# POSTILLION

Der Rundbrief des Saskatchewan German Councils The quarterly newsletter of the Saskatchewan German Council

Volume 34, Issue 3

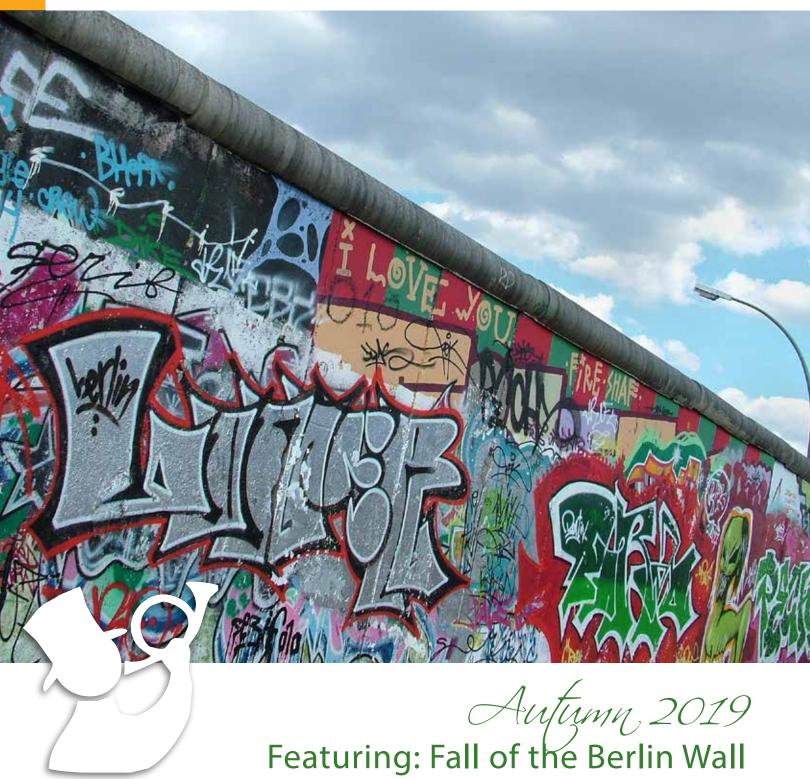










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# IN DIESER AUSGABE IN THIS ISSUE

SABINE DOFBEL-ATCHISON, FDITOR

Der Herbst, der Herbst, der Herbst ist da... auch, wenn es in Saskatchewan schon den ersten Schnee gegeben hat. In dieser Ausgabe des Postillions werden Sie verschiedene interessante Artikel zum Thema Mauerfall finden. Es geht um die Prager Balkonrede, den mittlerweile zum Kultauto gewordenen Trabant und die Botschafterin äußert sich im Interview unter anderem auch über die Beziehungen zwischen Deutschland und Kanada nach der Wiedervereinigung. Passend zu diesem Thema haben wir auch zwei Filmvorstellungen im Ende des Postillions. Falls Sie Lust haben, gibt es genau daneben auch noch Rezepte für herbstliche Getränke, die sicherlich auch sehr qut zu einem gemütlichen Filmabend passen.

Vielen Dank an alle Mitgliedsgruppen, die Artikel und Fotos für diese Ausgabe geschickt haben!

Autumn has arrived ... even if Saskatchewan has already had its first snow. In this edition of the Postillion you will find various interesting articles on the subject of the fall of the Berlin Wall, such as an interview with the German Ambassador to Canada, an article on the Prague balcony speech and one on the East German Trabant. In keeping with this theme, we also have two DVD suggestions at the end of the Postillion. If you feel like it, there are also recipes for fall drinks, which are certainly very suitable for a cozy movie night.

Many thanks to all member groups who sent articles and photos for this issue!

# GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT GRÜSSE VOM PRÄSIDENTEN

**MERV WEISS** 



My term as SGC President began on June 16. The very next day, June 17, the SGC office hosted a meeting with Germany's Ambassador to Canada, Her Excellency Sabine Sparwasser, and the Consul General from Vancouver, Dr. Klaus-Otto Schmidt. I believe that both were genuinely impressed with the work that the Saskatchewan German Council does. Saskatchewan is one of only a few provinces with an umbrella organization for German cultural groups. Naturally, Dr. Michael Oelck, Honorary Consul for Germany in Saskatchewan, and a SGC director, were also present. Later, several of us joined the two German officials at a dinner at the Saskatoon Club, hosted by the Canadian International Council. It was quite a start to my term as President!

It was rather more relaxing to visit Saskatoon's German Cultural Center on June 23 to take in SGC's annual Family Fun Day. I was quite impressed with the range of indoor and outdoor activities devoted to helping young children learn more about German culture and heritage. At this event I was joined by my wife and our two younger grandchildren. That "balloon guy", who has a wonderful way with children, was incredible!

The next day, June 24, Gabi and I attended a meeting at the office of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Saskatchewan branch. The meeting was held to bring me "up to speed" regarding the Eaton Memorial Internment Camp Project at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum. Two more joint meetings dealing with this project were held in July and in August.

In June I also participated in two online webinars: 1) Joining a Board of Directors, and 2) Fund Raising. Finding an Event Sponsor.

Saskatoon's fortieth Folkfest celebration took place August 15, 16, 17. SGC and its member groups were well-represented at the German Pavilion with booth displays by the Saskatoon German Language School, Franziska's Kochlöffel and Nudelholz, including the popular Culture in the Kitchen program, the CFCR 90.5 FM Community Radio program "Treffpunkt Deutschland", a

"Germans from Russia in Saskatchewan" table, as well as the SGC office display. Together, the hosts at these tables interacted with hundreds of Folkfest visitors over the three days. A big thank you to all of the volunteers who helped.

The Spiritwood German Canadian Club participated in the Spiritwood Folkfest celebrations August 30, 31. It is really nice to see this kind of community relationship-building around our province. Oktoberfest season is here, and I know several groups around Saskatchewan are hosting related events.

Throughout September, the SGC office finanlised our Strategic Plan for the next five years. An important component is the Diversity Plan which reaches out to interact with non-German groups. I also attended a budget meeting and the annual Round Table meeting in Davidson on September 28. On October 7 Gabi and I, joined by SGC Director Jacob Knelson, went to Swift Current for the German Heritage Month declaration.

I cannot end my message without a fond greeting to Theresa Kliem, who is leaving her position as SGC's Immigrant Settlement Advisor to return fulltime to her journalism studies. Theresa will be greatly missed in the SGC office. Her base will remain in Saskatoon, and so I am sure, we have not seen the last of her!

Meine Amtszeit als Präsident des SGC begann am 16. Juni. Gleich am nächsten Tag, dem 17. Juni, fand im Büro der SGC ein Treffen mit der deutschen Botschafterin in Kanada, Sabine Sparwasser, und dem Generalkonsul aus Vancouver, Dr. Klaus-Otto Schmitt, statt. Ich glaube, dass beide Beamten von den Aktivitäten des SGC wirklich beeindruckt waren. Saskatchewan ist eine der wenigen kanadischen Provinzen mit einer solchen Organisation. Anwesend war natürlich auch Dr. Michael Oelck, Honorarkonsul für Deutschland in Saskatchewan, sowie ein SGC Direktor. Später kamen einige von uns mit den beiden deutschen Beamten zu einem Abendessen im Saskatoon Club zusammen, das vom Canadian International Council ausgerichtet wurde. Es war ein erstaulicher Beginn meiner Amtszeit als Präsident!

Es war etwas entspannter am 23. Juni, als ich das Saskatoon German Cultural Center besuchte, um am jährlichen SGC Familienspaßtag teilzunehmen. Ich war sehr beeindruckt von den zahlreichen Indoor- und Outdoor-Aktivitäten, die kleinen Kindern helfen sollen, mehr über die deutsche Kultur und das deutsche Erbe zu lernen. Meine Frau und unsere beiden jüngeren Enkelkinder haben mich zu dieser Veranstaltung begleitet. Besonders der "Luftballon-Mann" war fantastisch mit den Kindern.

Am nächsten Tag, dem 24. Juni, besuchten Gabi und ich ein Treffen im Büro des ukainischkanadischen Kongresses (UCC – Saskatchewan Filiale). Das Ziel des Treffens war, mich über die nächste Phase des Eaton Memorial Interment Camp-Projekts beim Saskatchewan Railway Museum zu informieren. Zwei weitere gemeinsame Sitzungen zu diesem Projekt fanden im Juli und im August statt.

Im Juni nahm ich auch an zwei Online-Webinaren teil: 1) Eintritt in einen Vorstand, und 2) Mittelbeschaffung.

Saskatoons 40. Folkffest fand am 15., 16., 17. August statt. SGC war mit verschiedenen Ständen gut vertreten – Saskatoons Deutsche Sprachschule, Hansel & Gretel Preschool, Franziskas Kochlöffel und Nudelholz, einschließlich der populären Kultur in der Küche Programm, CFCR 90.5 FM Radioprogramm

"Treffpunkt Deustchland", "Deutsche aus Russland in Saskatchewan", sowie das Display des SGC Büros. Zusammen haben die Betreuer an diesen Tischen an den drei Tagen mit hunderten von Folkfest Besuchern gesprochen. Vielen Dank an alle Freiwilligen die mitgeholfen haben

Der Spiritwood Deutsch-Kanadische Verein (German Canadian Club) hat am 30. August an den Spiritwood Folkfest Feierlichkeiten teilgenommen. Es ist wirklich schön, wenn Menschen aus verschiedenen Kulturkreisen zusammenarbeiten können. Die Oktoberfest-Saison ist schon hier und ich weiß, dass viele verschiedene Gruppen in Saskatchewan das Fest feieren werden – Saskatoon, Regina, North Battleford, Lloydminster, Melville, und Otter Lake.

Im Monat September hat sich das SGC Büro mit unserem Strategieplan für die nächsten fünf Jahre beschäftigt. Ein wichtiger Teil ist der Diversity-Plan. Das Ziel ist es, mit anderen kulturellen Gruppen zu kommunizieren. Ich habe auch auch an einer Sitzung zum Budget und am jährlichen Runden Tischvon SGC in Davidson am 28. September teilgenommen. Am 7. Oktober sind Gabi und ich zusammen mit SGC Direktor Jacob Knelson in die Stadt Swift Current gereist, um den Monat des Deutschen Kulturerbes zu begehen.

Ich kann meine Mitteilung nicht beenden, ohne einen herzlichen Gruß an Theresa Kliem. Theresa hat ihre Stelle als SGC Beraterin für Einwanderungsfragen aufgegeben, um ganztägig zu ihrem Journalismus Studium zurückzukehren. Sie wird im SGC Büro sehr vermisst werden. Aber Theresa wird immer noch in Saskatoon wohnen, und ich bin sicher, wir haben nicht das Letzte von ihr gesehen!



# SGC Immigrant Settlement Advisor

# Farewell - looking back at 4 1/2 years with the SGC

Theresa Kliem

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Theresa and I have been the Immigrant Settlement Advisor of the Saskatchewan German Council for the last 4 years.

Some of you might also remember me editing the Postillion from spring 2015 to spring 2018. It feels like a déjà-vu writing this article when just three years ago I was in charge of creating a special Postillion edition, celebrating 25 years of German Reunification. During my time at the Saskatchewan German Council, I have had the chance to meet many great people who grew up in East Germany, and we connect because of the things we share - language, culture, traditions - not the things that

So while the SGC as well as the German-Canadian community in Saskatchewan is getting ready to celebrate the anniversary of the Fall of

are different. I am grateful for the chance to have met wonderful people

who used to live on the other side of the Wall until 30 years ago.

the Wall in November 2019, I am getting ready for a new chapter in my life. In September 2019, I enrolled as a student at the University of Regina's School of Journalism.

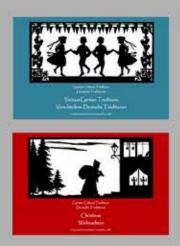
I am so grateful for the last 4.5 years that I was able to work at and with the Saskatchewan German Council. I have made great friends within the German-Canadian as well as the multicultural community in Saskatchewan. I have learned so much during my time as Immigrant Settlement Advisor, and I am looking forward to using my skills and knowledge as a journalist in our province. I have come very far since immigrating to Canada in 2015! Thanks to the Saskatchewan German Council and everybody involved in our community for your support, friendship and guidance! I will miss you all.

# German Cultural Traditions Booklets

available from the

# Saskatchewan German Council





The SGC has created these four beautiful booklets to promote German cultural traditions in Canada.

Each book contains information about the specific tradition, including pictures, songs, recipes and much more. The booklets are written in English and German and make a perfect gift for any occasion, or to keep in touch with your own heritage.

Each books costs \$12 or you can purchase all four booklets for \$40.



# **EVENTS, ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT**

#### Folkfest Saskatoon 2019

This year, Folkfest turned 40 years old! When Folkfest was started, the objective was "to promote mutual understanding through the cultural activities of all ethnic groups". As an ethno-cultural group, SGC is proud to contribute to this purpose and to celebrate our diverse community by actively participating at Folkfest.



At the German Pavilion, our displays this year focused on "German traditions for kids" and "Germans from Russia". Visitors were able to learn everything about Sankt Martin - the legend, songs, traditions and the relevance of lanterns. Children could take a "lantern in a bag" kit with instructions and materials to craft a lantern at home.

Our first-time initiative to exhibit information about Germans from Russia in Saskatchewan at Folkfest was extremely popular and a real conversation starter! Volunteers offered information on historic questions and provided initial family research on site. If the popularity of this display is an indication in community interest in this topic, we will make sure to bring it back next year!



Eaton Internment Camp
Canda's First World War Internment Operations

Plans for a permanent exhibition

A partnership between the the Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Saskatchewan (UCC Saskatchewan), the Saskatchewan German Council (SGC), the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH) at the University of Saskatchewan, and the Saskatchewan Railway Museum (SRM).



#### TRANSLATION & NOTARY PUBLIC SERVICES AT SGC

Translation of documents: English to German / German to English

Notarization services

Fees apply

Please contact the SGC office at 306-975-0845 or office@saskgermancouncil.org for more information!

To update our readers: in May 2018, the Eaton Internment Memorial Garden was opened at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum , the site of the World War I Internment Camp where 65 men were interned from February 25 to March 21, 1919 by the federal government under the War Measures Act. During Canada's First National Internment Operations of 1914-1920, 8,579 Ukrainians, Germans and other Europeans deemed "enemy aliens" were interned in 24 internment camps throughout Canada not for any wrong committed, but because of their ethnic origin.

The Eaton Internment Memorial Garden features a reflection area and historical plaque in French, English, Ukrainian and German, complementing the commemorative monument unveiled in September 2004.

Currently, all four partners are involved in the planning of a permanent exhibit at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum. Plans foresee a modern, interactive exhibition space that tells this unique Saskatchewan story, and gives a voice to the families and descendants of internees. The Eaton Internment Camp Permanent Exhibit Project will serve to commemorate the lives of those unjustly affected by Canada's First National Internment Operations of 1914 – 1920, and will be a knowledge gateway for the people of Saskatchewan to learn more about historical experiences and reconciliation.

#### **Round Table 2019**

The Round Table, formerly known as President's Meeting, is an annual get-together in Davison for SGC member groups with the SGC Board of Directors and staff. The Round Table agenda includes an education session, a break-out session, member consultations as well as an update of SGC's activities.



This year's Round Table on September 28th was kicked off with a workshop by Dr. Michael Zimmermann, Co-ordinator of German, Department Head, Department of International Languages,



University of Regina. Dr. Zimmermann who is also the Vice President of SGC, tackled the topic of "Culture in Crisis? Transitioning, Adapting and Evolving?" talking about his own workplace experiences where the importance of the German language has changed over time. In sharing his own journey of learning how to adapt to an everchanging cultural environment, he also initiated good discussions and provided ideas and a perspective on how to move into the future to keep German culture flourishing in Saskatchewan.

In the break-out session to follow, members were engaged in discussions about the changing culture experienced in their own groups; participants talked about successful ideas on how to adjust to changes, ways for SGC to be supportive in the process, and the future of German culture in Saskatchewan.

During the member consultation, group representatives had an opportunity to report on their accomplishments and issues. Sharing experiences provides solutions for some and inspire others. It connects people and builds the foundation for future partnership and a strong cultural community.

#### Lunch and Learn - Financial Literacy

In July 2019, SGC Immigrant Settlement Advisor Theresa hosted her second Lunch and Learn event for newcomers to Canada. Eight participants came for a fun afternoon of learning about different types of credit and building a good credit history in Canada. Thanks to our partner, the Saskatoon Police Service, for letting us use their cultural room free of charge! The next small group learning session will focus on how to buy a home.

# SGC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Historical Society of Germans From Russia, Regina

Austrian Canadian Edelweiss Club, Regina Austrian Edelweiss Dance Association, Regina Community Radio Society of Saskatoon Inc. Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein

Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers
Concordia Brass Band

Das Schulhaus - Regina German Language School Inc.

Department of International Language, U of R Estevan & District German Freundschaft Society

Folkart Co-op Humboldt

German Cultural Centre, Saskatoon

German Canadian Society Harmonie, Regina German Heritage Society of Humboldt &

District Inc.

German Junior Folk Dancers, Saskatoon
German Language School Saskatoon Inc.
German Russian Cultural Group, Leader
German Students' Association - U of S

Hansel & Gretel Preschool Inc.
Honorary Consuls of Saskatchewan

Imhoff Heritage Society, St. Walburg

Jagd- und Fischverein "Waidmann's Lust", Regina Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie, Regina

Kochlöffel & Nudelholz: German-Canadian Koch- und Backstudio

KulturGarten Saskatoon

Lloydminster German Heritage Society Inc. Melville & District German Heritage Club

Mennonite Heritage Village, Swift Current

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Regina
Not Just Schnitzel Inc.

Prince Albert German Canadian Club Waldhorn

Regina German Film Club

Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of German, Saskatoon

Saskatchewan German Culture Assistance Fund Inc.

Skat Club Saskatoon

Spiritwood German Canadian Club Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Regina Village of Edenwold Cultural Committee Volksliederchor Harmonie Inc., Regina

Zichydorf Village Association



# Rolling Calendar of Events



#### RECURRING EVENTS

**Every last Sunday of the month GERMAN WORSHIP** at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Regina, 2 p.m.

**Every first Thursday of the month DEUTSCH-TREFF (Das Schulhaus)** at Stone's Throw Coffee Collective, Regina, 7-9 p.m.

**Every Tuesday KAISER GAME** at the German Cultural Centre, Saskatoon, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Every Wednesday SKAT** at the German Cultural Centre, Saskatoon, 6:30 p.m.



#### **FOOD & RESTAURANTS**

#### GERMAN CULTURAL CENTRE SASKATOON

Brunch, every Sunday Lunch & Dinner, Tuesday to Saturday Call 306-244-6869 for more information

#### **REGINA GERMAN CLUB**

Lunch Menu, Tuesday to Friday Monthly Supper - Mahlzeit, last Wednesday of the month Call 306-352-5897 for more information



### **OCTOBER**

# 16 TEA, TALK AND A MOVIE

Regina German Film Club

"Wir sind doch Schwestern", 6:45pm at the George Bothwell Library (Southland Mall), free/silver collection.



#### **18** MOVIE & LECTURE TALK: ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT

Saskatchewan German Council, Saskatoon

Movie: "Alexander von Humboldt - I have a yearning for freedom and distant travel" at 6pm, lecture talk at 7:30pm, University of Saskatchewan, Arts & Science Building, 1st floor, ARTS 133. Contact the SGC office or website for more information.

#### 19 BATTLEFORDS OKTOBERFEST

Rotary Club of the Battlefords & Battlefords Agricultural Society

Oktoberfest at the Battlefords Exhibition Park. \$30/person. Tickets available at Canadian Tire, blend restaurant & bar and the Battlefords Agricultural Society. Call 306-445-2024 to book a table.

#### 25 LLOYDMINSTER OKTOBERFEST

Lloydminster German Heritage Society

Oktoberfest at the Stockade Convention Centre. \$30/person. Tickets available at Lloydminster Animal Hospital, Cliff Rose for Clothes, Southside Vet Clinic, Society Members. Call 780-875-7171 or 306-825-3177 for tickets and more information.

#### 25 MELVILLE OKTOBERFEST

Melville & District German Heritage Club 6pm. Contact the SGC office for more information.

#### **26** GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL SASKATOON - BURGER FUNDRAISER

German Language School Saskatoon

Fundraiser at Fuddruckers from 2 to 5pm. \$20/adult, \$12/child.

Please email germanschoolsaskatoon@gmail.com for tickets.

#### **28** HALLOWEEN HOWL

German Cultural Centre, Saskatoon

Family Halloween Party from 4:30 to 8pm. Call the box office at 306-986-4045 to sign up.

### **NOVEMBER**

#### **1** 50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Jagd- und Fischverein "Waidmann's Lust", Regina

50th Anniversary Dinner in the banquet hall of the German Club in Regina, starting at 6pm. We invite anyone who is interested in celebrating with us or wishing to find out more about the club to either contact Ray at (306) 789-6336 or Otto at (306) 545-6175.

#### 9 50TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM OF THE KG HARMONIE

Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie, Regina

Opening of the 2019 Karneval season and 50th anniversary program. Location: German Club in Regina. Ticket \$35/adult, \$25/ child (3 and up). Doors open at 5:00pm. Contact Darlene at 306-545-8873 or Erika at 306-527-3163 or erika.dumont@sasktel.net for tickets and more information.

#### **10** CHRISTKINDLEMARKT

German Cultural Centre, Saskatoon

Call the box office at 306-986-4045 for more information.

#### **13** TEA, TALK AND A MOVIE

Regina German Film Club

A German movie night! 6:30pm at the George Bothwell Library (Southland Mall), free/silver collection.

#### 18 SWISS COOKING CLASS

Kochlöffel & Nudelholz, Saskatoon

Maluns with sides and Süssmost cream for dessert., 6 p.m. at the German Cultural Centre in Saskatoon. \$25/person. Call 306-292-2117 or e-mail kochloeffelandnudelholz@gmail.com to register and for more information.

# **DECEMBER**

#### 9 CHRISTMAS COOKING CLASS

Kochlöffel & Nudelholz, Saskatoon

Non-traditional Christmas dessertst, 6 p.m. at the German Cultural Centre in Saskatoon. \$25/person. Call 306-292-2117 or e-mail kochloeffelandnudelholz@gmail.com to register and for more information.











# An Interview with Sabine Sparwasser, German Ambassador to Canada:

# Canada, Saskatchewan, Language, Fall of the Wall and more

#### Sabine Doebel-Atchison

In September, I had the pleasure of meeting Sabine Sparwasser, German Ambassador to Canada, for an interview at the Embassy in Ottawa. As we sat in her office, she answered questions on German-Canadian relations, the fall of the Berlin wall, the importance of language learning and her visit to Saskatchewan earlier this year. Her passion for the job as Ambassador to Canada is noticeable in her answers to every question and, therefore, it is not surprising that Sabine Sparwasser says that being the German Ambassador to Canada was a "dream come true" for her.

**Postillion:** Throughout your career in Germany's Federal Foreign Office, you have come in contact with Canada several times. Since August 2017 you have been the Ambassador. What does it mean for you to be able to represent Germany here in Canada?

Ambassador Sparwasser: It is very unusual in the Foreign Service to go back to the same country but I have always worked very hard when I was at headquarters. And whenever people asked me what I wanted to have as a next posting, I always said "Canada." That is how I have been allowed to come several times to Canada. It is obviously a country that feels very close to me. My husband is Canadian; my children have both the German and a Canadian passport. Canada is also a very close partner to Germany. We are very likeminded. We live in a world that is getting more and more fragmented and antagonistic and the international rules based world order is getting more disrupted. Canada and Germany are countries that stand together. We share the same values and want to work together in order to protect the order that has served all of us well.

**Postillion:** How would Germany like to be seen abroad?

Ambassador Sparwasser: I think we actually have an excellent standing in the world today. Germany is seen as a technologically very advanced society, a country that is stable and harmonious and that invests itself into peace and prosperity for all countries. It's a country that is at peace with its neighbours. Germany and Canada are always the countries most liked in international opinion polls. We feel in very good company.

**Postillion:** Is there anything Germans can learn from Canadians, or the Canadian way of life?

Ambassador Sparwasser: There are many things we can learn from each other. One particular thing that we keep showcasing to our German visitors in Canada is multiculturalism, how it works and why. In general, the Canadian population is happy to welcome newcomers into the country. Eighty percent of the population sees it as a real benefit to society to have people from all over the world go through an orderly process and come to Canada. Germany has not seen itself as an immigration country for a long time, but this has changed. Germany has actually taken quite a few leaves out of the Canadian book in our new legislation and we are following Canadian best practices very closely.

**Postillion:** Canada is a country with vast distances. It certainly takes time for an Ambassador to get to know the entire country. Therefore, it was really appreciated when you visited Saskatchewan in early sum-



mer and also the office of the Saskatchewan German Council, after all, some 3,000 km from Ottawa. There are certainly many Germans who have never heard of Saskatchewan. Even in the catalogues of large tour operators, the province is often skipped. However, a large number of Germans immigrated to Saskatchewan during the last century and earlier. Just a few years ago, 30% of the population stated that they were of German descent or German-speaking background. Was it your first visit to Saskatchewan? What was your impression of Saskatchewan?

Ambassador Sparwasser: It was indeed my first visit to Saskatchewan and I have to say, I left very, very impressed. I was welcomed warmly. Virtually everybody I talked to said "Oh, I have some German roots!" and made me feel at home. The German community in Saskatchewan is very active and doing a great job at continuing to spread German culture and language. I very much appreciate that.

The other aspect that impressed me in Saskatchewan was the innovation. It is a large, vast province with a relatively small population, totally the opposite of Germany. It has set its priorities on innovation in agriculture, innovation in mining and is working hard to attract investment in order to do more processing in the province. Both our Honorary Consul, who is himself an agricultural expert, and I were particularly impressed to see that the agriculture in Saskatchewan has become climate neutral. I think that is a huge achievement. It's something that we haven't heard about enough and I have been reporting home about it. I hope to see more German interest in looking at research and innovation in Saskatchewan. A German company is now participating in the Protein Cluster in Regina.

**Postillion:** During your trip you also had the opportunity to visit the Saskatchewan German Council office in Saskatoon. With almost 40 member organizations covering various areas of interest and its own Immigrant Settlement Adviser, the SGC has a wide range of responsibilities. What do you consider to be key points to keep organizations like the SGC and its member groups relevant in the future?

Ambassador Sparwasser: First of all, I think the Council does a great job. It has created a vibrant community; and the best sign of that is that it attracts new people, newcomers and young people. The Council has established a culture of welcome and outreach to people coming into the province. It also promotes cultural events, also including fun events for younger people. The work that you do to help newcomers integrate into the province and into the cultural and societal life of the province is certainly a best practice for other German councils and groups.

**Postillion:** How important do you consider a person's mother tongue to be? Is it important for immigrants to continue to speak German and for people of German background to attempt to learn or even re-learn the language their parents or grandparents spoke?



Ambassador Sparwasser: I understand that any immigrant's first priority must be to integrate into the new country and learn its language and have their kids succeed in it. Canada has a philosophy that accepts new-comers and their culture into Canadian society and see what they bring as enriching. If your children can speak and continue to communicate in your heritage language, in the language of the country you come from, it enriches them, too. Science has proven it: A child that grows up learning right away from the beginning two mother tongues, will develop better linguistic abilities than a child that grows up with only one mother tongue. Any young person growing up with German will be able to communicate with relatives at home in a much different way. It also opens a door to education in Germany.

It is not very well known, but I keep highlighting it: university education in Germany is free. A young person who speaks fluent German will be able to access first class education in Germany and will not have to pay university fees. This is a real monetary benefit that people don't know enough about. This apart from the general incentive: the more languages you speak in a globalized world, the more the whole world is open to you and the better you prospects for jobs. [...] And a last point: German is a beautiful language.

**Postillion:** The fall of the Berlin Wall happened 30 years ago. How has the relationship between Canada and Germany changed after the Fall of the Berlin Wall?

Ambassador Sparwasser: [...] I think Canada and Germany have had a very good relationship for the longest time. The support for unification in Canada was enormous. The then Prime Minister Brian Mulroney did a lot to facilitate international leaders coming together for the unification of Germany.

Germany and Canada have always liked each other as countries. Now, however, in a different global context, one in which not everybody shares our values anymore and where we have to defend the international liberal order, Germany and Canada need each other as partners and friends. You can see it demonstrated in the flow of visitors and projects that we are doing jointly. We see that when both our foreign ministers [...] come together and start together what they call an "alliance of multilateralism" in order to work for a rules-based world order. That happens in politics, in science or in trade with CETA, the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement. [...] Trade has been increasing quite significantly.

**Postillion:** Unknown to many readers, Ottawa and the German Embassy also played an important role in the preparation of the two-plus-four talks that led to the reunification of Germany. Even if that was during the time that Mr. Wolfgang Behrends was the ambassador. Is that something you can maybe talk about a little?

Ambassador Sparwasser: In 1990, there was the Open Skies conference taking place in Ottawa. It was shortly after the fall of the wall and the French, British, American and German Foreign Ministers were meeting at the residence I now live in. They were considering: How can we create the conditions of the unification of Germany in a negotiated and

peaceful manner? You have to look back at that time: the fall of the wall was disruptive, the Warsaw Pact was unravelling. We were so lucky that the unification of Germany was so peaceful. The Foreign Ministers created this format, the "two plus four format", in which the two Germanys and the four powers, the post war powers, including the Soviet Union [...] would negotiate a transition. The "two plus four"- negotiations were successful. On October 3, 1990 Germany was unified. The happiest moment of German history.

Postillion: Many of our readers have come to Canada for various reasons and have made their home here, and not wanting to leave again. What makes Canada special for you? And why do you think that Germans are always so drawn to Canada, be it to vacation, study or live here?

continued on the next page...



Ambassador Sparwasser: Canada is definitely a dream country for Germans. When you ask people if they would move somewhere else, I think Canada and Australia always top the list [...]. Canada is a very likeable country, it is a very welcoming country and the tone within society is one that we really appreciate. Germans always say: The Canadians are always so friendly, so polite and so nice. The second thing is obvious: Germany is a small country in size. We are 82 million people on something that is half the size of Baffin Island. If you see the vastness of Canada, its diversity and beauty, you know why a lot of Germans are drawn here.

1. German Embassy in Ottawa . 2. Ambassador Sabine Sparwasser, Consul General Dr. Klaus-Otto Schmidt and Honorary Consul Dr. Michael Oelck at the SGC office in Saskatoon with with SGC board members. 3. A piece of the Berlin Wall gifted by the German government to commemorate the role Ottawa played in the reunification. The piece of the Wall is currently located at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS FALL OF THE WALL THE "PRAGUE BALCONY SPEECH"

BARBARA HOGGARD-I ULAY

The 30th of September 1989 is one of the key dates in recent German history - when the late German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, stood – extremely touched and excited himself - on the balcony of the German Embassy in Prague/Czechoslovakia to declare in front of more than six thousand people from the former German Democratic Republic (GDR) - who had sought refuge in the German Embassy in Prague between July and the end of September – that they were free to leave the Embassy for West Germany.

It was in the early evening when Foreign Minister Genscher started his announcement by saying "My fellow Germans, we have come to tell you that today your departure..." Before he could finish the sentence the crowd in the packed Embassy's small backyard burst out with cheer.

How did this memorable announcement become possible which was one further step that eventually led to the Fall of the Wall just a few more weeks later, on November 9, 1989?

As early as September 1988 at the United Nations' General Assembly Mr. Genscher had told the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze that he was expecting protest demonstrations in East Germany unless at least some reforms were made. The ongoing collapse of the Communist political and social order would not stop at the borders of East Germany.

In fact, in the beginning of May 1989 Hungary began reducing its forces at the Austrian border, and – as quite a significant historic event - on June 27, 1989, the Foreign Ministers of Hungary and Austria cut through the barbed wire, opening the Iron Curtain that separated Western and Eastern Europe.

Along with Czechoslovakia Hungary was the East Germans' favourite vacation destination, and by September 1989 the number of asylum seekers in Hungary increased to more than 21,000. After several meetings that summer between Mr. Genscher and the Hungarian Minister of For-

eign Affairs, Mr. Horn, and Hungary's Ambassador to Germany, Hungary assured the German government that no one would be sent back. At this time the German Embassy in Budapest could no longer deal with the flood of people. and the Hungarian government was under enormous pressure from East Berlin, being accused of treaty violations. On September 10 official confirmation was received that the East Germans could leave for West Germany, either with a West German passport they had already been issued by then or with their East German passport plus papers issued by the Red Cross.



However, a difficult situation arose when Czechoslovakia closed its border with Hungary. The escape route from East Germany was blocked again. Desperate people now turned to the German Embassies in Prague and Warsaw/Poland.

In Warsaw refugees were accommodated by Polish humanitarian agencies, and Mr. Genscher was also assured by his Polish colleague, Mr. Skubiszewski that there would be no extraditions.

The political situation in Prague was different and there was a fear that East Germans trying to reach or to leave the German Embassy's premises might be arrested and sent back to the GDR. The Embassy's staff was therefore ordered to accept, accommodate and take care of an unlimited number of refugees.

The flood of East Germans seeking asylum at the Prague Embassy increased dramatically, from about 500 between July and mid-September to 6,500 by the end of the month despite the fact that two lawyers had been sent from East Berlin to Prague to persuade the refugees to return home with the promise that they could officially leave East Germany within six months. The well-known lawyers Wolfgang Vogel and Gregor Gysi did not succeed in their appeal.

Like every year, Mr. Genscher, amongst his colleagues from around the world, was scheduled to address the United Nations' General Assembly in New York in the last week of September. That year a team of doctors was on the plane and part of the German delegation because Mr. Genscher had suffered a heart attack on July 20, 1989, and further medical attendance might have been necessary.

In his address to the General Assembly on September 27, 1989 he pointed out that Germany would never make territorial demands after the end of World War II because 50 years ago the Polish people became the victim of this war started by Hitler's Germany and that the inviolability of borders will always be the basis for peaceful coexistence in Europe. With this message – referring to the reform movements in Eastern Europe - he had not only commented on the issue of Germany's eastern border but also on the general stipulations for the two Germanys' rapprochement and probable unification.



During a lunch on the same day to which the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Shevardnadze, had invited Mr. Genscher urgently asked for help in the West German efforts to gain the East German government's permission for the many refugees at the Prague Embassy to emigrate. Shevardnadze promised to brief President Gorbachev. Several meetings followed, also with GDR Foreign Minister Fischer and Czech Foreign Minister Johanes. Another urgent meeting with Mr. Shevardnadze took place on September 28, and the unbearable situation at the Prague Embassy was explained again. He asked "Are there children among the refugees?" The answer was "Yes, many" and the Soviet Foreign Minister said "I will help you!"

Shortly before the return flight to Germany from New York in the afternoon of September 29 a meeting was scheduled in Bonn upon arrival the next morning between Mr. Neubauer, East Germany's permanent representative in Bonn, Mr. Genscher and Federal Minister Seiters. He was responsible for relations with the GDR in the Chancellor's Office.

Mr. Neubauer declared that his government agreed to let the refugees leave from Prague to West Germany, but only on trains passing GDR territory. Mr. Genscher suggested that he and Minister Seiters as well as other top West German government officials should ride on the trains and that he himself would travel to Prague to persuade the refugees of this procedure being safe for them because they would not trust their government and would be fearful of leaving the Embassy.

So, after having returned from New York, after a week with many important meetings that led to this positive outcome, the government plane left again, for Prague, in the afternoon of September 30, 1989.

After 30 years Germans still remember the "Prague Balcony Speech" which actually was only a few sentences long.

I was in Minister Genscher's delegation to the United Nations' General Assembly in September 1989, but just a small delegation of high ranking officials traveled on with him to Prague. However, we knew something special was going to happen - it gave everybody shivers to watch the moment on TV that night and it still does every year when the historical developments of the summer of 1989 are commemorated - September 30, 1989 being one of the highlights in the course of the peaceful revolution that led to Germany's reunification on 3 October 1990. In his speech at the "Fest der Freiheit" at the German Embassy in Prague on September 28, 2019 the former Minister Seiters said: "On this day the first stone of the Wall was quarried out".

As Mr. Genscher's Personal Office manager and personal assistant over 12 years - before I moved to Saskatoon, SK in 2004 - and well connected until his passing in 2016, it was also a very special occasion for me this year to celebrate this event of 30 years ago in Mrs. Genscher's home town of Halle/Saale on September 29, 2019, amongst many former colleagues and companions, and with the Polish and Hungarian Ambassadors in attendance.

Barbara Hoggard-Lulay, Honorary Consul to Saskatchewan (2007 – 2014)

(based on the memoirs of Hans-Dietrich Genscher "Rebuilding a House Divided")

1. German Embassy in Prague. Garden view with the Balcony from which Mr. Genscher spoke (photo: © Raimond Spekking / CC BY-SA 4.0 (via Wikimedia Commons))2. September 30, 2019, Franckesche Stiftungen Panel: left to right: Hungarian Ambassador to Germany, German Consul General in Danzig, Polish Ambassador to Germany. (photo: © Barbara Hoggard-Lulay)

# A Trabant in Saskatchewan

Katharina Ulbrich

To own a Trabant is something special no matter where you live in Germany. To own a Trabant in Canada is unique. Told by SGI, that this is the only Trabant registered in Saskatchewan at the moment makes us wonder where the closest Trabi might be.

This very unique vehicle was produced from 1957 to 1990 by former East German car manufacturer VEB Sachsenring Automobilwerke in Zwickau. The model 601 came out in 1963 and basically remained the same up until 1990, when production stopped.

servo (the car is so light that it needs no assistance from a servo to have one of the best breaking systems of any car), no disc brakes (drum brakes are all this car needs to have one of the most efficient braking systems of any car, due to the light weight nature of the body, and also due to the fact that the car rarely travels faster than 110 km/h) and no external fuel door (drivers have to pour a mix of gasoline and oil directly into the tank under the hood).

Potential buyers usually applied for a new Trabi right after their 18th birthday, the day they were eligible to send in the application and were placed After we moved to Canada in 2007, we were wondering if it would be possible to own and drive a Trabant in Canada. Research took a while and Transport Canada, SGI or Border Security Agency had to discuss the matter on their end before we could get our answers. Finally we knew what to do and started looking for "our" Trabi on German websites. We limited our search to the area, where we used to live to make it easier for one of Karsten's friends to have a look at the condition of the vehicle. When we had decided on our 1989 Trabant 601 deluxe in the summer of 2014, Karsten's family bought it for his 50th birthday. It is a beige hatch back and deluxe means it has a radio and frog lights.

In the spring of 2015 the Trabi was picked up at our brother-in-law's, transported by truck to Bremerhaven, the harbour city, driven! onto the ship to headed to Halifax, transported by rail to Saskatoon and finally hauled by truck to our doorstep. Since the Trabi is operated by stick shift on the steering wheel, we had to write down information in German and English on how to drive it, in order to have it driven on and off the boat.

The Trabi ran when it arrived but was in rough shape. Karsten worked on it every night for about 6 weeks to get it in good enough shape for inspection. It passed the safety check and was registered with "Trabant" as license plate number.



The reason for the abrupt stop of the production was the fall of the Berlin wall in November 1989. With the two German countries reunified and all kinds of vehicles from former West Germany available for purchase, there was no demand for the Trabant anymore.

The Trabant has a duroplast body, a hard plastic made from epoxy resin and recycled cotton waste, mounted on a one-piece steel chassis. When you read the next paragraph, you might wonder if I'm talking about a lawn mower or a skidoo, but no, it's a car.

It has no water pump or water filter (air cooled), no oil filter or oil sump (oil mixed with the gasoline on a ratio of 50:1, no further lubrication of the engine is needed), no timing belt (since there is no cam shaft, the timing belt is not needed), no valves (the holes for exhaust and input of fuel within each cylinder are set at the exact angle which allows a vacuum and resultant pressure wave from the fuel combustion to act as valves), no cam shaft (since there are no valves, no cam shaft is needed), no Points (each cylinder is supplied by it's own solenoid directly, ensuring the maximum direct connection between the solenoid and the spark plug), no distributor cap (the electronic ignition does away with the need for a distributor cap), no brake

on a waiting-list of up to thirteen years. Because of the long waiting time the free market price for a second-hand vehicle was more than twice the price of a new one, depending on age.



As newlyweds, we purchased our first second-hand Trabant in 1986. For a 10-year-old model we still paid more than the price of a new one, which was half of an annual income. Repairs could be done at home by my husband Karsten, a mechanically inclined man. Parts could be purchased overpriced on the black market, since there was a long waiting list at a store for those as well. We drove our Trabi until 1990, when the wall had come down and we upgraded to a Volkswagen Golf.

Now we drive our Trabi to car shows in town and the area, occasionally to work or for grocery shopping, and once a year to Saskatoon for the Rock 102 car show & shine. The 460 kms on way take us about 6 hours and cost us about \$35.00 in gas.

It is fun to own this unique piece of East German history. People are always interested when we stop somewhere and we like to see peoples faces when we drive by.

# - NEW POSTILLION SERIES - GENEALOGY AND IDENTITY, PART 2

MFRV WFISS

I never thought really about my German heritage while I was growing up. My parents never spoke German with us children, even though it was their first language learned in their homes. Nevertheless, as a kid, I frequently heard German being spoken – at home when visitors came, when we visited my Grandmother, outside the Church after Mass, when we visited relatives and neighbors, and in the shops and on the streets of our town. Sometimes it was totally German, and sometimes it was a mix of German and English. Sometimes, it was just terms of endearment directed at children. I remember an aunt who often playfully referred to me as "Strubelkopf." And another I will never forget, "Du kleine Rotznase!"

Because I heard the German language often in my formative years, I knew many German words before I went to school. From today's vantage point, I can see that I was more German than I realized when I was growing up. What sense of German-ness I had in my youth came through language. My memories of this language have played a big part in re-awakening my identity as an ethnic German. A bigger role has been my ongoing genealogical research – more about this later.

Words I remember from my youth:

Der Hund, die Katze, die Großmutter, der Dumkopf, Goschel, der Rahm, der Schaum (when we "separated" the cream from the milk), das Bauchweh, Kopfweh, das Messer, die Gabel, der I öffel.

I remember Du, du, ....! coming from Grandmother. ".... du schlechtes Kind". Or from a frustrated adult -- "Weg, Kind... geh weg!"

You too likely remember: "Schnell, schnell!" or "Macht schnell!" and "Raus!", as mother might have said to a dog who tried to sneak into the porch during a lightning storm.

We often played a card game called Durak (дурак). Durak is the Russian word for donkey. The loser was called "du Esel", and sometimes "du dummer Esel". We still play this game in our family today.

Of course there were complete expressions as well-

Na, was sagst du?! – a latter day version of "What's up?" There was also "Wie gehts?" Good-bye was seldom Auf Wiedersehen. More often, it was "Machts Gut!" The response might have been "Machts besser!"

Other expressions – Was suchst du? Was ist los? Doch, Doch. – I remember these well. (What are you looking for? What is wrong? Of course, of course.) One of my favorites – Jetzt gehts los! – implies an impending problem.

Ach, du Lieber, sort of like "Oh, my God!" Or in today's parlance, OMG.

Donnerwetter, or more emphatic, Donnerwetter nochamal (noch einmal), an expression of surprise, like "son-of-a-gun" or "gosh darnit anyway"

Some expressions invoked the Lord -- Gott im Himmel. Gott sei Dank.

Of course, anything connected to food, for example, ein Stück Brot, Wascht (Wurst), Speck. The neighbor's Wascht would be criticized if it had too much "Schpeck" in it. Every family thought its sausage recipe to be the best one.

In our home, we ate Knoepfle, Dampfnudla, Strudla, Schlitzkeichle, Wassermelonen, and sauerkraut but Rouladen and Rotkohl were unknown in our home.

I remember the playful teasing about which was the correct word for potato – my Dad's family used the word Grumberre while Mom said Kartoffel.

Words I remember from the farm: der Schwanz, das Schwein, die Kuh, das Ross/ das Pferd (horse), der Mist (Mischt), der Hahn, das Huhn/ die Hühner, die Gänse, die Gatche (ducks).

I remember men singing German songs at weddings.

I grew up German not just in language, but also in attitude – attitude towards family, work, home, yard, responsibility for possessions, not necessarily unique to Germans but a common trait among us, I would say. There was no worse "putdown" in my home or community than for someone to be called "faul" (lazy).

So that's a little background about my youth. More important to me now, is that I feel as if I have re-discovered my German-ness. This discovery of identity has really come about through meeting second cousins who live in Germany. Cousins I never knew I had. No one else in my family knew either. How did I find these second cousins? Well, it's a long story!



# News from Member Groups

The Saskatchewan German Council Inc. has 38 member groups throughout Saskatchewan. Those groups include cultural clubs, language schools, dance groups, choirs, genealogical groups, and many more. The following pages contain articles by SGC member groups.

#### SUMMER AND FALL

#### Kochlöffel & Nudelholz: German-Canadian Koch- und Backstudio, Saskatoon — Franziska Davies-Perret

The cooking season started with participation at the German Pavilion for Folkfest (see photo). Thank you again to the volunteers that offered up their time to sit at our table and answer question about our cooking classes. The biggest draw for everyone was the candy guessing game! New for the table was a display on Apfelschorle and Weck jars! I'm excited to start planning the display for next year's Folkfest.

I was very organized over the summer this year, which means the cooking classes from September 2019 to May 2020 have been planned out already - recipes were researched and translated! Let the cooking season begin!

The September 2019 cooking class has been in the making since we had a wine tasting class to celebrate German Heritage Month in October 2017. Rob and his brother Eric were kind enough to come in for our beer tasting class and teach a bit about a variety of German beers. Besides the tasty beer the night included frying up Bratwurst and making an onion jam to accompany it. The class was filled with laughs and everyone enjoyed themselves!

For October, we're making Beef Medallions with horseradish cream and beans. For dessert we're making a childhood favourite - Spaghettieis! Included will be a short history on how this dish came to be so popular.

If you'd like to be added to our email list to receive information regarding the upcoming cooking classes or if you have any other questions, please email me at kochloeffelandnudel-holz@gmail.com



### **NEWS FROM THE BRASS BAND**

#### **Concordia Brass Band, Saskatoon** — *Yvonne Kristoff*

Concordia Brass Band has been playing concerts and entertaining audiences since starting up in February of this year. We are booked into October with several Oktoberfests and performances at care homes. We have not played as many concerts this year as in the past couple of years but this has been a blessing in disguise. It has given us time to rehearse music we haven't used in several years and it is refreshing to play other repertoire. In the past few years we started with concerts a couple weeks into our late

winter practices. We played in 2 parades this summer, one was so hot that we nearly sunburned. In the Saskatoon Exhibition Parade we finished the parade as it started to drizzle and by the time the truck got us back to our vehicles we looked like drowned rats! We rode on the back of a flatbed trailer in a downpour! We continue to rehearse and perform week by week and it is surprising that summer is over already and we are looking fall in the face.



#### LOOKING FOR A CREATIVE GIFT IDEA?

#### COOKBOOK: A COLLECTION OF AUSTRIAN, GERMAN AND SWISS RECIPES

The Saskatchewan German Council has the perfect gift idea for you! Our cookbook contains a collection of divers Austrian, German, and Swiss recipes. The 2nd edition just came out last year, published in cooperation with our member group Kochlöffel & Nudelholz. Come and explore the famous as well as delicious food of different German-speaking areas in Europe.

Please contact us in Saskatoon at 306-975-0845 or office@saskgermancouncil.org for more info!

#### HELLO FROM THE KARNEVALSGESELLSCHAFT HARMONIE GROUP

Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie, Regina — Sheila Aldous

Fall is here, it is time for the kids to return to school and regular practices. Not that our dancers have had a break this past summer. They were busy attending events in the city and the province but our Board and Committees did take a break to enjoy the sun.

Our Board would like to extend an invitation to everyone to our 50th Anniversary Crowning Event at the Regina German Club. Present... Past...Future...Carrying on the Tradition. The event takes place Friday, November 8th with a Social Evening and Saturday, November 9th with a Supper and the Formal Event. Please contact:

Erika (erika.dumont@sasktel.net) or Darlene (darrubrecht@myaccess.ca) for additional information or for tickets. The event will honor all of the past Prince and Princess Couples and a performance with past dancers.

The Dance Groups took part in the Canada Day Folkfest in Saskatoon, Regina Dragon Boat Festi-

program in Wascana Park, Motif in Moose Jaw, val and other events in the City including a visit to the Harbour Landing Childcare Summer Program. Along with dancing the group was also busy fundraising this summer.

Our group again is planning a St. Nicholas night at the Regina German on Wednesday, Decem-

A big thank to the Regina German Club, SGC and all our supporters.

If you are interested in joining the group or dancing with us, our contacts are: President -Erika DuMont (306-527-3163) (erika.dumont@ sasktel.net) or Vice-President - Darlene Rubrecht (306-545-8873) (darrubrecht@mvaccess.ca). 1. Harbour Landing Childcare. 2. Folkfest in Sas-

katoon. 3. Folkfest in Saskatoon.







### GREETINGS FROM THE REGINA AUSTRIAN EDELWEISS DANCERS

Regina Austrian Edelweiss Dancers, Regina — Rachel Shoulak



Ring! Ring! As the school bell chimes marking the start of Autumn. Our little dancers can not wait to get back. The Regina Austrian Edelweiss Dancers are excited for the year which lies ahead, with practices starting Tuesday, September 10th. Registration is held throughout September for all age groups. If you are interested in



joining our group or having our group perform for you, please feel free to email us at reginaaustriandancers@gmail.com!

We are privileged once again to have a member of our senior group, Tegan Zankl, instructing our junior dancers. With Tegan's 14 years of experience in the group and notes, which have been passed down from instructor to instructor, we are sure to have an exciting year. Unfortunately, our fantastic senior instructor Wade Mclean has resigned after years of hard work. Although this will be a change, Wade is confident in our senior group to keep Austrian traditions alive.

Usually, our dancers have a few months off to enjoy summer and rest up for the busy autumn. However, this year, we had a fantastic opportunity to visit Saskatoon's Folkfest. We had eight senior dancers and two junior dancers attend. This weekend was full of traditional dancing. Schnitzel, and catching up with our Saskatoon friends. We look forward to participating in years to come with the whole group! Prost!

- 1. Dancers performing at Folkfest in Saskatoon.
- 2. Dancers at Folkfest in Saskatoon

#### NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

#### GREETINGS FROM VOLKSLIEDERCHOR HARMONIE

**Volksliederchor Harmonie, Regina** — Anita Jadischke

We said farewell to Bernadette Kutarna who retired as our accompanist at the end of our second semester. She was presented with a gift and thanked for her 13 years of dedication to the choir at our AGM on Tuesday, June 18. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

After a well-deserved rest during the summer, our choir enjoyed a welcome back/membership drive barbecue at the home of Maria Hartman on Tuesday, September 3. We thank Maria for preparing the delicious food and providing the beautiful surroundings in her yard. A great time of fellowship was had by all.

We extend our condolences to the family of Rose Walter, who passed away on July 28, 2019. Rose was a choir member for 30 years. We sang two songs at her funeral which was held on Saturday, September 7 at the Regina Funeral Home.

On Saturday, September 14, the German Club partnered with the Heritage Community Association to celebrate their 10th annual Harvest Moon Festival. The choir performed during the afternoon celebration.

On Tuesday, September 17 we held our first rehearsal for the fall/winter season. We welcomed Carol Mills, as our new accompanist. She is the wife of our choir director, Blair Mills. Goodies and coffee were provided by the soprano singers.

During the time of fellowship, we welcomed a very special wee guest. Our choir member, Darla McKellar-Chmarney brought her one month old daughter, Elsie May, for a visit. We congratulate Darla and her husband Brian on the birth of their daughter. Several choir members took turns cuddling the beautiful baby. We presented Elsie with a cute baby outfit. We're hoping she will become a choir member in the future.

We are practising for our Christmas concert which will be held on Sunday, December 1 at 2:30 p.m. at the German Club.

The Volksliederchor Harmonie invites you to come sing with us. We are an all-ages mixed choir that sing in German and English. We perform two concerts a year – in December and in May. We also perform at several events and care homes throughout the year. Costumes are provided for performances. We rehearse at the German Club on Tuesdays, from 7 – 9 p.m. For further information, call (306) 352-5114.







1. Welcome back BBQ. 2. Performing at Harvest Moon Festival. 3. Darla and Elsie May.

# **AUTUMN COMES TO THE REGINA GERMAN CLUB**

**German-Canadian Society Harmonie, Regina** — Patrick Kossmann

The Regina German club started the summer with our first annual Solstice Celebration. The event saw patrons celebrating the coming of summer with fire dancers, food, drink, music, and revelry. Patrons were able to spend the evening in our club and on the new patio partying into the wee hours of the morning. Our use of the patio continued through the summer months with Friday BBQ's. Many Friday's found our new space packed with hunger people enjoying Bryce's Smoked chicken, Bratwurst, Pulled Pork, or Shishliki. We thank all who came for our meals and encourage them to now attend our monthly Mahlzeits. On the last Wednesday of the month we will be holding a supper in our



hall to raise funds for our continued operation. Our fist meal will be Chicken Schnitzel in a Lemon Dill sauce and Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes.

Regina saw the German Club's male dancers (see photo) taking part in the Summer Bash event held in Harbour landing. The men donned their leathers and performed in the sun showing the city what the manliest form of rhythmic movement is all about. Early September saw the guys performing again for the city, this time at the Harvest Moon festival. The event had many organizations from the city performing at the Regina German Club throughout the day. These events have been good practice for the guys as with fall approaching Oktoberfest Season is upon us. One of the first Oktoberfest events was put on by Rebellion Brewing. Das Volles Lederpaket showed up at the brewery and performed 4 dances to close down the day. The next big Oktoberfest event is of course our own on October 4th and 5th. The day will start with our Auftakt and Mr & MS Oktoberfest contest and then on the 5th with our children's afternoon, keg tappings, parades, dances, and contests. See the club for details and to get tickets. The guys are looking for new dancers so if you'd like to try it out stop by the club on Monday's after 7:00 pm.

The Kleine Pakete (kids Schuhplattler group) have started their own practices and are also looking for new members. If you want to get involved with this group call the club (306-352-5897) to find out when they are practicing.

Make sure you check out our website (www. reginagermanclub.ca) for details regarding future activities happening at the club.



### **GERMAN JUNIOR FOLK DANCERS UPDATE**

**German Junior Folk Dancers, Saskatoon**—Barbara Stehwien





As the fall season begins, our group is enjoying great summer memories and looking forward to new beginnings this fall season.

As our photos show, we entertained for the ever growing Rock your Roots Walk for Reconciliation by the river, followed by an all new Multicultural Day event at the River Landing amphitheatre. And for our 25th time, we performed on the outdoor stage to help celebrate Canada Day.

We did have to send regrets to invitations for the great sounding Samosa festival, as well as Ness Creek, but we're hoping to have more available dancers during next years' summer holidays.

The new beginnings include an open invitation to check out our folk dance group – come try

our dances and learn about the many multicultural events we take part in. Children, youth and adults, all are welcome! Or just come for the fun and fitness of recreational cultural dance. The benefits are enormous!

Our Christmas season promises to be exciting, as we plan to put a different twist on our Minifest. Watch our twitter for details.

As our existence is dependent on volunteers and outside funding, like most groups and individuals involved in arts and culture, this bumper sticker on a teacher's car really strikes a note:

I dream of the day when schools get all the funding they need and the airforce has to hold a bake sale to buy a bomber.

And with that, we invite you to also watch for our annual Lebkuchen and German Candy sales, as well a first try at a German Book Sale, that will include movies, music, toys and more.

Please feel free to get in touch for any questions, interest in dance or donations to our Book Sale: barbaragjfd@gmail.com
Barbara Stehwien
www.GermanJuniorFolkDancers.ca
@Saskatoon\_GJFD

1. Rock your Roots - Our longest dance to the longest Reconciliation parade yet.. 2. Multiculturalism Day - On the big red amphitheatre stage. 3. Canada Day - Never too hot to dance in costume?

#### NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

#### **NEWS FROM HANSEL & GRETEL PRESCHOOL**

Hansel & Gretel Preschool, Saskatoon — Ulrike Hecker

After a long and relaxing summer, all of our teachers have recharged their batteries. We are now looking forward to a new year of fun and learning with our pre-schoolers!

Classes are in full swing and even after only three weeks of preschool, our students are already singing songs and know how to count and say colours in German.

Like every year, we had a staggered start in September and only half of the students, stayed for the first day of class. This gave us the opportunity to meet our families and helped our little ones to settle into their new routine. A large number of our current students are children of alumni families. We greatly appreciate and value this continuous trust in our preschool program.

Hansel & Gretel Preschool is an English-German bilingual program that offers a 3 and a 2 day program for three and four year old children. If you have a child eligible for preschool, please contact us! We would be happy to give you a tour.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of FUN & LEARNING at Hansel & Gretel Preschool.

For more information, please contact: Uli Hecker coordinator.hanselandgretel@gmail.com, phone 306-281-4428

Web: http://hanselandgretelpreschool.blogspot.ca Facebook

1. Working together as a team. 2. Making new friends. 3. All of our "ducklings" in a row.







### UPDATE FROM THE KULTURGARTEN

**KulturGarten, Saskatoon** — *Brigitte Boldt-Leppin* 

Fall is in the air! The leaves are turning their colour and are falling one by one. It's time to harvest the fruit of the land. Despite the dry spring and summer, my tiny back alley vegetable garden produced a "bumper" crop of produce. The yellow colours of fall decorate the flower beds and the fragrant smell of the sweet peas wafts through the open kitchen window, competing with the aroma of freshly baked Zwetschgenkuchen.

An aroma bringing back memories of delivering sheets of Zwetschgenkuchen and Kaffee on those sunny September afternoons to the crew harvesting and celebrating the harvest on our farm in Germany. The preparations for KulturGarten's third annual Erntedankfest have started months ago. Reservations for the location, Saskatoon Farmers Market, date October 5th, time 10am – 2pm, were set early in the year. For entertainment the adult and children dancers were invited and the choir started practicing. Cakes were selected and baked for sale and the vendors approached for donations for the Gabentisch and Friendship Inn.

# FUNDRAISING TIME AT CFCR - ALTERNATIVE ALGORHYTHM

**CFCR Community Radio Station, Saskatoon** — Theresa Kliem

It's the busiest time of the year for all volunteer hosts at Saskatoon's Community Radio Station CFCR 90.5 FM!

FM-Phasis is our annual fundraising drive and this year's motto is Alternative AlgoRhythm. Every program is unique at CFCR and our team of hosts brings you a wide array of music and spoken word shows as well as multicultural programs.

Treffpunkt Deutschland is the German program at CFCR 90.5 FM and we are proud to share German music with the community in Saskatoon every Sunday from 1 pm - 3 pm.

All donations are welcome and will support German radio programming in Saskatchewan. Donations are needed to improve your, the listeners', experience! CFCR constantly needs to upgrade equipment, expand the online

presence and of course pay rent. FM-Phasis is essential to CFCR's and consequently Treffpunkt Deutschland's existence!

So how can you help? First of all, start listening to Treffpunkt Deutschland. If you live in Saskatoon, just turn on your radio at 90.5 FM. If you live outside of Saskatoon, go online to cfcr.ca/onair.

There are many ways for you to pledge your support to Treffpunkt Deutschland. Just call CFCR at 306-664-6678, check out our website cfcr.ca/news/fmphasis2019, or visit CFCR in person at 267 3rd Avenue South, Saskatoon. Thanks for your support! And by the way, we always look for more volunteer hosts! If you are interested, just send an email to Treffpunktdeutschland.CFCR@gmail.com.



# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

#### Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Regina — Frieda Koenig

As I'm writing this article summer is ending and the beautiful colours of fall are emerging everywhere. Nature's artists and painters guided by our creator produce this wonderful magical world which we can never stop admiring. As the seasons change so do our activities in our church community.

September is the start of Sunday school again. Under the direction of Dr. David Dick the choir practices every Thursday from 7 – 8 p.m. hymns for both the English and German services every Sunday. The Quilters are sewing beautiful quilts every Tuesday morning. These quilts are for sale and many are given to charities, Lutheran World Relief, etc. A Turkey supper is planned for Sunday November 3. Tickets will be available from members or the church office.

For Pentecost the dove signifies the spirit. An art display of hundreds of doves flying high in our sanctuary was produced by Pastor Pat, Pastor Sarah, Berbel and Lilah. It is truly a magnificent work of art with deep spiritual meaning.

Our church, being located in the Heritage area, has been the focal point of several summer activities. Pastor Sarah with her family and volunteers has been the driving force with events in the area. A cleanup was held at the end of July followed by a barbecue. The harvest moon festival was held on September 14 with a service and prayers in the evening followed by a pot luck supper at the German Club with local artist Kris Alveraz performing. Elders and community members listened to Gertrude Bessai giving a presentation. During the summer months the City of Regina used our hall as a drop in centre

for youths. During the Mosaic Festival at the end of May our hall was the Indigenous People Pavilion

Pastor Sarah was away for three weeks in June studying in Chicago for her Doctor of Ministry in preaching with the focus of talking of sacred stories of congregations past and present.

Regrettably our senior congregation is shrinking with five deaths just this spring of people who worshiped in the German Service. However we still continue with a German service every Sunday morning at 9:30 followed by an English service and Sunday school at 11am For the German Service Pastor Sarah has been reading in German the liturgy and only does the Sermon in English. For further information check us out on the web.

# FELLOWSHIP - SCHNITZEL MEAL - AUSTRIAN DANCERS

#### Austrian Edelweiss Club, Regina — Janet Jost



The Austrian Club hosted a wonderful event to a sell out crowd on September 20. Members and friends gathered at the German Club for a delicious meal of Schnitzel and Käsespätzle. The



hall was full of chatter as event goers took the opportunity to visit with friends. After supper, guests were impressed by the talent of our Austrian Dancers.

Other upcoming events for members and guests of the Austrian Club include an Oktoberfest at Holy Child Church on October 25th and a cooking class in November creating delicious Austrian baking. Our annual family Christmas party will be held the first Sunday in December.

Members please check your emails for further details. Everyone is welcome to join in on our celebrations. For more details feel free to contact us at the Austrian Clubs via e-mail: austrianclubregina@gmail.com.

- 1. Dancers performing on stage.
- 2. Club members.

#### NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

#### UPDATE FROM THE GERMAN CULTURAL CENTRE

#### **German Cultural Centre, Saskatoon** — Flo Broten

A shout out to the volunteers, staff and entertainers who made Folkfest a success this year! Attendance was up from last year. We made a few changes this year in layout and menu and it worked well.

We were at Taste of Saskatchewan again this year. The weather could have been better but it was a good event. A special thanks to all of the people who volunteered in the rain!

In order to make it easier to book reservations for events, we have implemented a box office.

Event tickets will no longer be available in the lounge. The phone number for the box office is 306-986-4045 and is open from 9am to 5pm Tuesday to Saturday.

We have a number of events this fall and winter. Oktoberfest, on October 4, promises to be a popular event again with entertainment, games and, of course, traditional German food and drinks! On October 6, we are hosting Harvest Home – a medieval Halloween and Family event from 10am to 4pm.

The kids' events at the Culture Club have been so popular, that we have to limit the number of kids who can attend each event. Halloween Howl is on October 28. Attendance is limited to 100 kids, and reservations are required. We will be holding a Christmas party for kids in December. Please visit our website at https://www.saskgerman.com or follow us on Facebook for more information about upcoming events.

#### UPDATE FROM DAS SCHULHAUS

#### Das Schulhaus - German Language School, Regina — Cynthia Sanders

It's finally here! Schulanfang – the beginning of our new school year. We have a record number of students enrolled this year in our Saturday morning children's classes - 32. We have more teens in our course designed for beginners aged 11-16, Mittelstufe A1 and students in our two levels of Grundschule (7-10) class – for beginners and intermediate students. These courses are in addition to our ever popular Vorschule (3-6) and Native Speaker courses. We have classes for adults (beginner through intermediate 3) as well on Wednesday nights. We are grateful to Campbell Collegiate for their continued support in providing classrooms.

Our Deutsch Treff also known as Deutsch and Drinks is certainly gaining popularity! Our last Deutsch Treff on September 5 was packed. If you enjoy sipping on tasty drinks, meeting new people and great conversation – in German of course, come on by! We meet the first Thursday of every month at Stones Throw Coffee Collective in Regina. Dates: October 3, November 7, December 5, at 7 pm.

Fall will be busy for Das Schulhaus. Mark your calendars for November 2. We will meet in Wascana Park for our annual Laternenlauf. Later in November on the 23rd, you can find us at the Regina German Club's annual Christkindlmarkt. We'll have our booth full of Lebkuchen, German books, and handmade crafts.

We'd like to thank the Saskatchewan German Council for their ongoing financial support to the school and for our cultural programs. For more information about classes, Deutsch Treff, or our upcoming events check out www.dasschulhaus.org or visit our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/dasSchulhaus/. Keep up to date with Deutsch Treff happenings and other German cultural events in Regina by joining the Deutsch Treff group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/343230192968510/.

1. New students receive a traditional Schultüte. 2. Group photo with teachers and students for Saturday classes.





#### **CELEBRATING OUR 50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY**

#### Jagd- und Fischverein "Waidmann's Lust", Regina — Otto Gudehus

A once in a lifetime evening. Our club will be celebrating 50 years on November 1, 2019 and would like to invite those that wish to share in the joy of this occasion. The evening will begin with cocktails at 5:30PM followed by a dinner at 6:30PM. Tickets are \$35 per person and will include either a bison or pork roast dinner. Various prizes will also be drawn. Tickets can be ordered and picked up at the German Club, 1727 St. John's Street, Regina before October 25, 2019. You can reach the club at 306-352-5897. For more information call Ray at 306-789-6336 or Otto at 306-545-6175.

A bit about us: Founded 50 years ago, it was the love of fishing and hunting that motivated our founding 11 members to start the club. Over the years the club grew but always stayed true to its goals of promoting comradery between its members and respect and love for nature. Having members of all ages has been an important ingredient to its success and we hope to continue with further milestones in the future. New members are always welcomed.

We hope to see you there.



# Jagd- und Fischverein "Waidmann's Lust"

1969-2019 50 years anniversary

#### NEWS FROM THE CONCORDIA JUNIOR ALPENROSE DANCERS

#### **Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers, Saskatoon** — Brenda Booker

We finished off our Spring season by continuing to practice our dance sets in preparation for Folkfest. Dancers were proud of getting some new dances ready for this year's event.

Summer found our families busy spending valuable time with family & friends. Everything from camping & touring with relatives, to trips abroad.

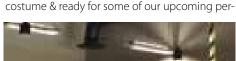
On the dance front, our Summer started off relatively quiet. The end of summer was marked with our annual Folkfest. Once again the entire week was consumed with practice, costume preparations, candy selling, schnitzel eating & of course,,,,, Dancing.

Thanks to all of you who joined us in trying some of our sweet treats, participating in our Fliegerlied or just stopping by for a visit. We thank the SGC for their continued support and we are excited about getting started on a few of our upcoming projects. Thanks again to Greg & Ethan for their donation of German Glassware. The proceeds from selling these will fund all of our celebrations throughout the year. We started spending some of this money just a week after Folkfest, with our 6th Annual Year End Party. The Dancers had a blast at our Pool Party. 3 hours of swimming, water-sliding, volleyball, Pizza & snacks.

Now Autumn is here and with it an array of changing Fall colours. We are experiencing some

changes in our dance family as well. We had one family leave to focus on other endeavours. All the best to Savannah & Lucas. We had some dancers that take a break for a time and now they have come back to us. Welcome back Anna, Charlotte, Matthew & Katie. We also had a couple of boys join us, which is always a special treat for us. Welcome Krystof & Luke.

Next step will be to get our new dancers into costume & ready for some of our upcoming per-





formances. Thanks to Joan Rudolph for getting Dirndls ready for all our new dancers.

Perhaps we'll see you at Oktoberfest or Erntedankfest

1. Teenagers getting twisted up. 2. Fighting Dance with Youth Ambassador. 3. Daning indoors at Folkfest.







# Witze

Treffen sich 2 Schnecken an der Straße. Will die eine rübergehen. Sagt die andere: Vorsichtig in einer Stunde kommt der Bus.

Zwei Kinder laufen an einem ausgetrockneten See vorbei. Sagt das eine zum anderen: "Kuck mal, der See ist weg!" Sagt das andere Kind: "Das war bestimmt ein Seeräuber!"

Mutter möchte den Sohn wecken: "Du Paulchen, stehe auf, du musst zur Schule."

Paulchen: "Bitte Mama, lass mich noch ein bisschen Schlafen."

Die Mutter: "Nein, es ist wirklich schon Zeit, stehe bitte auf!"

Paulchen: "Ich will aber nicht. Die Kinder ärgern mich und die Lehrer nerven total!

Mutter: "Schluss damit, stehe endlich auf!"

Paulchen: "Ach Mama, sag mir mindestens zwei gute Gründe, warum ich zur doofen Schule muß."

Mutter: "Erstens, du bist 45 Jahre alt und zweitens du bist der Schuldirektor!"

Warum haben Polizisten eine Schere dabei? Damit sie den Räubern den Weg abschneiden können.

Was sagt der große Stift zum kleinen Stift? Wachs-mal-Stift!

"Papa, ich habe zwei Fragen. Erstens, kann ich mehr Taschengeld haben und zweitens, warum nicht?"

# **Buchstabengitter**

Finde die Wörter und kreise sie rot ein. Viel Erfolg!



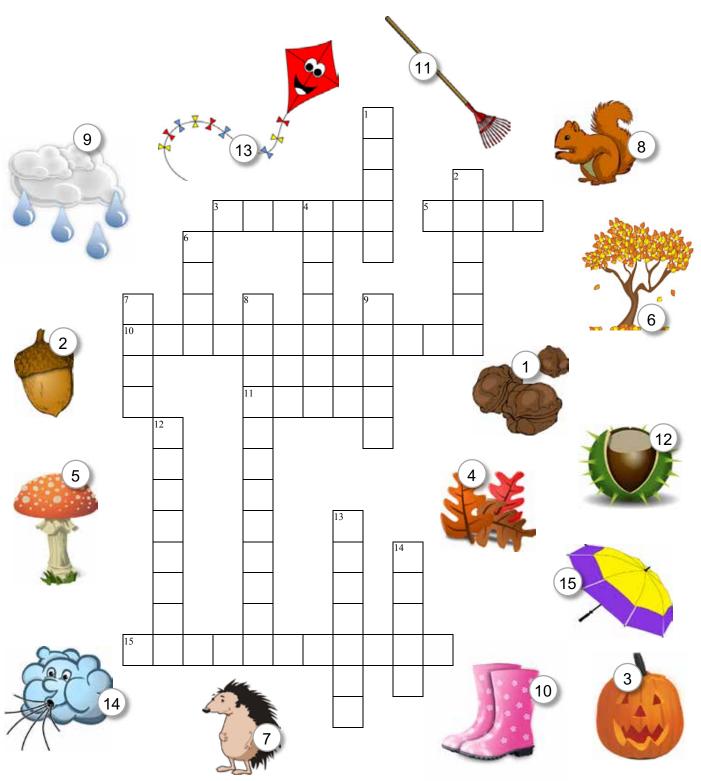
Blätter, Regen, Sturm, Hagel, Kastanie, Eichel, Halloween, Eichhörnchen, Regenschirm, Pilze



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www.grundschule-arbeitsblaetter.de

# Krouzworträtsel



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#### LIBRARY CORNER

#### Das Leben der Anderen

DVD



Ost-Berlin, November 1984:
Der linientreue
Stasi Hauptmann Gerd
Wiesler wird
mit der Überwachung des
erfolgreichen
Dramatikers
Georg Dreyman und des-

sen Lebensgefährtin, Theaterstar Christa Sieland beauftragt. Doch je mehr Gerd in das Leben der anderen eindringt, desto mehr wird ihm die Trostlosigkeit seines eigenen bewusst. Liebe, Literatur und freies Denken nehmen mehr und mehr Einfluss auf den Spitzel und er lässt sich auf ein gefährliches Spiel innerhalb der DDR-Staatsmaschinerie ein

#### **GOOD BYE, LENIN!**

DVD



Geschichte wird gemacht. Nur für den 21-jährigen Alex geht nichts voran. Kurz vor dem Fall der Mauer fällt seine Mutter, eine überzeugte Bürgerin in der DDR, nach einem Herzinfarkt ins Koma

- und verschläft den Siegeszug des Kapitalismus. Als sie wie durch ein Wunder nach 8 Monaten die Augen aufschlägt, erwacht sie in einem neuen Land. Erfahren darf sie von alledem nicht: Zu angeschlagen ist ihr schwaches Herz, als dass es die Aufregung überstehen könnte. Um seine Mutter zu retten, muss Alex auf 79 Quadratmetern die DDR wieder auferstehen lassen...

#### RECIPE CORNER

FRANZISKA DAVIES-PERRET

### **HEISSE APFELBOWLE**

#### (HOT APPLE PUNCH)

#### **Ingredients:**

4 apple tea bags

1 apple

1 orange

1 lime

100 g rock sugar

1 clove

4 cinnamon sticks

100 ml Calvados



#### **Preparation:**

Bring 600ml of water to a boil and add the teach bags, let steep for 5 minutes. Peel apples, remove seeds and cut into quarters. Remove the rind from the orange and dice as well. Add apple and orange pieces to the steeped tea. Squeeze lime juice into the tea as well.

Next, add rock sugar, clove and cinnamon sticks to the tea mixture. Bring back to a boil, then take off of heat and let steep for another 5 minutes.

Add the Calvados, mix and serve while still hot.

# **WIENER HEISSE SCHOKOLADE**

#### (VIENNESE HOT CHOCOLATE)

#### Ingredients:

170g semi sweet chocolate (60 - 70% cocoa) 300 ml milk 1 egg yolk whipped cream for garnish



#### **Preparation:**

Chop the chocolate into small bits. Place it in a heavy saucepan with the milk. Heat the milk and chocolate, stirring frequently until small bubbles come to the surface, but do not boil. Stir as needed to keep the milk from burning and the chocolate from sinking to the bottom. Simmer for three minutes, stirring constantly with a whisk to create foam.

(At this point taste the milk and add sugar if it is not sweet enough for you.) When the milk looks very smooth, remove from the heat and cool a little bit.

























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