



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 – JUNI / JUNE 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members, June is here and our festival season is in full swing. May was a good month for our Club and started with a stop on our culinary tour of Austria on the 9th. Chef Ewald prepared a curated menu of traditional favorites from Styria. Thanks to Ewald and everyone who supported the evening. Mark your calendars for June 26th, when we will make our first stop in Switzerland. On the 10th we celebrated Mother's Day with a full house, and on the 17th, we held our annual "Halfway to Oktoberfest" festival. We had beautiful weather and a great crowd. It was also nice to see some of our newest members volunteering! Thanks to the Potato Peelers, early cleanup crew, and all of the volunteers who helped make the event successful. On the 25th we marched in the annual Clark Memorial Day Parade, keeping up our tradition and showing that we are proud members of the Clark community. Thanks to Birgit Maier for organizing the marchers and to everyone who came out to march. We have a lot going on in June, including our VW Biergarten on the 5th, and Waldfest on the 21st. We will also be open for our members and their guests to watch Germany play in the big soccer tournament going on in June and July. Come out and enjoy the matches, there will be giveaways and plenty of excitement. For a full list of everything going on in June, please refer to the calendar and flyers to see everything that is going on. As always, thanks to all of you who support our Club. Whether you patronize our Club for dinner, at the bar, holding parties, or ordering take-out, we appreciate it all. Without you, we wouldn't be the Club that we are. See you at the Club!

Liebe Mitglieder, der Juni ist da und unsere Festivalsaison ist in vollem Gange. Der Mai war ein erfolgreicher Monat für unseren Club; er begann am 9ten mit dem Ziel einer kulinarischen Reise durch Österreich. Küchenchef Ewald plante ein sorgfältig zusammengestelltes Menü mit traditionellen Spezialitäten aus der Steiermark. Ein herzliches Dankeschön an Ewald und allen die diesen Abend unterstützt haben. Merken Sie sich bitte den 26.Juni vor, denn dort machen wir unseren ersten kulinarischen Abstecher in die Schweiz. Am 10ten feierten wir – mit vollem Haus - den Muttertag; und am 17ten veranstalteten wir unser jährliches „Halfway to Oktoberfest“. Wir hatten herrliches Wetter und erfreulich viele Gäste. Es war schön zu sehen, dass sich einige unserer neuesten Mitglieder ehrenamtlich engagierten! Ein Dankeschön gilt den „Potato Peelers“ (Kartoffelschäler), dem ersten Aufräumeteam und allen weiteren Helfern die zum Erfolg der Veranstaltung beigetragen haben. Am 25ten nahmen wir an der jährlichen Memorial-Day-Parade in Clark teil, ganz in der Tradition unseres Clubs zeigten wir dass wir stolze Mitglieder der Clark Gemeinde sind. Vielen Dank an Birgit Maier für die Organisation des Umzugs, sowie an alle die mitmarschiert sind. Auch im Juni ist bei uns viel los, unter anderem der VW-Biergarten am 5ten und das Waldfest am 21ten. Außerdem wird der Club im Juni und Juli offen sein für Mitglieder und ihre Gäste, damit sie gemeinsam die Spiele der deutschen Mannschaft beim großen Fußballturnier verfolgen können. Kommen Sie vorbei und genießen Sie die Spiele gemeinsam. Es warten kleine Überraschungen auf Sie und viel Begeisterung! Eine vollständige Übersicht aller Veranstaltungen im Juni finden Sie im Clubkalender, oder auf den aktuellen Flyers im Clubhaus. Wie immer gilt unser Dank allen die unseren Club unterstützen, ob Sie bei uns Abendessen, an der Bar verweilen, private Feiern ausrichten, oder Speisen zum Mitnehmen bestellen, wir wissen Ihre Treue sehr zu schätzen. Ohne Sie wäre der Club nicht so aktiv und erfolgreich. Wir sehen uns im Club!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen, Keith Rhyner

E-Mail: president@deutscherclub.us

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

president@deutscherclub.us • Messages to President, Keith Rhyner
events@deutscherclub.us • Inquiries: Open events/bands/Club events,
Brian Daly/Robert Dries, 1st & 2nd VP
manager@deutscherclub.us • Booking parties or meetings •
Ewald Hollinger, Manager
correspondence@deutscherclub.us • General Correspondence

membership@deutscherclub.us • Inquiries: Membership, Dues •
Elyn Perez, Membership Secretary,
scholarship@deutscherclub.us • Inquiries: Scholarship - Sigrid Pagano,
Chairperson
trustees@deutscherclub.us • Contact Trustees
webmaster@deutscherclub.us • Website Concerns

PROGRAMM FÜR JUNI / JUNE PROGRAM 2026

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

Thu 04	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Thu 04	Die Kulturkenner / The Cultural Connoisseurs • <i>Details on Page 5</i>	6:00 PM
Thu 04	Entertainment Committee • <i>Bring your Imagination</i>	7:00 PM
Fri 05	Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society	7:30 AM
Fri 05	VW Biergarten * • Music by Don Bitterlich • <i>Details on Page 7</i>	5:00 - 10:00 PM
Sat 06	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Sun 07	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Sun 07	Die Wandergruppe / The Hikers • Hemlock Falls, Millburn, NJ • <i>Details on Page 6</i>	10:00 AM
Sun 07	DC Ladies Division Meeting • Lunch at Stage House Tavern	12:00 – 3:00 PM
Wed 10	Kitchen Open w/Light Fare.	5:00 – 7:00 PM
Wed 10	Monthly Membership Meeting • <i>Attend & Be Heard</i>	7:00 PM
Thu 11	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 12	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 12	Jazz am Freitag & Schwäbischer Sängerbund “Concert 250“ • <i>Details on Page 7</i>	7:00 PM
Sat 13	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Sun 14	Frühschoppen	Cancelled
Wed 17	Bar	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 18	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Thu 18	Railroaders Dinner & Video • <i>All Members are Welcome!</i>	6:30 PM
Thu 18	Networking Meeting • Tell us about your Business • <i>Details on Page 7</i>	7:30 PM
Fri 19	Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society	7:30 AM
Fri 19	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 19	Deutscher Stammtisch • <i>in the Ratskeller</i>	7:30 PM
Sat 20	Summer Kick-off • Members Night in the Grove • <i>Details on Page 7</i>	5:00 – 10:00 PMPM
Sun 21	Frühschoppen	Cancelled
Sun 21	Waldfest / Father's Day * • Music by The Adlers • <i>Details on Page 7</i>	12:00 - 6:00 PM
Wed 24	Bar	3:00 – 11:00 PM
Thu 25	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Fri 26	Swiss State Dinner Series • Eastern Switzerland	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Sat 27	Dinner • <i>Menu on the DC Website</i>	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Sun 28	Frühschoppen	11:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Vorschau Juli / Preview July 2026

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

Thur 02 Entertainment Committee Meeting •
Summer Break

Sat 04 HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY USA! • *Clubhouse is Closed*

Sun 05 Frühschoppen

Wed 08 Monthly Membership Meeting • *Summer Break*

Fri 10 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society

Fri 10 Mercedes Biergarten * • *Music by Bernie's Orchestra*

Sun 12 Frühschoppen

Thu 16 Railroaders Dinner & A Video • *All DC*

Members Welcome!

Thu 16 Networking Meeting

Fri 17 Swiss State Dinner Series • *Location TBD*

Fri 17 Deutscher Stammtisch

Sun 19 Frühschoppen

Sun 19 DC Ladies Division Meeting • *Summer Break*

Fri 24 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society

Fri 24 BMW Biergarten * • *Music by David Betz*

Sun 26 Frühschoppen

Fri 31 Texas Hold'em • *Sign-up Sheet at the Bar*

* indicates event is open to the public

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL 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, **Kimberly Best, Leni Elischberger, Barbara Herrington, Rob Modrak, Mike Sheridan.**

We mourn the passing of our members, **Salvatore J. Greco, James L. Hockenberry, George W. Wankmueller** and former member, **Martin “Shep” Steenbock**, and extend our heartfelt sympathy to their families.

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

IN THE NEWS

FUTURE MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Welcome to the Deutscher Club Family, **Charles G. Costello IV!**

Patricia Sinoradzki Costello and **Gregory Costello III**, of Summit, NJ welcomed their first child on December 2, 2025.

Members, **Jeffrey and Concetta Sinoradzki** are the super proud Opa and Oma. They are bursting with joy over the birth of their 5th grandson.

Members at the Club on Thursday evenings, may spot little “Chip” at Table 13. Come by and say hello!



MEMBERS CELEBRATING SUCCESS



DC Members, **Daniel Schloesser** (Right), **Marjorie Crawford** (Center Right), **Warren Crawford** and **Anesha McLeod** (not pictured) were just a few of our DC Members who are School Officers that led the graduation exercises and “Schulfest” at the Deutsche Sprachschule (aka The German Language School of Union County) in Winfield Park on Saturday, May 16, 2026.



What a wonderful way to close out the school year!

The German Language School of Union County celebrated its students with a heartfelt graduation ceremony, where we had the

joy of witnessing beautiful musical performances and recognizing the academic achievements of our incredible community. We proudly honored all students who took the AATG exam, as well as those who took and passed their A1, A2, and DSD1 exams, a true testament to their dedication and hard work.

The celebration continued with our beloved Schulfest, a festive end-of-year party full of fun for students and parents alike. We enjoyed an ice cream truck, a bouncy house, a balloon artist, a make-up artist, and of course: Bratwurst!

We are so proud of every single one of our students. This year was filled with hard work, cultural growth, friendships made, and memories to last a lifetime. Wishing everyone a wonderful, restful summer!

Bis zum nächsten Jahr! For additional information please visit us at www.thegermanschool.org or at our Facebook Page



The Crowning of Miss Deutscher Club

Come out and witness the crowning of Miss Deutscher Club 2026!

The new Miss Deutscher Club will be introduced and will receive her crown on **Sunday, June 21, 2026** at the Waldfest / Father's Day Picnic.

Come out to support and cheer on our Miss Deutscher Club 2026.



PLANNING A SPECIAL EVENT AT HOME OR AWAY?

Consider the Deutscher Club of Clark for your venue and/or catering needs. Whether Spring, Summer, Fall, or Winter the clubhouse, pavilion and grounds will offer an inviting backdrop for your wedding,

christening, communion, or company picnic. Allow our Manager, Chef Ewald to assist you in building the perfect menu for you and



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your guests. Make an appointment with Chef Ewald to discuss the details of your special day, by calling (732) 574-8600.

Entertaining guests in the comfort of your home or backyard, then allow Chef Ewald to do the cooking for you. You can browse our catering menu at www.deutscherclub.us/catering.

PLEASE REMEMBER – WHEN IN THE CLUB ...



MAY WE TAKE YOUR ORDER? DEUTSCHER CLUB HAS TAKE-OUT!

Open to the Public!
Call in your order:

(732) 574-8600

Thursday, Friday,

Saturday • Orders are taken as of 4:15 PM

• Pick-up orders 4:45 – 7 PM • Check website at www.deutscherclub.us for the Menu



NOW HIRING: WAITERS & WAITRESSES

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

THE BIG RAFFLE IS BACK! DO YOUR PART TO FILL THIS DRUM

Tickets are \$10 each and are available for purchase from any Vorstand (Executive Board) member. There are 2400 tickets to be sold, with a potential for 2 grand prizes of up to \$6000 each - if all are sold. The drawing will take place on the night of our Silvester/New Years Eve Gala, **Thursday, December 31st, at 9:00 PM** - you do not have to be present to win.



Please support this fundraiser to benefit the Club. - Ken Vogt, Trustee

MEMBERSHIP

It's time to pay 2026 membership dues! Members can renew online, in person at the bar, or by mailing a check to the club to the attention of Membership Secretary. **Membership cards will be mailed** to you. Please disregard

the note on your receipt (online payments) "to pick-up your order" at the Club. Also, be sure to include any change of address information at the time you renew. Dues rates for 2026 are \$100 for individual members, \$180 for couples, and \$75 for Senior Members (must have reached 72 years of age AND been a member for 25 years). Existing Lifetime Members are encouraged to pay a voluntary contribution of \$20.

Do you know someone who would enjoy being an active member of the Deutscher Club of Clark? **We are accepting applications for the Fall Induction until August 15th.** You must be a member for at least two (2) years before sponsoring a prospective member, and all new members are expected to fulfill their ten (10) hours of volunteer time, if accepted. Prospective members can submit their applications online or download a physical copy to mail to: Deutscher Club of Clark, Attn: Membership Secretary, 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, NJ 07066. -Herzlichen Dank! Elyn Perez, Membership Secretary

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

The Entertainment Committee will meet on **Thursday, June 4th, at 7:00 PM**, in the Ratskeller. Do you have an idea for an event you would like to have at your Club? Do you

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have suggestions for making events better? Would you like a fun, easy way to earn your volunteer time for the Club? Join us! The **Decorating Sub-committee**, Alexandra Beinstein, Paula Mattis, and Ruth Sutton work hand-in-hand with us to “dress up” the Club for every special event. They meet, on the same day and time, with the Entertainment Committee to coordinate requirements for seasonal, holiday, and special events decorating. *–Robert Dries*

DIE KULTURKENNER / THE CONNOISSEURS OF CULTURE

Thanks to everyone who came out to the inaugural Kulturkenner meeting in April! We reminisced about our most recent trip to Italy and Malta over dinner, with those who went and with others from past and upcoming trips.



Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, June 4th at 6 PM**. We'll be discussing our upcoming trip to Canada and the American West. We'll also talk about our Germany trip to the Oktoberfest (2027) and our NEW TRIP to Italy in March of 2027! Seasoned travelers and Cultural Enthusiasts alike are All Welcome to join us at **Table #2**.

SOCIETY OF POTATO PEELERS - UNITE!!



Dust off your peelers and slicers for one last meeting this year of the Society of Potato Peelers on **Friday, June 5th!** New members are always welcome. We are in need of peelers, slicers and mixers to prepare the Potato Salad for **Biergartens and Fests**. We normally meet on the **Friday of or preceding an event**. Please mark your calendar for **June 5th** (for VW Biergarten) and **June 21st** (Waldfest/Father's Day Picnic). The FUN begins at **7:30 AM**.

LADIES' DIVISION MEETING

The LD wishes to thank everyone who baked and helped serve at the DC new member induction on April 23, 2026.



Our June meeting of the LD will be a luncheon held at the **Stage House Restaurant** in Scotch Plains, on **June 7, 2026 at 12 Noon**. This is the last meeting before we break for the summer. There will be no LD meetings held in July and August.

–Mariann Brenner, President

DC CLUBS: ALL ARE WELCOME!

SKAT GAME: every Wednesday at 8:00 PM

KNITTING CLUB: every Thursday at 3:00PM

THE SINGERS



SÄNGERCHOR NEWARK

It's Official! Saenger Chor Newark is 100 years old. We passed the milestone at the end of October. I'd like to say we are going strong into the next century, but we need your help, the help of NEW members to do so. If you enjoy hearing the Saenger Chor sing at the Christkindl Markt and other occasions, we need new strong voices of Deutscher Club men to carry on. We meet to sing **every other Friday night at 8 PM** and would love to welcome you to listen and join in on singing both English and German songs of various genres including traditional favorites and fun drinking songs. If you enjoy singing in the shower or the privacy of your car, come and see how enjoyable it is to sing with a group of “Kameraden.” **Please call either Peter Volk at 908-938-9019 or Glenn Fogarty at 732-259-8993 for more information.**

RHEINISCHER SÄNGERBUND

The Rheinischer Saengerbund is a Men's Chorus that has been in existence since 1847. They have a very rich history (to include singing at Abraham Lincoln's Funeral) and continue to enjoy their traditions today with their Musical Director, Johanna Teubner-Prussak, a talented and established musician and conductor. The chorus meets at the Deutscher Club **every Thursday at 8:00 PM**. Think you might be interested in becoming a member? Come on by!

DER SCHWÄBISCHER SÄNGERBUND NEWS

New Members Welcome! Like to sing? Like to meet new people? Like to have fun? How about joining the SSB Mixed Chorus. You do not need to read music and no previous singing experience is necessary. Our Director is Greg Scime (Jazz on Freitag). We rehearse **every Wednesday at 7:30 PM** upstairs

Continued on page 6

GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF UNION COUNTY

Learn German with us!

Registration for the new school year is now open! Sign up via QR Code

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Continued from page 5

in the Deutscher Club (above the dining room). The SSB Mixed Chorus will be rehearsing for our Spring Concert. New and old singers are welcome to join us. For more information call Nancy at (201) 637- 7917.

► **Save the Date! Friday, June 12, 2026** - SSB Spring Concert and Jazz am Freitag. Our 2026 Spring Concert will be held right here in the Deutscher Club Celebrating the **250th Birthday of the USA!** If you enjoyed our Oldies Concert and Music Trivia in 2025 and the Carols by Candlelight in December, then you won't want to miss this double concert. **Jazz am Freitag** features our Director, Professor Gregory Scime, who will play during dinner. The SSB **TRIBUTE TO THE USA** will begin at 8:30 PM. All are welcome! Non-members will be asked for a donation at the door for admission. Guaranteed to be an enjoyable and entertaining evening. Please join us on **Friday, June 12, 2026** and celebrate the **250th Birthday of the USA!**


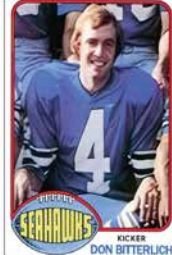
THE DANCERS Bayern Verein Newark News

Join us! No experience? No problem! Whether you're looking to connect with







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KICKER DON BITTERLICH

your heritage, try something new, or just have fun and stay active, our group welcomes dancers of all ages and backgrounds. We rehearse **Monday evenings** right here at the Deutscher Club. Interested? Come give it a try – we'd love to have you! • For more information, contact Paul Ulrich at 734-646-6764 or vorplattler@bvnnj.org or Betty Bunger at 732-463-7855 or president@bvnnj.org

HIKING NEWS Leader: Brian Mecca brian.mecca@gmail.com



On the day of the hike, participants are requested to assemble at 9:50 AM in the parking lot. Details regarding the hike will be distributed to the group via email one week prior to the event; please contact Brian to have your email address added to the list. **The hike will commence promptly at 10:00 AM.** In case of delay, kindly notify me so appropriate arrangements can be made. If you wish to join the Hiking Group's mailing list, please send an email including your name and mobile phone number. • We are currently planning activities for the 2nd half of 2026 and are looking for hikes in locations where there were Revolutionary war battles in our area. Our aim is to select locations within approximately one hour's drive from the Deutscher Club.



On **Sunday May 3rd**, Thor Heyek led a group of 16 people on a hike in the picturesque town of Atlantic Highlands, along the Raritan Bay and Henry Hudson trail. Many thanks to Thor for taking the lead as I was

not able to.

Our **June** hike is set for **Sunday, June 7th**. We will be exploring Hemlock Falls in South Mountain Reservation, Milburn. Bramhall Terrace (Crest Dr, Maplewood, NJ 07040). Parking Lot



link below (It is on Crest Drive in between Bear Lane and the Dog Park Lot (spots are on the right side of the road) <https://maps.app.goo.gl/VhQrLxWAQjx9fFmU9> Time: 9:50 AM, Distance: 2.5 miles. This is a moderate hike with some up and down, all of which is through wooded and sometime rocky areas. Hiking shoes are strongly recommended. Some rocky areas and a steep walk down to the falls. Difficulty: Moderate: Distance 2.64 mi; E lev. Gain: 322 ft.

Kindly confirm your attendance by RSVP to brian.mecca@gmail.com and include your phone number so that we may create a texting group for last-minute updates.

After the hike, participants are invited to return to the Club for Frühschoppen. The bar will be open, soup and open-faced sandwiches are typically available, and attendees are encouraged to bring other refreshments as the kitchen will be closed. We look forward to a pleasant post-hike gathering.

We will be taking off the summer months, and our next hike will be planned for September.

MAHJONG

The Mahjongg Club meets on **Mondays from 5-8 PM**. If you are a DC member and know how to play, please join us.



For further information about the Mahjongg Club or if you would like to learn to play, please email - correspondence@deutscherclub.us - Thank you, Meg & Paula

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COMING SOON... Continued



**Mercedes-Benz
Biergarten**

JULY 10, 2026

5:00-10:00 PM
(GATES OPEN AT 4:00 PM)

FOOD! DRINKS! DANCING!
MEMBERS: FREE/NON-MEMBERS: \$5
(NO CARRIED IN BEVERAGES OR FOOD ALLOWED)

MUSIC BY: BERNIE'S ORCHESTRA
CLASSIC CARS ON DISPLAY!



**Bmw
Biergarten**

JULY 24, 2026

5:00-10:00 PM
(GATES OPEN AT 4:00 PM)

FOOD! DRINKS! DANCING!
MEMBERS: FREE/NON-MEMBERS: \$5
(NO CARRIED IN BEVERAGES OR FOOD PERMITTED)

MUSIC BY: DAVE BETZ
CLASSIC BMW CARS ON DISPLAY!

Join us on **Friday, July 31**, to compete in a **"Texas HOLD 'EM"** poker tournament at the Deutscher Club.



A sign-up sheet is at the bar. Registration closes on **Thursday, July 30**. *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 **11:30 PM**. Tables with remaining players at that time will declare winners based on chip count after the last hand. Any questions please write to events@deutscherclub.us

DEUTSCHE ECKE

Bayreuth: Kleine Stadt, großer Klang

Auf den ersten Blick erscheint Bayreuth als eine ruhige Stadt in Nordbayern, bescheiden in ihrer Größe und entspannt in ihrem Tempo. Dennoch bietet sie Besuchern ein reichhaltiges kulturelles Erlebnis. Ihr kompaktes historisches Zentrum lädt dazu ein, es zu Fuß zu erkunden, mit eleganter Barockarchitektur, charmanten Straßen und einladenden Cafés. Eines ihrer bemerkenswertesten Wahrzeichen ist das Markgräfliche Opernhaus, ein außergewöhnliches Beispiel barocker Theaterarchitektur. Mitte des 18. Jahrhunderts erbaut und 2018 sorgfältig restauriert, zählt es zu den am besten erhaltenen Opernhäusern Europas und wurde als UNESCO-Weltkulturerbe anerkannt. Auch die Natur spielt eine wichtige Rolle für die Attraktivität Bayreuths. Die nahegelegenen Hofgärten der Eremitage vereinen formale Anlagen mit romantischem Parkland und bieten mit ihren Brunnen, Tempeln und Grotten eine ideale Kulisse für entspannte Spaziergänge. Der internationale Ruf Bayreuths wird jedoch vor allem durch seinen einzigartigen Beitrag zur Musikgeschichte geprägt. Die kulturelle Identität der Stadt ist eng mit den Bayreuther Festspielen verbunden, die dem Werk des Komponisten Richard Wagner gewidmet sind. Die musikalischen Ambitionen der Stadt reichen bis ins Jahr 1748 zurück, als das Markgräfliche Opernhaus eröffnet wurde. Mehr als ein Jahrhundert später wählte Wagner Bayreuth als idealen Ort, um seine künstlerische Vision zu verwirklichen. Er erkannte, dass das traditionelle Opernhaus ihm nicht erlaubte, ein Gesamtkunstwerk zu schaffen – ein „totales Kunstwerk“, das Musik, Drama, Dichtung, Inszenierung und Architektur zu einem einheitlichen Erlebnis vereint. Um diese Vision zu verwirklichen, musste er eine völlig neue Spielstätte entwerfen. Das Ergebnis war das Bayreuther Festspielhaus, das 1876 auf dem Grünen Hügel fertiggestellt wurde. Sein innovatives Design umfasste einen fächerförmigen Zuschauerraum, der gesellschaftliche



Unterschiede aufhob und die Aufmerksamkeit ganz auf die Bühne lenkte. Der Orchestergraben wurde unter der Bühne verborgen, sodass die Musik unsichtbar erklingt und die Wirkung auf das Publikum verstärkt wird. Mit der Eröffnung des Festspielhauses begann 1876 das erste Bayreuther Festival. Das Festival ehrt weiterhin Wagners Vermächtnis aber ist zugleich auch offen für neue Interpretationen seiner Werke. Die Bayreuther Festspiele 2026 sind von besonderer Bedeutung, da sie ihr 150-jähriges Jubiläum feiern. Auf dem Programm stehen große Opern wie „Der fliegende Holländer“, „Parsifal“ und der vollständige Zyklus von „Der Ring des Nibelungen“ sowie eine neue Produktion von „Rienzi“. Jede Generation bringt neue Perspektiven ein und schafft so eine Balance zwischen Tradition und Innovation. Bayreuth, ein Ort, an dem Geschichte und Kreativität aufeinandertreffen, inspiriert weiterhin das Publikum aus aller Welt.

Bayreuth: Small City, Grand Sound

At first glance, Bayreuth appears to be a quiet town in northern Bavaria, modest in size and relaxed in pace. Yet it offers visitors a rich cultural experience. Its compact historic center invites exploration on foot, with elegant Baroque architecture, charming streets, and welcoming cafés. One of its most remarkable landmarks is the Margravian Opera House, an extraordinary example of Baroque theater design. Built in the mid-18th century and carefully restored in 2018, it remains one of the best-preserved opera houses in Europe and has been



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recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Nature also plays an important role in Bayreuth's appeal. The nearby Hermitage Court Gardens combine formal layouts with romantic parkland, featuring fountains, temples, and grottoes that create an ideal setting for leisurely walks. However, Bayreuth's global reputation is most strongly shaped by its unique contribution to music history. The city's cultural identity is closely tied to the Bayreuth Festival, dedicated to the works of the composer Richard Wagner. Musical ambitions in Bayreuth date back to 1748, when the Margravian Opera House first opened. More than a century later, Wagner chose Bayreuth as the ideal place to realize his artistic vision. He realized that the traditional opera house did not allow him to create a Gesamtkunstwerk—a "total work of art" that would unite music, drama, poetry, staging, and architecture into a single, cohesive experience. To support this vision, he needed to design a completely new venue. The result was the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, completed in 1876 on the city's Green Hill. Its innovative design featured a fan-shaped auditorium that eliminated social divisions and focused attention entirely on the stage. The orchestra pit was concealed beneath the stage, allowing the music to emerge invisibly and enhancing the audience's immersion in the performance. The opening of the Festspielhaus marked the beginning of the first Bayreuth Festival in 1876. Today, the festival continues to honor Wagner's legacy while embracing new interpretations of his works. The 2026 Bayreuth Festival is particularly significant, as it celebrates its 150th anniversary. The program includes major operas such as "The Flying Dutchman," Parsifal, and the complete "The Ring of the Nibelung" cycle, as well as a new production of "Rienzi". Each generation brings fresh perspectives, balancing tradition with innovation. In this way, Bayreuth, a place where history and creativity meet, continues to inspire audiences from around the world. — Martin Kohler

If anyone is interested in submitting articles for Die Deutsche Ecke, please write to correspondence@deutscherclub.us.

WILLIAM E. BOEING – AVIATION PIONEER

William Edward Boeing was born in 1881 in Detroit, Michigan to Marie Ortmann, from Vienna, Austria, and Wilhelm Boeing from Hohenlimburg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. Wilhelm came to the US in 1868 and made his fortune from North Woods timberlands and iron ore mineral rights north of Lake Superior in Minnesota. After William's father died of influenza in 1890, the family moved back to Europe to allow the children to at-

tend school in Switzerland. William then attended Yale University studying engineering. Before graduating from college, Boeing moved to Washington State, purchased extensive timberland, and shipped his lumber back to the East coast through the Panama Canal. His business prospered in the years of mass construction. At the same time Boeing became fascinated with aviation, took flying lessons, and purchased his own plane. As his plane was being assembled, damage occurred. While waiting for new parts to be delivered, Boeing was inspired to build the plane himself with the help of his friend Commander George Conrad Westervelt of the US Navy. The amphibian biplane had outstanding performance and the men decided to go into business near Seattle. They founded Pacific Aero Products, which



the following year in 1917, changed the name to Boeing Airplane Company. Boeing Airplane Co. saw fifty new orders for their plane for WWI. Commercial aircraft was built next to service air mail. As air mail services grew, passenger flights were added. In 1929, Boeing joined Frederick Rentschler of Pratt & Whitney to form United Aircraft and Transport Corporation. As this venture grew, Boeing was accused of forming a monopoly and broke the company into three divisions – United Aircraft, The Boeing Company, and United Airlines. In later years, Boeing became interested in property development and breeding thoroughbred racehorses. William E. Boeing died in 1956. He was posthumously inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in 1966. —Barbara Streit

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c. 908.256.5083

GWiese@klsir.com

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