



THE GERMAN-CANADIAN CLUB LONDON

1 Cove Road, London, Ontario N6J 1H7 Tel: (519) 433-2901 Fax: (519) 433-2121
E-mail: germancanadianclub@rogers.com www.germancanadianclublondon.com

Annual General Meeting & Elections

Sunday March 4th 1.00 pm

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear members and friends,

In this, my last addition to the newsletter, I allow myself a brief look back over the past seven years.

In March 2005 I accepted the responsibility for the helm of the club, to complete the last year in the term of office of my friend Erwin Schickel. One year later I was asked to remain in office for a further two year term. More than the requests by fellow members, it was the urging from my wife, which made me decide to continue to serve the club.

After a one year absence, in 2009, I was again persuaded to step into the breach. I did so with the definite plan of transforming the club from a totally volunteer driven association to an organization with businesslike management. Our eager and joyful volunteers, of whom we have far too few at this time, are, like the vast majority of our members, in an age group for which many aspects of managing the club has become a burdensome job.

With the help of a federal-provincial government program we were able to obtain the services of a manager (Chris Wesley) and an events/marketing coordinator (Jody Curtis) and as result were able to lighten the workload of our executive as well as our volunteers. Just for your information I would like to add that the program referred to above ended in June 2011 and since then the club is carrying all expenses, including wages and related costs.

With the efforts of these employees our hall rentals increased markedly, which, of course is necessary to enable us to pay wages, but moreover to ensure the financial health of our club far into the future and to enable us, the volunteers, to concentrate our efforts on organizing cultural functions and events. We have not yet reached our goal, however I am convinced that Chris and Jody, in cooperation with the executive, will even this year attain the expected success.

Despite ongoing, vigorous attempts, I did not achieve the attraction of younger members or the re-establishment of a busy, viable club-restaurant. However, both goals are still being pursued. The closer association with the German Language School London is bearing fruit here and there and an advertising campaign, in cooperation with Chef Dragan, is designed to bring guests into our restaurant.

Bob Walters

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear members.

The club has its Annual General Meeting on Sunday March 4 at 1 p.m.. Because I am chairman of the Election Committee, I've been in contact with a lot of members. I know how frustrating it can be to receive only negative answers when you ask for help. Just ask yourself the simple question - how would be for you if the club did not exist any more? This could very quickly become reality if no-one is willing to take on some duties for the club. It is not enough to support the club by being there at events or financially. An ethnic organization like ours can only stay alive with the support and help of every single member.

Right now, the club needs help. Two directors' positions are still vacant and the work load rests on fewer shoulders. This situation has existed for several years, but it is no longer tolerable.

Why not just jump in and run for one of the Director positions? If that doesn't suit you, think about how you can help the club in other ways. It may be enough just to pick one of the duties you have fun with and work on it, to ease the job of the committee. There are already good examples of how individual members can make a real difference. If you have a good idea for the club, just go for it.

We have a number of interesting and lively groups within the club, as well as the German Language school group. However, in my opinion it is tragic that these groups are so separate, isolated, and even hostile to each other, providing no warm, friendly and communal support for the club as a whole. This is the biggest single problem for our club and if goodwill and connection are not soon generated between these groups, the club will not survive.

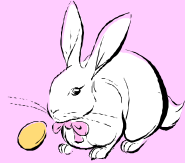

We invite everyone who is interested in German culture and German tradition to participate in creating a friendly, active and attractive Club life at our German Canadian Club here in London.

Burkhard Spangenberg & Kate Partridge

MARCH EVENTS

Thursday 1	Handcraft	1.00 pm
Friday 2	Skat, Card play	7.00 pm
Sunday March 4th	Annual General Meeting & Election	1.00 pm
Sunday 4	Senior's Kaffeeklatsch	After the meeting
Thursday 15	Handcraft	1.00 pm
Sunday 18	Special Event Kaffeeklatsch	2.00 pm
Wednesday 21	Chor Lyra Annual meeting	7.00 pm
Wednesday 21	Bingo	2.00 pm
Thursday 29	Handcraft	1.00 pm

APRIL EVENTS

Sunday 1.	Seniors Kaffeeklatsch	2 pm
Friday 6.	Skat card game	7 pm
Saturday 7.	EASTER EGG HUNT 	2-4 pm
Thursday 12.	Handcraft	1 pm
Sunday 15.	Special Event Kaffeeklatsch	2 pm
Wednesday 18.	Bingo	2 pm
Sunday April 22nd	Day of Song 	2 pm

Everyone is welcome to all Seniors' events
Every Monday at 8 pm: Lyra Choir Practice

AN IMPORTANT LETTER FROM ERICH KUTZNER, VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Member and Supporter of the German Canadian Club London

This article is addressed to everyone who has an interest in the continued existence of our club. It may come as a surprise to many and likely totally unexpected. Please let me explain the reason for sounding this alarm.

Many people may not realize that the continued existence of this club depends entirely on the availability and efforts of the “volunteer” duty person, who is essential to the operation of the club. Without this volunteer, the club doors will remain closed for all club activity that is not a function of one of the Club Sub Groups, which generally have someone from their group in a supervisory position.

The duty person is required to open, close and secure the club doors at the required times and perform all the necessary tasks to enable the club’s routine activities and is at times called upon to make necessary decisions. Tasks are varied and do not require more than average physical strength.

The duty person assumes the responsibility for the club’s operation for one week, after which the next duty person takes over for the following week, and so on. It is never a problem to exchange duty days with other volunteers for days that are required for personal reasons.

This arrangement appears to be the most suitable and is not unbearable, unless, as has been the case for more than seven years, the same person has had to be available every 2nd or 3rd week, year after year, with no end in sight. At this point, it becomes very unfair, considering that there should be at least six or seven volunteers from among our club members and supporters, to share the burden and who, after a 5 or 6 week interval, may even look forward to spending a week at the club, knowing how much the club needs them.

The present situation does not allow for illness or other emergencies among the volunteers without placing substantially more pressure on the remaining volunteer(s). Who could blame them if they decide that it is just too much and say “enough” and resign, especially after more than seven years of this? It is only a matter of time before this situation is bound to happen unless you, the able and willing volunteer, come to the club’s rescue.

This is an urgent appeal to all the members and supporters of our club, who may have the time to support our club for one week of evenings, perhaps every 6th or 7th week, and thereby help share the present unbearable burden that is on the current volunteers.

Regards

Erich Kutzner
for the club’s executive committee

OPENING TIMES		
	CLUB	RESTAURANT
Monday	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	5:30 - 10 pm	6 - 9 pm
Thursday	5:30 - 10 pm	6 - 9 pm
Friday	5:30 pm - 12 am	6 - 10:30 pm
Saturday	5 pm - 12 am	6 - 9 pm
Sunday	5 - 9 pm	Closed

HALL RENTAL RATES		
RATES for	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Ball Room	\$375.00	\$800.00
Cove Room	\$250.00	\$500.00
Dining Room	\$50.00	\$100.00
Sun Room	no charge	\$75.00

Office (Chris and Jody) • 519-433-2901 • germanclub1@rogers.com	Monday to Friday 10 am to 3 pm
Tennis Court (Jupp Rosell) • 519-472-9105 • evelynrosell@bellnet.ca	May to September 7 days a week 8 am to 8 pm
Soccer Field (Jürgen Belle) • 519-860-5502 • juergen.belle@sympatico.ca	For field bookings & training schedule, go to: www.gcfc london.com
Bowling Horst Ammon 519-668-6904 ammon@rogers.com Dieter Marienwald 519-455-2339 • dgmarienwald@rogers.com	Mondays 7 to 9 pm Bowlarama Lanes Thompson Road
Choir (Hans Sandker) • 519-245-1922 • hanssandker@execulink.com	Monday 8 to 10 pm
Seniors (Gerd Kaltenecker) • 519-453-5408 • kaltenecker.gerd@gmail.com	Variable times
Londoner Funken (Audrey Glaese) • 519-520-2476 • frankgl@rogers.com	Carnival meetings Dance and Masquerade
Special Events Helga Bell) • 519-680-5061 • joschi@rogers.com	Variable times Special Events

Congratulations
March and April -
Spring is in the air!
Have fun celebrating
your birthday!





SYBILLE SCHAUFLER ACCOUNTING

Call us for a less taxing tax season.

Difficulties with the German Tax Return(s)?

Many Germans struggle with the recent demands of Germany for Income Tax Returns retroactive to the year 2005

Do you need help?

Call Sybille
(cell) 519-860-3431
OR
(519-262-3431)
(Free pick up and delivery)

Elementary Late Beginners at the German Language School

Our Elementary Beginner class is a fun group of students, male and female, between the ages 9 and 13. German is a foreign language to them because their parents are mostly not German. Their origins are a colorful mixture from many nations. They can trace their roots to France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Poland, Yugoslavia, Russia, Egypt, Mexico, and even Paraguay.

The “latecomers” class is an extra class established to teach these children the basic elements of the German language. After that year they will be placed, depending on their age, into elementary or credit classes.

This year 2011/12, we started in September with only handful students in this class. Since then, the class has grown to ten students. Let me introduce them to you: Nathalie is 11 years old and loves horses. She has already won many awards for riding.

Rachel is 9 years old and likes reading and painting.

Ellie is 11 years old and likes books.

Allen, our “Einstein”, is 12 years old. Computers and technology are his hobbies.

Netti, Isaak, Trudy, and Liza are siblings. Netti is 9 years old and she likes horses. Isaak is 10 years old and he likes going fishing and hunting. Trudy is 12 years old and she likes horses and painting. Liza is 13 years old and she likes cats, gardening and learning languages.

Giulia 12 and Eleonora, both 14, joined the class in January. They like music, sports, and learning languages.

To learn a new language, to learn German, that’s why they are all here. Every Saturday, in wind and rain, in any weather conditions, they come to class, sometimes from outside of London, to study at the German Language School. This is remarkable and we can only praise their ambition. I especially want to thank their parents, because without their input, their help and their enthusiasm we would not have an Elementary beginner class.

Karin Barth, Teacher

The Last Word

It is nice to be important,
but it is more important to be nice

NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Lyra Choir

In the “Kleine Sanger Blatt” we see that the Choir Lyra participated with big success in a benefit concert to support the Cancer Society. The Choir also organizes the Christkindl market, with benefits going to the club.

The ever popular **DAY of SONG** will take place on Sunday April the 22nd at 2 pm.

Seniors Group

The Seniors elected their executive committee:

President	Gerd Kaltenecker
Vice President	Gisela Marienwald
1. Secretary	Trudy Hansch
2. Secretary	Ingeborg Schirmer
1. Treasurer	Renate Otte,
2. Treasurer	Gerhard Frank
Communications/PR:	Sue Frank

Membership

A warm welcome to a new member
Christine Heinemann-Gijzen

Donations

Many thanks for the financial support
of Ms. **Brunhild Kordylewski**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Dr. Burkhard Spangenberg

TEL: (519) 657 - 1776

EMAIL: drbspangenberg@gmail.com

The German Language School of London

offers instruction for
Adults, Elementary & High-School Students

For further information:

- Beate Gundert: 519-433-0766
and 519-432-8625 (voice mail)
- Ilse Spangenberg: 519-769-2338

See our new website for complete details:
www.germanschoollondon.com

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.