone will take advantage of the many programs and events we will be offering this year and hope you will enjoy your membership to the fullest.

Sehr geehrte Mitglieder, Wir gratulieren unseren zurückgekehrten Vorstandsmitgliedern zu ihrer Wiederwahl an der Generalversammlung im Januar. Während wir Mike Alexy als unseren neuen zweiten Vizepräsidenten im Vorstand willkommen heißen, verabschiedeten wir uns auch von Bruce Schafer, der nach einer dreijährigen Amtszeit als Treuhänder in den Ruhestand geht. Bruce, Ihr Engagement für den Club wird von den Mitgliedern des Clubs und diesem Vorstand sehr geschätzt. Ich denke, ich spreche im Namen des Vorstands, wenn ich sage, dass wir Ihre anhaltende Unterstützung im vergangenen Jahr zu schätzen wussten. Wir freuen uns darauf Ihnen im Jahr 2022 zu dienen. Vielen Dank auch an Karla Schwedt und dem Nominierungsausschuss für ihre gute Arbeit! Das Jahr 2021 wurde im Januar vom Vorstand überprüft, und trotz der Besorgnis über die anhaltende Pandemie bleibt der Club finanziell stark und ist weiterhin führend in der deutschen Kultur und dem deutschen Erbe in der Region. Der Februar bringt eine ganze Reihe von Veranstaltungen hier im DC. Ich lade Sie ein, am Samstag, den 26. Februar zum Club zu kommen um Fasching mit uns zu feiern, Bernie's Orchestra wird zum Tanzaufspielen. Je mehr Teilnehmer, desto besser! Laden Sie Ihre Freunde ein und vergessen Sie nicht ein Kostüm zu tragen. Ich freue mich Ihnen mitteilen zu können, dass wir am darauffolgenden Tag unsere allererste Kinderfaschingsparty veranstalten werden. Bringen Sie die Kinder mit, um diesen lustigen Anlass zu feiern. Spiele und Musik werden für die Unterhaltung des Nachmittags sorgen. Achten Sie darauf, dass die Kinder kostümiert sind und wenn Sie möchten, können auch Sie kostümiert teilnehmen! Auf unserem Website-Kalender finden Sie die Daten und Uhrzeiten aller Veranstaltungen im Februar, darunter Texas Hold'em Night, The Big Game und das Valentinstagessen, sowie anderen Ereignissen des Monats. Ich hoffe, dass alle Mitglieder von den vielen Programmen und Veranstaltungen, die wir in diesem Jahr anbieten, profitieren und Sie Ihre Mitgliedschaft in vollen Zügen genießen werden.

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,
Brian Daly/Michael Alexy, 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 FEBRUAR / FEBRUARY PROGRAM 2022

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

Wed 02	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 03	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Thu 03	Entertainment Committee Meeting	6:30 PM
Fri 04	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sat 05	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sat 05	Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament • Sign-up at the Bar • Details on Page 5	6:30 – 11:00 PM
Sun 06	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Wed 09	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Wed 09	Monthly Membership Meeting • See the New Board at Work!	7:00 PM
Thu 10	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 11	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Fri 11	Deutscher Stammtisch • Come practice your German	7:30 PM
Sat 12	Valentine's Day Dinner • Music by James Barba • Details on Page 5	6:00 – 10:00 PM
Sun 13	Die Wandergruppe / The Hikers • Oak Ridge Park, Clark • Details on Page 5	10:00 AM
Sun 13	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sun 13	Big Game Day • Potluck & Donations for Food Pantry • Details on Page 6	4:00 PM
Wed 16	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 17	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Thu 17	Railroaders Dinner & Video • All Members are Welcome! • Meeting in the Ratskeller	6:30 PM
Thu 17	Networking Meeting • Starting a New Business	7:30 PM
Fri 18	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sat 19	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sun 20	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sun 20	Ladies' Division Meeting • Insurance Question & Answer Session	2:00 PM
Wed 23	Bar • Bar Food available	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 24	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 25	Dinner • Menu on the DC Website	5:30 – 9:00 PM
Sat 26	Fasching / Mardi Gras • Music by Bernie's Orchestra • Details on Page 6	6:00 – 10:00 PM
Sun 27	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sun 27	Children's Fasching Party • The Party Maniacs • Details on Page 6	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Vorschau März / Preview March 2022

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

Thu 03	Entertainment Committee Meeting	Sun 13	Frühschoppen
Sat 05	Karaoke • Tre Patterson	Thu 17	Railroaders Dinner & Video • All Members are Welcome!
Sun 06	Frühschoppen	Sat 19	St. Patrick's Day Dinner • Music by Nick Conte
Sun 06	Chili Cook-off	Sun 20	Frühschoppen
Wed 09	Membership Meeting	Sun 20	Ladies Division Meeting • Heart and Soul/Concierge
Thu 10	Garden Committee • Bring your Green Thumb and Ideas!	Sat 26	DC Blood Drive • Save a Life - Give Blood
Fri 11	Deutscher Stammtisch	Sat 26	Wine Tasting & Dinner • Four Wines/Four Courses (\$55 Per Person)
Sat 12	Dining & Dancing • Music by Don Bitterlich	Sun 27	Breakfast Buffet • (\$16 Per Person)
Sun 13	Die Wandergruppe/The Hikers • Watchung Reservation		

Looking for a Valentine's Day Gift?

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, Elsie Gawryluk, Karla Schwedt, and Christa Wimmer.

We mourn the passing of our members, Emmi Rank, Alfred Sage, Linda Zorn and former member, Dorothea Zanalari and extend our heartfelt sympathy to their family.

In case of illness or death of a member, please email correspondence@deutscherclub.us

IN THE NEWS

DIE WANDERGRUPPE • Sunday, January 16, 2022

Lenape Park, Cranford, NJ



MEET YOUR NEWEST VORSTAND OFFICER

On Sunday, January 9th, 2022, this Deutscher Club Member joined the ranks of the Executive Board. May we introduce to you –

2nd Vice President – MICHAEL ALEXY

Thank you for electing me as the Deutscher Club's latest Second Vice President. As many of you know, my parents were members of the club for more than 40 years, until their passing. Although I left the area in 1970, I have been coming to the club when I would visit my family. After returning to the area several years ago to help my ailing mother, I finally joined the club. I now have a much better appreciation for the old TV show "Cheers"... where everyone knows your name (and much more, LOL).



Although the club has good food, excellent beers, a gorgeous grove and fun events, the best aspect of the club is the camaraderie. The first time I volunteered, I knew no one when I arrived for my shift. That quickly changed. Now, after having worked nearly every volunteer position (still a few to go, like cake sales...again LOL), it is great to enter the club and be greeted by dozens of new friends.

For those who still don't know me, I had a diverse and successful career including: a position as executive vice-president of an electronics company; frequent and extensive travel in the US and internationally; and volunteer involvement in multiple non-profit organizations. My

two key goals as the club's 2nd VP are: to continue the things the club does right, especially related to our shared German heritage and, help the club evolve so it can flourish another 87 years. Prost! Zum Wohl! Tschuss!

DCC • CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2022

Feb 5	Texas Hold'em	Aug 13	Members in the Grove
Feb 12	Valentine's Day Dinner	Aug 26 Biergarten*	
Feb 13	Big Game Party	Sep 10	Bayern Verein Newark Oktoberfest*
Feb 26	Fasching/Mardi Gras Party	Sep 17	Steuben Parade NYC
Feb 27	Children's Fasching Party	Sep 18 Deutscher Tag in Clark*	
Mar 5	Karaoke	Sep 24	Members in the Grove
Mar 6	Chili Cook-off	Oct 1 Oktoberfest*	
Mar 19	St. Patrick's Day Dinner	Oct 2 Oktoberfest*	
Mar 26	Wine Tasting	Oct 15	87th Anniversary Gala
Mar 27	Breakfast Buffet	Oct 22	Members in the Grove
Apr 10	Children's Easter Party	Oct 23	Schlachtfest
Apr 16	Spring Clean-up	Oct 29	Halloween Party
Apr 23	Bayern Abend	Nov 5	Fall Clean-up
May 8	Mother's Day Brunch	Nov 12	Venison Dinner
May 14	Trivia Night	Nov 13	Breakfast Buffet
May 22 Frühlingsfest*		Nov 19 Christkindlmarkt*	
May 30	Memorial Day Parade	Nov 20 Christkindlmarkt*	
Jun	Ladies' Div Craft Fair* (TBD)	Nov 26	Fall Clean-up II
Jun 3 Biergarten*		Dec 2	Tree Lighting
Jun 19 Waldfest*		Dec 9	Christmas Carols by Candlelight
Jun 25	Members in the Grove	Dec 17	Christmas Gala
Jul 8 Biergarten*		Dec 18	Children's Christmas Party
Jul 16	Members in the Grove	Dec 25	Christmas Frühschoppen
Jul 22 Biergarten*		Dec 31	Silvester/New Year's Eve
Aug 5 Country Night*			

* indicates event is open to the public

MEMBERS NEEDED TO VOLUNTEER FOR ADMISSION DUTY

Our trustees are looking for members to volunteer for 2-hour shifts on Saturday evenings and at our Special Events and Saturday Evening Dances to collect admission. Sign-up sheets are located on the large bulletin board in the lobby. Thank you, we appreciate your support!

DEUTSCHER CLUB RESERVATION & REFUND POLICY

Effective February 1, 2022 - Any special occasion at the Deutscher Club with sign-up and pre-event ticket sales will require payment to be made at the time a table or seats are reserved. Names on the sign-up sheet without ticket # and form of payment will not constitute nor guarantee a reservation. Members wishing to make reservations, but can't come to the Club, can call the Club (732-574-8600) with a credit card and secure their spot(s) immediately. Refunds must be requested before the final sign-up date (normally **5-7 days before the event**). No refunds will be granted after that date. Refunds will be given in the form of a DC Gift Card and there will be a service charge if the original purchase was made by credit card. Your understanding and cooperation in this matter are greatly appreciated.

DRESS CODE

The following Quick Tips to the DC Dress Code are provided for your information:

■ **GALAS** (Anniversary, Christmas, New Year, etc) = **Cocktail Attire** - Black Tie or Suits for the men; Cocktail Dress or Slacks for the women. (No Jeans)

■ **EVENINGS W/DINING & DANCING** = **Business Casual** - collared shirts (men), slacks, khakis, nice jeans (no holes, clean), or skirt, w/a dress shirt, blouse, or polo.

■ **REGULAR DAYS/EVENINGS** (if not stated otherwise) = **Casual** - Attire that is informal and comfortable, yet clean and professional. Nicer casual wear.

Please remember that we request Members and their Guests remove their hats and caps while indoors.

The Dress Code for each special event will be listed in the announcement and on the date of the event in the website calendar.

We reserve the right to turn away members and their guests if they are not properly dressed for the occasion/event. In this case, members and their guests will be invited to enjoy the Ratskeller.

PLEASE REMEMBER –

When in the
Club ...



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.

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.*

MEMBERSHIP

Please submit payment now for 2022 Dues.

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

Please send an email or note with your payment of any address, email, or phone number changes.

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 rates 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.

Buzz Sawyer, Membership Secretary

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 2PM** and teach, share your tips and tricks, and socialize. No experience is necessary.



HERZLICH WILLKOMMEN to The Newly Formed Garden Committee

Do you enjoy
gardening?
Do you have
knowledge
of plants and
flowers? The



Newly organized garden committee would like your expertise!

We will be meeting on Thursday, **March 10th, 2022 at 6:30 PM** in the main dining room to discuss all things gardening for our club. Fall pruning, planning for spring cleanup, plantings, ideas for beautifying the DC grounds with plants and flowers. Contact Buzz Sawyer at membership@deutscherclub.us or see Kurt Leithner or Barbara Maguire at the club!

SÄNGER CHOR NEWARK WEEEE'RE BAAAACK!



Thanks be to God, we all survived COVID-19 and we are back singing on Friday nights at the DC. Come, join us! We held a session in December with our Director Markus Kaitila and acquired one new singer, Ken Vogt. You may have heard us at the Christkindlmarkt or at the tree lighting singing your favorite Christmas carols.

Beginning on **January 7th**, we will have two formal sessions a month (the 1st and 3rd Friday). Formal nights include accompaniment by Markus on piano, singing both German and English standards. The 2nd and 4th Fridays, we will be accompanied by an accordion player and sing beer-drinking songs. You are welcome to join us at **8:00 PM every Friday**. For information see our website at www.saengerchor.net or call Peter Volk at 908-938-9019.



Join us on **Saturday, February 5th, 2022** to compete in a "Texas HOLD 'EM" poker tournament at the Deutscher Club.

Limited Space. \$50 Buy-in (no re-buys allowed). No new hands will be dealt after 11 PM.

A sign-up sheet will be at the bar. Payment is due at the time of sign-up. Registration closes on **Wednesday, February 2, 2022.**
Dress Code: Casual

Instructions and table assignments start at **6:30 PM** and the first hand of the tournament will be dealt at **7:00 PM** sharp. The cost is a **\$50 buy-in** with **no re-buys** allowed. Blinds increase throughout the evening. Table count and payout structure will be determined based on registration numbers. No new hands will be dealt after **11:00 PM**. Tables with remaining players at that time will declare winners based on chip count after the last hand. Any questions please contact Rebecca Steen at (908) 337-9712 or Brian Daly at (908) 917-3939.

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER



**Saturday, February 12th, 2022
6:00 – 10:00 PM**

Music by James Barba

MENU

APPETIZERS

Spinach and Asiago stuffed Mushroom \$7
Shrimp Cocktail \$8
Sweet & Spicy Jalapeno Peppers \$7
Caesar Salad \$7

SOUP

Crab Bisque \$3

ENTREES

Wiener Schnitzel \$16
Chicken Marsala \$16
Filet Oscar \$25
(Filet Mignon topped w/Crab meat)
Crab stuffed Flounder \$21
Broccoli-Cheese Crepes
w/Gorgonzola Sauce \$14
Filet of Salmon \$18

DESSERT

Chocolate Lava Cake with Strawberry \$7

For reservations, please sign-up and pay admission at the bar - **\$5.00** Members / **\$8.00** Non-Members. Last day for ticket sales is **Sunday, February 6, 2022.**

Dress Code: Business Casual

HIKING NEWS



We are planning our hikes for **2022**. For the winter months we will stay close to Clark and look for easy/paved walkways. If you have any suggestions for Spring and Summer hikes, please share them. We meet at **9:50 AM** 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 **10:00 AM**. If you are running late, please call me so that we can make accommodations for you. On **Sunday February 13, 2022**, we will be close by in Clark at Oak Ridge Park, this is fully paved, and mostly flat, the perimeter loop is 2.5 miles. On **Sunday March 13, 2022**, we will be going to the Watchung Reservation, departing from the Trailside Nature Camp; Science Center parking lot, the trails we take will depend on the weather at the time. Please let us know if you plan on attending by emailing Brian Mecca 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.

Looking for a gift? How about a Gift Card for dinner at the Club?

BIG GAME LVI

**Sunday,
February 13th,
2022 @ 4 pm
Tailgate Early**

**Prizes and
Give-A-Ways
Bring snacks
or appetizers to
share.**

**Bring donations of non-perishables
for the Community Food Bank.**

Kick-off at 6:30 pm

**Dress Code: Casual – Your favorite
Team Jersey**



NETWORKING MEETING

Thursday, February 17, 2022, 7:30 PM

The next Deutscher Club Networking meeting will be on **Thursday, February 17th, 2022, at 7:30 PM.** Tips for starting another stream of income will be shared. So, if you are thinking about starting a new business bring all of your questions. Also, if you have a business, join us if you would like to make known your business to our Deutscher Club Networking Group. Members and guests will have time to talk about their business. There will be a business card and/or a brochure exchange. RSVP to Michael Fleyzor at mfleyzor@gmail.com or cell phone (732) 319-4886. Looking forward to hearing about your business. *Michael Fleyzor*

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Website: www.thegermanschool.org

MARDI GRAS EVENING / FASCHING ABEND

**Saturday,
February
26th, 2022,
5:30 – 10:00
PM**

Music: Bernie's Orchestra

Costumes are encouraged! There will be prizes and give-a-ways!

Cost per person is **\$5.00** Members / **\$8.00** Non-members.

Dress Code: Costumes



KINDER FASCHING

**Sunday,
February 27th,
2022, 1:00 -
3:00 PM**

Costumes are encouraged!

Entertainment by
– The Party Maniacs

There will be games, prizes and give-a-ways! The kitchen will be open offering a limited menu.

Dress Code: Costumes



COMING SOON.....

CHILI COOKING COMPETITION

Football Season is over. It's time to bring out your best Home-made Chili recipes for a Chili Cook-off. Fun for All, Prizes, Tasting, and Good Cheer! **Sunday, March 6th, 2022, 3:00- 6:00 PM.** Open to all members. Stay tuned for details.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH, 2022



DEUTSCHER CLUB BLOOD DRIVE NEWS



The next Blood Drive for the Deutscher Club will be on **Saturday, March 26th, 2022 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM.**

Donating blood is a life-saving gift to others. Blood is always in demand. But due to the pandemic many corporate blood drives have been cancelled because offices have been closed; severely affecting the supply in one of the most densely populated areas of the country. One out of every three people will need blood at some time in their life. You never know when you or someone you love will be the one.

It takes 250 blood donations every day to meet the needs of all the patients in the hospitals serviced by the Vitalant Blood Services. **Thank you to our member donors for their commitment and generosity.**

The Deutscher Club has been serving our community's blood supply needs for more than 60 years, providing life-saving blood and blood products to hospitals in New Jersey and New York.

Please mark your calendars for the next blood drive, **SATURDAY, MARCH 26th, 2022, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM** in the Club's ballroom.

*Roswitha and Michael Burkert, Co-Chair
Deutscher Club Blood Drive*

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

Deutsche Ecke

BLAU GRAU KANNENBÄCKERLAND

Wenn Sie sich in europäischen oder in deutsch-amerikanischen Familien auf Besuch befinden, sehen Sie sich einmal um und bestimmt sehen Sie ein oder mehrere Grau Blau Keramik Stücke, die Wohnzimmer, Küchen und auch Gärten schmücken. Oft sind es Bier-Wein-oder Wasserkrüge, Becher, Vasen, Teller, Wappen und andere bemalte Schmuckstücke für besondere Anlässe. Diese Keramik stammt aus ganz bestimmten Gegenden: in Deutschland aus dem Westerwald und in Frankreich aus dem Elsass. In den Städtchen im Westerwald Gebiet (nordöstlich von Koblenz) trauten die Töpfer schon seit Jahrhunderten ihren Nachkommen ihr geheim gehaltenes Kunsthandwerk an. Der französische Teil dieser Industrie wurde im ersten Teil des 18. Jahrhunderts von ausgewanderten Töpfern des Westerwalds gegründet. Archäologische Funde bestätigen, dass schon keltische Stämme getöpft haben und verbreiteten ihre Waren, denn die Region lag an der Salzstrasse und in der Nähe des Rheins und machten so Fernhandlung zur Hauptverkehrsader Europas. Eine ganz spezielle Erde muss vorhanden sein, um diese Keramik zu Stande zu bringen. Nur wenige Gegenden sind weltweit bekannt in denen Töne in vergleichbarer Quantität und Qualität vorkommen. Der weiße Ton ist auch als "weißes Gold" bezeichnet, denn er ist hochelastisch und nahezu frei von Verunreinigungen, und gab der Gegend den Namen "Kannenbäckerland": Der Ton wird zuerst mit der Hand geformt, meistens an einer Töpferscheibe, und dann wird das unglasierte Stück zum Trocknen auf Regalen gestellt. Die Ware wird mit Farbe handdekoriert und wieder zum Trocknen aufbewahrt. Die Technik der Salzglasur geschieht im Töpferofen, nachdem eine Hochtemperatur, meistens 1.093 Grad Celsius erreicht ist, werden Salzkörnchen in den Ofen geworfen. Das Salz evaporiert in der Hitze und haftet am Quarz im Ton. Die Glasur, die geformt wird, ist sehr hart, beinahe wie Glas, mit einem Hochglanz und manchmal mit einer getüpfelten Oberfläche, ähnlich einer Orangenschale.

Das meiste Steingut hat eine graue Farbe von der Tonerde und die blaue Farbe kommt von einem Metall, Kobalt, das den berühmten, dunkelblauen Farbton den Keramikstücken gibt. Eine wunderschöne Erfahrung ist es, wenn man persönlich die Städtchen besuchen kann, wo man die Töpfer selbst in ihren Werkstätten besuchen und bei der Kunstarbeit beobachten darf. Ich selbst habe mir ein solches Kunststück nach Hause schicken lassen: eine riesengroße, runde Vase, die in zwei Hälften geformt wurde und dann im Ofen miteinander verschmolzen wurden. Dass sie nicht auseinanderplatzten, war, wie mir der Töpfer versicherte, ein großes Wunder. Für mich, die beste Erinnerung aus dem Westerwaldbesuch. Auch heute sind diese Grau Blau Keramikstücke noch sehr von Sammlern begehrt. Im Westerwald, wie auch im Elsass gibt es herrliche Museen, die ganz stolz ihre Waren zur Schau stellen.

BLUE-GRAY KANNENBÄCKERLAND

If you are visiting European or German-American families, take a look around and you will definitely see one or more gray blue ceramic pieces that adorn living rooms, kitchens and gardens. Often there are beer, wine or water jugs, mugs, vases, plates, coats of arms and other painted jewelry for special occasions. This ceramic comes from very specific areas: in Germany from the Westerwald and in France from Alsace. In the small towns in the Westerwald area (north-east of Koblenz), potters have entrusted their descendants with their secret handicrafts for centuries. The French part of this industry was founded in the first part of the 18th century by emigrated potters from the Westerwald. Archaeological finds confirm that Celtic tribes already made pottery and distributed their goods, because the region was on the salt road and near the Rhine, making long-distance trade the main traffic artery in Europe. A very special soil has to be present in order to produce



this ceramic. Only a few areas are known worldwide in which clay occurs in comparable quantity and quality. The white clay is also known as "white gold", because it is highly elastic and almost free of impurities and gave the area the name "Kannenbäckerland": The clay is first formed by hand, usually on a potter's wheel, and then the unglazed pieces are placed on shelves to dry. The pieces are hand-decorated with paint and stored again to dry. The technique of salt glaze is done in a pottery kiln, after a high temperature, usually, 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit is reached, grains of salt are thrown into the kiln. The salt evaporates in the heat and adheres to the quartz in the clay. The glaze that is formed is very hard, almost like glass, with a high gloss and sometimes with a stippled surface, similar to an orange peel. Most earthenware is gray in color from the clay and the blue color comes from a metal, cobalt, which gives the famous dark blue hue to the ceramic pieces. It is a wonderful experience when you can personally visit the small towns, where you can visit the potters themselves in their workshops and watch them do their artwork. I had such a masterpiece sent home for myself: a huge, round vase that was formed in two halves and then fused together in the oven. The potter assured me that it was a great miracle that they did not burst apart. This was the best memory from my visit to the Westerwald. Even today these gray blue ceramic pieces are still very popular with collectors. In the Westerwald, as in Alsace, there are wonderful museums that proudly display their goods.

Barbara Oberding



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2022 SCHOLARSHIPS

Walter Lehmann Scholarship Fund

The 2022 Walter Lehmann Scholarship contributes \$3,000 towards the cost of the summer German Language immersion program organized by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) (for more information on the AATG High School Summer Study Program, go to www.aatg.org). The scholarship recipient will spend three eventful weeks in Germany, staying with a German family, attending classes, and participating in a variety of excursions and activities. Forms and instructions for the scholarship can be found on the Deutscher Club website (under "Bulletins and Downloads"). Applications can be mailed to or dropped off at the Deutscher Club of Clark, Inc., Attn: Sigrid Pagano, Scholarship Chairperson or emailed to scholarship@deutscherclub.us, no later than **March 15, 2022**.

Karl Kummer Scholarship Fund

The 2022 Karl Kummer Scholarship Fund awards \$1,000 to a qualified New Jersey student who: is a New Jersey high school senior or is currently enrolled in a College/University and has an immediate family member who is a current member of the Deutscher Club of Clark, Inc. (and has been consecutively for at least the last three years). The application form, available to download from our website (under "Bulletins and Downloads"), must be completed and submitted with a copy of the applicant's most current High School/College transcript by the deadline - **May 15, 2022**. Applications can be mailed to or dropped off at the Deutscher Club of Clark, Inc., Attn: Sigrid Pagano, Scholarship Chairperson or emailed to scholarship@deutscherclub.us.

Richard Wagner – Composer



Wilhelm Richard Wagner was born on May 22, 1813, in Leipzig, Germany into a theatrical family. Wagner's stepfather was an actor, poet and painter, his older sisters were opera singers. Wagner took piano lessons but failed to practice. Instead, he tried poetry and musical composition. He attended concerts,

and read plays by Shakespeare, Goethe, and Schiller. Attracted by University life, Wagner enrolled in Leipzig University. There he studied the work of Beethoven and wrote Symphony in C Major which was performed at the Leipzig Gewandhaus in 1833. Die Feen (The Fairies) followed and was performed by a troupe in Magdeburg where Wagner met his first wife Minna Planer. Financial issues arose, and Wagner relocated to Paris, but could not break into

the circle at the Opera. He did complete Rienzi Overture and Der fliegende Holländer (The Flying Dutchman). Returning to Dresden in 1842, Wagner completed Lohengrin and Tannhäuser which were met with cool reception since the public was unaccustomed to Wagner's style of opera music which included dramatic content. Wagner's next home was Zurich where his great composition, The Ring was finished. Unable to break his cycle of financial difficulties on his own, Wagner was saved by Louis II's generosity in 1864 and he returned to Germany. Wagner was able to produce great music. He built a theatre in Bayreuth based on donations from patrons in 1876. Success was finally achieved financially, musically, and romantically, having married his lover, the daughter of his friend Franz Liszt. Wagner died in 1883. His musical achievements are many. They include world famous operas, symphonies, marches, choral songs, and the invention of the orchestra pit for musicians. Richard Wagner's world-famous Bayreuth Festspielhaus still operates today presenting Wagnerian concerts and is supervised by Wagner descendants.

Barbara Streit



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