

Deutscher Club of Clark Inc.

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VEREINSNACHRICHTEN / CLUB NEWS – JUNI / JUNE 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ear Members, we have already held 3 public events, as well as hosting the Union County Celtic Festival for the first time. I would like to thank each and every one of you for coming out as volunteers, and for patronizing the events. We held our annual Mother's Day Brunch Buffet, which had a great turnout, and it was nice to see both long-time members as well as brand new members there to celebrate with their families. The Ladies' Division held their annual Spring Craft Fair on the 17th, and we held our first "Halfway to Oktoberfest" on the 18th. Bud & Linda kept us all entertained during the Tanz Café on the afternoon of the 25th, and we were also treated to a performance by the Newark Sängerchor during their breaks. On Memorial Day, the Club marched in the annual Clark Memorial Day Parade, and participants enjoyed a meal and refreshments at the Club afterwards. If you didn't march this year, please consider marching next year. It's a fun time, and it also shows Clark that we are proud to be members of their community. We wrapped up May on the 30th, with a State Dinner featuring cuisine from the city-state of Hamburg. In June we have our first Friday Biergarten on the 6th, featuring Volkswagen, Waldfest & the crowning of our new Miss Deutscher Club on the 15th. On the evening of Friday the 20th, the Schwäbischer Sängerbund (SSB) will be holding a one hour "Oldies but Goodies" after dinner show, which will also serve as a fundraiser for their future concerts. Beginning at 8PM they will be performing hits from the 50's-70's. Please come out, sing along if you'd like, and support the SSB. On Saturday the 21st, we will have "Build a Burger" Member's Night in the Grove and our next State Dinner on the 27th, featuring the cuisine of Rheinland-Pfalz. With the festival season fully underway, WE NEED YOUR HELP. Please come out and volunteer for your Club. Our Club survives through the winter on the money we make at festivals. We need your help to make our events as successful as they can be. 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!

iebe Mitglieder, wir haben bereits drei öffentliche Veranstaltungen durchgeführt und waren zum erstenmal Gastgeber des Union County Celtic Festival. Ich möchte mich bei allen für Ihr ehrenamtliches Engagement und Ihre Teilnahme an den Veranstaltungen bedanken. Unser jährliches Muttertags-Brunchbuffet war gut besucht und es war schön zu sehen wie sowohl langjährige als auch neue Mitglieder mit ihren Familien teilgenommen haben. Die Damenabteilung hatte am 17. ihren jährlichen Frühlings-Kunsthandwerksmarkt und am 18. veranstalteten wir unser erstes "Halfway to Oktoberfest". Am 25., waehrend des Nachmittag Tanzcafes, sorgten Bud und Linda für die musikalische Unterhaltung und in den Pausen konnten wir einen Auftritt des Newark Sängerchors genießen. Am Memorial Day nahm der Club an der jährlichen Clark Memorial Day Parade teil. Im Anschluss genossen die Teilnehmer Essen und Erfrischungen im Club. Wenn Sie dieses Jahr nicht mitmarschiert sind, planen Sie bitte nächstes Jahr mitzumachen. Es macht viel Spaß und zeigt der Stadt Clark dass unser Club stolz darauf ist Mitglied ihrer Gemeinschaft zu sein. Wir beendeten den Mai am 30. mit einem Staatsdinner, Spezialitaeten aus dem City-Staat Hamburg. Am 6. Juni findet unser erster Freitagsbiergarten mit einer Volkswagen Vorstellung statt, das Waldfest mit Krönung unserer neuen Miss Deutscher Club ist am 15. Am Freitagabend dem 20. Juni veranstaltet der Schwäbische Sängerbund (SSB) eine einstündige After-Dinner-Show mit dem Titel "Oldies but Goodies", die gleichzeitig als Spendenaktion für zukünftige Konzerte dient. Ab 20 Uhr spielen sie Hits aus den 50er- bis 70er-Jahren. Kommen Sie vorbei, singen Sie mit und unterstützen Sie den SSB. Am Samstag dem 21. findet im Grove der "Build a Burger"-Mitgliederabend statt und am 27. unser nächstes Staatsdinner mit rheinland-pfälzischer Küche. Da die Festivalsaison in vollem Gange ist, BRAUCHEN WIR IHRE HILFE. Kommen Sie vorbei und engagieren Sie sich ehrenamtlich für Ihren Club. Unser Club überlebt den Winter mit den Einnahmen aus unseren Festivals. Um unsere Veranstaltungen so erfolgreich wie möglich zu gestalten brauchen wir Eure Hilfe. Wie immer, vielen Dank an alle die unseren Club unterstützen. Ob Sie unseren Club zum Abendessen, an der Bar, bei Partys oder zum Mitnehmen besuchen - wir freuen uns über alles. Ohne Sie wäre der Club nicht was er ist. 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, Eric
Zabel/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 2025

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

Sun 01 Frünschoppen 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM Wed 04 Bar 3:00 – 11:00 PM Thu 05 Dinner - Menu on the DC Website 5:30 – 8:00 PM Thu 05 Entertainment Committee 7:00 PM Fri 06 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society 7:30 AM Fri 160 WB Biergarten* - Music by Don Bitterlich - Details on Page 6 5:00 – 1:00 PM Sat 07 Dinner - Menu on the DC Website 5:00 – 7:00 PM Sun 08 Frühschoppen 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM Wed 11 Bar 3:00 – 11:00 PM Wed 11 Bonner - Menu on the DC Website 5:30 – 8:00 PM Fri 13 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society 7:30 AM Fri 13 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society 7:30 AM Fri 13 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society 7:30 AM Fri 13 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society 7:30 AM Fri 13 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society 7:30 AM Fri 13 Dinner - Menu on the DC Website 5:30 – 8:00 PM Fri 13 Dinner - Menu on the DC Website 5:30 – 8:00 PM	Sun 01	Die Wandergruppe / The Hikers • Washington Valley/Chimney Rock • Details on Page 6
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	Sun 29	Frühschoppen • In the Ratskeller 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Vorschau Juli / Preview July 2025 SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE & EMAILS FOR UPDATES

Thu 17

Thu 03 Entertainment Committee Meeting • Summer Break – No Meeting

Fri 04 HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! • Club will be Closed

Sun 06 Frühschoppen

Wed 09 Monthly Membership Meeting • Summer Break

– No Meeting

Fri 11 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society
Fri 11 BMW Biergarten * • Music by David Betz

Sun 13 Frühschoppen

Welcome!

Thu 17 Networking Meeting • Tell us about your Business

Sun 20 Frühschoppen

Sun 20 DC Ladies Division Meeting • Summer Break – No Meeting

Fri 25 Meeting of the Potato Peeling Society

Fri 25 MERCEDES Biergarten * • Music by Joe Kroboth

Sun 27 Frühschoppen

Railroaders Dinner & A Video • All DC Members

* 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, Alice Bellante, Megan Bulthaupt, Uwe Schenk, and Gerda Szardenings.

We mourn the passing of our members, Inge Helling and Anita Kastaun and extend our heartfelt sympathy to their families.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Monika Karin Olga Stroh (nee Traunsberger), mother of member **Daniel Stroh**.

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

IN THE NEWS

DEUTSCHER CLUB AT THE CLARK TOWNSHIP MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Thank you to all our members and family who came out and represented the Deutscher Club at the Township's Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26, 2025!



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SÄNGER CHOR NEWARK



one interested in joining this distinguished group of gentlemen vocalists, please see the article on the SCN in this newsletter.

THE CROWNING OF MISS DEUTSCHER CLUB

Come out and witness the crowning of Miss Deutscher Club 2025!

The new Miss Deutscher Club will be introduced and will receive her crown on **Sunday, June 15,**



2025 at the Waldfest / Father's Day Picnic. Come out to support and cheer on our Miss Deutscher Club 2025.

PLEASE REMEMBER — When in the Club ...





VOLUNTEER AT YOUR CLUB & EARN YOUR 10 HOURS ANNUALLY

1. Special Event Admissions (manning the Admissions table) -sign up on the Bulletin board behind



the table and see a trustee for instructions.

- **2.** Tuesday Crew (helping with repair projects, cleaning, mowing/leaf blowing, etc. Show up at club at 8AM) *there is a sign-in book*.
- Saturday Crew (outside landscaping, Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

show up at 8AM) - there is a sign-in book.

- **4. Potato Peeling** (making the potato salad for Biergartens & Fests. The Friday before an event, at 8AM, bring a peeler) *there is a sign-in book*.
- **5. Work at a Biergarten or Fest** (work 2 ½ hours manning Admissions, 50/50 Raffle Sales, sell pretzels, serve food, grilling, manage parking, work as cashier, sell at the cake table, etc) *Sign-up Genius**
- **6. Spring Clean-Up** (clean our clubhouse and get the grove ready for events, show up at 8 AM) *there is a sign-in book*.
- 7. Fall Clean-Up (put away tables, clean outdoor bar and kitchen, leaf and sticky ball removal, show up at 8AM) -sign-in book.
- **8.** Entertainment and Decorating Committees (meet first Thursday of every month at 6:30 PM in the main dining room) there is a sign-in book.
- **9.** Additionally, if you have a talent or skill, you are willing to donate your time performing, this too can count towards your volunteer hours.
- * If you are not receiving the Sign-up Genius or DC backup messages, please ensure we have your correct email address by sending it to **events@deutscherclub.us**. You can also send questions to **signup@deutscherclub.us**

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 – 7:00 PM • Check the 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 Deutscher Club 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 or at the entry of any of our public events. 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, **Wednesday, 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

Bring your 2025 membership card with you to the club. As of **April 1**, members may be asked to show their 2025 membership card at the bar before being served.

If you haven't paid your 2025 membership dues, you are late! A late fee of \$30 per person has been added as of June 1. You can renew online, in person at the club, or by mail. Mailed renewals should be addressed to the Membership Secretary. Late fees will increase monthly.

Regards, Elyn Perez, Membership Secretary membership@deutscherclub.us

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

The Entertainment Committee will meet again on the **first Thursday of the month, at 7:00 PM,** in the back corner of the dining room (by the piano). Do you have an idea for an event you would like to have at your Club? Do you 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**, led by Alexandra Beinstein, Paula Mattic, and Ruth Sutton (new Decorating Sub-Committee Chairs), works 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*

DC CLUBS: All are welcome!

SKAT GAME: Every Wednesday at 7:30 PM •

KNITTING CLUB: Every Thursday at 3:00 PM

SOCIETY OF POTATO PEELERS - UNITE!!

Welcome back to the Season of Potato Peeling! Dust off your peelers and



slicers because a meeting of the Society of Potato Peelers will take place on **Friday, June 6th!** New members are always welcome. We are in need of peelers, slicers and mixers to prepare the Potato Salad for our **Biergartens and Fests.** We normally meet on the **Friday of/preceding an event**. Please mark your calendar for **June 6th** (VW-Biergarten), and **June 13th** (Waldfest/Father's Day Picnic). The FUN begins at **7:30 AM.**

LADIES' DIVISION MEETING

The Ladies Division had a successful Spring Craft Fair on May 17. I would like to thank all



the DC members who supported us.

There will be no meetings in June, July or August. We will return again on **Sunday, September 14th** with a meeting at **2 PM** in the Ratskeller.

FREDERIC'S



JEWELERS

1083 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066-1314 Phone 732.388.8889 Fax 732.388.9414 www.fredericsjewelers.com We are organizing a trip to Lancaster, PA to see **Noah** at the **Sight and Sound Theater** on **Tuesday, September 9, 2025**. The cost of the bus, tickets to the show and lunch at nearby Miller's Restaurant is **\$151.00 per person**. The bus will leave from the Clubhouse early and return around 6:00 PM. Anyone interested in joining us, please send a check made out to "The Ladies Division of the DC" with your telephone number. Any questions, please contact me or Sigrid Pagano.

Do you have German Tracht items (dirndls, lederhosen, jackets, etc.) that no longer fit? Consider donating them to the Ladies Division for the Christkindlmarkt. Please see me. *Carol Marquardt*

THE SINGERS



SÄNGERCHOR NEWARK

We are closer than ever to reaching our **100th anniversary** which takes place on **0ctober 20**, **2025**. Although our numbers have dwindled our spirit, and voices continue to be raised high. We look forward to a celebration sometime in the near future and we are preparing for a festive event. Look for updates in this newsletter in the coming months.

An example of how meaningful the Saenger Chor can be in your life is the story of Frederick (Freddy) Paul who this year celebrates his 69th year with the Chor. Freddy still tells the story of his first meeting after joining the Chor, whose membership stood at 129 strong. Freddy nonchalantly sat down in the first row of tenors and was quickly chastised for it. He was told that maybe, in 15 or 20 years he would be granted the right and privilege to sit in the front row. Well, now, after 69 years, there is only

one row, but Freddy has the seat of honor. It would be wonderful to increase our membership during our anniversary year and fill that row of tenors up again.

I encourage all the men in the Deutscher Club to come out on a **Friday night** to sing with us and join in the camaraderie we enjoy on these nights. We start at **8:00 PM**, so you will have had your dinner with your families, put the kids to bed and have the opportunity to get out and have some fun. We sing in both English and German to accompaniment with either a piano or accordion.

Please contact Peter Volk 908-938-9019 or Glenn Fogarty 732-259-8993 to let us know you are coming.

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 SÄNGER BUND

All good things come in three, so the saying goes. We are a mixed chorus and are part of the Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC) house choruses.



Our chorus has been in existence for over 135 years. We have done a great deal of travelling, both nationally and internationally, including singing Saturday evening mass at the Vatican on two separate occasions.

We perform two concerts a year. Our

Christmas Concert has been a highlight for the German-American community for the past 35 years. We rehearse every **Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM** at the DCC. If you enjoy singing, we welcome you to come and join us.

NETWORKING MEETING

There will be a Deutscher Club Networking meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2025, at 7:00 PM. 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.

If there is a topic you want to focus on in a future meeting, let me know. **RSVP required** to Michael Fleyzor at mfleyzor@gmail.com or cell phone (732) 319-4886 at least 24 hours before the meeting. Looking forward to hearing about your business.

Michael Fleyzor

HISTORY COMMITTEE



We will meet on **Friday, June 13, 2025, at 6:30 PM.** Come join us! Rick Myers and Andy Kaskiw, with the assistance of Dan Lomeli and Keith Rhyner, will resume videotaping the stories of members who immigrated to the US prior to, during, or following World War II, as well as those who served in the military around that time. A sign-up sheet, entitled "Tell Your Story," is in the foyer. Speak Continued on page 6



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WANTED – GERMAN TEACHER

THE GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL OF UNION COUNTY, WINFIELD, NJ, is seeking candidates to fill a middle to high school level teaching position.

Preferred qualifications include: Native German speaker, bilingual German/English or C1/C2 German language profile

- Experience as a teacher, teaching assistant or substitute teacher Willing to work Saturday mornings 9:00 am 12:30 pm, September through end of May Sustained level of comfort applying technology in the classroom
- ► If interested please send a cover letter & resume directly to our principal Mr. Salvatore Veniero (**principal@thegermanschool.org**). For more information, please visit our **website www.thegermanschool.org**.



Continued from page 5

with Suzanna if you have any questions.

This is yet another opportunity to earn your volunteer hours. If you are interested, please email correspondence@deutscherclub.us

HIKING NEWS

Leader: Brian Mecca brian.mecca@gmail.com

On the day of the Hike, we meet at 9:50 in the parking

lot (I will send the details of the hike to the email group the week prior – contact Brian to get your email added to the list), and the **hike begins promptly at 10:00am**. If you are running late, please call me so that we can make accommodation for you.

We are planning hikes for the 2nd half 2025. Please share any ideas you may have or somewhere you have been or would like to go to. We try to stay within a one-hour drive time from the Deutscher Club.



Our **May 4th,** hike planned for Watchung Reservation was rained out. We will reschedule this for the fall of this year.

On **June 1st**, we will be taking an exciting hike at **Washington Valley and Chimney Rock Parks**, Bridgewater via Red, Orange, and White Trail, Newmans Ln, Martinsville, NJ 08836 This is a 3.5-mile loop trail. There is an elevation gain of 321 ft. Generally considered an easy route, it takes an average of 1 h 20 min to complete. This is a popular trail for hiking and running, but you can still

enjoy some solitude during quieter times of day. The trail is open year-round and is beautiful to visit anytime. www.alltrails. com/trail/us/new-jersey/washington-valley-and-chimney-rock-park-via-red-orange-and-white-trail-loop www.somerset-countyparks.org/washington-valley-park

We take off in July and August, lots of public events on weekends. Come out to volunteer and help.

<u>Please let me know</u> if you plan on attending by RSVP to brian.mecca@gmail.com, include your phone # so that we can create a texting group for last minute notifications.

Following the hike, we will return to the Club for Frühschoppen. The bar is open, there is usually soup and open-faced sandwiches, and people bring things to eat as the kitchen is not open. Feel free to bring something. It is a fun time after the hike.









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COMING SOON....



THE BOOK CLUB

The Deutscher Club's Book group will meet: **Friday September 19, 2025 at 7:30pm** (tentative, depending on other scheduling) most likely under the pavilion depending on the weather.



The book we will read is A Game of Lies, by Rebecca Cantrell. A Game of

Lies is the 3rd book of a 4-book mystery/spy series set in 1930s Germany. We have already the 2nd in the series, A Night of Long Knives, which the group really liked. I love this series.

Thank you for your continued interest in the Book Group. Please note that everyone is welcome to attend the discussion. They are designed to be informative and fun. I welcome any suggestions and comments about the group.

BLOOD DRIVE



Roswitha and I appreciate the members and the many non-members that regularly donate to Deutscher Club Blood Drives. Our next blood drive is **Saturday October 25, 2025.** Please mark your calendars and spread the word.

The New York New Jersey Blood Center (NYBC) will again be servicing our donors. The average time per donor has been 45 minutes for in-processing and donating. Many donors then proceeded to meet other donors for coffee, donuts or a light German brunch provided by the Deutscher Club.

Give our blood drive a try. If you are not a donor, now is the time to start.

Blood supplies are in huge demand. Donating blood is a lifesaving gift for others. Corporate blood drives have not returned to their collection rates since COVID. Many offices remain at reduced levels; severely affecting the supply in one of the most densely populated areas of the country.

It takes 250 blood donations every day to meet the needs of all the patients in the hospitals serviced by the New York New Jersey Blood Services.

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.

If you are over 75 years, the NYBC requires a doctor's note to donate. Plan now to call or visit your doctor.

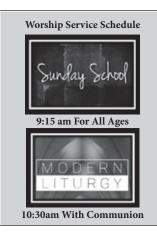
Again, thank you to all donors and supporters of our Blood Drive. We hope to see as many of you that can donate on **Saturday October 25, 2025**.

Party Time! Have your bridal or baby showers, birthday and anniversary parties, graduations, even weddings at our Club. Contact our manager, Ewald, at manager@deutscherclub.us or call the clubhouse at (732) 574-8600



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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.





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Deutsche Ecke



Der Deutsche Bundestag hat einen neuen Kanzler gewählt.

Deutschland hat einen neuen Kanzler, den Chef der Bundesregierung. Am 6. Mai 2025 wählte der Bundestag, vergleichbar mit dem US-Repräsentantenhaus, Friedrich Merz zum zehnten deutschen Bundeskanzler. Diese Wahl brachte jedoch eine große Überraschung mit sich. Friedrich Merz scheiterte im ersten Wahlgang; nur 310 von 630 Abgeordneten stimmten für ihn. Das hatte es noch nie gegeben. Alle neun bisherigen deutschen Bundeskanzler waren im ersten Wahlgang gewählt worden. Im zweiten Wahlgang stimmten dann 325 Abgeordnete für Friedrich Merz und wählten ihn zum Kanzler. Damit fand dieser dramatische Tag ein würdiger Abschluss. Vielleicht sind Sie nun neugierig geworden und möchten mehr darüber erfahren, wie Deutschland seine Abgeordneten wählt. Für alle die interessiert sind und es noch nicht wissen, hier ist eine kurze Einführung. Es gibt einige wichtige Unterschiede zwischen dem US-amerikanischen und dem deutschen Wahlsystem. Beginnen wir mit den Grundlagen. Deutschland hat 299 Wahlkreise mit jeweils etwa gleich vielen Wahlberechtigten. Normalerweise wird alle vier Jahre ein neuer Bundestag mit seinen 630 Abgeordneten gewählt. Das war der einfache Teil. Die Regeln für die Wahl der Abgeordneten und die Berechnung der Anzahl der Parlamentssitze, die jede der beteiligten Parteien bei einer Wahl errungen hat, unterscheiden sich deutlich von den Wahlen zum US-Repräsentantenhaus. Erstens gibt es keine Vorwahlen; stattdessen nominieren die Parteien Kandidaten aus ihren Reihen. Zweitens erlauben die Wahlzettel iedem Wähler zwei Stimmen. Mit der Erststimme wird ein Abgeordneter für den Wahlkreis gewählt. Die Zweitstimme ist besonders wichtig; sie wird für eine Partei abgegeben und bestimmt die Anzahl der Sitze,

die jede Partei bei der Wahl erringen wird. Dies wäre einfach, gäbe es nicht zusätzliche Regeln. Nur Parteien, die landesweit mindestens 5 % aller Zweitstimmen oder mindestens drei der 299 Direktwahlkreise gewonnen haben, sind im Parlament vertreten. Die Gesamtzahl der Abgeordneten jeder Partei richtet sich strikt nach dem Zweitstimmenanteil der Partei. Zum Beispiel, ist die

Zahl der direkt gewählten Kandidaten einer Partei höher als die Zahl der Sitze, welche diese Partei mit ihrem Zweitstimmenanteil errungen hat, so ist die Zahl ihrer direkt gewählten Kandidaten, die ins Parlament einziehen, auf die Zahl der durch den Zweitstimmenanteil errungenen Sitze begrenzt. Erringt eine Partei mit ihrem Zweitstimmenanteil mehr Sitze als ihre direkt gewählten Kandidaten, besetzt sie

diese zusätzlichen Sitze mit Parteimitgliedern aus einer vor der Wahl veröffentlichten Liste. Nach der Bundestagswahl im Februar 2025 sind sechs Parteien im Bundestag vertreten. Da keine dieser Parteien über eine Mehrheit verfügt, gingen die Mitte-rechts-CDU/ CSU und die Mitte-links-SPD eine Koalition ein, um eine Regierung zu bilden welche über die Mehrheit der Stimmen verfügt. Nach langen Verhandlungen einigten sich die beiden Parteien auf eine gemeinsame Politik und schlugen Friedrich Merz von der CDU als Kanzlerkandidaten vor.

The German Parliament has

ermany has new chancellor, the head of the federal government. On May 6th, 2025, the 'Bundestag', the German federal parliament, comparable to the US house of representatives, elected Friedrich Merz as the 10th

German chancellor. However, this election came with a big surprise. Friedrich Merz failed the first round of voting, only 310 out of 630 members of parliament voted for him. This had never happened before. All 9 previous German chancellors had been elected in their first round of voting. In a second round of voting, 325 members of parliament voted for Friedrich Merz, electing him chancellor and bringing a good ending to this dramatic day. Maybe this made you curious to learn more about how Germany elects its members of parliament. For the

> ones who are interested and don't know, here is a short lesson. There are guite a few differences between the US and the German voting system. Let's start with the basics. Germany has 299 voting districts, each of which has about the same number of eligible voters. Under normal circumstances, a new "Bundestag" and all of its 630 members are elected every 4 years. That was the easy part.

The rules for electing the representatives

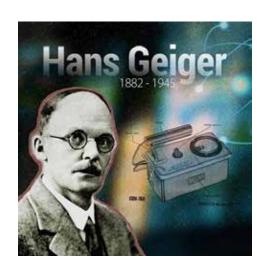
and calculating the number of parliamentary seats each of the participating parties have won in an election are guite different from the elections for the US house of representative. First, there are no primary elections, instead political parties nominate candidates out of their membership ranks. Second, the ballots used for the elections allow each voter to cast two votes. The first vote is used to elect a representative for the voting district. The second vote is really important; it is cast for a party and determines the number of seats each party has won in the election. This would be easy if there weren't some additional rules. Only parties that won at least 5% of all second votes nationwide or that won at least three of the 299 direct districts will be represented in the parliament. The total number of representatives for each party is strictly based on the party's percentage of second votes. For example, if the number of directly elected candidates for a party is higher than the number of seats this party has won with its second-vote share, then the number of its directly elected candidates entering the parliament is limited to the number of seats acquired through the second-vote share. In case a party won more seats with its second vote share than won by its directly elected candidates, the party will fill these additional seats with party members from a list published before the election. Following the federal election in February 2025, six parties are represented in the Bundestag. Since none of these parties has a majority, the center-right CDU/CSU and the center-left SPD created a coalition to form a government which has the majority of votes. After lengthy negotiations, the two parties agreed on a common policy and proposed Friedrich Merz of the CDU as their candidate for chancellor.

- Martin Kohler

Elected a New Chancellor

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





HANS GEIGER – SCIENTIST/INVENTOR

Hans Geiger was born in Neustadt an der Hardt (about 20 miles southwest of Mannheim in 1882. Geiger was the oldest of five children born to a professor of languages. He studied physics at universities in Munich and Erlangen where he received a PhD degree in 1906. Upon graduation, Geiger joined the staff at the University of Manchester where he worked as an assistant to Authur Schuster and Ernest Rutherford. Together they developed a counter for alpha particles in the nucleus of the helium atom. In 1912, Geiger returned to Germany to accept a position as head of radiation research at the Physikalisch-Technische Reichsanstalt (German National Institute for Science and Technology) in Berlin. His work was interrupted in 1914 by WWI where he served as an artillery officer until the war ended in 1918. In 1925, Geiger began a teaching position at the University of Kiel where he and his student, Walter Mueller created the Geiger-Mueller tube, a device that could detect alpha, beta and gamma particles, and is the basis for the Geiger counter. The Geiger counter

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Chef Ewald.

marked the beginning of modern electrical devices into radiation research. Albert Einstein called the measuring device "humankind's most sensitive organ." Geiger then taught at the University of Tübingen where he observed a cosmic ray shower and Technische Universität Berlin where he continued to research cosmic rays, nuclear fission, and artificial radiation. In 1939, Geiger became a member of the se-

cretive Uranium Club, the German investigation of nuclear weapons during WWII. Geiger endured WWII in Berlin but fled to Potsdam after the Russian occupation in the spring of 1945. Geiger died in 1945 two months after the American atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan. Hans Geiger was honored on a stamp issued in 1998 by Antigua and Barbuda.

—Barbara Streit

Memorial Tribute Program Gift in Tribute

Donations for the following Funds have been made by:

- OPERATING FUND: Joyce Lubach and Family in Memory of Ernst and Else Poesl
- CULTURAL FUND: Irma Gahan in Honor of our German State Dinner Seriesh
- WALTER LEHMANN FUND: Hans-Peter Helmers in Memory of Magda Helmers (Mother) | Gerhard and Julie Schlotterbeck in Memory of Fran Steinmetz

We thank you for your generosity

Donators Please Note: The form below should only be used for donations to our various funds in memory or in tribute.

Deutscher Club of Clark Inc.

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PLEASE PLACE THIS GIFT IN FOLLOWING FUND:		
Check made to Deutscher Club of Clark: \square Operating \square Building \square Cultural		
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Gereon Wiese

- Proud DC Member
 - Former German Diplomat
 - My Languages: German, English, Chinese, French



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